



# AGENDA

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## ROMA BOARD MEETING

**Friday, May 12, 2023  
9:00 A.M. – 1:30 P.M.**

**Virtual**

**Draft Minutes**

**PRESENT:**

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

Jamie McGrail, Councillor, Municipality of Chatham-Kent (Zone 1)  
Steve McCabe, Councillor, Township of Wellington North (Zone 2)  
Dave Beres, Deputy Mayor, Township of Tillsonburg (Zone 3)  
Pam Sayne, Councillor, Township of Minden Hills (Zone 5)  
Jennifer Murphy, Councillor, County of Renfrew (Zone 6)  
Carma Williams, Deputy Mayor, Township of North Glengarry (Zone 7)  
Christa Lowry, 1<sup>st</sup> Vice Chair, Mayor, Municipality of Mississippi Mills (Zone 8)  
Mark Wilson, Councillor, City of Temiskaming Shores (Zone 9)  
Janet Hager, Councillor, Municipality of Red Lake (Zone 10)  
Sandra Datars Bere, City Manager, City of St. Thomas (AMO Rural Caucus)  
Peter Emon, Reeve, Town of Renfrew (AMO Rural Caucus)  
Paul Latam, Councillor, Town of Grand Valley (AMO Rural Caucus)  
Rainey Weisler, Deputy Mayor, Municipality of Bayham (AMO Rural Caucus)

**Staff:**

Afshin Majidi, Executive Treasurer, AMO  
Petra Wolfbeiss, Director, Membership Centre, AMO  
Lindsay Jones, Director of Policy, AMO  
Adam Garcia, Manager, Executive Office, AMO  
Craig Reid, Senior Advisor, AMO  
Amber Crawford, Senior Advisor, AMO  
Noemie Briollais, Policy Intern, AMO  
Megan Abraham, Consultant, Redbrick  
Morgan Carl, AMO Youth Fellow  
Lora Tigno, Administrative Assistant, Membership Centre, AMO

**Guests:**

Jeff Barten, Energy and Asset Services Manager, LAS  
Kathy Wood, CEO and President, Pivotal Momentum Inc.

**Early Departures:**

Paul Latam, Councillor, Town of Grand Valley (AMO Rural Caucus)

Peter Emon, Reeve, Town of Renfrew (AMO Rural Caucus)  
Jamie McGrail, Councillor, Municipality of Chatham-Kent (Zone 1)

**Regrets:**

Christina Early, Councillor, Town of Caledon (Zone 4)

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

Chair Jones welcomed the Board to the meeting and welcomed Noemie Briollais, AMO's policy Intern.

2. Declaration

- Pecuniary interest – none declared
- Early departure – none declared

Cross Province Check-In – ROMA Board/All (*Verbal*) - N/A

**ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS**

3. Approval of Friday, May 12, 2023, Meeting Agenda (*Pages 1-3*)

**Motion**

*"That the Board approve the agenda for Friday, May 12, 2023."*

**Moved: Carma Williams**

**Seconded: Jamie McGrail**

**CARRIED**

4. Approval of Friday, April 14, 2023, ROMA Meeting Minutes (*Pages 4-10*)

**Motion**

*"That the Board approve the minutes from the April 14, 2023 meeting".*

**Moved: Jennifer Murphy**

**Seconded: Janet Hager**

**CARRIED**

5. Executive-Treasurer – Afshin Majidi, Executive Treasurer

- ROMA financial statements (*Pages 11-17*)

- Review – Expense reimbursement policy (*Pages 18-37*)

Afshin Majidi presented to the board, ROMA's financial statements as of March 31, 2023. Afshin also tabled the updated ROMA Expense reimbursement policy that provides increased clarity around reimbursement items, per diem application (per diem increased from \$94 to \$120 for May 2023 – per diem will be adjusted annually for COLA), and updated rates. This update is intended to streamline not only processes but understanding of what Directors are eligible for and when.

### **Motion**

*“That the March 2023 financial statements be accepted as presented.” and;*

**Moved: Peter Emon**  
**Seconded: Paul Latam**

*“That ROMA Board approve the amendments to the expense reimbursement policy.”*

**Moved: Christa Lowry**  
**Seconded: Jennifer Murphy**

**CARRIED**

### **TIMED ITEMS**

6. 9:30 AM – 10:00 AM– LAS Automated Speed Enforcement Service (ASE) – Jeff Barten, Energy and Asset Services Manager, (*Pages 38-44*)

Jeff Barten provided an update on the Automated Speed Enforcement Service specifically highlighting the service framework and program development. The service will be piloted in Barrie, with a plan for rollout to all of Ontario's municipalities by late 2023.

### **Motion**

*“That the Board receive as information the update on Automated Speed Enforcement Service (ASE).”*

**Moved: Carma Williams**  
**Seconded: Pam Sayne**

**CARRIED**

7. 10:00 AM – 11:00 AM - Discussion on Access to Rural Services in Ontario – Kathy Wood, CEO and President of Pivotal Momentum Inc. (*Pages 45-56*)

- Policy Development and Recommendations

Chair Jones and Kathy Wood presented “Closer to Home”, theme session for ROMA Board on Improved Access to Services. It was discussed to the board the key points of the Opportunities for Rural Ontario Paper, ROMA’s next priority/goal, and project phases. After the consultation with the board, the next steps will involve distillation of theme session into notes, consultation with selected experts, survey of ROMA members, research and data collection, and an update will be presented at the July board meeting. Findings will also be shared at the 2024 ROMA Conference.

## **Motion**

*“That the Board receive the information as presented and direct next steps on the policy development on access to rural services in Ontario.”*

**Moved: Steve McCabe**  
**Seconded: Peter Emon**

**CARRIED**

## **DISCUSSION ITEMS**

8. Spring Board Meeting Update – Petra Wolfbeiss, Director, Membership Centre, AMO *(Verbal)*

Petra Wolfbeiss presented the itinerary for the Spring Board Meeting in Prince Edward County for June 7<sup>th</sup>-9<sup>th</sup>.

Chair Jones also tabled to the board the opportunity to have the Prince Edward County Affordable Housing Corporation present on June 9<sup>th</sup> from 8:30 AM-10 AM, to which the board gladly agreed. The presentation will involve the discussion of a number of initiatives to address homelessness and affordable housing in the community that will be undertaken by the corporation, as well as PEC’s New Housing Plan.

## **Motion**

*“That the Board receive as information the update on the June ROMA Spring Board Meeting.”*

**Moved: Mark Wilson**  
**Seconded: Sandra Datars Bere**

**CARRIED**

9. Succession Planning for ROMA - Chair Robin Jones/all, *(Verbal)*

[Northwestern Ontario Municipal Association - Mission, Vision, Core Values \(noma.on.ca\)](http://noma.on.ca)

Chair Jones engaged the board on the consideration of undertaking a purposeful and strategic approach to ROMA’s succession planning. Chair Jones also tabled the likelihood of engaging a consultant, Pat Vanini, to advise and support the board in this strategy.

## **Motion**

*"That the Board undertake the development of a strategic plan and;"*

**Moved: Carma Williams**

**Seconded: Janet**

*"That the Board engage a consultant to advise and support the Board in this strategy".*

**Moved: Jennifer Murphy**

**Seconded: Sandra Datars Bere**

**CARRIED**

## **POLICY**

10. Policy Update – Craig Reid, Senior Advisor, AMO, and, Amber Crawford, Senior Advisor, AMO

- Environmental Assessment, Craig Reid *(Verbal)*
- Housing Update, Amber Crawford *(Verbal)*
- Drainage Update, Lindsay Jones *(Verbal)*
- Pathways to Decarbonization ERO proposal, Amber Crawford *(Verbal)*

Chair Jones called on Lindsay Jones to lead the conversation regarding the Drainage Act. The discussion focused on the next steps with respect to the Drainage Act and the application that CN has brought forward to the Canadian Transportation Agency with respect to a couple of drainage projects in Sarnia. ROMA has moved forward and retained counsel to be able to request intervener status, given the importance of the matter to rural municipalities across Ontario.

On motion of Chair Jones, the board went into camera at 11:30 AM.

## **Motion**

*"That the Board goes in camera."*

**Moved: Christa Lowry**

**Seconded: Pam Sayne**

On motion of Chair Jones, the board went off camera at 11:40 AM.

## **Motion:**

*"That the Board goes out of camera."*

**Moved: Steve McCabe**

**Seconded: Carma Williams**

Amber Crawford provided an update on Housing based on the PPS and site plan control. These

are two of the submissions of the 12 that were affiliated with Bill 97, which was introduced back in April. Amber highlighted that the site plan control is a big win for ROMA's advocacy.

Amber also updated the board on the Pathways to Decarbonization report that the IESO (Independent electricity System Operator) had put forward. As it went on the Ministry of Energy's environmental registry posting for comment, AMO is going to put a submission that speaks to the need for better engagement for the ministry to provide leadership to incent the ISO to engage with ROMA as well as indigenous communities. The comment will be shared once posted.

Craig Reid briefed the board on MECP's proposed changes to the Environmental Assessment (EA) process in Ontario, with the aim of streamlining and modernizing the process to better reflect best practices, mitigate burdensome requirements and reduce costs. As such, the MECP aims to support streamlined project development in the province, while maintaining environmental oversight requirements. MECP was seeking feedback up until May 9<sup>th</sup>, 2023 however, AMO has not yet put in a submission but is working on a recommendation for the AMO Board to consider the proposal.

Craig also informed the board that he went to the Standing Committee on behalf of AMO to speak to Bill 91, particularly to speak on changes to the Building Broadband Faster Act which included the creation of a coordinated requirements to let Infrastructure Ontario know what infrastructure is in the rights of ways. This will lead to getting the project coordination together faster as well as to ensure that municipalities get permits quickly.

**Motion :**

*"That the ROMA Board receive as information AMO's policy updates."*

**Moved: Dave Beres**

**Seconded: Mark Wilson**

**CARRIED**

**REPORTS OF AMO and ROMA COMMITTEES**

11. Committee Reports

- i. Nuclear Waste Management Ontario (NWMO) Municipal Forum – Sandra Datars Bere, City Manager, City of St. Thomas

Sandra Datars Bere attended a session in Oakville with the municipal stakeholders on April 20<sup>th</sup>. Sandra shared with the board how NWMO looks into the development of spent fuel waste rods, prototyping, and testing. Sandra recommended for the benefit of ROMA, that there may be value for the board to do a site visit at some point to further understand the mechanism and to see what and how far along NWMO is getting with the work that they are doing.

**Motion:**

*"That the Board receive as information the update on the Nuclear Waste Management Ontario Municipal Forum".*

**Moved: Jennifer Murphy**  
**Seconded: Janet Hager**

**CARRIED**

- ii. Teeny Tiny Summits – Pam Sayne, Councillor, Township of Minden Hills

**Call on Pam Sayne for an update.**

No Update

- iii. Other

**INFORMATION ITEMS**

**12. Drainage Act**

- a. 2023 04 11 - Perth East - CN Rail Contribution Requirements - Drainage Act *(Pages 57-60)*
- b. 20230406 Saugeen Shores Resolution - Arran-Elderslie Tile Drainage Loan Program Review *(Pages 61)*
- c. Arran-Elderslie Tile Drain Loan Program Review Motion letter *(Pages 62-64)*
- d. City of Sarnia Letter to Hon Lisa Thompson Apr-14-23 *(Pages 65-66)*

**13. Education Funding**

- a. April 24 2023 Support Education Funding *(Pages 67-68)*
- b. Resolution 119-2023\_South Glengarry *(Pages 69-70)*
- c. SDG Resolution of Support - Rural Education Funding *(Pages 71)*
- d. Support resolution for the Township of South Glengarry\_Bonfield Township *(Pages 72)*

**14. Other**

- a. 153-2023-3148; 234-2023-710 Boileau\_Dominelli ROMA SIGNED *(Pages 73-75)*
- b. 234-2023-1474 Jones Reply SIGNED *(Pages 76)*
- c. MOI Broadband - April 20, 2023\_Township of Black River-Matheson *(Pages 77-78)*

**Motion**

*"That the Board receive the Information Items."*

**Moved: Janet Hager**

**Seconded: Steve McCabe**

**CARRIED**

**OTHER BUSINESS**

15. Other business brought forward by members

16. Agenda items for future ROMA Board meetings

**ADJOURNMENT**

17. Next meeting: June 8, 2023 – See you at the Spring Board Meeting in PEC!

18. Adjournment