



Eastern Ontario Wardens' Caucus

**Eastern Ontario Wardens' Caucus
MINUTES
Friday, October 21st, 2011
9:00 a.m.
600 William Street, Cobourg
Northumberland County**

1. Call Meeting to Order / Welcome

The meeting was called to order at 9:01 a.m.

Present: Chair Jones, Vice Chair Mel Campbell, Members Jo-Anne Albert, Steven Byvelds, Gary Davison, Murray Fearrey, Henry Hogg, Mark Lovshin, Peter Mertens, Bob Sweet and Past Chair Dave Burton.

Regrets: Jean-Yves Lalonde, Ric McGee and Sharon Mousseau.

2. Declaration of Pecuniary Interest

There were no declarations of pecuniary interest made at this time.

3. Approval of Agenda

Chair Jones explained the purpose of the inclusion of Item 12 Member Updates, allowing members to provide a quick report on special projects or issues within their individual municipality. Mr. Pyatt provided a brief summary on the new building the County of Northumberland had bought, which the meeting was being held in.

Moved by: Warden Davison
Seconded by: Vice Chair Campbell

Be it resolved that the Agenda be adopted as circulated.

Carried

4. Approval of Minutes

Moved by: Warden Hogg
Seconded by: Mayor Mertens

Be it resolved that the Minutes of EOWC Inc. meeting of August 21st, 2011 be approved as circulated.

Carried

Mr. King provided an update on the CAOs' discussion at their September 16th meeting regarding the suggestion of inviting Durham Region to become a member of the EOWC. The CAOs had felt that when there are strategic reasons to partner, the EOWC actively seeks those partnerships. There was concern, however, in inviting the Region of Durham, or any other large cities within the East, to become a member as it would affect the agenda and become less focused on rural issues. Warden Sweet reported that he spoke with Roger Anderson, Regional Chair and CEO of Durham Region regarding this matter and that Mr. Anderson was willing to partner with the EOWC but was not interested in becoming a member.

Moved by: Warden Byvelds
Seconded by: Vice Chair Campbell

Be it resolved that the EOWC accept the recommendation to not extend EOWC membership but to seek partnerships where possible.

Carried

5. Delegations, Petitions and Presentations

- a. Kathryn Wood, Consultant, Natural Capital Resources
Re: Financial Sustainability Update Project

Ms. Wood reviewed the project to date and the emerging data. She noted that private lanes and roads are not factored into the kilometre measurements for the project. There was a discussion on presenting the final numbers at a regional level and not at the individual municipal level, as it was felt that Ministries are more interested in global numbers.

Moved by: Mayor Mertens
Seconded by: Warden Hogg

Be it resolved that the presentation from Kathryn Wood be received.

Carried

- b. Jennifer Stephens, Project Manager, Trent Conservation Coalition Source Protection Region
Re: Source Protection

Mr. Max Christie, Chair of Quinte Source Protection Committee and Mr. Jim Hunt, Chair of Trent Source Protection Committee attended the delegation. Ms. Stephens reported that the eastern Source Protection Committees have mostly completed the identification of threats and are moving into the development of Source Protection Plans. She noted that the Province is aware of municipal financial concerns and has directed the committees to contact their respective municipalities and discuss project costs for the municipality's specific area. The implementation and management of the plan will depend upon who is responsible for the policy. Warden Byvelds commented that the plans sound scarier than they really are, as the restrictions are not severe. Ms. Stephens encouraged those who do not have a Source Protection Committee area to please contact a Project Manager of a neighbouring Source Protection Committee.

Moved by: Warden Albert
Seconded by: Mayor Lovshin

Be it resolved that the presentation from Jennifer Stephens be received.

Carried

- c. Standing Item
Steve Seller, Municipal Advisor, Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing
Re: Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing Update

Mr. Seller reported that Premier McGuinty announced Cabinet Ministers the day before, and that the new Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing (MMAH) is Kathleen Wynne. Minister Wynne was also given the appointment of Minister of Aboriginal Affairs. Mr. Seller noted that it was local government week and asked if any members held events, to which three members responded yes. Mr. Seller reported on the Ontario Municipal Program Guide, a new tool placed on the MMAH website which shows Provincial tools and programs by category. He welcomed any comments regarding the new tool. The government of Saskatchewan has developed a Municipal Sustainability Assessment tool; Mr. Seller will provide the link to those who are interested in viewing it. The Parliamentary Assistants had not yet been appointed.

Moved by: Warden Albert
Seconded by: Mayor Lovshin

Be it resolved that the presentation from Steve Seller be received.
Carried

6. Reports for Review / Discussion

a. Eastern Ontario Transition Council Update

Mayor Mertens reported that approximately 12 people attended the meeting in September. From EOWC, those who attended were Mayor Mertens, Vice Chair Mel Campbell and CAO Peter Wagland with the intention of getting a sense of the Eastern Ontario Transition Council's objectives and defining of initiatives. Twelve objectives were placed on the agenda, most of which were not considered applicable to EOWC matters. The Council was very intent on becoming a not-for-profit corporation, although the reason was not clear. Mayor Mertens recommended that the EOWC not be involved in the Transition Council at this time.

Moved by: Vice Chair Campbell
Seconded by: Mayor Mertens

Be it resolved that the Update from Mayor Mertens be received,

And That the EOWC not be involved in the Eastern Ontario Transition Council at this time.

Carried

Chair Jones reported that Reeve Terry Clements, former member of the EOWC, was attending the FedDev funding announcement by Minister Goodyear in Trenton this morning on behalf of the EOWC. A letter of appreciation will be sent to Reeve Clements.

b. Trent-Severn Waterway

Mr. King explained the request for support to lobby the Federal government to continue to improve the Trent-Severn Waterway in light of the significant infrastructure deficit.

Moved by: Warden Hogg
Seconded by: Warden Fearrey

Be it resolved that the EOWC support the Voices of Trent-Severn Waterway in requesting the Federal Government to provide adequate sustained funding to restore and upgrade the Trent-Severn Waterway's infrastructure and where appropriate/necessary, enhance its operations in order to achieve its mandate.

Carried

c. EORN Status Update

Mr. David Fell provided an update on the EORN project, reporting that they are keeping up to date on claims and receiving a 10-day turnaround from the Province now. He explained the issue regarding line of credit, emphasizing that EORN never pre-pays companies and will always own 51% of the assets. Mr. Fell explained that some RFP zones were moved to 2013 to allow companies who are maxed out on current RFP zones to be able to bid at the later date. EORN will still be completed on time. Mr. Jim Pine displayed a map showing the new schedule of zones. He reported on the recently launched High Through-put Satellite (HTS). Xplornet Communications Inc. has begun dealer training on satellite packages. Training of installers will begin in January. Pricing on satellite is going down significantly and greater efficiency is being provided. Xplornet Communications is arranging for a visit to a test site in Toronto for EOWC members during the ROMA/OGRA Conference late February. The new EORN website will go live the first week of December. Mr. Pine reflected that it is a challenge to engage cities in the project when it is already being put into place.

It was reported that Minister Goodyear had announced 30 million dollars for the next 3 years through the EODP. No regional projects can apply.

As Mr. Fell needed to leave to attend another commitment, the Caucus entered Closed Session at this time. The minutes will reflect the order of the Agenda, however.

d. Eastern Ontario Financial Sustainability Plan Update

There was nothing further to add from Kathy Wood's presentation on the project.

e. November 25th Full Caucus Meeting

EORN RFPs will not be ready for review and approval, so there will not be a Full Caucus meeting on November 25th. The CAOs will meet in the morning as originally planned.

- f. Growth Plan
Recommendation: to defer until completion of Financial Sustainability Report project

The Caucus agreed to defer this discussion.

7. Correspondence

Moved by: Warden Davison
Seconded by: Mayor Mertens

Be it resolved that the EOWC endorse the amended letter from the County of Peterborough regarding Spectrum Auction

And that the remaining Outgoing and Incoming correspondence be received for information.

Carried

8. Closed Session

Moved by: Past Chair Burton
Seconded by: Warden Albert

Be it resolved that under the authority of the Municipal Act, S.O.2001, c. 25, s. 239 (2) the EOWC move into closed session at 11:26 a.m. to discuss "personal matters about an identifiable individual, including municipal or local board employees;"

Carried

9. Rise from Closed Without a Report

Moved by: Warden Lovshin
Seconded by: Warden Albert

Be it resolved that EOWC rise from closed session at 12:21 p.m. without a report.

Carried

10. By-laws

The By-laws were deferred to the Annual General Meeting in January, 2012.

11. Notice of Motions

12. Member Updates

a. Source Water Protection

Members further discussed their concerns regarding the implementation of Source Water Protection legislation, and requested that a letter be sent to the Minister of the Environment stating these concerns.

Moved by: Warden Albert

Seconded by: Mayor Mertens

Whereas the EOWC is concerned over the potential for significant municipal cost for the implementation of the Source Protection Plans and longer term ongoing costs to maintain the plans;

And Whereas some of the members view the additional cost as an unwanted download of Provincial responsibility and Provincial cost;

Now Therefore be it resolved that the EOWC send a letter to the Province to express the above concerns, encourage the Province to commit to full funding for the implementation of Source Protection Plans and to announce such funding prior to Plan submissions due August of 2012.

Carried

b. Caucus members each reported on their municipality's main concerns and issues. Mayor Mertens announced that the County of Prince Edward has hired a new CAO, Merlin Dewing, who will begin on December 1st.

13. Confirmation By-Law #11-15

Motion:

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

1. THAT the action of the Board of Directors at its meeting held on the 21st day of October 2011 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.
2. 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

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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.

Moved by: Warden Hogg
Seconded by: Warden Albert

Carried

14. Adjournment

Moved by: Warden Sweet
Seconded by: Past Chair Burton

Be it resolved that the EOWC meeting adjourn at 12:47 p.m.

Carried

J. Murray Jones, Chair

Gary King, Secretary-Treasurer