

ROMA BOARD MEETING

**Sunday August 14, 2022
2:00pm – 4:00pm**

**The Westin Hotel
1 Colonel By Drive
Ottawa K1N 9H4**

MINUTES

PRESENT:

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

Zone and AMO Rural Caucus Representatives

Dennis Crevits, Councillor Municipality of Central Elgin (Zone 1)
Lloyd Ferguson, Councillor, City of Hamilton (Zone 3)
Allan Thompson, Mayor, Town of Caledon (Zone 4) – Partial
Pam Sayne, Councillor, Township of Minden Hills (Zone 5)
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, City Manager, City of St. Thomas (AMO Rural Caucus)
Christa Lowry, Mayor, Municipality of Mississippi Mills (AMO Rural Caucus)
Peter Emon, Reeve, Town of Renfrew (AMO Rural Caucus)

Staff:

Petra Wolfbeiss, Director, Membership Centre, AMO
Amber Crawford, Senior Policy Advisor, AMO
Lianne Sauter, Senior Advisor Policy
Megan Abraham, Consultant, Redbrick

Guests:

Kathryn Wood, CEO, Pivotal Momentum Inc

Regrets:

Brian Rosborough, Executive Director, AMO
Afshin Majidi, Executive Treasurer, AMO
Adam Garcia, Manager, Executive Office, AMO
Monika Turner, Director of Policy, AMO
Farah Tayabali, Vice President, Redbrick Communications
Kim Love, Mayor, Township of Madawaska Valley (Zone 6)
Christine Robinson, Mayor of West Grey (Rural Caucus)

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

The following Land Acknowledgment was read by Chair Jones:

“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.”

Chair Jones welcomed the Board to the meeting and the first in-person Conference since 2019. Chair Jones also acknowledged that long time Board members Eli El-Chantiry will not be seeking re-election and leaving the Board as well as Christa Lowry's, Lloyd Ferguson and Bill Vreebosch's departure from the Board. All were acknowledged for their valuable contributions. Allan Thompson, Past Chair, who also is not seeking reelection was acknowledged as well and his dedication and commitment recognized and appreciated.

2. Declaration

- Pecuniary interest – None Declared
- Early – No early departures

3. Cross Province Check-In – ROMA Board/All (Verbal)

Zone Representatives and AMO Rural Caucus members have the opportunity to report on items of concern and interest

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

ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS

4. Approval of Sunday August 14, 2022 Meeting Agenda (Pages 1-3)

“That the Board approve the August 14, 2022 Meeting Agenda.”

Moved by: Sandra Datars Bere

Seconded by: Christa Lowry

CARRIED

5. Approval of June 9, 2022 ROMA Meeting Minutes (Pages 4-9)

“That the minutes of the June 9, 2021 meeting of the ROMA Board be approved.”

Moved by: Eli El-Chantiry

Seconded by: Pam Sayne

CARRIED

TIMED ITEMS

6. 2:00pm – 2:30pm

Executive-Treasurer – Afshin Majidi, Executive Treasurer (Pages 10-16)

“That the Report by Secretary Treasurer, Afshin Majidi be received.”

Moved by: Christine Robinson

Seconded by: Cameron Wales

CARRIED

7. 2:30pm – 3:15pm

Presentation on Recommendations of ROMA Attainable Housing Task Force – Kathy Wood, CEO and President Pivotal Momentum Inc, Robin Jones, ROMA Chair

- Brief overview on Task Force process and development of recommendations
- Review of recommendations
- Next steps and process on release of and advocacy on recommendations

“That the Board receive the presentation and recommended next steps on the ROMA Attainable Housing Task Force”

Moved by: Allan Thompson

Seconded by: Christa Lowry

CARRIED

DISCUSSION ITEMS

8. ROMA – ROI MOU Renewal – Chair Jones/Petra Wolfbeiss (Page 17)

The Rural Ontario Institute (ROI) proposal for the renewal of the ROMA Memorandum of Understanding were reviewed. The Board approved a commitment of \$8,500 for ROI to participate in analysis of the *Rural Opportunities* paper recommendations. The Board requested ROI representatives attend an upcoming meeting of the Board to discuss the work plan and deliverables if the MOU for 2023.

“That the Board approve the amount of \$8,500.00 for ROI to develop Rural Opportunities recommendations”; and

“That ROI attend an upcoming meeting of the Board to discuss the workplan and deliverables for 2023”

Moved by: Pam Sayne

Seconded by: Cameron Wales

CARRIED

9. Ontario Water Association Membership Renewal (pages) – Petra Wolfbeiss (Page 18)

The renewal of ROMA's membership in the Ontario Water Association is up for renewal at a cost of \$100,00 annually. Given the alignment of work in a number of areas it was agreed that this membership remains important.

"That the ROMA Board renew its annual OWA membership in the amount of \$100.00."

Moved by: Cameron Wales
Seconded by: Eli El-Chantiry

CARRIED

10. Agscape – Request for Support – Petra Wolfbeiss (Pages 19-20)

ROMA has been asked to continue its support of AgScape through its members Support and AGM. ROMA has been a long time supporter of the organization and its work.

"That the ROMA Board renew its annual membership with AgScape of \$500.00 and consider an AGM sponsorship of the same amount."

Moved by: Allan Thompson
Seconded by: Sandra Datars Bere

CARRIED

POLICY

11. Policy Update – Amber Crawford, Senior Policy Advisor, AMO

- i. Blue Box Transition Update (Pages 21-24)
- ii. Ontario *Drainage Act* and Railways Update (Pages 25-27)
- iii. Housing (verbal)
- iv. Evacuations and Emergency Management (Pages 28-30)
- v. Long-Term Energy Procurement Update (verbal)
- vi. Broadband (verbal)

Amber Crawford provided the Board an update on a number of policy matters.

"That the Policy update be received."

Moved by: Eli El-Chantiry
Seconded by: Sandra Datars Bere

CARRIED

REPORTS OF AMO and ROMA COMMITTEES

12. Committee Reports

- i. Nuclear Waste Management Ontario (NWMO) Municipal Forum – Allan Thompson, Mayor, Town of Caledon (Zone 4)

No report received.

- ii. Teeny Tiny Summits – Pam Sayne, Councillor, Township of Minden Hills (Zone 5) (Pages 31-32)

Pam Sayne updated the Board on the proposed content for the Teeny Tiny Summits for 2022-2023. The Board considered the current sponsorship for these events and suggested an opportunity for consideration on support for the 2023-2024 calendar of events including format and content.

“That the ROMA Board renew its partnership with OMAFRA for 2022-2023 and the delivery of Teeny Tiny Summits through sponsorship in the amount of \$10,000.”

Moved by: Peter Emon

Seconded by: Cameron Wales

CARRIED

- iii. Other

No additional items were added to the Agenda.

INFORMATION ITEMS

13.

- i. CN Letter – Response to Minister Thompson, May 26, 2022 (Pages 33-34)
- ii. LTR to Hussen Ford Clark Re Ontario Funding Share, June 13, 2022 (Pages 35-36)
- iii. Funding Support of Infrastructure Program – June 14, 2022 (Pages 37-39)

No information items were selected for further discussion.

OTHER BUSINESS

14. Other business brought forward by members

No other business was identified for discussion.

15. Agenda items for future ROMA Board meetings

No future items identified.

ADJOURNMENT

16. Next meeting: Friday September 23, 2022 –

17. Adjournment

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

Moved by: Cameron Wales

Seconded by: Pam Sayne

CARRIED