

Meeting of the ROMA Board

**June 13, 2019
3:30 pm – 5:00 pm**

**City Hall Room
Sheraton Centre Toronto Hotel
123 Queen Street West, Toronto, ON M5H 2M9**

MINUTES

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)

Cameron Wales, Councillor, City of Brockville (Zone 7)

Peter Emon, Reeve, Town of Renfrew (AMO Rural Caucus)

Jan O'Neill, Mayor, Municipality of Marmora and Lake (AMO Rural Caucus)

Chris Wray, CAO/Clerk, Township of Johnson (AMO Rural Caucus)

Pam Sayne, Councillor, Township of Minden Hills (Zone 5)

Kim Love, Mayor, Township of Madawaska Valley (Zone 6)

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

Robin Jones, Mayor, Village of Westport (AMO Rural Caucus)

Staff:

Executive Director, Pat Vanini

Executive Treasurer, Afshin Majidi

Director, Membership Centre, Brian Rosborough

Administrative Assistant, Brittany Ardiel

Regrets:

Eli El-Chantiry, 2nd Vice Chair, Councillor, City of Ottawa (Zone 8)

Lloyd Ferguson, Councillor, City of Hamilton (Zone 3)

Chris White, 1st Vice Chair, Mayor, Township of Guelph-Eramosa (Zone 2)

Guests:

Dale Varney, Partner, Grant Thornton, LLP

Katelyn Medeiros, Grant Thornton, LLP

Early Departures: None

1. Chair's Welcome – Allan Thompson

Chair Allan Thompson welcomed Board Members and introduced the new Zone 5 Rep, Pam Sayne, Councillor from the Township of Mindon Hills with congratulations. Chair Thompson also noted that for the timed items we would welcome Dale Varney and Katelyn Medeiros from Grant Thornton, LLP as well that following the meeting, we would be resuming our strategic planning session from last Board meeting.

2. Declaration

- Pecuniary interest - none
- Early departure - none

ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS

3. Approval of April 12, 2019 ROMA Board Meeting Minutes

Moved by: Chris Wray

Seconded by: Robin Jones

“That the Minutes of April 12, 2019 be approved as circulated.”

CARRIED

4. Executive-Treasurer’s Report – Afshin Majidi

- ROMA 2018 Year-end Draft Audited Financial Statements
- ROMA April 2019 Financial Statements

Afshin Majidi reviewed the 2018 Year-end Draft Audited Financial Statements following a presentation from ROMA’s auditors of Audit Strategy and Results 2018.

Moved by: Dennis Crevits

Seconded by: Bill Vrebosch

“That the 2018 year-end audited financial statements be approved as presented.”

CARRIED

Afshin Majidi presented the April 2018 Financial Statements.

Moved by: Dennis Crevits

Seconded by: Kim Love

“That the April 2019 Financial Statements be received.”

CARRIED

5. Creation of New Zone 9 & Zone 10

The Board reviewed the briefing note and discussed the issues and implications of a zone change, including the need for a broader discussion on Zone configuration. Given the immediate request from municipalities in Northwestern Ontario, the Board agreed to proceed with the creation of a new Zone 10 at this time, followed by a broader review of Zone configuration in time for the 2023 Zone elections. Other matters considered included the process for ratifying the decision and for electing a representative for the newly created Zone 10, and the importance of maintaining the current Zone 9 representative for the remaining term of the Board.

The Zone 9 representative, Bill Vrebosch, left the room and did not participate in the discussion pertaining to Zone representation.

Moved by: Chris Wray
Seconded by: Jan O'Neill

"That the Board approve the creation of a new Zone 9 and Zone 10 to replace the current Zone 9.

That the Board undertake a comprehensive review of Zones in advance of the 2023 Zone elections.

That the new Zone 9 includes the City of Greater Sudbury and municipalities in the districts of Algoma, Cochrane, Manitoulin, Nippissing, Parry Sound, and Timiskaming, and that the new Zone 10 includes municipalities in the districts of Kenora, Rainy River, and Thunder Bay, including the City of Thunder Bay.

That a General Special Meeting be arranged to coincide with the 2019 AMO Conference for the purpose of ratifying the Board decision to create a new Zone 9 and Zone 10 and that appropriate notice be provided.

That, following ratification of the Board's decision to create a new Zone 9 and Zone 10 at a Special General Meeting in August 2019, notice be given for an election in Zone 10, to be conducted at the ROMA 2020 AGM and Conference; and

That the current, elected Zone 9 representative continue to represent Zone 9 until the end of the current term of the Board."

CARRIED

6. Resolution re. ROMA Voting in ROMA Zone Elections

The Board discussed matters relating to ROMA zone election and recognized that this issue had potential implications for other organizations and that consultation would be appropriate.

Moved by: Robin Jones

Seconded by: Cameron Wales

“That a discussion on voting procedures be part of a broader discussion with AMO and other municipal organizations.”

CARRIED

7. ROMA & OGRA Letter and Resolution re. Conference

The Board discussed resolutions urging ROMA to meet with OGRA to discuss the possibility of consolidating the ROMA and OGRA Conference, which have been separate since 2017.

The Board had a lengthy and considered discussion about the history of the ROMA-OGRA relationship. The discussion included the circumstances which led to the creation of separate conferences in 2017, the distinct mandates of the two organizations, and the importance of the conference to ROMA's ability to fulfill its responsibilities toward rural municipalities. The Board also discussed the importance of ensuring that ROMA is communicating effectively with its stakeholders and the municipalities it serves.

The Board expressed an interest in meeting with OGRA to learn more about its proposal and its goals. One idea that was explored was the possibility of having the conferences sequentially with a view to reducing the costs of attendees who are interested in both rural municipal and roads issues.

The Board directed that the matter be addressed in the next ROMA Newsletter to provide readers with a better understating of the issues.

Moved by: Kim Love

Seconded by: Jan O'Neill

“That the ROMA Board invite the OGRA Board to a meeting in the fall to present its business plan for conference collaboration; and

That the next ROMA Newsletter address concerns raised by OGRA.”

CARRIED

TIMED ITEMS

8. 3:35 pm Review of Report to the ROMA Board: Report to ROMA Board – Audit Strategy and Results 2018 – Grant Thornton LLP

Afshin Majidi welcomed Dale Varney, Partner, Grant Thornton, LLP and Katelyn Medeiros, Grant Thornton, LLP reviewed the Audit Strategy and Results Report with the ROMA Board of Directors.

Moved by: Jan O’Neill
Seconded by: Robin Jones

“That the Report to ROMA Board – Audit Strategy and Results 2018 be received.”

CARRIED

9. 4:30 pm Conference Update

Brian Rosborough provided a brief update on conference planning for ROMA 2020, the highlighting the note provided by Victoria Van Veen.

POLICY

10. Policy Update

Board members were referred to the note in the Board package.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

11. Township of Black River - Matheson - Re. Teeny Tiny
12. Ontario Association of Former Parliamentarians Re. ROMA
13. Use of E-Learning in Rural Ontario
14. Message from OMAFRA on Agricultural System Implementation Re. Safety and Environmental Policy Branch

Discussion items were deferred.

REPORTS OF AMO and ROMA COMMITTEES

15. Committee Reports

- i. Rural Ontario Institute (ROI) – Chris White – no report
- ii. Nuclear Waste Management Ontario (NWMO) Municipal Forum – Bill Vrebosch
- iii. Other

There were no Committee Reports.

INFORMATION ITEMS (16-25)

No information items were selected for further discussion.

OTHER BUSINESS

26. Other business brought forward by members

The Board requested that the Chair contact Ron Holman to express thanks for his service to ROMA.

27. Agenda items for future ROMA Board meetings

- i. Canada Post
- ii. Ontario Building Officials Association
- iii. FCM
- iv. Canadian Broadband Telecom (CBTel)
- v. Cannabis

ADJOURNMENT

28. Next meeting: Sunday August 18, 2019, 2:00pm – 4:00pm, AMO Conference Ottawa

29. Adjournment

Moved by: Chris Wray
Seconded by: Kim Love

“That we do now adjourn to meet again.”

CARRIED

