

## ROMA BOARD MEETING

Friday October 1, 2021  
9:00 am – 1:30 pm

### DRAFT MINUTES

#### **PRESENT:**

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

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

Chris White, 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)

Sandra Datars Bere, CAO, Corporation of the County of Bruce (AMO Rural Caucus)

Christa Lowry, Mayor, Municipality of Mississippi Mills (AMO Rural Caucus)

Christine Robinson, Mayor, Municipality of West Grey (AMO Rural Caucus)

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

Dennis Crevits, Councillor, Municipality of Central Elgin (Zone 1)

#### **Staff:**

Afshin Majidi, Executive Treasurer, AMO

Petra Wolfbeiss, Director, Membership Centre, AMO

Brittany Ardiel, Administrative Assistant, AMO

Adam Garcia, Program Coordinator & Advisor, AMO

Monika Turner, Director of Policy, AMO

Amber Crawford, Senior Policy Advisor, AMO

Lianne Sauter, Policy Advisor, AMO

Farah Tayabali, Vice President, Redbrick Communications

Megan Abraham, Redbrick Communications

#### **Guests:**

Kathryn Wood, President and CEO, Pivotal Momentum Inc

#### **Early Departures:**

Chris White, Mayor, Township of Guelph-Eramosa (Zone 2)

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

#### **Regrets;**

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

Brian Rosborough, Executive Director, AMO

1. Chair's Welcome and Introductions – ROMA Chair, Robin Jones

ROMA Chair Robin Jones welcomed Board members and staff to the meeting.

Chair Robin Jones read the following Land Acknowledgment:

*"We recognize that our work as the ROMA Board, and the work of our members, takes place on traditional Indigenous territories across Ontario. We recognize and respect the history, languages, and cultures of the First Nations, Metis, Inuit and all Indigenous peoples whose presence continues to enrich our communities."*

2. Declaration

- Pecuniary interest – None Identified
- Early departure – Identified Above

3. 9:05 am – 9:45 am Cross Province Check-In – ROMA Board/All

Zone Representatives and AMO Rural Caucus members provided updates on local matters of interest.

## ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS

4. Approval of Friday October 1, 2021 Meeting Agenda

*"That the Board approve the October 1, 2021 ROMA Board Meeting Agenda."*

**Moved by: Sandra Datars Bere**

**Seconded by: Peter Emon**

**CARRIED**

5. Approval of August 15, 2021 ROMA Meeting Minutes

*"That the minutes of the August 15, 2021 meeting of the ROMA Board be approved."*

**Moved by: Kim Love**

**Seconded by: Christine Robinson**

**CARRIED**

6. Executive-Treasurer – Afshin Majidi, Executive Treasurer

- ROMA Financial Statements - August 31, 2021

Afshin Majidi provided an update to the Board on year-to-date actuals.

*“That the ROMA Financial Statements of August 31, 2021 be approved as presented.”*

**Moved by: Lloyd Ferguson**  
**Seconded by: Eli El-Chantry**

**CARRIED**

7. Communication Committee Report Back – Peter Emon, ROMA Communications Committee Chair

Communication Committee Chair, Peter Emon, tabled recommendations to the Board on strategies to target communications and engagement with ROMA members. These included; conference engagement opportunities, focusing the ROMA newsletter and social media posts.

*“That the Board approve recommendations of the Communications Committee, and; that the Board direct AMO staff to implement the recommendations.”*

**Moved by: Peter Emon**  
**Seconded by: Christine Robinson**

**CARRIED**

8. ROMA 2022 Conference Format Decision – Petra Wolfbeiss, Director Membership, AMO

Petra Wolfbeiss reviewed considerations and analysis related to the 2022 Annual General Meeting specific to undertaking a hybrid or virtual format for the event. Risks and cost analysis for each format were reviewed.

*“That the Board approve the ROMA 2022 Conference and Annual General Meeting be held as a virtual event.”*

**Moved by: Dennis Crevits**  
**Seconded by: Peter Emon**

**CARRIED**

9. Process and Timing of Filling Zone 10 Vacancy – Petra Wolfbeiss, Director Membership, AMO

The Board was advised of the process of filling Board vacancies. It was agreed that a call for nominations would be undertaken followed by interviews of candidates by the ROMA Executive with final decision to be made by the Board at the November 12, 2021 meeting.

*“That the ROMA Board seek expressions of interest an appointment for Zone 10.”*

**Moved by: Eli El Chantry**  
**Seconded by: Chris White**

**CARRIED**

10. Process and Timing of Filling Nuclear Waste Management Ontario (NWMO) Municipal Forum – Petra Wolfbeiss, Director Membership, AMO

The Board agreed that a representative for the NWMO liaison position will be filled in the near future.

11. Appointment of ROMA Second Vice Chair, Robin Jones

Chair Jones recommended that the second Vice Chair position be filled by Christine Robinson.

*“That Christine Robinson, AMO Rural Caucus member and Mayor of West Grey, be appointed as ROMA Board 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice Chair.”*

**Moved by: Peter Emon**  
**Seconded by: Kim Love**

**CARRIED**

**TIMED ITEMS**

12. 10:00 am – 10:45 am – AMO Election Priorities – Monika Turner, Director of Policy, AMO

Monika Turner briefed Board members on AMO’s approved, eight, election priorities. AMO policy will work with the ROMA Board on including the rural lens on the priorities.

*“That the Board receive as information the AMO election priorities and themes.”*  
*and;*

*“That the Board consider developing key rural messages to support the themes.”*

**Moved by: Lloyd Ferguson**  
**Seconded by: Kim Love**

**CARRIED**

13. 10:45 am – 11:15 am – Review of Draft Opportunities for Rural Ontario in a Post Covid World – Kathryn Wood, President and CEO, Pivotal Momentum Inc

Kathy Wood tabled the current direction of the ROMA position paper. This included “what was heard” through key stakeholder discussions, current thinking on priorities and recommendations. The final draft will be reviewed and discussed at the November 12<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Board.

*“That the Board approve the draft “Opportunities for Rural Ontario in a Post Covid World” as presented.”*  
*and;*

*“That the Board approve the next steps in developing the final draft.”*

**Moved by: Peter Emon**  
**Seconded by: Christine Robinson**

**CARRIED**

14. 11:15 am – 11:45 am – ROMA 2022 Conference Update – Victoria van Veen

ROMA Conference Coordinator, Victoria Van Veen, reviewed key topics and the theme for the 2022 annual event.

*“That the Board approve the theme “ROMA 2022; Rural Opportunities” for the 2022 Conference and AGM.”*

**Moved by: Sandra Datars Bere**  
**Seconded by: Kim Love**

**CARRIED**

*and;*

*“That the Board direct AMO staff and the ROMA Conference Coordinator to undertake developing conference programming and launch registration and promotions.”*

**Moved by: Cameron Wales**  
**Seconded by: Peter Emon**

**CARRIED**

15. 11:45 am – 12:15 pm – Redbrick Communications Update – Brian Lambie, President Redbrick and Farah Tayabali, Vice President, Redbrick

Farah Tayabali updated the ROMA Board on; analytics on communications since the last meeting of the Board; the 2022 conference communication plan and the 2022 ROMA Annual Report.

*“That the Board receive the Redbrick Communication update as information.”*

**Moved by: Peter Emon**  
**Seconded by: Christa Lowry**

**CARRIED**

*12:15 pm – 12:30 pm Break*

## DISCUSSION ITEMS

### 16. Policy Update – Amber Crawford, Senior Policy Advisor, AMO

- Response to the Province’s consultation on the proposed approach to update the Projection Methodology Guideline (PMG)

Amber Crawford reviewed current activities on the PMG work and received additional recommendations on key areas of interest for the Board.

*“That the response to the Province’s Consultation on the proposed approach to update the Projection Methodology Guideline be received.”*

**Moved by: Christa Lowry**  
**Seconded by: Bill Vrebosch**

**CARRIED**

## REPORTS OF AMO and ROMA COMMITTEES

### 17. Committee Reports

- i. Nuclear Waste Management Ontario (NWMO) Municipal Forum – Vacant
- ii. Teeny Tiny Summits – Pam Sayne, Councillor, Township of Minden Hills (Zone 5)

Pam Sayne advised the Board of upcoming Teeny Tiny events scheduled for late 2021 and early 2022. Information on the events are posted on the ROMA website including registration details.

*“That the ROMA Board receive the update on the Teeny Tiny Summits.”*

**Moved by: Pam Sayne**  
**Seconded by: Christine Robinson**

**CARRIED**

- iii. Other

## INFORMATION ITEMS (Items #18-21)

### 20. GOVERNMENT & CONSUMER AFFAIRS

- iii. Resolution of Support - Funding for Maintenance and Preservation Repair of Abandoned Cemeteries 8-27-21

Item 20 iii. was pulled for discussion as this is a rising concern for rural municipalities. Further consideration on the issue will be given by ROMA at future meetings.

## **OTHER BUSINESS**

- 22. Other business brought forward by members
- 23. Agenda items for future ROMA Board meetings

## **ADJOURNMENT**

- 24. Next meeting: Friday November 12, 2021, 9:00 am – 1:30 pm, Virtual Meeting
- 25. Adjournment

*“That there being no further business the Board move to adjourn.”*

**Moved by: Eli El-Chantry**  
**Seconded by: Christa Lowry**

**CARRIED**