



Eastern Ontario Wardens' Caucus

Eastern Ontario Wardens' Caucus MINUTES

**Thursday, January 5, 2017
Delta Waterfront Hotel
Kingston, Ontario
9:00 a.m.**

The meeting was called to order at 9:00 a.m. with the following individuals in attendance.

Present		
County	Head of Council	Staff
County of Frontenac	Warden Ron Vandewal Past-Warden Frances Smith	Kelly Pender, CAO
County of Haliburton	Warden Brent Devolin Past-Warden Carol Moffatt	Mike Rutter, CAO
County of Hastings	Warden Rodney Cooney Past-Warden Rick Phillips	Jim Pine, CAO
City of Kawartha Lakes	Mayor Andy Letham	Ron Taylor, CAO
County of Lanark	Warden Bill Dobson Past-Warden Gail Code	Kurt Greaves, CAO
United Counties of Leeds and Grenville	Warden Robin Jones Past-Warden David Gordon	Andy Brown, CAO
County of Lennox & Addington	Warden Bill Lowry Past-Warden Henry Hogg	Larry Keech, CAO
County of Northumberland	Warden Mark Walas	Jennifer Moore, CAO
County of Peterborough	Warden Joe Taylor	Gary King, CAO
County of Prince Edward	Mayor Robert Quaiff	James Hepburn, CAO
County of Renfrew	Warden Jennifer Murphy Past-Warden Peter Emon	Jim Hutton, CAO
United Counties of Prescott and Russell	Warden Gary J. Barton Past-Warden Guy Desjardins	Stéphane P. Parisien, CAO
United Counties of Stormont, Dundas and Glengarry	Warden Jim Bancroft Past-Warden Jamie MacDonald	Tim Simpson, CAO

Regrets		
County of Northumberland	Past-Warden Gil Brocanier	
County of Peterborough	Past-Warden J. Murray Jones	

Others Present	
Delegation/Guests	Organization
Justin Bromberg	Communications and Policy Coordinator, EOWC
David Fell	Chief Executive Officer, Eastern Ontario Regional Network
Lisa Severson	Communications Stakeholder and Relations Officer, EORN
Allan Scott	Regional Director, Ministry of Municipal Affairs
Stephen Seller	Municipal Advisor, Ministry of Municipal Affairs
Brandon Forrest	Municipal Services Manager, Ministry of Municipal Affairs

1. Call Meeting to Order/Welcome

The meeting was called to order and Chair Peter Emon welcomed everyone. Outgoing and incoming Wardens were asked to introduce themselves.

2. Declaration of Pecuniary Interest - Nil

3. Approval of Agenda

**Moved by Warden Lowry
Seconded by Warden Jones**

**THAT the Agenda of the January 5, 2017 meeting be adopted as presented.
CARRIED**

4. Approval of Minutes

The minutes of the EOWC Inc. meeting of October 21, 2016 were presented.

**Moved by Warden Smith
Seconded by Past-Warden Gordon**

THAT the Minutes of the EOWC Inc. meeting of October 21, 2016 be approved as circulated.

CARRIED

5. Orientation Review – Jim Hutton

Jim Hutton explained the contents of the EOWC Orientation Binder, including the 2017 meeting schedule and members' contact list, and invited members to ask any questions. A historical overview was presented, outlining the EOWC's past successes and accomplishments as well as current projects and advocacy work. He also reviewed the Terms of Reference and the EOWC and EORN By-Laws.

6. Reports for Review/Discussion

6.1 Eastern Ontario Leadership Council – Jim Hutton

Jim Hutton provided some historical background on the Economic Development Strategy and the subsequent creation of the Leadership Council in September 2015 for the benefit and coordination of economic development activities in Eastern Ontario. Co-chairs Peter Emon and Bryan Paterson will deliver a joint presentation at tomorrow's meeting.

6.2 Discussion on Eastern Ontario Growth Plan – Jim Hutton

Jim Hutton provided some background on the Province's exploration of a growth planning exercise for Eastern Ontario as well as the EOWC's advocacy efforts on the file over the past 12 to 18 months. The EOWC has repeatedly expressed its concerns to the Province and does not feel that a growth plan is necessary for the region. The Province held consultations and interviews last summer with each County Warden and CAO, and a consulting firm subsequently prepared a report detailing those comments. The EOWC delivered a final letter to the Minister of Municipal Affairs last month. The Province has not yet announced its intentions.

6.3 Update on Inter-Municipal Ambulance Billing – Jim Hutton

Jim Hutton provided an update on the inter-municipal ambulance billing between the City of Ottawa and its five neighbouring counties in rural Eastern Ontario, including Ottawa's increased usage of ambulance resources from rural communities. He recalled that there has been intense media coverage of this issue in recent weeks. The City of Ottawa has not yet invited its neighbours to a formal meeting to discuss the issue.

6.4 Appointment of Auditors – Jim Hutton

It was recommended that the EOWC appoint Collins Barrows Chartered Accountants, being the same accounting firm as in previous years. Jim Pine explained how the accounting works through the County of Hastings.

**Moved by Past-Warden MacDonald
Seconded by Mayor Quaiff**

THAT the EOWC Inc. appoint the auditors for the County of Hastings, Collins Barrows Chartered Accountants, for the 2017 fiscal year.

CARRIED

6.5 Incorporation Documentation (Form 1) – Jim Hutton

It was explained that Corporations must complete and submit a Notice of Change to the CPPSB within 15 days after any change takes place (e.g., when a corporation changes its address, directors or officers). Wardens will be asked to fill out the distributed forms and return them to the EOWC.

**Moved by Past-Warden Desjardins
Seconded by Warden Dobson**

THAT the EOWC Inc. appoint the incoming Wardens as new Directors of the Corporation and submit the Notice of Change to the CPPSB as required.

CARRIED

6.6 Proposed 2017 EOWC Budget – Jim Hutton

Jim Hutton presented the draft 2017 budget and explained the breakdown of various costs for the year, including the expense for the Leadership Council as well as the one-time costs for a video and a website refresh project. He noted that the Leadership Council has requested \$50,000 for the 2017 year but that only \$25,000 has been included in the draft budget, as per a previous funding commitment. Further discussions will be held in the spring on whether to increase that funding commitment to \$50,000 and if the EOWC should continue it over subsequent years.

**Moved by Warden Taylor
Seconded by Warden Murphy**

**THAT the EOWC Inc. approve the 2017 budget as presented.
CARRIED**

6.7 2017 Proposed Priorities – Jim Hutton

Jim Hutton presented an overview of the proposed 2017 priorities, being:

- Extending natural gas to our rural businesses, farms and communities as per OFA/EOWC/WOWC partnership
- Advocating for a Provincial solution to Hydro One rates
- Supporting the improvement of cell networks to ensure mobile broadband services and increased public safety
- Supporting the Picton Terminals / Marmora Pump Storage projects
- Advocating for \$3.7 billion in new Provincial investments for critical municipal infrastructure
- Advocating for Provincial solutions to joint and several liability and the interest arbitration system
- Continuing implementation of the Economic Development Strategy via the Eastern Ontario Leadership Council
- Advocating for a Provincial solution to the OPP billing issue

Discussion ensued on certain revisions to the priorities list and it was decided to return to this item for approval at the end of the day.

6.8 Ministerial Delegations at 2017 ROMA Conference – Chair Emon

Chair Emon explained the process for the Multi-Ministerial delegation at the 2017 ROMA Conference. He noted that last year's group decided to limit the size of the delegations for efficiency reasons. The Chair and Vice-Chair should attend every meeting along with two or three additional Wardens. The meeting schedule will be distributed prior to the conference and Wardens can indicate their preferences at that time. The 2017 Wardens group can then evaluate the effectiveness of this new approach at the EOWC meeting on the Tuesday afternoon of the conference. Past-Warden Rick Phillips explained the rationale behind this approach. Discussion ensued and it was agreed to proceed with this approach.

6.9 Meetings with WOWC and EOMC at 2017 ROMA Conference

Chair Emon recalled that the EOWC has the opportunity to meet with the Western Ontario Wardens' Caucus (WOWC) and the Eastern Ontario Mayors' Caucus (EOMC) at the ROMA Conference. These meetings will be considered but will likely only be held at the AMO Conference.

6.10 Eastern Ontario Regional Network (EORN)

6.10.1 Cellular Gap Business Case Presentation

Jim Pine presented an overview of EORN's cellular network and mobile broadband improvement project, including the benefits of closing both the coverage and capacity gaps. The current business case also includes a proposal for a dedicated, secure network for first responders. The total estimated cost of the combined project is \$299 million, which is a savings of \$47 million compared to separate projects. The commercial cellular improvement project alone would cost \$213 million. The funding proposal requests a one-third funding contribution from the federal government, the provincial government and the mobile carriers. The business case will be submitted to the federal and provincial governments on January 30.

6.10.2 EORN Board Nominations Report

David Fell explained the constitution of EORN's board of directors and informed the Wardens about their membership opportunities. The EORN board includes five EOWC representatives, and EORN is seeking at least one new representative. It is at the EOWC's discretion to determine which of its members to appoint to the board. Four past EOWC members have been proposed to the board: David Burton, Bob Sweet, Jo-Anne Albert and J. Murray Jones.

Moved by Warden Murphy

Seconded by Past-Warden Gordon

THAT the EOWC Inc. approve the EORN Nominations committee proposed slate of directors, and elect one new EOWC member to the EORN board for 2017.

CARRIED

Chair Emon opened the nomination process and invited members to nominate candidates for the EORN board of directors.

**Moved by Warden Lowry
Seconded by Mayor Quaiff**

THAT Rick Phillips of the County of Hastings be nominated to the EORN Board of Directors for the 2017 year.

CARRIED

**Moved by Warden Vanderwal
Seconded by Past-Warden Hogg**

THAT Frances Smith of the County of Frontenac be nominated to the EORN Board of Directors for the 2017 year.

CARRIED

Chair Emon called for further nominations and first, second and third time, and seeing none, declared the nomination process closed. Jim Pine reminded the Wardens that the board appointments are the EOWC's ultimate decision, and not EORN, and the EOWC members have the option to choose one, both, or none of the new nominations. Chair Emon asked for a motion for the election.

**Moved by Past-Warden MacDonald
Seconded by Warden Jones**

THAT the EOWC Inc. proceed with an election for the EORN Board of Directors for the 2017 year, encompassing the four proposed candidates and the two additional nominations, for a total of five positions.

CARRIED

David Fell noted that effective as of 2018, a requirement will be added to the EORN bylaws to have a minimum of two current EOWC members on the EORN board. Discussion ensued about having a minimum of one current EOWC member for the 2017 year. After debate, it was decided to hold the elections after lunch, once the 2017 EOWC members have signed the incorporation form and ballots have been prepared.

6.10.3 CRTC Report – David Fell

David Fell noted that the CRTC issued its final decision on modern telecommunications services on December 21, 2016 and that it supports the advocacy work done by EORN and the EOWC on behalf of rural Canadians for both fixed and mobile broadband. The CRTC's decision includes many of the key recommendations put forth by EORN and the EOWC, including: making access to high-speed internet an "essential service" for all Canadians; the inclusion of mobile broadband in the definition of essential services; a minimum level of service required for all Canadians; and a new \$750-million fund over five years to spur new broadband infrastructure in rural Canada.

LUNCH BREAK

Following the lunch break, the election process resumed for the EORN Board of Directors for the 2017 year.

**Moved by Mayor Letham
Seconded by Warden Lowry**

THAT the nomination process to the EORN Board of Directors for the 2017 year be reopened.

CARRIED

**Moved by Warden Taylor
Seconded by Warden Murphy**

THAT Robin Jones of the United Counties of Leeds and Grenville be nominated to the EORN Board of Directors for the 2017 year.

CARRIED

Chair Emon called for further nominations and first, second and third time, and seeing none, declared the nomination process closed. Ballots with the names of the seven candidates were distributed to each of the 2017 EOWC members. With the motion previously approved to proceed with the election, members proceeded to fill the ballots.

Gary King counted the ballots. Chair Emon reported that the following five EOWC representatives have been elected to the EORN Board of Directors for the 2017 year: David Burton, J. Murray Jones, Robin Jones, Rick Phillips, and Frances Smith.

**Moved by Warden Taylor
Seconded by Warden Dobson**

THAT David Burton, J. Murray Jones, Robin Jones, Rick Phillips and Frances Smith be appointed to the EORN Board of Directors for the 2017 year, as EOWC representatives.

CARRIED

**Moved by Mayor Letham
Seconded by Warden Murphy**

THAT Warren Arseneau, Gary Davidson and Dick Shannon be appointed to the EORN Board of Directors for the 2017 year, as representatives of the general public.

CARRIED

**Moved by Warden Vanderwal
Seconded by Warden Murphy**

THAT the ballots be destroyed.

CARRIED

7. Delegations

7.1 Larry Dean – EOWC Information Technology Collaborative

Larry Dean provided an overview of the EOWC IT Collaborative, noting it represents and offers a number of benefits to the 13 EOWC municipalities. He presented the terms of reference and explained the group's mandate. Lower-tier municipalities and separated cities in the region are included as associate members. Two particular issues affecting municipalities are the ICON and SAMS software issues, and with the group's assistance, the EOWC could raise these types of issues at the provincial level.

Stéphane P. Parisien reiterated the importance of having the EOWC's political influence. He noted the IT Collaborative would report to the CAOs, which will then bring forward issues to the Wardens. The IT Collaborative is currently preparing a document regarding ICON for the EOWC's further advocacy with the Province, beginning at the ROMA Conference.

**Moved by Warden Barton
Seconded by Warden Bancroft**

THAT the EOWC Inc. approve and endorse the EOWC Information Technology Collaborative and its Terms of Reference as presented.

CARRIED

7.2 Neil Currie – Ontario Federation of Agriculture

Neil Currie explained the recent partnership between the OFA, the EOWC and the WOWC to lobby the Province to invest in the expansion of natural gas services in rural Ontario. He noted that access to natural gas is a strategic imperative for the competitiveness of rural areas and the economic health of the province. The specific request to the Province is to commit to a 20-year investment of \$75 million per year (\$1.5 billion total) to extend natural gas to at least 60% of rural Ontario via pipelines. In return, the Province ensures rural growth and a return on its investment, through an anticipated \$1 billion per year in new money in rural Ontario as well as a competitive business environment to attract new investment, new jobs and new ratepayers in rural areas. He invited EOWC members to continue raising the issue with their Provincial representatives.

8. Closed Session (n/a)

9. Nominations for EOWC Chair and Vice-Chair

Chair Emon invited members to put their name forward for the positions of Chair and Vice-Chair. The election process is scheduled for Friday, January 6.

Moved by Warden Jones
Seconded by Warden Barton

THAT Warden Bill Dobson be nominated for the position of Chair of the EOWC Inc. for the year 2017.

CARRIED

Warden Dobson accepted the nomination.

Moved by Warden Cooney
Seconded by Warden Murphy

THAT Mayor Robert Quaiff be nominated for the position of Chair of the EOWC Inc. for the year 2017.

CARRIED

Mayor Quaiff accepted the nomination.

Chair Emon called for further nominations a first, second and third time and after receiving no further nominations, declared the nomination process closed.

Chair Emon called for nominations for Vice-Chair a first, second and third time and seeing none, declared the nomination process closed. The call for nominations for Vice-Chair will be repeated on Friday morning.

10. Review and Approval of 2017 Priorities

Discussion continued on the proposed revisions to the 2017 EOWC Priorities and members were asked to rank their priorities. The list was revised accordingly and grouped into three categories for clarity, as follows:

1) Improving Infrastructure & Connectivity

- ✓ **EORN:** Supporting the improvement of cellular networks to ensure mobile broadband services and increased public safety
- ✓ **Infrastructure:** Advocating for \$3.7 billion in new provincial investments

2) Growing our Regional Economy

- ✓ **Natural Gas:** Advocating for its expansion to rural businesses, farms and communities as per the OFA/EOWC/WOWC partnership

- ✓ **Hydro:** Advocating for the expansion of distribution capacity and a provincial solution to cost issues
- ✓ **Leadership Council:** Continuing the implementation of the Eastern Ontario Economic Development Strategy
- ✓ **Key Projects:** Supporting the Picton Terminals and the Marmora Pump Storage projects

3) Reducing Operational Costs

- ✓ **Policing:** Advocating for a solution to policing costs and modernization
- ✓ **Legislation:** Advocating for provincial solutions to joint and several liability and the interest arbitration system

**Moved by Warden Taylor
Seconded by Warden Cooney**

**That the EOWC Inc. approve the 2017 priorities as presented,
with the proposed amendments.**

CARRIED

11. Correspondence

11.1 Outgoing

11.1.1 Letter to the Ontario Good Roads Association regarding the OGRA 2017 Conference, dated November 9, 2016

11.1.2 Letter to the Minister of Municipal Affairs regarding ROMA Multi-Ministerial Delegation, dated November 10, 2016

11.1.3 Letter to the Minister of Municipal Affairs regarding the Eastern Ontario Growth Plan, dated December 12, 2016

**Moved by Warden Bancroft
Seconded by Warden Vandewal**

THAT the outgoing correspondence be received.

CARRIED

11.2 Incoming

- 11.2.1 Letter from MPP Bob Delaney regarding the *Long-Term Energy Plan*, dated October 17, 2016
- 11.2.2 Letter and resolution from Augusta Township regarding Provincial Infrastructure Investments, dated October 20, 2016
- 11.2.3 Letter from Minister Dr. Eric Hoskins regarding the Provincial Review of Paramedic Services, dated October 24, 2016
- 11.2.4 Letters and resolutions from the County of Renfrew regarding support for the cell gap and mobile broadband projects, dated October 27, 2016
- 11.2.5 Letter from the Ontario Federation of Agriculture regarding rural natural gas expansion, dated November 2, 2016
- 11.2.6 Letter from the Eastern Ontario CFDC Network regarding Leadership Council membership, dated November 9, 2016

**Moved by Warden Lowry
Seconded by Mayor Brent**

**THAT the incoming correspondence be received.
CARRIED**

12. By-laws

13. Notice of Motions

14. Confirmation By-law #17-01

**Moved by Warden Murphy
Seconded by Warden Taylor**

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

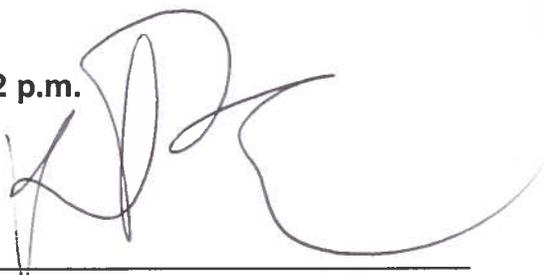
1. THAT the action of the Board of Directors at its meeting held the 5th day of January, 2017 in respect of each motion, resolution, by-law and other action passed and taken by the Board of Directors at its said meeting, except where prior approval of any other body or agency is required, is hereby adopted, 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.

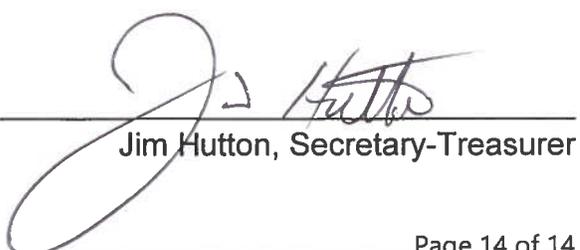
15. Adjournment

**Moved by Mayor Letham
Seconded by Mayor Quaiff**

THAT the meeting be adjourned at 3:02 p.m.



Peter Emon, Chair



Jim Hutton, Secretary-Treasurer