

ROMA BOARD VIRTUAL MEETING

**Friday October 2, 2020
9:00 am – 1:30 pm**

PRESENT:

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

Zone and AMO Rural Caucus Representatives

Dennis Crevits, Councillor, Municipality of Central Elgin (Zone 1)
Chris White, 1st Vice Chair, Mayor, Township of Guelph-Eramosa (Zone 2)
Lloyd Ferguson, Councillor, City of Hamilton (Zone 3)
Pam Sayne, Councillor, Township of Minden Hills (Zone 5)
Kim Love, Mayor, Township of Madawaska Valley (Zone 6)
Cameron Wales, Councillor, City of Brockville (Zone 7)
Eli El-Chantiry, 2nd Vice Chair, Councillor, City of Ottawa (Zone 8)
Bill Vrebosch, Councillor, City of North Bay (Zone 9 and AMO Rural Caucus)
Kevin Holland, Mayor, Township of Conmee (Zone 10)
Peter Emon, Reeve, Town of Renfrew (AMO Rural Caucus)
Christa Lowry, Mayor, Municipality of Mississippi Mills (AMO Rural Caucus)
Christine Robinson, Mayor, Municipality of West Grey (AMO Rural Caucus)
Robin Jones, Mayor, Village of Westport (AMO Rural Caucus)

Guest:

Graydon Smith, Mayor of the Town of Bracebrige, AMO President

Staff:

Brian Rosborough, Executive Director
Afshin Majidi, Executive Treasurer
Petra Wolfbeiss, Director, Membership Centre
Brittany Ardiel, Administrative Assistant
Monika Turner, Director of Policy
Cathie Brown, Senior Advisor
Amber Crawford, Policy Advisor
Craig Reid, Senior Advisor
Victoria Van Veen, Conference Consultant
Stef Lach, Senior Consultant, Redbrick Communications
Brian Lambie, President, Redbrick Communications
Farah Tayabali, Vice President, Redbrick Communicatons

Early Departures:

Lloyd Ferguson, Councillor, City of Hamilton (Zone 3)
Bill Vrebosch, Councillor, City of North Bay (Zone 9 and AMO Rural Caucus)

Regrets:

None

1. Chair's Welcome and Introductions – ROMA Chair, Allan Thompson

- New ROMA Board Members: Christa Lowry, Mayor of Mississippi Mills and Christine Robinson, Mayor of West Grey.
- Welcome AMO President, Graydon Smith, Mayor of Bracebridge

Chair Allan Thompson welcomed Board to the meeting as well ROMA's two new Board members Christa Lowry, Mayor of Mississippi Mills and Christine Robinson, Mayor of West Grey.

Chair Allan Thompson welcomed AMO President, Graydon Smith. President Smith was pleased to be in attendance and acknowledged his participation in all AMO affiliates Board meetings as he begins his term.

2. Declaration

- Pecuniary interest
- Early departure

None identified.

ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS

3. Approval of August 16, 2020 ROMA Meeting Minutes

"That the Minutes of the August 16, 2020 meeting be approved as circulated."

Moved by: Lloyd Ferguson

Seconded by: Chris White

CARRIED

4. Approval of ROMA Board 2021 Meeting Dates

"That the 2021 ROMA Meeting Dates be approved, and the ROMA Board meeting times be changed to begin at 9:00am."

Moved by: Lloyd Ferguson

Seconded by: Dennis Crevits

CARRIED

5. Executive-Treasurer – Afshin Majidi, Executive Treasurer

- i. ROMA financial statements - August 31, 2020

Afshin presented the Financial Statements to the Board.

“That the ROMA Board approve the ROMA financial statements.”

Moved by: Eli El-Chantry
Seconded by: Bill VreBosch

CARRIED

- ii. 2021 Conference budget

The Board was provided with 2021 Conference budget scenarios. Given ongoing COVID-19 restrictions and the timing to the Conference, it was agreed to hold a 2 day virtual event, January 25th – 26th. The Board also approved the registration rates for the virtual event.

“That the ROMA Board approve the 2021 Conference budget.”

Moved by: Robin Jones
Seconded by: Kim Love

CARRIED

“That the ROMA Board approve that the 2021 Conference be held virtually over two days; and that the Board approve the registration rates for the conference.”

Moved by: Dennis Crevits
Seconded by: Chris White

CARRIED

- 6. ROMA Strategic Planning Update and Workplan for Governance and Zone reviews – Brian Rosborough, Executive Director, AMO

Brian Rosborough provided an overview of work to date related to governance and a proposed approach for 2021 strategic planning and priorities. Further discussion will be held at the next meeting of the Board regarding review of the ROMA Rules and Procedures and considerations for a Zone review.

“That the ROMA Board board approve the revised strategic planning work plan and next steps for 2021 strategic planning.”

Moved by: Kevin Holland
Seconded by: Lloyd Ferguson

CARRIED

Timed Items

7. 10:15 am ROMA 2021 Conference – Victoria Van Veen, ROMA Conference Coordinator

Victoria Van Veen tabled a draft program outline including critical timelines for developing and delivering a virtual event. Consideration of keynote speakers and a conference theme was undertaken. The 2021 Conference theme- *ROMA: Connecting Rural Ontario*, was approved.

“That the ROMA Board approve Chantal Hebert and John Ibbitson as keynote speakers; and that Duncan McCue be considered in the event either are unavailable.”

Moved by: Eli El-Chantry

Seconded by: Cameron Wales

CARRIED

“That the ROMA Board approve the 2021 Conference theme, ROMA: Connecting Rural Ontario.”

Moved by: Lloyd Ferguson

Seconded by: Robin Jones

CARRIED

8. 11:00 am ROMA Resource Guide – Amber Crawford, AMO Policy Advisor and Craig Reid, AMO Senior Advisor

- Review of key content, content development and timelines
- Recommendation that the ROMA Board endorse in principle, the proposed direction and next steps on the Resource Guide on Broadband Connectivity

Amber Crawford and Craig Reid reviewed the proposed outline for the Rural Broadband Toolkit.

“That the ROMA Board endorse in principle, the proposed direction and next steps on the Resource Guide on Broadband Connectivity and that Amber and Craig undertake developing the draft guide for ROMA Board final approval.”

Moved by: Kevin Holland

Seconded by: Chris White

CARRIED

9. 11:30 pm Redbrick Communication Annual Communications Plan Update – Brian Lambie, President Redbrick and Farah Tayabali, Vice President, Redbrick

- Scope and budget review and discussion

Brian Lambie and Farah Tayabali presented the ROMA Board with a communication plan.

A communication advisory group was assembled to provide input on implementing the Plan.

“That the Redbrick Communication Annual Plan be approved and implemented.”

Moved by: Eli El-Chantry

Seconded by: Kim Love

CARRIED

12:15 pm Lunch

DISCUSSION ITEMS

10. Policy Update – Cathie Brown

Cathie Brown reviewed the following policy matters with the Board:

- Waste Update: regulations related to: Blue Box, electrical and electronic, Household Hazardous Waste and webinar’s on Municipal 3R’s Collaboration
- AMO Flood Report
- AMO Working Group to Engage Commission on COVID-19’s Impact on Ontario’s Long-Term Care Homes
- OPP Boards Update: Community Safety and Policing Act, 2019, AMO advocacy on detachment Boards and Municipal OPP Technical Advisory Group

“That the ROMA Board receive the Policy Update.”

Moved by: Chris White

Seconded by: Pam Sayne

CARRIED

- i. Security from Trespass and Protecting Food Safety Act, 2020 Update – Cathie Brown

Cathie Brown walked the Board through a recommended response to the Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs on the Security from Trespass and Protecting Food Safety Act.

“That ROMA write the Minister of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs addressing the recommendations as presented and in response to the Ministry’s consultations.”

Moved by: Cameron Wales
Seconded by: Peter Emon

CARRIED

11. Off Peak Delivery – Craig Reid, AMO Senior Advisory

- Discussion and consideration on ROMA position

Craig Reid advised the Board on issues arising and activities related to off peak delivery and noise by-law exemptions as prompted by the Cities of Toronto, Ottawa and Peel Region.

12. COVID-19 municipal impacts and pressures – Peter Emon, Reeve, Town of Renfrew, ROMA Director

Peter Emon identified that issues had been discussed under previous agenda items.

13. ROMA Committees and consideration of Policy support – Robin Jones, Mayor, Village of Westport, ROMA Director

Robin Jones points of interest were discussed under Item 6, Strategic Planning.

14. Strengthening Communication across Rural Municipalities and Caucuses - Christine Robinson, Mayor West Grey, ROMA Director

This issue was addressed through the Redbrick Communications Plan discussion and actions.

REPORTS OF AMO and ROMA COMMITTEES

15. Committee Reports

- i. Nuclear Waste Management Ontario (NWMO) Municipal Forum – Bill Vrebosch
- ii. Other

INFORMATION ITEMS (Items # 16-22)

“To receive the Information Items.”

Moved by: Robin Jones
Seconded by: Peter Emon

CARRIED

OTHER BUSINESS

23. Other business brought forward by members

24. Agenda items for future ROMA Board meetings

- Transit in Rural Areas – Pam Sayne, Councillor, Township of Minden Hills

ADJOURNMENT

25. Next meeting: Friday November 13, 2020, 9:00am – 1:30pm, Virtual Meeting

26. Adjournment

Motion: To Adjourn

Moved by: Pam Sayne

Seconded by: Peter Emon

CARRIED