

## **Meeting of the ROMA Board**

**Thursday, April 20, 2017**

**9:30 a.m. – 1:30 p.m.**

**AMO Office  
200 University Avenue, Suite 801  
Toronto, Ontario**

### **MINUTES**

#### **PRESENT:**

Chair Ronald Holman, Mayor, Township of Rideau Lakes (Zone 7)  
Past Chair Ron Eddy, Mayor, County of Brant  
First Vice-Chair Allan Thompson, Mayor, Town of Caledon (Zone 4)  
Second Vice-Chair Liz Danielsen, Deputy Reeve, Township of Algonquin Highlands (Zone 5)

#### **Zone and AMO Rural Caucus Representatives**

Ric Bresee, Councillor, County of Lennox & Addington (Zone 6)  
Eli El-Chantiry, Councillor, City of Ottawa, West Carlton-March Ward (Zone 8)  
Liz Huff, Councillor, Township of Leeds & the Thousand Islands (AMO Rural Caucus)  
Robert Pasuta, Councillor, Ward 14, City of Hamilton (Zone 3)  
Bill Vrebosch, Mayor, Township of East Ferris (Zone 9)  
Mark Wales, Councillor, Township of Malahide (AMO Rural Caucus)  
Chris White, Mayor, Township of Guelph-Eramosa (Zone 2)  
Chris Wray, CAO/Clerk-Treasurer, Municipality of Wawa (AMO Rural Caucus)

#### **Staff:**

Executive Treasurer Afshin Majidi  
Senior Advisor Cathie Brown  
Policy Advisor Jessica Schmidt

#### **Regrets:**

Bill Bilton, Councillor, Township of Dawn-Euphemia (Zone 1)

#### 1. Chair's Welcome

Chair Ron Holman welcomed Board members and staff to the meeting.

#### 2. Declaration

- Pecuniary interest – none

- Early departure – Mark Wales (3 p.m.)

### **ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS**

3. Approval of March 9, 2017 ROMA Board Meeting Minutes

**Moved by Allan Thompson**  
**Seconded by Liz Huff**

*“That the Minutes of the March 9, 2017 ROMA Board meeting be approved as circulated.”*

**CARRIED**

4. Executive-Treasurer’s Report

As requested by the board, Afshin Majidi presented the detailed Statement of Earnings and proposed to provide future internal statements in the new format rather than rolled up standard reporting. There were no items of note to discuss at this time. There was discussion about the ROMA Chair being reimbursed for the cost of the 2017 ROMA conference hospitality suite, and that a 2018 conference hospitality suite be budgeted for.

**Moved by Liz Danielsen**  
**Seconded by Allan Thompson**

*“That the ROMA Chair be reimbursed for the net cost of the 2017 ROMA conference hospitality suite, and that future budgets include a line item for a conference hospitality suite independent of Chair’s accommodation.”*

**CARRIED**

**Moved by Mark Wales**  
**Seconded by Liz Huff**

*“That the 2017 First Quarter Financial Statements be accepted as presented.”*

**CARRIED**

### **TIMED ITEMS**

5. Strategy to Reduce Phosphorus Loss in the Thames River Basin

Charles Lalonde, Project Manager, gave a presentation on a joint OFA & Great Lakes & St Lawrence Cities Initiative Strategy to Reduce Phosphorus Loss in the Thames River Basin. This initiative is part of the Great Lakes Water quality agreements. Nicola Crawhall, Project Lead for the Great Lakes & St Lawrence Cities Initiative, also attended. The ROMA Board members asked a number of questions and Chair Holman thanked Mr. Lalonde for his presentation.

6. ROMA Conference Update

Victoria Van Veen provided an update from the conference planning committee. The Committee is in the process of identifying conference topics and keynotes. She will be sending out a registration form, and asked the ROMA Board to provide their arrival and departure dates for the ROMA Board room block. Victoria will be working with Lorna to streamline AMO and ROMA Board requirements.

The conference theme will continue to be ROMA Speaks, with added messaging of ROMA Listens. Allan Thompson suggested having Patrick Moore (former head of Green Peace) as a keynote speaker on climate change, phosphorus and river health. Eli El-Chantiry suggested drug overdose issues as a conference topic. A ROMA Hospitality Suite will also be booked.

**Moved by Ric Bresee  
Seconded by Chris Wray**

*"That the Conference Update be received."*

**CARRIED**

7. Cap and Trade

AMO Senior Advisor Craig Reid presented an update on Ontario's cap and trade regime, and opportunities for rural municipalities.

**Moved by Chris Wray  
Seconded by Chris White**

*"That the report be received."*

**CARRIED**

**POLICY ITEMS**

8. Policy Updates

Cathie Brown presented an OMB consideration of a merged lots issue. The ROMA Board asked that the decision be distributed electronically. Cathie Brown provided an update on asphalt standards, seasonal hydro rates, day care numbers, and postal banking. Regarding postal banking, there are challenges with businesses needing to deposit money in areas without a bank. Postal banking would address this challenge but currently, post offices are not set up to do this. This issue is one that ROMA may want to engage with further.

Cathie Brown provided an overview of AMO's work on Bill 68. She and Jessica Schmidt outlined AMO's strategic objectives and priority areas for the ROMA Board to consider in their strategic planning meeting.

**Moved by Liz Danielsen**  
**Seconded by Allan Thompson**

*"That the Policy Update be received."*

**CARRIED**

## **DISCUSSION ITEMS**

### 9. Ministry of Natural Resources Unpaid Fines

Chris Wray outlined an issue of individuals, many from the United States, not paying fines for hunting and fishing licenses. He suggested that ROMA write a letter.

**Moved by Liz Danielsen**  
**Seconded by Eli El-Chantiry**

*"That ROMA write to the Ministry of Natural Resources regarding unpaid fines for hunting and fishing. "*

**CARRIED**

## **REPORTS OF AMO and ROMA COMMITTEES**

### 10. i) AMO Board of Directors, Rural Caucus Update – AMO Rural Caucus

No report.

### ii) Provincial Septage Working Group

Liz Danielsen has begun to work as a member of the the Province's Septage Working Group.

iii) Rural Ontario Institute (ROI) – Chris White

No report.

iv) Workforce Planning Board – Chris White

No report.

v) Greenbelt Consolidation Policy Group – Allan Thompson

No report.

vi) Drainage Working Groups – Bill Bilton

No report.

**Moved by Ron Eddy  
Seconded by Ric Bresee**

*"That the report be received."*

**CARRIED**

#### **INFORMATION ITEMS (Items 11 - 19)**

**Moved by Eli El-Chantiry  
Seconded by Chris Wray**

*"That the Information Items be received."*

**CARRIED**

#### **OTHER BUSINESS**

20. Other business brought forward by members

Bill Vrebosch proposed that ROMA could sponsor an education event in northern Ontario with a \$3000 contribution. Chris Wray also suggested Rural Agricultural Education Network would also be interested in participating. Allan Thompson also suggested that a land drainage group may also want to

participate. Liz Danielsen asked for information about what ROMA has sponsored before, and whether there is a policy on sponsorship.

**Moved by Chris Wray**  
**Seconded by Allan Thompson**

*"That the ROMA Board sponsor the education event with a \$3000 contribution."*

**CARRIED**

21a. Agenda items for future ROMA Board meetings

Chair Holman asked that we add to the next ROMA agenda how ROMA can work with LAS on the initiatives they are developing.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

22. Next meeting: 9:30 – 1:30 p.m., Thursday, June 1, 2017, AMO Office, 200 University Avenue, Suite 801, Toronto, Ontario

23. Adjournment

**Moved by Eli El-Chantiry**  
**Seconded by Allan Thompson**

*"That we do now adjourn to meet again."*

**CARRIED**