



# MINUTES

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## ROMA BOARD MEETING

**Friday, October 13, 2023  
9:00 AM – 1:30 PM**

**AMO Office  
200 University Ave.  
Toronto, Ontario M5H 3C6**

### **PRESENT:**

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

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

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)  
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)  
Sandra Datars Bere, 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice Chair, City Manager, City of St. Thomas (AMO Rural Caucus)

### **Staff:**

Afshin Majidi, Executive Treasurer, AMO  
Petra Wolfbeiss, Director, Membership Centre, AMO  
Lindsay Jones, Director of Policy and Government Relations, AMO  
Karen Nesbitt, Senior Manager, Policy, AMO  
Craig Reid, Senior Advisor, AMO  
Lora Tigno, Administrative Assistant, Membership Centre, AMO

### **Guests:**

None Identified

### **Early Departures:**

None Identified

### **Regrets:**

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

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

Chair Jones welcomed Board members and staff including welcoming policy's new Senior Manager, Karen Nesbitt.

The following Land Acknowledgement was shared:

"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

### **Request members to declare:**

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

## 3. Cross-province check-in - Robin Jones, Chair/All (*Verbal*)

Zone Representatives and AMO Rural Caucus members provided updates on local matters. Some matters identified included:

- POA issues and court backlog
- Healthcare concerns, particularly doctor shortages, funding for hospital equipment, community mental health.
- Water wastewater costs
- Municipal boat launches
- Sharing ongoing work on regional waste management strategy
- Consideration of shared services with building officials identified as one area.
- Submissions to the Housing Accelerator Fund.

## **ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS**

## 4. Approval of Friday, October 13, 2023, Meeting Agenda (*Pages 1-3*)

Chair Jones noted the following amendments to the agenda:

- Item 10, will be a verbal update.
- The "Access to Services Project" will be added to the agenda under 7b.
- Item 9, Water and Wastewater discussion was deferred.

**Motion:**

*“That the Board approve the agenda for Friday, October 13, 2023.”*

**Moved: Steve McCabe**

**Seconded: Carma Williams**

**CARRIED**

5. Approval of Friday September 15, 2023, ROMA Meeting Minutes *(Pages 4-13)*

**Motion**

*“That the Board approve the minutes from the September 15, 2023 meeting”.*

**Moved: Carma Williams**

**Seconded: Rainey Weisler**

**CARRIED**

6. Executive-Treasurer – Afshin Majidi, Executive Treasurer

- a. ROMA Financial Statements – July 2023 *(Pages 14-17)*

Afshin Majidi presented and reviewed the financial statements for July 2023.

**Motion**

*“That the July 2023 financial statements be accepted as presented.”*

**Moved: Jennifer Murphy**

**Seconded: Mark Wilson**

**CARRIED**

**DISCUSSION ITEMS**

7. A. ROMA 2024 Conference Update and Discussion– Victoria van Veen, Team Lead, Events and Training, AMO *(Pages 18-38)*

Victoria Van Veen presented the proposed conference programming to the Board. Board members provided feedback on mainstage programming, concurrent sessions, keynote speakers, and the Zone meet ups scheduled for Sunday of the Conference.

Membership Centre and Policy Centre staff will refine sessions based on Board feedback and begin conference planning.

## **Motion**

*“That the Board approve the ROMA 2024 planning approach” and  
“That staff be directed to begin program development as discussed.”*

**Moved: Steve McCabe**  
**Seconded: Paul Latam**

### **CARRIED**

#### 7. B. Access to Services Project update – Robin Jones, Chair *(Verbal)*

An update on the development of the *Access to Services Project* was provided. Subject matter expert interviews continue. A briefing on the report will be provided at the November meeting of the Board.

#### 8. 2024 ROMA Board Meeting Dates Approval – Petra Wolfbeiss, Director, Membership Centre, AMO *(Verbal)*

The proposed 2024 meeting dates for the ROMA Board were reviewed. The June meeting of the Board will be held in Thunder Bay, Ontario. Staff was directed to look into accommodations and booking of flights.

## **Motion:**

*“That the Board approve the proposed ROMA Board Meeting dates for 2024.”*

**Moved: Janet Hager**  
**Seconded: Dave Beres**

### **CARRIED**

#### 9. Water and Wastewater discussion – Peter Emon/All *(Verbal)*

This item was deferred.

#### 10. ROMA Communications Update – Farah Tayabali, Vice President, and Megan Abraham, Consultant, Redbrick *(Verbal)*

Megan Abraham advised the Board that the videos under production are near completion and will be shared with the Chair and staff for initial review.

Redbrick will begin planning for conference communications with AMO staff.

**Motion:**

*“That the Redbrick update be received as information.”*

**Moved: Carma Williams**  
**Seconded: Jamie McGrail**

**CARRIED**

**POLICY**

11. Policy Update – Karen Nesbitt, Senior Manager, Policy, AMO (*Verbal*)

- i. Housing update
- ii. Seniors programming

Lindsay Jones and Karen Nesbitt provided an update on the following issues:

Lindsay Jones, Director of AMO Policy, briefed the Board on AMO's proposed [Social and Economic Prosperity Review](#). [AMO has called on Premier Ford](#) to propose an update of the partnership between provincial and municipal governments to build sustainable communities, a solid foundation for economic growth and quality of life. The review would include:

- Affordability and fiscal sustainability for both orders of government
- Fairness for taxpayers and affordability for residents
- Coordinated and timely infrastructure investment resilient to climate realities
- Increased housing supply and affordability
- Robust health and social services supporting increased economic participation.
- Long term economic development and prosperity for Ontario and its communities
- Modern, effective, and streamlined service delivery
- - i. The Board discussed recent direct from the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, Paul Calandra, for municipalities to respond to the request for priorities in their housing plans.
    - The Board was also briefed on the recent introduction of Bill 23 and the expansion of the definition of affordable housing.
  - ii. No update was available.

**Motion:**

*“That the Board receive the policy updates as information.”*

**Moved: Dave Beres**  
**Seconded: Sandra Datars-Bere**

**CARRIED**

## REPORTS OF AMO and ROMA COMMITTEES

### 12. Committee Reports

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

A meeting was held on September 28 regarding discussing site selection, and a decision on the ETR (Early Transportation Initiatives) and its location will be made within the next year. It was discussed that there may be value in having NWMO provide a briefing to the ROMA Board.

#### **Motion:**

*“That the Board receive as information the update on the NWMO Municipal Forum.”*

**Moved: Carma Williams**

**Seconded: Dave Beres**

**CARRIED**

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

The first Teeny Tiny Summit for 2023-2024 occurred on September 26 with Peter Kenyon as the keynote speaker. The event was very well attended. Planning is underway for the future Summits.

#### **Motion**

*“That the Board receive the update on Teeny Tiny Summit as information.”*

**Moved: Pam Sayne**

**Seconded: Steve McCabe**

**CARRIED**

- iii. Other

## INFORMATION ITEMS

### 13. Black Ash Tree

- a. Municipality of Wawa Resolution of Support\_RC23210 Black Ash (*Pages 39*)

- b. Resolution Support 'Black Ash Tree Classification as Endangered' *(Pages 40-45)*
- c. Sep 15 Emo support\_Addington Highlands *(Pages 46)*
- d. Town of Hearst Resolution No. 292-23\_Black ash tree resolution support *(Pages 47-51)*

14. Illegal Land Use

- a. Resolution No. 2023-246 - Town of Caledon Illegal Land Use Enforcement *(Pages 52-66)*
- b. Stouffville Resolution - Illegal Land Use Enforcement *(Pages 67-77)*

15. District of Nipissing Poverty Report

- a. Sept 22 Letter RE Poverty Reports\_ROMA *(Pages 78-79)*
- b. Poverty\_Report\_1\_Income and Poverty *(Pages 80-116)*
- c. Poverty\_Report\_2\_Housing and Homelessness *(Pages 117-178)*

16. Other

- a. BRM to Minister P Calandra September 14 2023 *(Pages 179-181)*
- b. BRM to SOLGEN M Kerzner September 14 2023 *(Pages 182-183)*
- c. Sept\_13\_2023\_Hon Lisa M Thompson OMAFRA Tile Drainage Motion *(Pages 184-186)*

**Motion**

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

**Moved: Janet Hager**

**Seconded: Jennifer Murphy**

**CARRIED**

**OTHER BUSINESS**

17. Other business brought forward by members

18. Agenda items for future ROMA Board meetings

- Black Ash Trees
- Water/Wastewater

**ADJOURNMENT**

19. Next meeting: November 9, 2023 (Committee of the Whole), November 10, 2023 (ROMA Board of Directors Meeting) – Hybrid, Location: **AMO Office, 801-200 University Ave. Toronto, ON M5H 3C6**

20. Adjournment

**Motion:**

*"That there being no further business, the Board move to adjourn."*

**Moved: Steve McCabe**

**Seconded: Jamie McGrail**

**CARRIED**