



Eastern Ontario Wardens' Caucus

# Eastern Ontario Wardens' Caucus MINUTES

Sunday, August 18, 2013

2:00 pm – 4:00 pm

**AMO Conference**  
**Provinces 2, 4<sup>th</sup> Floor**  
**Westin Hotel**

The meeting was called to order at 2:00 p.m. with the following individuals in attendance.

<b>Present</b>		
<b>County</b>	<b>Head of Council</b>	<b>Staff</b>
County of Frontenac	Warden Janet Gutowski	Liz Savill, CAO
County of Haliburton	Warden Carol Moffatt	Jim Wilson, CAO
County of Hastings	Warden Rick Phillips, Chair	Jim Pine, CAO, Secretary-Treasurer
City of Kawartha Lakes	Mayor Ric McGee	Mark Fisher, CAO
County of Lanark	Warden Bill Dobson	Kurt Greaves, CAO
United Counties of Leeds and Grenville	Warden Ron Holman, Vice Chair	Andy Brown, CAO,
County of Lennox and Addington	Warden Doug Bearance	Larry Keech, CAO
County of Northumberland	Warden Hector Macmillan	Dan Borrowec, CAO
County of Peterborough	Warden J. Murray Jones	Gary King, CAO
United Counties of Prescott and Russell	Warden Rene Berthiaume	Stephane Parisien, CAO
County of Prince Edward	Mayor Peter Mertens	Merlin Dewing, CAO
County of Renfrew	Warden Peter Emon	Jim Hutton, CAO
United Counties of Stormont, Dundas and Glengarry	Warden Bill McGimpsey	Tim Simpson, CAO

<b>Regrets</b>
None

<b>Others Present</b>	
<b>Delegation/Guests</b>	<b>Organization</b>
Lisa Severson	Communications & Stakeholder Relations Officer, Eastern Ontario Regional Network
Stephen Seller	Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing
Kathy Wood	Natural Capital Resources Inc.
Justin Bromberg	Executive Assistant to the CAO, UCPR
Justin Watkins	Manager of Strategic Services, UCSDG
Pat Vanini	Executive Director of AMO
Russ Power	President of AMO
Doug Reycraft	AMO Board
Mel Campbell	Chair of County Caucus – AMO Board

**1. Call Meeting to Order/Welcome**

Warden Phillips called the meeting to order and welcomed President of AMO Russ Powers and Executive Director of AMO Pat Vanini to the meeting along with other guests Mel Campbell and Doug Reycraft. Warden Phillips advised that he had invited President Powers and Ms. Vanini to attend the meeting to speak to the recent AMO Board meeting where a recommendation was considered regarding the distribution of the \$100 million dollar Infrastructure Fund for rural and northern municipalities. Warden Phillips also advised that there was an addition to the agenda and a report on the Local Food Act was on-desk.

**2. Declaration of Pecuniary Interest - Nil**

**3. Approval of Agenda**

**Moved by Warden Holman**

**Seconded by Warden Emon**

**Be it resolved the Agenda be adopted as amended.**

**CARRIED**

#### **4. Report of AMO President Russ Powers**

President Powers addressed the EOWC advising the action taken by the AMO board when the timelines for response around the details of the \$100 million dollars of rural and northern Infrastructure funding was announced. He confirmed that a sub-committee made up of representatives from the board were tasked to bring a recommendation to the board specifically on the eligibility and allocation of the \$100 million fund. He confirmed that the recommendation brought forward had the full support of the AMO Board exclusive of the EOWC members.

Pat Vanini advised that the recommendation was based on allocation of a base fund and per capita spread over 411 qualifying municipalities with an average payment of \$243,000.000. She also confirmed that eligible upper tiers that qualify based on population levels can determine their priorities for the allocation of the eligible funding in relation to their lower tiers and acknowledged that this will require negotiation at that level. She advised that both AMO and the EOWC had concurrence on the biggest need as being the concern around extending the life cycle of roads and bridges and it recognized that new roads and large projects were usually awarded through MIII funding.

It was confirmed that some of the 411 municipalities that qualify under the formula supported by AMO do qualify for gas tax funding in addition to the \$100 million dollars.

Warden Phillips thanked President Powers and Ms. Vanini for attending the meeting and for the information shared. He acknowledged their busy schedule over the coming days adding that he and the rest of the EOWC would like to thank them for their work in organizing the conference.

With the concurrence of the members of the EOWC, it was agreed that discussion on the issue around other details of the funding formula would be delayed until a draft recommendation could be prepared.

## **5. Reports for Review/Discussion**

### **5.1 Hydro One Subdivision Policy – Expansion Deposit**

Tim Simpson reviewed the issue of Hydro One's new Subdivision Policy and its negative impact on rural development. He explained that as of January 3, 2012, Hydro One requires expansion deposits in addition to the required capital contribution for subdivision developments. The expansion deposit is a guarantee that the forecasted revenue will materialize by ensuring that if connections are not made within 5 years the deposits are forfeited to Hydro One. He explained that it is recognized that rural subdivisions do not develop at the same pace as urban developments and that rural developers are generally smaller scale developers who may not have access to resources of large scale developers.

**Moved by Warden McGimpsey**

**Seconded by Warden Holman**

**THAT the report on Hydro One Subdivision Policy be received.**

**CARRIED**

### **5.2 Review of Final Version - White Paper on Municipal Infrastructure**

The members of the EOWC resumed their discussion around the merits of the proposed sharing formula supported by AMO and expressed concern over setting precedent for possible future funding by supporting the use of the proposed formula that the AMO Board has endorsed as well as the issue of the ability to pay by municipalities who do not have access to gas tax funding and a larger tax base. Members spoke to the extensive

research and data analysis that has resulted in the recommendations and feel confident in supporting the recommendations as prepared.

**Moved by Warden Holman**

**Seconded by Warden Berthiaume**

**Whereas the EOWC has undertaken a detailed analysis of infrastructure needs and its members' ability to fund those needs;**

**AND WHEREAS the members' financial ability to fund this deficit is beyond their capacity;**

**AND WHEREAS 96 municipalities will share \$234 million of Provincial gas tax revenues in fiscal 2013/14;**

**AND WHEREAS the province is seeking advice on the distribution of a \$100 million infrastructure fund;**

**AND WHEREAS AMO has crafted a proposed sharing formula;**

**AND WHEREAS the EOWC has considered AMO's proposed formula for the distribution of the \$100 million fund;**

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the EOWC takes no formal position on the AMO proposal as it relates to the distribution of the \$100 million;**

**AND FURTHER the EOWC will support a one year delay in the implementation of asset management plans;**

**AND FURTHER that the EOWC continues to support its recommendations for a permanent infrastructure fund which is based on the evidence and research contained in its Infrastructure and Affordability White Papers;**

**AND FINALLY that these recommendations be presented to the Provincial government at its Multi-Minister's meeting on August 19, 2013.**

**CARRIED**

### **5.3 Review of Final Version - White Paper on Municipal Affordability**

Kathy reviewed the final recommendations in the White Paper on Affordability highlighting the recommendations for the EOWC and constituent municipalities which include encouraging EORN to investigate and provide leadership in the deployment of new, internet based technologies that would contain or reduce municipal costs and actively support the deployment of a region-wide economic development strategy. Recommendations highlighted for the provincial governments include the consideration of compensation for those municipalities that have significant crown lands, managed forests and farmland. The recommendations also highlight the capacity to raise taxes and the resulting strain on the taxpayer.

### **5.4 Meeting Schedule and Briefing Book Review**

Jim Pine reviewed the briefing book for the All Minister's meeting and the complete meeting schedule for the EOWC while at the AMO Conference.

### **5.5 Joint EOWC/WOWC Meeting Agenda Review**

Jim Pine reviewed the agenda and briefing notes being presented during the Joint meeting with the Western Ontario Wardens' Caucus.

### **5.6 Joint EOWC/EOMC Meeting Agenda Review**

Jim Pine reviewed the agenda and briefing notes that will be presented during the joint meeting with the Eastern Ontario Mayors' Caucus.

### **5.7 EORN Update**

Lisa Severson advised that the Finance and procurement audit that was conducted by Deloitte on behalf of the provincial government has been completed and the report is positive. She also advised that a recommendation for the Business Parks RFP will be brought before the EOWC for consideration at the October meeting. Ms. Severson informed the group that EORN had been nominated for an award recognizing broadband penetration at the World Broadband Forum taking place in October.

### **5.8 Local Food Act**

Warden Dobson reviewed the information provided by the Eastern Ontario Local Food and Farming Collaborative pertaining to the Local Food Act and reviewing the challenges identified through the definition of Local and a Provincial Verification Program. He advised that he supported the solutions recommended in the report and urged the EOWC to continue to advocate for change.

**Moved by Warden Dobson**

**Seconded by Warden Gutowski**

**THAT the EOWC send a letter to the Minister of Agriculture and Food supporting the Eastern Ontario Local Food and Farming Collaborative's paper regarding the definition of *Local and a Provincial Verification Program*.**

**CARRIED**

**6. Correspondence**

**Moved by Mayor Mertens**

**Seconded by Warden Jones**

**THAT all Information Correspondence be received unless otherwise dealt with.**

**CARRIED**

**6.1 Incoming**

**6.1.1 Letter from Premier Kathleen Wynne re: Interest Arbitration dated June 24, 2013**

**6.1.2 Letter from WOWC to the Honourable Yasir Naqvi re: Interest Arbitration dated July 26, 2013**

**6.1.3 Letter from Eastern Ontario Community Futures Development Corporations re: new Chair dated July 30, 2013**

**6.2 Outgoing - Nil**

**7. By-laws – Nil**

**8. Notice of Motions**



**9. Next Meeting**

**Friday October 18, 2013  
County of Hastings**

**10. Confirmation By-law #13-09**

**Moved by Warden Macmillan  
Seconded by Warden Gutowski**

**THAT 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 the 18th day of August, 2013 in respect of 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 the things necessary to give effect to the said action or to obtain any approvals where required, and to execute all documents as may be necessary, and the Secretary is hereby authorized and directed to affix the Corporate Seal to all such documents.**

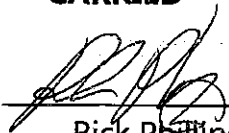
**CARRIED**

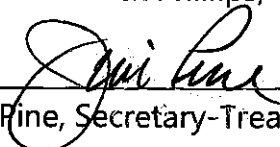
**11. Adjournment**

**Moved by Mayor Mertrens  
Seconded by Warden Emon**

**THAT the EOWC meeting of August 18, 2013 be adjourned.**

**CARRIED**

  
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Rick Phillips, Chair;

  
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Jim Fine, Secretary-Treasurer