



Eastern Ontario Wardens' Caucus

**Eastern Ontario Wardens' Caucus
MINUTES
Friday, June 18, 2010
9:00 a.m.
County of Renfrew Administration Building
Pembroke, Ontario**

In attendance:

County	EOWC CURRENT MEMBERS	STAFF
County of Haliburton	Chair Dave Burton - Warden	Secretary-Treasurer Jim Wilson - CAO Tamara Wilbee – County Clerk
United Counties of Leeds and Grenville		Steve Silver - CAO
County of Frontenac	Gary Davison- Warden	Elizabeth Savill - CAO
County of Hastings	Jo-Anne Albert – Warden Ron Emond – Past Chair	Jim Pine-CAO
City of Kawartha Lakes		Jane Reynolds - CAO
County of Lanark		Peter Wagland - CAO
County of Lennox and Addington	Henry Hogg - Warden	Larry Keech-CAO
County of Northumberland		Bill Pyatt-CAO
County of Peterborough	J. Murray Jones – Warden	Gary King – CAO
County of Renfrew	Donald Rathwell – Warden	Norm Lemke – CAO
United Counties of Prescott and Russell	Conrad Lamadeleine- Warden	Stéphane P. Parisien – CAO
County of Prince Edward	Leo Finnegan- Mayor	Dick Shannon-CAO
United Counties of Stormont, Dundas and Glengarry		Michael Waddell-CAO
Other guests:		EORN: Lisa Severson, David Fell, Laura Bradley Steve Seller, MMAH Tom Bedford, Mike Nolan and Doug Socha – Eastern Ontario EMS Chiefs
Regrets:		
City of Kawartha Lakes	Mayor Ric McGee	
United Counties of Stormont, Dundas	Warden Bryan McGillis	

and Glengarry		
County of Lanark	Warden John Fenik	
United Counties of Leeds and Grenville	Warden Bill Thake	
County of Northumberland	Warden Peter Delanty	

1. Call Meeting to Order/Chair's Update

Chair Dave Burton called the meeting to order and invited Warden Rathwell to say a few words. Warden Rathwell commented that through this process he's been fortunate to have the opportunity to not only visit new areas throughout eastern Ontario, but he's also had the pleasure to work with a wonderful group of people. He then introduced Jim Hutton as the new CAO of Renfrew County.

Warden Burton thanked Warden Rathwell, Rosalyn Gruntz and Jim Hutton for hosting the dinner and meeting and also thanked the CAOs for putting together several new reports for consideration.

He noted anticipation of the unveiling of the new EOWC website and thanked Steve Silver for coordinating the project. The Chair noted that the EOWC is moving forward well with the signing of the contribution agreements for broadband and anticipate moving quickly into the next stage.

The Chair thanked Bill Pyatt, Larry Keech, Kathy Wood, Dan Borowec, Stephen Paul and Andrew Wallen for all of their diligent efforts towards planning for a successful Economic Summit. He also acknowledged the contribution of a \$5000.00 grant from Municipal Affairs and Housing to be used to fund the keynote speaker for this event.

He noted that with the upcoming AMO Conference, members should identify the priorities that they wish to discuss with the various Ministers and the Western Ontario Wardens' Caucus.

2. Additions to and Approval of the Agenda – June 18, 2010

Chair Burton asked for approval of the agenda. .

Moved by: Mayor Leo Finnegan
Seconded by: Warden Conrad Lamadeleine

Be it resolved that the agenda for the June 18, 2010 Session of the Eastern Ontario Wardens' Caucus be adopted.

Carried.

3. Approval of Minutes of Previous Meetings

Moved by: Warden Jo-Anne Albert
Seconded by: Warden Gary Davison

Be it resolved that the minutes of the April 16, 2010 Open and Closed Sessions of the Eastern Ontario Wardens' Caucus be adopted as presented.

Carried.

4. Medical Priority Dispatch System and new EMS Response Time Standards

Representatives of the Eastern Ontario EMS Chiefs - Tom Bedford, Mike Nolan and Doug Socha presented reports regarding the Medical Priority Dispatch System and the new EMS Response Time Standards.

The Ministry of Health, under the Ambulance Act set out new response time standard requirements that come into affect this fall. With the current incomplete data set, they have not had sufficient time to accurately assess and report back to the EOWC on this issue with a solid recommendation.

Liz Savill noted that the recommendations are aligned with presentations that were made at OGRA/ROMA this year.

Moved by: Warden J. Murray Jones
Seconded by: Warden Gary Davison

Be it resolved that the EOWC recommends that the Province delay implementing the Response Time Standard until the land ambulance service providers have access to 12 months of accurate data,

And further that the Eastern EMS Chiefs be directed to develop a common Response Time Standard approach for eastern Ontario.

Carried.

Moved by: Mayor Leo Finnegan
Seconded by: Warden Henry Hogg

Be it resolved that the EOWC recommends to the Ontario Ministry of Health and Long Term Care that the Medical Dispatch Priority System (MPDS) be incorporated as the dispatching technology to appropriately dispatch land ambulances by the Ministry.

Carried.

5. MMAH Update

Stephen Seller provided an overview of Ministry of Municipal Affairs current priorities. He reported that Deputy Minister William Ford has just been appointed to his position with the Ministry of Municipal Affairs.

He noted that there is a period of public comment now open until August 31st to comment on the Provincial Policy Statement and that the forms for delegation requests are now available online for AMO.

He reported that the Provincial Economic Transformation Teams are moving forward and the Caucus has three representatives attending a meeting on Monday in relation to this initiative. Gary King noted that he and Liz Savill have been working on the Growth Plan

and noted that the Assistant Deputy Minister recommends that the EOWC move forward with a request to meet with Minister Duguid at the AMO Conference to discuss the potential to partner on a Growth Plan for Eastern Ontario.

6. EOWC Website Review

Steve Silver provided a visual demonstration of both the existing and newly developed EOWC website. Contact information will change annually to reflect the Secretary-Treasurer and the site is compliant with accessibility protocols. It is expected that the site will be live by next month and that once the Contribution Agreements are signed, this should be profiled prominently on the home page. Overall, the new site is much more interactive and intuitive than the original site.

It was noted that only CAO's email addresses have been provided on the contact list and the phone numbers listed for the Wardens' is the phone number of the respective County Offices.

7. Economic Summit Update

Bill Pyatt provided an update with regard to the upcoming Economic Summit. They feel they are well prepared for the Summit next week and anticipate up to 120 participants.

8. Chalk River National Laboratory

Jim Hutton provided a report regarding the Chalk River National Laboratory. It was noted that the federal government is looking at spinning off the commercial division of AECL without the approval of parliament.

Moved by: Mayor Leo Finnegan
Seconded by: Warden Henry Hogg

Be it resolved that the EOWC Inc. supports the County of Renfrew in its request that the Government of Canada establish the post-restructuring mission of CRL as a national laboratory, and proceed as expeditiously as possible with the development of a new world-class multi-purpose research reactor that will meet the research and development needs of Canadian stakeholders for the next 50 years.

Carried.

9. EORN Update

Jim Pine, Gary King, Lisa Severson and David Fell provided an overview of the EORN project status. It was noted that the Contribution Agreement between Canada and the Province was completed approximately three weeks ago, and they are finalizing the agreement between the EOWC and the Province currently.

At this time, the EOWC resolved to move into Closed Session to discuss third party proprietary information.

Moved by: Warden Jo-Anne Albert
Seconded by: Warden J. Murray Jones

Be it resolved that the EOWC Inc. Enter into Closed Session to discuss EORN issues subject to client solicitor privilege.

Carried.

The Closed Session adjourned and resumed open session.

10. Future Directions Report Update

Jim Wilson provided a report with regard to the Future Directions update.

**Moved by: Mayor Leo Finnegan
Seconded by: Warden J. Murray Jones**

Be it resolved that as a result of PSAB changes made to our municipal financial statements in 2009, the EOWC agrees not to update the EOWC Future Directions Report in 2010 and further calls on the EOWC Treasurers' Group to come back with recommendations on a revised report format that can be used by the EOWC in future years.

Carried.

11. Regional Data Set Update

Jim Wilson provided a report with regard to the Regional Data Set update. He noted that staff has been trying to acquire funding for this project for the past two years with little success due to stringent guidelines and timing. The CAOs group feels that it is a worthwhile project and should be funded through the EOWC reserves in order to feed current information into the Growth Plan development. Cathy Wood provided a proposal for the review of the EOWC that was circulated with the agenda package. There is a surplus \$6,000 in the budget that is not going to be used for the Future Directions report that can be transferred to this account as well.

**Moved by: Warden Gary Davison
Seconded by: Warden Henry Hogg**

Be it resolved that EOWC engage the services of Kathy Wood, Natural Capital Resources Inc. to update the EOWC Regional DataSet as per her proposal dated June 10, 2010 at a cost of \$16,606 including HST and that the project cost is funded from the EOWC reserve.

Carried.

12. Joint and Several Liability Reform

Jim Wilson provided a report regarding Joint and Several Liability Reform from AMO.

**Moved by: Warden Jo-Anne Albert
Seconded by: Mayor Leo Finnegan**

Be it resolved that the EOWC Inc. supports the Association of Municipalities of Ontario in its efforts to seek joint and several liability reform in Ontario and calls on the Ontario Government to pursue much needed changes to the Negligence Act.

Carried.

13. AMO Conference – Joint Meeting with WOWC

Jim Wilson provided a report with regard to a proposed Joint Meeting with the Western Ontario Wardens' Caucus at the AMO Conference. The WOWC is willing to host the Joint meeting.

**Moved by: Warden Conrad Lamadeleine
Seconded by: Warden Gary Davison**

Be it resolved that the EOWC Inc. agrees to participate in a joint meeting with the Western Ontario Wardens' Caucus at the AMO Conference in August 2010 and that the WOWC be advised of potential agenda items including EMS Response Time Standards, EMS Medical Priority Dispatch System, Farm Tax/Managed Forest Rebate Programme and implications of Bill 16 on future increases to land ambulance subsidy transfers.

Carried.

14. AMO Conference – Delegations

Jim Wilson provided a report regarding potential delegations at the AMO Conference. The Ministry of Municipal Affairs has offered to coordinate delegations at the AMO Conference. It was noted that some items of interest for discussion could include the Chalk River Laboratory, Bill 16, Crown land, the CP rail issue and the farm tax and managed forest rebate.

**Moved by: Warden J. Murray Jones
Seconded by: Warden Henry Hogg**

Be it resolved that the EOWC proceed with arranging through the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing, meetings with Ministers at the AMO Conference as per the June 18, 2010 staff report.

Carried.

15. AMO Travel

Jim Wilson provided a report with regard to travel arrangements to Windsor for the AMO Conference.

**Moved by: Warden Gary Davison
Seconded by: Warden Jo-Anne Albert**

Be it resolved that the EOWC members make their own travel arrangements to AMO through their respective municipality.

Carried.

16. EOWC Fall Meeting

Jim Wilson provided a report on the October EOWC meeting. It was agreed that a fall meeting would take place in Lanark County on October 29, 2010.

Moved by: Warden Don Rathwell
Seconded by: Mayor Leo Finnegan

Be it resolved that the EOWC agree to schedule the October meeting for Friday, October 29, 2010 in the County of Lanark.

Carried.

17. January 2011 Inaugural Meeting

Jim Wilson provided a report on the 2011 Inaugural Meeting. Proposals are being reviewed from the Four Points Kingston.

Moved by: Mayor Leo Finnegan
Seconded by: Warden J. Murray Jones

Be it resolved that the EOWC agree to schedule the January 2011 Inaugural EOWC meeting for Thursday and Friday, January 13 and 14, 2011 at the Four Points Sheraton Hotel in Kingston, Ontario.

Carried.

18. Farm/Forest Property Tax Rebate

Mike Waddell provided a report regarding the downloaded farm tax rebate. He noted that in Stormont Dundas Glengarry, they lost just over \$8 million in one year due to lost farm tax revenue. It was suggested that the Caucus appoint representatives to a working group to review this issue and make recommendations as there is lost tax revenue of approximately \$250 million across Ontario's municipalities. It was suggested that although AMO won't provide support on this issue, they will provide required data to undertake an analysis.

Warden Rathwell suggested that the Western and Eastern Wardens' Caucus' might be interested in working on this together. While Mike didn't feel this could be ready on time for discussion at the AMO Conference, he did feel that a working group meeting over the winter could be prepared for the OGRA/ROMA Conference. Stéphane Parisien noted that his Council is interested and will participate in the working group. Warden Rathwell noted that he'd get staff support through the CAO. As Mike Waddell and Warden McGillis are working on this issue, it was suggested that Stéphane Parisien and Warden Lamadeleine be appointed as the representatives of the EOWC.

Moved by: Warden Don Rathwell
Seconded by: Warden Conrad Lamadeleine

Be it resolved that the EOWC appoint a Caucus Warden and CAO to participate in a working group for the downloaded farm tax rebate initiative with the objective to develop an EOWC supported resolution requesting that the Provincial Government reimburse municipalities for their annual lost property tax revenue on farmland and managed forest properties.

Carried.

19. Correspondence

Copies of the following items of correspondence were circulated with the agenda package.

April 14

From: Western Ontario Wardens' Caucus

Re: Bill 140 Long Term Care Homes Act, 2007

April 22

From: County of Lanark

Re: Long Term Funding for Eastern Ontario

April 23

From: County of Frontenac

Re: Possible Loss of CP Rail Line

April 26

From: County of Frontenac

Re: Request for Endorsement of Resolution re: Bill 140 Long Term Care Homes Act, 2007

April 26

From: Municipality of Highlands East

Re: ATVs on Highways/County and Municipal Roads

May 13

From: Ministry of the Environment

Re: Responsibility to clean up third party spilled materials

May 13

From: Ministry of Health and Long Term Care

Re: Attendance at OGRA delegation

May 17

From: Town of Mattawa

Re: Possible Loss of Canadian Pacific Rail Line

May 19

From: United Counties of Leeds and Grenville

Re: Requesting the Reinstatement of Funding for the Best Start Programme

May 19

From: United Counties of Leeds and Grenville

Re: Funding of the Best Start Programme

May 31

From: Ministry of the Environment

Re: Private Members Bill 237 (Bill 13)

May 31

From: County of Lanark

Re: Wind Energy Projects

June 15

From: Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing

Re: EOWC Economic Summit Financial Support

April 20

To: County of Renfrew

Re: Possible Abandonment of the CP Rail Line

April 20

To: United Counties of Leeds and Grenville

Re: Conversion of Land Mobile Radio Systems

Moved by: Mayor Leo Finnegan

Seconded by: Warden Jo-Anne Albert

Be it resolved that the correspondence presented to the Eastern Ontario Wardens' Caucus be received and filed.

Carried.

20. Confirming By-Law 10-05

Moved by: Warden J. Murray Jones

Seconded by: Warden Gary Davison

The Board of Directors of the Eastern Ontario Wardens' Caucus hereby enacts as follows:

THAT the action of the Board of Directors at its meeting held on the 18th day of June 2010 in respect to each motion, resolution, by-law and other action passed and taken by the Board of Directors at its said meeting, except where prior approval of any other body or agency is required, is hereby adopted, ratified and confirmed.

THAT the Chair and the proper officers of the Corporation of the Eastern Ontario Wardens' Caucus Inc. are hereby authorized and directed to do all things necessary to give effect to the said action or to obtain approvals where required, and to execute all documents as may be necessary in that behalf and the Secretary is hereby authorized and directed to affix the Corporate Seal to all such documents.

Carried.

21. Adjournment

Prior to adjournment of the meeting, Warden Rathwell read a letter from MPP Renfrew, Nipissing, Pembroke John Yakabuski sending his welcome to the EOWC.

Renfrew, Nipissing, Pembroke MP Cheryl Gallant arrived at the end of the meeting and welcomed the EOWC to Pembroke.

Warden Burton presented Norm Lemke with a retirement plaque and well wishes from the EOWC and then led the group in song to wish Jim Pine a happy birthday!! Warden Rathwell thanked Rosalyn Gruntz, on behalf of all of the Caucus, for the dinner and lunch arrangements.

The meeting adjourned at 11:10 a.m.. The next regular meeting of the EOWC will take place at the AMO Conference in August.

Moved by: Warden Conrad Lamadeleine
Seconded by: Mayor Leo Finnegan

Be it resolved that the June 18, 2010 Session of the Eastern Ontario Wardens' Caucus be adjourned.

Carried.

**Haliburton County Warden Dave Burton,
Chair**

**Haliburton County CAO Jim Wilson,
Secretary-Treasurer**