

Meeting of the ROMA Board

Thursday, April 7, 2015

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 (Zone 3)
First Vice-Chair Allan Thompson, Mayor, Town of Caledon (Zone 4)
Second Vice-Chair Chris White, Mayor, Township of Guelph-Eramosa (Zone 2)

Zone and AMO Rural Caucus Representatives

Bill Bilton, Councillor, Township of Dawn-Euphemia (Zone 1)
Eli El-Chantiry, Councillor, City of Ottawa, West Carlton-March Ward (Zone 8) *partial*
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)
Chris Wray, CAO/Clerk-Treasurer, Municipality of Wawa (AMO Rural Caucus)

Staff:

Nancy Plumridge, ROMA Executive-Treasurer
Cathie Brown, AMO Senior Advisor
Jessica Schmidt, AMO Policy Advisor

Regrets:

Liz Danielsen, Deputy Reeve, Township of Algonquin Highlands (Zone 5)
Jim Sheedy, Councillor, Township of Laurentian Valley (Zone 6)

1. Chair's Welcome

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

The Chair spoke to an issue raised by the City of Ottawa report on a proposal to manage adjustments to the tax base. The proposal is before the province. A greater tax related concern is that the province has not yet set the school rates so municipalities are not able to send out final tax notices.

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

ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS

3. Approval of February 21, 2016 ROMA Board Meeting Minutes

Moved by: Liz Huff
Seconded by: Allan Thompson

“That the Minutes of the ROMA Board meeting held on February 21, 2016 be approved as amended.”

CARRIED

The minutes were amended to show the correct date of the ROMA mid-term as July, 2016.

4. Executive-Treasurer’s Report

Financial Statements: Nancy Plumridge reviewed the ROMA Financial Statements.

Moved by: Bill Vrebosch
Seconded by: Chris Wray

“That the February 2016 Financial Statements be accepted as presented.”

CARRIED

ROMA Signing Policy: There was a discussion on the proposed Signing Authority Policy, following which it was agreed that it should be modified, reflecting that any two of the ROMA Chair, ROMA Secretary Treasurer or AMO Executive Director could sign, and if any of these people are not available, then the Director of Policy or Director of Membership Centre could sign.

Moved by: Chris Wray
Seconded by: Allan Thompson

“That effective April 7, 2016, the ROMA Board approves the signing authority as outlined below and that these individuals also have the authority to bind the organization as it relates to contracts, leases etc:

1. ROMA Chair,
2. ROMA Executive Treasurer
3. AMO Executive Director

In the absence of either 2 or 3, then either the Director of the AMO Policy Centre, or the Director of the AMO Membership Centre has the authority to sign."

CARRIED

TIMED ITEMS

5. Local Employment Planning Council

Delia Reiche, Elgin Project Officer, Elgin Middlesex Oxford Workforce Planning and Development Board, gave a presentation to the ROMA Board.

6. Environmental Assessment

Frank Zechner, on behalf of Residential and Civil Construction Alliance of Ontario, gave a presentation to the ROMA Board. Staff will follow up with the AMO Conference Planning Committee.

Moved by: Allan Thompson
Seconded by: Ron Eddy

"That ROMA request that the AMO Conference committee schedule Frank Zechner for a presentation on this issue at the AMO conference."

CARRIED

7. Rural Broadband Gap

Lisa Severson, Eastern Ontario Regional Network (EORN) gave a presentation to the ROMA Board.

8. Closed meeting

Moved by: Chris Wray
Seconded by: Allan Thompson

"That the ROMA Board go into closed meeting."

CARRIED

Moved by: Chris White
Seconded by: Liz Huff

"That the ROMA Board leave closed meeting."

CARRIED

Moved by: Chris Wray
Seconded by: Liz Huff

"That the Executive Treasurer proceed as directed."

CARRIED

POLICY ITEMS

9. Policy Update – Cathie Brown

- AMO conference registration is open and doing well
- Sprinkler systems in small private retirement homes – advocacy through ORCA is ongoing
- Bill 100 (Ontario Trails) in second reading debate. Staff will also monitor the progress of Bill 118
- Inclusionary zoning policy proposed by MMAH, staff will provide more information for the next meeting.
- OMB reform upcoming. AMO Planning Task Force will consider this once the province announces the scope of their review. As well, AMO will be at the upcoming meeting in May, hosted in Markham.
- Proposal for ROMA to write a letter of support for police modernization, separate from AMO's letter, focusing on the rural lens.

Moved by: Bill Vrebosch
Seconded by: Robert Pasuta

"That ROMA write to the Minister of Community Safety and Correctional Services regarding policing modernization."

CARRIED

REPORTS OF AMO and ROMA COMMITTEES

- 8.
- i) AMO Rural Caucus Report
 - ii) ROMA/OGRA Conference Committee Report
 - Communications
 - ii) Rural Ontario Institute (ROI)
 - iv) Greenbelt Consolidation Policy Group
 - v) Drainage Working Groups
 - vi) Other

Reports deferred to a future meeting.

OTHER BUSINESS BROUGHT FORWARD BY MEMBERS

11. Crombie Report – Allan Thompson, Robert Pasuta

Proposal for ROMA to send a letter to Minister McMeekin and Premier Wynne to indicate support for what has been found by the GHFFA, and request an ongoing intergovernmental secretariat was presented. Robert Pasuta and Allan Thompson to develop the letter and bring it to the next ROMA meeting.

12. A Perspective on Rural Ontario – Chris Wray

The Boards attention was drawn to a page of statistics prepared by MFOA.

13. OPP billing – Ron Holman

Moved by: Chris Wray
Seconded by: Bill Vrebosch

“That a letter on the calculations by the OPP for the purposes of billing be sent to the OPP Commissioner asking that they justify their approach.”

CARRIED

14. Merged Lots – Ron Holman

To be moved to a future agenda.

15. Municipalities Under 6,000 – Ron Holman

Bill Vrebosch indicated he was the chair of the Municipalities Under 6,000 group. He has been urging the group to organize in the same zone configuration as ROMA. As well, he would be sending out information on a proposed symposium on beaver management to a larger group of municipalities.

Moved by: Ron Eddy
Seconded by: Bill Vrebosch

“That Chair Ron Holman send an email to the municipalities under 10,000 asking for input on topics to be presented at the next ROMA conference.”

CARRIED

15a. New Item

Allan Thompson proposed that Suzanne Van Bommel attend a future ROMA Board meeting as a delegation, regarding civic engagement among women.

Moved by: Chris White
Seconded by: Allan Thompson

"To receive for future consideration."

CARRIED

INFORMATION ITEMS (Items 16 - 26)

RECEIVED

ADJOURNMENT

27. Next meeting: date, 9:30 – 1:30 p.m., AMO Office, 200 University Avenue, Suite 801, Toronto, Ontario

Items for discussion at the next meeting:

- ROMA key activities
- Delegation from the Ministry of the Environment and Climate Change re: Biosolid Spreading
- Conference Planning

The Board agreed to defer the Rural Ontario Institute item to the fall.

28. Adjournment

Moved by: Bill Bilton
Seconded by: Allan Thompson

"That we do now adjourn to meet again."

CARRIED