

Meeting of the ROMA Board

Sunday, August 19, 2018

AMO Annual Conference

2:00 – 4:00 p.m.

**Saskatchewan Room
Westin Hotel
Ottawa, Ontario**

MINUTES

PRESENT:

Chair Ronald Holman, Mayor, Township of Rideau Lakes (Zone 7)

First Vice-Chair Allan Thompson, Mayor, Town of Caledon (Zone 4)

Second Vice-Chair Liz Danielsen, Deputy Mayor, Township of Algonquin Highlands (Zone 5)

Zone and AMO Rural Caucus Representatives

Ric Bresee, Councillor, County of Lennox and Addington (Zone 6)

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)

Staff:

Executive Treasurer Afshin Majidi

Senior Advisor Cathie Brown

Policy Assistant Ian Dawson

Regrets:

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

Past Chair Ron Eddy, Mayor, County of Brant

Eli El-Chantiry, Councillor, City of Ottawa, West Carlton-March Ward (Zone 8)

Chris Wray, CAO/Clerk-Treasurer, Municipality of Wawa (AMO Rural Caucus)

1. Chair's Welcome

Chair Ron Holman welcomed Board members and staff to the meeting and to the AMO Annual Conference. He requested the following amendments to the agenda:

- Cathie Brown to provide a brief overview of conference key messages prior to the Ministers visits (item 3a)

- Afshin Majidi will be in attendance to review the June 2018 Financial Statements, sent previously, item 6a.
- Teeny Tiny Summit item moved to 6b.
- Add an item 7.4. Reply to RFMEO FYI item
- Add item 31, *in camera* for a staff issue.

Moved by Allan Thompson
Seconded by Ric Bresee

"That the changes to the agenda be accepted."

CARRIED

2. Declaration
 - Pecuniary interest – none
 - Early departure – none

TIMED ITEMS

3. Climate Change: Federal Policy and Programs

This item will be brought forward to a future ROMA Board meeting.

- 3a. Conference Key Messages

Cathie Brown reviewed the key messages for the AMO Conference.

4. The Honourable Steve Clark, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing

The ROMA Board and Minister Clark discussed the following topics:

- Double hatters/volunteer firefighters
- Cannabis and the opt-out provision
- Waste management and full producer responsibility
- Future of OMPF
- Joint and several liability

5. The Honourable Ernie Hardeman, Minister of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs

The ROMA Board and Minister Hardeman discussed the following topics:

- Review of ministry budgets to ensure provincial elections promises are kept
- Double hatter/volunteer firefighters
- Cannabis
- Waste management and full producer responsibility
- Agriculture
- Teeny Tiny summits
- Future of OMPF
- Rural broadband

ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS

6. Approval of May 17, 2018 ROMA Board Meeting Minutes

Moved by Bill Vrebosch
Seconded by Liz Danielson

“That the Minutes of the ROMA Board meeting held May 17, 2018 be approved as circulated.”

CARRIED

6a. Executive-Treasurer’s Report

Afshin Majidi reviewed the ROMA Financial Statements.

Moved by Liz Huff
Seconded by Allan Thompson

“That the Financial Statements be accepted as presented.”

CARRIED

6b. Teeny Tiny Summits

Moved by Liz Huff
Seconded by Ric Bresee

“Whereas regional economic development officers in Eastern Ontario’s division of the Ontario Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs (OMAFRA) have stimulated the creation of “Teeny Tiny Summits” that bring together municipal and local voluntary partners to share knowledge and strategies for the revitalization of Ontario’s rural hamlets; and,

Whereas OMAFRA Economic Development representatives are located across the province and can use their internal networks to coach and support the development of new summits in willing host municipalities; and

Whereas ROMA has an interest in supporting the municipal policy issues addressed through the Teeny Tiny Summits including barriers and opportunities for rural economic development, rural settlement area growth and effective municipal-volunteer partnerships; and

Whereas local municipalities who create and host the regional Teeny Tiny Summits require financial assistance from appropriate sponsors in order to provide excellent programming and to keep the costs of attendance for rural participants affordable;

Now therefore ROMA will commit \$40K over 4 years (2019-2022) with the intention to provide sponsoring grants to support up to 8 Teeny Tiny Summits (ideally 2 per year), for new events in central, western, eastern and northern Ontario;

And further that ROMA's contribution to these events will be forwarded once appropriate willing host municipalities are communicated to ROMA's Chair and Secretary Treasurer, via OMAFRA's Economic Development regional network, and that in turn the event organizers will ensure appropriate acknowledgement of ROMA's sponsorship, and provide a brief report to the ROMA board of the highlights of each Summit including any cumulative policy implications for rural municipalities."

CARRIED

7. ROMA Standing Committees Chairs' Updates

i. Communications and Outreach Committee

Ric Bresee provided an update, and asked Board members to provide comments by September 15, 2018. The ROMA Board discussed the proposal from Redbrick Communications.

**Moved by Ric Breese
Seconded by Mark Wales**

"That the Chair negotiate an agreement with Redbrick for quarterly publications and one time setup costs; and

That the upset limit is \$20,000."

CARRIED

Board members requested a communication soon after the AMO Conference.

ii. Conference Committee

Allan Thompson provided a progress report on the ROMA Conference.

RECEIVED

iii. Governance Committee

Ric Bresee provided an update.

RECEIVED

- iv. RFMEO Reply For information

The ROMA Board discussed the correspondence with the Rural Mayor's Forum of Eastern Ontario

POLICY ITEMS

8. Policy Updates

Cathie Brown reviewed the memo on the June 21, 2018 OPP Costing Bureau meeting. She reviewed the key messages for the AMO Conference.

Moved by Liz Huff
Seconded by Mark Wales

"That the report be received."

CARRIED

DISCUSSION ITEMS

9. Rural Ontario Institute Advanced Agricultural Leadership Program

Ron Holman reviewed the materials before the Board. It was agreed that regional scope should be obtained to focus this initiative.

Moved by Liz Huff
Seconded by Chris White

"That the Rural Ontario Institute be advised that ROMA agrees with the changes proposed to the Advanced Agricultural Leadership Program."

CARRIED

REPORTS OF AMO and ROMA COMMITTEES

10. Committee Reports

- i. Rural Ontario Institute (ROI) – Chris White
 - a. Still looking for a replacement for Rob Black.
- ii. Nuclear Waste Management Ontario (NWMO) Municipal Forum – Liz Huff
 - a. No meeting, need to replace Liz Huff on this committee.
- iii. Greenbelt Consolidation Policy Group – Allan Thompson
 - a. Recommendation to delete this as a report, work is suspended.
- iv. Drainage Working Groups – Bill Bilton
 - a. No report.
- v. Agriculture Wildlife Working Group – Mark Wales
 - a. Fall meeting expected.

- vi. Minister of Education's Reference Group – Mark Wales
 - a. Group on hiatus, no further reports.
- vii. AMO Indigenous Relations Task Force – Ric Bresee
 - a. Drew attention to AMO materials and reminded that Duty to Consult is a role for the Crown, not municipal governments.
- viii. Other
No report.

Moved by Allan Thompson
Seconded by Bill Vrebosch

"That the Committee Reports be received."

CARRIED

INFORMATION ITEMS (Items 10 - 30)

RECEIVED

OTHER BUSINESS

31. Other business brought forward by members

Moved by Rick Breeze
Seconded by Liz Danielson

"That the Board move in camera for a staffing issue."

CARRIED

Moved by Liz Danielson
Seconded by Allan Thompson

"That the Board move out of camera and that the Chair proceed as directed."

CARRIED

32. Agenda items for future ROMA Board meetings
- i. Rural Medical Forum – will be addressed by the AMO Health Task Force
 - ii. Ontario Northlander
 - iii. High Speed Rails
 - iv. ROI relationship
 - v. FCM – Green House Gas

ADJOURNMENT

33. Next meeting: Thursday, October 11, 2018, 9:30 – 1:30 p.m., AMO Office, 200 University Avenue, Suite 801, Toronto, Ontario

34. Adjournment

**Moved by Liz Danielsen
Seconded by Chris White**

"That we do now adjourn to meet again."

CARRIED