



MINUTES

ROMA BOARD MEETING

**Friday, November 10, 2023
9:00 AM – 1:30 PM**

**AMO Office
801-200 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)

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

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, 1st 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)

Staff:

Brian Rosborough, Executive Director, AMO

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

Adam Garcia, Manager, Executive Office, AMO

Bridget Cherry, Senior Advisor, AMO

Craig Reid, Senior Advisor, AMO

Lora Tigno, Administrative Assistant, Membership Centre, AMO

Guests:

Meredith Staveley-Watson, Manager of Government Relations and Policy, EOWC

Kathryn Wood, CEO and President, Pivotal Momentum

Early Departures:

None Identified

Regrets:

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

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

Chair Jones welcomed Board members and staff.

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:

- Establishing a warming center for homeless individuals
- Homelessness and affordable housing in Peel Region
- Waste management and recycling in Ontario
- Police staffing, contract issues, and uncertainty about provincial action on asset management.
- Cybersecurity breaches
- Bill C-310

ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS

4. Approval of Friday, November 10, 2023, Meeting Agenda (*Pages 1-3*)

Motion:

"That the Board approve the agenda for Friday, November 10, 2023."

Moved: Jamie McGrail

Seconded: Mark Wilson

CARRIED

5. Approval of Friday October 13, 2023, ROMA Meeting Minutes *(Pages 4-11)*

Motion

“That the Board approve the minutes from the October 13, 2023, meeting”.

Moved: Dave Beres

Seconded: Pam Sayne

CARRIED

TIMED ITEMS

6. 10:00 AM – 10:45 AM - EOWC's '7 in 7' Regional Housing Plan – Peter Emon, Reeve, Town of Renfrew and Meredith Staveley-Watson, Manager of Government Relations and Policy, Eastern Ontario Wardens' Caucus *(Pages 12-25)*

Peter Emon and Meredith Staveley-Watson presented the Eastern Ontario Wardens' Caucus (EOWC) "7 in 7" regional housing plan to address the shortage of affordable rental housing. This multi-year strategy includes a number of proposed funding strategy across the public, private and other options. The Board is generally supportive of the plan and requested a further discussion be scheduled with the Board once the strategies are more concrete.

Motion

“That the Board receive as information the presentation of “7 in 7”, and that “7 in 7” return to the board in 2024 when the model is developed for further discussion”.

Moved: Christina Early

Seconded: Jamie McGrail

CARRIED

7. 10:45 AM – 11:15 AM – Update on Access to Services Policy Development – Kathryn Wood, CEO and President, Pivotal Momentum *(To be delivered)*

Kathy Woods reviewed progress to date regarding subject matter interviews, desk research and other project developments. Kathy provided a high-level overview of “what has been heard”. The Board will receive a draft of the report prior to the December meeting. Review and Board input will be undertaken at the meeting working to finalize the report in the weeks following the December meeting.

Motion

"That the Board receive the update on Access to Services Policy Development as information".

Moved: Dave Beres

Seconded: Christa Lowry

CARRIED

DISCUSSION ITEMS

8. ROMA 2024 Conference Update – Victoria van Veen, Team Lead, Events and Training, AMO *(To be delivered)*

A brief update was provided regarding program development, registrations, and progress on revenue generation from sponsorships and the exhibit hall. The Conference is once again shaping up to meet and/or exceed 2023.

Motion

"That the Board receive the update on the ROMA 2024 Conference as information".

Moved: Steve McCabe

Seconded: Jennifer Murphy

CARRIED

9. ROMA Communications Update – Farah Tayabali, Vice President, and Megan Abraham, Consultant, Redbrick *(Pages 26-30)*

Redbrick provided an opportunity for the Board members to review the recently developed ROMA videos. The videos were received with enthusiasm. Videos will be released included at the 2024 Conference.

Redbrick walked Board members through the 2024 Conference communication plan.

The December meeting will include discussion on the 2024 Communication Plan budget.

Motion:

"That the Board receive the communication update as information." and;

“That the Board approve the Redbrick Conference budget as tabled with an additional \$3,500.00 for pre-conference media advisories.”

Moved: Peter Emon
Seconded: Pam Sayne

CARRIED

POLICY

10. Policy Update

- Director’s Update – Lindsay Jones, Director of Policy and Government Relations, AMO (*Verbal*)
 - Public Health Update

Lindsay Jones provided updates on the governments’ considerations related to public health mergers. Board members provided feedback related to communicating information and timelines needed from the province.

Motion:

““That the ROMA Board receive the policy updates as information”; and

That the ROMA Board engage consultant Kathy Wood, CEO of Pivotal Momentum, to develop a ROMA response to the provincial public health consultations reflecting rural realities and concerns related to the proposed public health reform”.

Moved: Peter Emon
Seconded: Christa Lowry

- Fall Economic Statement Update

Policy staff highlighted key areas of interest for municipalities in the Fall Economic Statement including infrastructure funding, water and wastewater.

- Social and Economic Prosperity Review Engagement Plan Update

Lindsay reviewed AMO’s Social and Economic Prosperity strategy including presenting to ROMA in January.

- Provincial Offences Status – Bridget Cherry, Senior Advisor, AMO (*Verbal*)

Bridget Cherry acknowledged challenges in the POA system, including capacity issues and revenue concerns. Advocacy efforts were discussed, and Bridget outlined plans to address the complex issues by engaging stakeholders and seeking consensus. The board expressed interest in a more in-depth discussion at a near future meeting.

Motion:

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

Moved: Paul Latam

Seconded: Jamie McGrail

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

No Update.

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

No Update.

- iii. Other

INFORMATION ITEMS

Check in whether members would like any of the items pulled for discussion.

12. 23-171 Fire Risk Posed by Railway Tie Piling Practices of Canadian Pacific Railway *(Pages 31-32)*

13. 314-23 Illegal Land Use Enforcement *(Pages 33-34)*

14. 2023-10-12 Premier Doug Ford Illegal Land Use Enforcement *(Pages 35-47)*

15. EOWC Response to Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing Re Ontario Government Housing Task Force Consultation - October 14 2023 – FINAL *(Pages 48-54)*

16. Illegal Land Use Enforcement-Resolution of Support Township of Stouffville *(Pages 55)*

17. Resolution 2023-20 7 in 7 Reg Housing Plan Trudeau, Justin (*Pages 56-57*)

18. Stouffville Resolution - Illegal Land Use Enforcement (*Pages 58-68*)

Motion

"That the Board receive the Information Items."

Moved: Steve McCabe

Seconded: Pam Sayne

CARRIED

OTHER BUSINESS

19. Other business brought forward by members

- Expense reporting processing and turnaround time

20. Agenda items for future ROMA Board meetings

- Water/Wastewater to be presented by Peter Emon
- Rural Education to be presented by Paul Latam
- Provincial Offences Act – update to be provided by Bridget Cherry

ADJOURNMENT

21. Next meeting: December 7, 2023 (Committee of the Whole), December 8, 2023 (ROMA Board of Directors Meeting) – Hybrid, Location: *AMO Office, 801-200 University Ave. Toronto, ON M5H 3C6*

22. Adjournment