



Eastern Ontario Wardens' Caucus MINUTES

**Friday, October 20, 2017
Days Inn and Suites
134 Angeline Street South
Lindsay ON**

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	Kelly Pender, CAO
County of Haliburton	Warden Brent Devolin	Mike Rutter, CAO
County of Hastings	Warden Rodney Cooney	Jim Pine, CAO
City of Kawartha Lakes	Mayor Andy Letham	Ron Taylor, CAO
County of Lanark	Warden Bill Dobson	Kurt Greaves, CAO
United Counties of Leeds and Grenville	Warden Robin Jones	Andy Brown, CAO
County of Lennox & Addington	Warden Bill Lowry	Brenda Orchard, CAO
County of Northumberland	Warden Mark Walas	Jennifer Moore, CAO
County of Peterborough	Warden Joe Taylor	Troy Speck, CAO
United Counties of Prescott and Russell	Warden Gary J. Barton	Stéphane P. Parisien, CAO
County of Prince Edward	Mayor Robert Quaiff, Chair	James Hepburn, CAO
County of Renfrew	Warden Jennifer Murphy	Jim Hutton, CAO
United Counties of Stormont, Dundas and Glengarry	Warden Jim Bancroft	Tim Simpson, CAO

Regrets		
None		

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
Stephen Seller	Municipal Services Manager, Ministry of Municipal Affairs

1. Call Meeting to Order/Welcome

The meeting was called to order and Chair Quaiff welcomed the members. Warden Mark Walas and CAO Mike Rutter spoke about past-Warden Hector Macmillan, who passed away earlier this month. A moment of silence was held.

Mayor Andy Letham introduced Haliburton–Kawartha Lakes–Brock MPP Laurie Scott, who addressed the increasing problem of sex trafficking in rural Ontario, particularly in Lindsay, Haliburton and Peterborough. She spoke about her Private Members' Bill, Bill 158, *Saving the Girl Next Door Act, 2016*. She provided statistics regarding the issue, including within rural Eastern Ontario communities, and noted that human trafficking and forced labour is the largest growing crime in the country and the world.

2. Declaration of Pecuniary Interest (n/a)

3. Approval of Agenda

Moved by Warden Barton

Seconded by Warden Devolin

THAT the Agenda of the October 20, 2017 meeting be adopted as amended, with items 6.2, 6.5, 6.7, 6.8 and 6.9 being addressed collectively at item 6.2.

CARRIED

4. Approval of Minutes

The minutes of the EOWC Inc. meeting of August 13, 2017 were presented. Warden Jones requested a wording change to item 6.1, in order to include a more specific reference to the AMO and ROMA Conferences.

Moved by Warden Jones

Seconded by Warden Murphy

THAT the Minutes of the EOWC Inc. meeting of August 13, 2017, at item 6.1, be revised, as follows: *“That any member of the EOWC Inc. who wishes to attend any delegation at AMO or ROMA attend that delegation, moving forward being the custom.”*

CARRIED

Moved by Warden Lowry

Seconded by Warden Walas

THAT the Minutes of the EOWC Inc. meeting of August 13, 2017 be approved as amended.

CARRIED

5. Delegations

5.1 Richard Steinginga, Partner, Collins Barrow Kawarthas – EOWC Financial Statements dated December 31, 2016 and EORN Financial Statements dated March 31, 2017

Richard Steinginga presented and reviewed the audit letter and draft EOWC financial statements, dated December 31, 2016, and the EORN financial statements, dated March 31, 2017.

Moved by Warden Murphy

Seconded by Warden Jones

THAT the EOWC Inc. approve the EOWC Financial Statements, dated December 31, 2016, as presented, and that the Chair be authorized to sign the audit letter.

CARRIED

Moved by Warden Jones

Seconded by Warden Dobson

THAT the EOWC Inc. accept the EORN Financial Statements, dated March 31, 2017, as presented.

CARRIED

5.2 Resi Walt and Mark Slack, Ontario Federation of Agriculture – Farm 911 / The Emily Project

Resi Walt and Mark Slack of the Ontario Federation of Agriculture presented a video and information about Farm 911 “The Emily Project”. The OFA requested that the EOWC and its member municipalities support the project. The launch of the project was held in the County of Hastings. Jennifer Moore noted that the CAOs Working Group in Northumberland County is working to implement this at the County level to have a process ready for farmers to make applications.

Mr. Slack suggested that with the EOWC’s help, the project could expand from the current four counties to the entire region. A Farm 911 number could be mandated for every farm probably as part of the municipal building code, including woodlots, sugar bushes, and hunting camps.

Moved by Warden Walas

Seconded by Warden Murphy

THAT the EOWC Inc. receive the presentation and that every County municipality receive a copy of the presentation for its consideration.

CARRIED

5.3 Kathryn Moore, Regional Director, Ministry of Transportation – Statistical Information on Highway 401 Collisions in Eastern Ontario

Kathryn Moore and Peter Makula from the Ministry of Transportation (MTO) provided data and statistics regarding traffic volumes and both planned and unplanned closures along Highway 401 in Eastern Ontario between 2012 and 2016. The presentation included a brief overview of highway activities and projects in the Highway 401 corridor as well as an overview of the next steps for review of locations with high incidence of closures.

Mrs. Moore noted that the included maps represented the first time that the MTO has mapped closures on the highways. She also presented some of the new technologies being used to monitor traffic and weather along provincial highways. Members asked questions.

6. Reports for Review/Discussion

6.1 Discussion on EOWC Queen's Park Breakfast Meeting – Chair Quaiff

Chair Quaiff asked for feedback on yesterday's breakfast meeting. Warden Murphy suggested inviting additional Ministers. Warden Dobson suggested more time. Warden Taylor inquired about the cost benefit of attending such a meeting. Discussion ensued and members shared their opinions on the matter. It was decided to pursue the meeting format but work to acquire more time and a greater presence from Ministers.

6.2 Renewed Strategy for Conferences and Provincial Election

Chair Quaiff asked Stephen Seller to leave the room. Jim Pine explained that the CAOs have recognized that the EOWC needs to "reset" how it establishes priorities and pursues advocacy. He noted the CAOs received a presentation from StrategyCorp this past Monday, and would like to bring the firm's representatives to the Inaugural meeting when both the outgoing and incoming Wardens are in attendance. Jim Hutton explained the emphasis on relationship building and the importance of "face time," as with yesterday's breakfast. Stéphane Parisien addressed the problem of having too many priorities, and the advice of StrategyCorp that it is not the EOWC's role to take on every issue in the Province. Advocacy on secondary issues can be done via resolutions or letters.

Some Wardens requested that more work be done ahead of the Inaugural meeting to inform the incoming Wardens, choose priorities and prepare advocacy, given the short window of time before the ROMA Conference. The turnout of Ministers at the AMO Conference was disappointing, and there is a need to advocate for a greater presence. It was also agreed to start working on priorities and advocacy before the Inaugural meeting, and the orientation document should be distributed before the holiday break.

Moved by Warden Walas

Seconded by Warden Jones

THAT the EOWC Inc. receive the presentation from StrategyCorp on Friday, December 8 at the County of Frontenac with both the outgoing and incoming Wardens in attendance.

CARRIED

6.3 Terms of Reference for EOLC and AMO – Chair Quaiff

Chair Quaiff shared his concerns regarding the automatic appointment of the Chair to the EOLC and AMO boards. He noted that it could create an information overload and risks severing the continuity from year to year. The CAOs will review this and present a recommendation to the Wardens.

6.4 Presentation on Eastern Ontario Leadership Council

Andy Brown and Kelly Pender presented a review of the EOLC's progress and achievements in the last six months. The Province has recognized the significant advancement in Eastern Ontario, including ongoing discussion with the Ministry of Economic Development and Growth. The EOLC requires a contribution of \$50,000 for 2018 from the EOWC, the EOMC and EORN, to support its 50% share of the Rural Economic Development (RED) funding application. Mayor Quaiff recalled that he met with Minister Leal to discuss the application in September.

Moved by Warden Jones

Seconded by Warden Bancroft

THAT the EOWC Inc. include the \$50,000 contribution to the EOLC in the 2018 budget.

CARRIED

6.5 Revised EOWC By-Laws – Justin Bromberg

The Wardens requested a redlined copy of the revised EOWC by-law document, including details of the changes made by the EOWC's legal representative. It was agreed to defer the decision to the next meeting.

Moved by Warden Jones

Seconded by Warden Murphy

THAT the EOWC Inc. defer its approval of the revised EOWC by-laws until the next meeting, once the changes have been reviewed.

CARRIED

6.6 ROMA Resolution on Asset Management Plans

The Chair explained that the Rural Ontario Municipal Association has requested support for its resolution on Asset Management Plans.

Moved by Warden Taylor
Seconded by Warden Devolin

WHEREAS municipalities are a responsible, mature order of government in Ontario;

AND WHEREAS the Eastern Ontario Wardens' Caucus promotes, supports and encourages strong and effective rural governments;

AND WHEREAS the Eastern Ontario Wardens' Caucus supports the responsible and fiscally accountable development of municipal Asset Management Plans;

AND WHEREAS the Province of Ontario through the Ministry of Economic Development, Employment and Infrastructure has developed a proposed Municipal Asset Management Planning Regulation;

AND WHEREAS the proposed Municipal Asset Management Planning Regulation has been posted on the Environmental Registry as 013-0551;

AND WHEREAS the Eastern Ontario Wardens' Caucus has reviewed the submission on the proposed Municipal Asset Management Planning Regulation submitted by the Rural Ontario Municipal Association;

BE IT RESOLVED that the Eastern Ontario Wardens' Caucus agree that the proposed Municipal Asset Management Planning Regulation:

- Is overly prescriptive;
- Does not reflect the principle that municipalities are responsible, mature governments;
- Incrementally increases engineering costs for municipalities at a time when the demand for engineering firms and expertise may exceed the availability;
- Will create a resource and fiscal strain on our municipality and others, more specifically the small rural and northern rural communities that have limited staffing capacity, being the most vulnerable and sensitive to an increasingly burdensome regulatory environment;

AND FURTHER THAT copies of this resolution be sent to the Minister of Infrastructure, the Minister of Municipal Affairs, AMO, ROMA, and the MPPs representing Eastern Ontario.

CARRIED

6.7 Resolution on Municipal Impacts of Bill 148

Following yesterday's breakfast meeting at Queen's Park, the Wardens agreed to send a resolution and letter regarding Bill 148, and submit them to the Standing Committee on Finance and Economic Affairs for review.

Moved by Warden Jones

Seconded by Warden Lowry

WHEREAS the Eastern Ontario Wardens' Caucus supports, in principle, the concept of a minimum wage increase, but has major concerns about the rapid implementation of Bill 148 and its financial impacts on municipalities, including:

- Equal pay for equal work regarding volunteer firefighters, and whether municipalities will be required to pay volunteer firefighters the same hourly rate as their full-time firefighters;
- Public holiday pay calculation for employees other than full-time, which under the new method of calculation may increase costs depending on the number of part-time or casual employees in a municipality;
- Personal emergency leave (10 days per year), under which the first two days of said leave will now be paid;
- The proposed 96-hour cancellation notice of scheduling provision, whereby for work cancelled without a 96-hour notice, employees would receive three hours pay, and for additional shifts without notice, employees would have the right to refuse work. For essential services, such as winter road maintenance, fire services, and long-term care, these provisions could leave municipalities with additional costs and/or a shortage of employees.

BE IT RESOLVED that the Eastern Ontario Wardens' Caucus reject Bill 148 due to its major financial impacts on municipalities, and deplore the Province's lack of consultation with the municipal sector, and that this resolution be shared with the Premier, various Cabinet Ministers, MPPs representing Eastern Ontario, AMO and ROMA.

CARRIED

6.8 Eastern Ontario Regional Network (EORN) – David Fell

By-Laws and 2018 Board Membership

David Fell recalled that the \$175-million contribution agreement with the Province of Ontario, for the broadband project, is signed by the EOWC. Similarly, contracts are signed by the EOWC and ISPs, but are managed by EORN. As it has been seven years since those contracts were signed, he advised that EORN would now like to return 35 bills of sale and 51% of the assets to the ISPs.

Mr. Fell also noted that EORN would host a 2018 AGM at the same time as the Inaugural meeting. A majority of the EOWC members must approve the members of the EORN board of directors.

Consulting Services Business Plan

David Fell presented the draft EORN business plan to provide consulting services, which was prepared for the purposes of public consultation required to incorporate as a for-profit municipal services corporation under Section 203(1) of the Municipal Act. In order to move forward with incorporation, there has to be public consultation and discussion.

2017 Budget Update

David Fell noted that EORN has been significantly under budget this year, and he wishes to have the budget revisions approved. He noted there is a surplus forecasted every year from 2018 to 2025.

Moved by Warden Jones

Seconded by Warden Murphy

THAT the EOWC Inc. approve the 2017-2018 EORN Budget revisions as presented.

CARRIED

Cell Gap Project Update

Jim Pine provided an update on EORN's meeting yesterday with Minister Chiarelli. The Minister's team suggested that EORN work with the Canada Infrastructure Bank to secure the funding for the cell gap project. He noted the Province has to nominate the project to the federal government for approve. EORN's goal is to minimize the municipal contribution.

Moved by Warden Cooney

Seconded by Warden Devolin

THAT the EOWC Inc. approve the revised 2017-2018 EORN Budget revisions as presented.

CARRIED

7. Closed Session

Moved by Warden Jones

Seconded by Warden Dobson

THAT the EOWC Inc. move into Closed Session at 12:38 p.m. to discuss the EORN Fee for Service Consulting Report.

CARRIED

Moved by Warden Dobson

Seconded by Warden Barton

THAT the EOWC Inc. move out of Closed Session at 12:44 p.m.

CARRIED

Moved by Warden Murphy

Seconded by Warden Vandewal

THAT the EOWC Inc. approve the EORN Fee for Service Consulting Report as presented.

CARRIED

8. Reports from Wardens (n/a)

9. Correspondence

9.1 Outgoing

9.1.1 Letter to Minister Bill Mauro regarding Bill 139 and the Ontario Municipal Board Reform, dated August 22, 2017

9.1.2 Letter to AMO President Lynn Dollin regarding Bill 139 and the Ontario Municipal Board Reform, dated August 23, 2017

- 9.1.3 Letter to Minister Bill Mauro regarding the EOWC Multi-Ministers Delegation at the AMO Conference, dated August 24, 2017
- 9.1.4 Letter to Minister Jeff Leal regarding the EOWC Multi-Ministers Delegation at the AMO Conference, dated August 24, 2017
- 9.1.5 Letter to MPP Patrick Brown regarding the EOWC Delegation with the PC Caucus at the AMO Conference, dated August 24, 2017
- 9.1.6 Letter to MPP Percy Hatfield regarding the EOWC Delegation with the NDP Caucus at the AMO Conference, dated August 24, 2017
- 9.1.7 Letter and resolution regarding the EOWC and WOWC support for a proposed funding model for rural municipalities under Ontario's Gas Tax Program, dated September 6, 2017

Moved by Warden Taylor

Seconded by Mayor Letham

THAT the outgoing correspondence be received.

CARRIED

9.2 Incoming

- 9.2.1 Letter from MP Mark Gerretsen regarding the EORN/EOWC Mobile Broadband and PSBN Project Proposal, dated July 26, 2017
- 9.2.2 Letter from the Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs regarding the Eastern Ontario Leadership Council Application to the Rural Economic Development (RED) Program, dated July 31, 2017
- 9.2.3 Letter from MPP Jim McDonnell regarding support for municipal funding under the Government of Canada's Rural and Northern Communities Infrastructure Fund, dated August 2, 2017
- 9.2.4 Resolution from the County of Peterborough regarding support for the VIA Rail High-Frequency Project, dated August 9, 2017
- 9.2.5 Resolution from the County of Peterborough regarding support for the AMO Local Share Proposal, dated August 9, 2017

- 9.2.6 Resolution from the Township of Admaston/Bromley supporting the EORN Cellular Gap and Public Safety Network Project, dated August 18, 2017
- 9.2.7 Resolution from the United Counties of Stormont, Dundas and Glengarry regarding a definition of “rural communities” for funding eligibility under the Rural and Northern Communities Infrastructure Fund, dated August 21, 2017
- 9.2.8 Resolution from the County of Northumberland regarding a definition of “rural communities” for eligibility under the Rural and Northern Communities Infrastructure Fund, dated August 24, 2017
- 9.2.9 Resolution from the County of Peterborough regarding a definition of “rural communities” for eligibility under the Rural and Northern Communities Infrastructure Fund, dated August 28, 2017
- 9.2.10 Letter from Minister Bill Mauro acknowledging receipt of the EOWC briefing paper regarding Bill 139, dated August 29, 2017
- 9.2.11 Resolution from the County of Renfrew regarding support for the AMO Local Share Proposal, dated August 30, 2017
- 9.2.12 Resolution from the County of Renfrew regarding a definition of “rural communities” for funding eligibility under Rural and Northern Communities Infrastructure Fund, dated August 30, 2017
- 9.2.13 Resolution from Prince Edward County supporting the EORN Cell Gap and Public Safety Network Project, dated September 12, 2017
- 9.2.14 Resolution from the County of Lanark regarding support for the VIA Rail High-Frequency Project, dated September 13, 2017
- 9.2.15 Letter from MPP Sophie Kiwala regarding a definition of “rural communities” for funding eligibility under the Rural and Northern Communities Infrastructure Fund, dated September 18, 2017
- 9.2.16 Letter from Minister Amarjeet Sohi regarding a definition of “rural communities” for funding eligibility under the Rural and Northern Communities Infrastructure Fund, dated September 19, 2017

9.2.17 Resolution from the County of Frontenac regarding a definition of “rural communities” for eligibility under the Rural and Northern Communities Infrastructure Fund, dated September 25, 2017

9.2.18 Resolution from the County of Frontenac supporting a Provincial Gas Tax for Rural Communities, dated September 25, 2017

9.2.19 Resolution from the County of Peterborough to support a Provincial Gas Tax for Rural Communities, dated September 25, 2017

9.2.20 Resolution from the County of Hastings supporting a Provincial Gas Tax for Rural Communities, dated September 28, 2017

9.2.21 Letter from Minister Marc Garneau regarding the VIA Rail High-Frequency Project, dated October 3, 2017

9.2.22 Letter from Minister Bill Mauro regarding the EOWC Multi-Ministers Delegation at the AMO Conference, dated October 5, 2017

9.2.23 Letter from Minister Bill Mauro regarding the EOWC submission on Bill 139, dated October 6, 2017

Moved by Warden Murphy

Seconded by Warden Cooney

THAT the incoming correspondence be received.

CARRIED

10. By-laws

11. Notice of Motions

12. Confirmation By-law #17-08

Moved by Warden Jones

Seconded by Warden Vandewal

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 20th of October, 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.

CARRIED

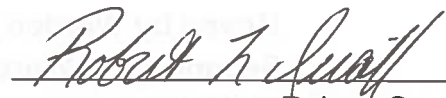
13. Adjournment

Moved by Warden Vandewal

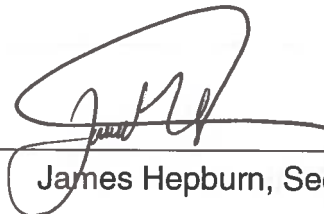
Seconded by Warden Walas

THAT the meeting be adjourned at 12:46 p.m.

CARRIED



Robert Quaiff, Chair



James Hepburn, Secretary-Treasurer