



Eastern Ontario Wardens' Caucus

**Eastern Ontario Wardens' Caucus  
MINUTES  
Friday, October 29, 2010  
9:00 a.m.**

**County of Lanark**

In attendance:

<b>County</b>	<b>EOWC CURRENT MEMBERS</b>	<b>STAFF</b>
County of Haliburton	Chair Dave Burton - Warden	Secretary-Treasurer Jim Wilson - CAO Tamara Wilbee – County Clerk
United Counties of Leeds and Grenville	Vice Chair - Bill Thake, Warden	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	Ric McGee - Mayor	Jane Reynolds - CAO
County of Lanark	John Fenik - Warden	Peter Wagland - CAO
County of Lennox and Addington	Henry Hogg - Warden	Larry Keech-CAO
County of Northumberland	Peter Delanty - Warden	Bill Pyatt - CAO
County of Peterborough	J. Murray Jones – Warden	Gary King – CAO
County of Renfrew	Donald Rathwell – Warden	Jim Hutton - 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	Bryan McGillis - Warden	Michael Waddell-CAO
Other guests:		EORN: Lisa Severson MMAH: Steve Sellar and AMCTO Intern Isabel Leung Jane Tousaw: Eastern Ontario Planning Directors; Dan Stanford: Eastern Ontario CFDC Kurt Greaves, Treasurer – Lanark; Nigel White, Treasurer – Leeds and Grenville; Laura Janke – Treasurer – Haliburton (via teleconference call).

**1. Call Meeting to Order/Chair's Update**

Chair Dave Burton welcomed everyone to the meeting and called the meeting to order.

**2. Additions to and Approval of the Agenda – October 29, 2010**

Chair Burton asked for approval of the agenda. .

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

**Be it resolved that the agenda for the October 29, 2010 Session of the Eastern Ontario Wardens' Caucus be adopted.**

**Carried.**

**3. Approval of Minutes of Previous Meetings**

**Moved by: Warden Peter Delanty**  
**Seconded by: Warden John Fenik**

**Be it resolved that the minutes of the August 15, 2010 Open and Closed Sessions of the Eastern Ontario Wardens' Caucus be adopted as presented.**

**Carried.**

**4. Land Ambulance Funding**

Kurt Greaves, Treasurer of Lanark County, Laura Janke, Treasurer of Haliburton County (via teleconference) and Nigel White, Treasurer of UCLG attended the meeting to present a report from the Treasurer's Group regarding land ambulance funding. Warden Fenik recommended that we should try to get the Chair an audience with the Minister to discuss this matter. Warden Jones also suggested that each member contact their local MPPs as well. Jim Pine suggested that this issue should be addressed by AMO MOU table to give them an opportunity to get behind this initiative as well.

**Moved by: Warden John Fenik**  
**Seconded by: Warden Gary Davison**

**That the Eastern Ontario Wardens' Caucus sends a letter to the Minister of Health and Long Term Care, outlining the Caucus' concerns to potential changes in land ambulance funding including:**

- 1. Ministry consideration to claw back transferred funds that exceed 50/50 funding based on new rules of only allowing amortization as part of operational costs, instead of the previously accepted transfer to reserves for the years 2009 and 2010.**
- 2. That 50/50 funding is truly implemented in the year that expenditures are funded as budgeted, approved and expended,**

**rather than the present practice of Ministry funding being calculated on previous year's operational costs.**

- 3. That operational cost includes a component for escalation of amortization, to allow for proper funding of replacement costs.**

**Carried.**

## **5. Eastern Ontario Development Fund**

Dan Stanford, Chair of the Eastern Ontario Community Futures Development Corporation, attended the meeting to review the Eastern Ontario Development Programme. Mr. Stanford discussed the desire of the CFDCs to continue to work with the EOWC with the goal of supporting initiatives in eastern Ontario. The four projects that resulted from the summit need to come back through the process to get FedDev support.

Mayor McGee noted that water is an important issue in eastern Ontario that should be included in the overall objectives.

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

**Be it resolved that the EOWC advise the Federal Industry Minister of the importance of continuing to fund the Eastern Ontario Development Programme at \$10 million per year for the next three fiscal years with continued Community Futures Development Corporation responsibility to deliver the Programme in Eastern Ontario.**

**Carried.**

## **6. Eastern Ontario County Planners – Submission re: Provincial Policy Statement**

Jane Tousaw, Director of Planning for the County of Haliburton, attended the meeting on behalf of the eastern Ontario Planning Directors to present recommendations regarding the Provincial Policy Statement to the EOWC for endorsement and submission to the Ministry of Municipal Affairs. Ms. Tousaw noted that comments have been solicited and included from all County Planners.

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

**Be it resolved that the EOWC Inc directs that the draft report received from the County Planning Directors regarding Provincial Policy Statement Five Year Review Policy statements be provided to the Ministry of Municipal Affairs as the EOWC submission.**

**Carried.**

## **7. Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing Update**

Steve Sellar attended the meeting with an AMCTO Intern currently assigned to his office – Isabel Leung. Steve provided an update regarding changes in the Ministry and noted that presentations from OEMC are now available on the OEMC website.

It was noted that the consultation paper regarding pending changes to the Building Code was just released and available on line to review. It includes changes in septic systems, barrier free access and energy conservation.

Steve provided a high level election overview noting that in 103 municipalities – 56 heads of council were returning with 47 new. 31 heads of council were acclaimed and 4 of the 47 new ones were acclaimed. The Ministry put out a survey on election process which indicates that currently councils are comprised of 75% men. The voter turnout average for this election was around 47% with higher participation rates for those that used telephone or mail in ballots as opposed to traditional walk in voting. Mayor Finnegan noted that 18% of current heads of council are female.

Gary King asked if there was any consideration going to be given to eliminate the legislative requirement to give employees 4 hours off to vote now that there are alternative voting methods. It costs approximately \$3500 to juggle shifts each time there is an election in Peterborough County. Steve indicated that he will take the issue forward when they undertake the review of the *Elections Act*.

Mayor McGee suggested the Ministry consider moving to a September election day with advance polls during the summer to allow seasonal residents the opportunity to better participate.

Warden Delanty suggested that with the earlier election date, new Councils should be put in place by mid November as there is too much lost time between the old and new council.

## **8. Items of Business**

### **a) Projects Emerging from the Eastern Ontario Summit and Status of Current Fed Dev Applications**

Larry Keech presented a report regarding projects emerging from the Economic Summit.

**Moved by: Warden Henry Hogg**  
**Seconded by: Warden Bill Thake**

**Be it resolved that the EOWC support the creation of an Eastern Ontario Economic Advisory Panel as a project emerging from the Eastern Ontario Economic Summit held on June 21-22, 2010 and direct the EOWC CAO's Planning Group to advance an application for funding to FedDev Ontario.**

**Carried.**

### **b) Regional Data Set Update**

Jim Wilson reported that in speaking with Kathy Wood it has been determined that we are now ready to start loading data into the secure online storage system to which each CAO will have access in the near future. Individual emails will be sent out with login information.

It was noted that they anticipate that all third party data will be up on the storage system by month end with the consolidated report coming later. It is suggested that at the November meeting the CAOs prioritize which data should be mapped.

### **c) 2011 Inaugural Meeting**

Jim Wilson reported that the block of rooms will be held at the Sheraton until December 12<sup>th</sup>. Invitations have been sent to various political representatives and the CAOs were urged to get in touch with their respective representatives to make personal invitations for them to attend on January 14, 2011.

**d) Farm/Forest Tax Rebate**

Mike Waddell presented a report regarding the Farm/Forest Tax Rebate program. He noted that all of this information is posted on the SDG website.

Mike circulated a brochure that the group designed for purposes of educating both political representatives and the taxpayers. It outlines that the taxpayers are paying for their own tax subsidy through increased assessment.

The brochure is going to be circulated to caucus municipalities, AMO, OMAFRA, agriculture organizations, municipal websites, etc. The resolution on this agenda will be broadcast through AMO and during the week of November 8<sup>th</sup> they will provide letter of support. A press release will be issued November 15<sup>th</sup> and can be tailored for local areas. They are also writing magazine articles for farm magazines, etc.

Warden Fenik thanked Mike for the information.

**Moved by: Mayor Leo Finnegan**  
**Seconded by: Warden Bryan McGillis**

**Whereas the 'Farmland Tax Program' and the 'Managed Forest Tax Incentive Program' are designed by the Ontario Government to support lower food costs and protect forests for recreational and environmental purposes;**

**And whereas the Farm Tax Rebate Program and the Managed Forest Tax Incentive Program were previously funded in full by the Ontario Government yet are now funded mainly by municipalities through the municipal property tax base;**

**And whereas rural municipalities are being forced to absorb the loss of 75% of the property tax revenue from their farmland and managed forest properties while all residents of Ontario have a vested interest in maintaining lower-cost foods and protecting forests;**

**And whereas the farm tax rebate program provides lower-cost foods across the province, as well as the economic benefit of provincial exporting and it is truly an income-redistributive program with province wide significance and should not be financed from local property taxes which results in those who are supposed to be benefiting from the program, actually paying for the program;**

**Therefore be it resolved that the Province of Ontario calculate the Farmland and Managed Forest component of the Ontario Municipal Partnership Fund (OMPF) so that all municipalities receive full provincial reimbursement of their lost property tax revenue on farmland and managed forest properties, while land-owners maintain the streamlined process and the 25% ratio currently in place;**

**And further that this resolution be forwarded to the Premier of Ontario, Minister of Finance, Minister of Agriculture Food and Rural Affairs, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, local MPPs, all Ontario Municipalities and any other individual or association as deemed appropriate.**

**Carried.**

**e) EORN Update**

EORN Chair Dave Burton, Jim Pine, Gary King and Lisa Severson provided an update regarding the status of the EORN projects and recruitment efforts.

With regard to the request to allow former members of the EOWC Inc. Board to be appointed to the EORN Board (by the EOWC Inc.), Mayor McGee suggested that there be a sunset clause and that members would be ineligible after four years. It was agreed to amend the recommendation to reflect this.

**Moved by: Warden J. Murray Jones**  
**Seconded by: Warden Ric McGee**

**Be it resolved that the EOWC Inc. support the request of the EORN Board to allow former members of the EOWC Inc. Board to be appointed to the EORN Board (by the EOWC Inc.) for a maximum of four years provided they have been on the Caucus.**

**Carried.**

In terms of representation of separated municipalities on the EORN Board, it was agreed that only those separated municipalities that participate financially can group together to appoint a single representative to the EORN Board.

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

**Be it resolved that the EOWC amend the resolution made at the April 16, 2010 EOWC meeting regarding representation on the EORN Board of Directors by the Eastern Ontario Mayors' Committee to be conditional on the representation from only those members from the Eastern Ontario Mayors' Committee who have committed to financially support the EORN project.**

**Carried.**

**9. Correspondence**

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

Incoming Correspondence:

August 24, 2010

**Western Ontario Wardens' Caucus to the Minister of Environment**

**Re: Renewable Energy Approval Requirement for Off Shore Wind Facilities**

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August 24, 2010

**Western Ontario Wardens' Caucus to the Minister of Industry**

Re: Long Form Census Questionnaire

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August 24, 2010

**Western Ontario Wardens' Caucus to the Attorney General**

Re: Joint and Several Liability Reform

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September 1, 2010

**Western Ontario Wardens' Caucus**

Re: Waste Diversion Act

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September 10, 2010

**Minister of Industry**

Re: Long Form Census

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September 14, 2010

**Durham Region**

Re: Highway 407 Extension

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September 14, 2010

**Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing**

Re: Delegation Issues at AMO Conference

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September 23, 2010

**Minister of Community Safety and Correctional Services**

Re: Appointment to Ministry

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September 27, 2010

**Ministry of Tourism and Culture**

Re: Southern Ontario Library Service Funding

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October 15, 2010

**Ministry of Health and Long Term Care**

Re: Extension of Deadline regarding Ambulance Response Time Standards

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Outgoing Correspondence:

August 25, 2010

**Minister of Tourism and Culture**

Re: Funding for the Southern Ontario Library Service

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August 25, 2010

**Minister of Industry**

Re: Long Form Census Questionnaire

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August 25, 2010

**Minister of Finance**

Re: Chalk River Laboratories

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August 25, 2010

**Attorney General**

Re: Reform of the Negligence Act

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August 25, 2010

**Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing**

Re: Eastern Ontario Development Fund

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August 25, 2010

**City of Kawartha Lakes**

Re: Highway 407 Extension and Peterborough to Toronto Commuter Rail Service

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August 25, 2010

**Federation of Northern Ontario Municipalities**

Re: Endangered Species Act

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August 25, 2010

**Minister of Health and Long Term Care**

Re: EOWC Delegation Meeting

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August 25, 2010

**Minister of Community Safety and Correctional Services**

Re: EOWC Delegation Meeting

**Moved by: Warden Peter Delanty**  
**Seconded by: Warden Bryan McGillis**

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

**Carried.**

#### **10. Confirming By-Law 10-07**

**Moved by: Warden Henry**  
**Seconded by: Warden Peter**

**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 29<sup>th</sup> day of October 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.**

#### **11. Adjournment**

The meeting adjourned at 11:30 a.m.. The next regular meeting of the EOWC will take place on January 13, 2011 in Kingston.

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

**Be it resolved that the October 29, 2010 Session of the Eastern Ontario Wardens' Caucus be adjourned.**

**Carried.**

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**Haliburton County Warden Dave Burton,  
Chair**

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