

SMOKY LAKE COUNTY

Minutes of the **County Council Meeting** held on Thursday, **October 26, 2023**, at 10:17 A.M. held both virtually online and physically in Council Chambers.

The meeting was called to order by the Reeve, Jered Serben, in the presence of the following persons:

ATTENDANCE		
<u>Div. No.</u>	<u>Councillor(s)</u>	<u>Thursday, Oct. 26, 2023</u>
1	Dan Gawalko	Present in Chambers
2	Linda Fenerty	Present in Chambers
3	Dominique Cere	Present in Chambers
4	Lorne Halisky	Present in Chambers
5	Jered Serben	Present in Chambers
Interim CAO	Lydia Cielin	Present in Chambers
Finance Manager	Brenda Adamson	Virtually Present
Executive Svcs/R.S.	Patti Priest	Present in Chambers

Observers in Attendance Upon Call to Order:

Comm. Officer	Evonne Zukiwski	Present in Chambers
Fire Chief	Scott Franchuk	Virtually Present
GIS	Carole Dowhaniuk	Virtually Present
Public	1 Member	Present in Chambers
Media	No Members	N/A
Smoky Lake RCMP	Sgt. Anita Doktor	Present in Chambers
Metis Crossing	Juanita Marios	Present in Chambers

2. Agenda:

68-23: Cere

That the Smoky Lake County Council Meeting Agenda for Thursday, October 26, 2023, be adopted, as presented.

Carried Unanimously.

3. Minutes:

Nil.

4. Delegations:

Smoky Lake RCMP Detachment: Sgt. Anita Doktor

Present before Council from 10:19 a.m. to 10:25 a.m. was the Smoky Lake RCMP Detachment Sgt. Anita Doktor, to provide a verbal update, including, but not limited to, the following information:

- Finalizing the meeting for the County with K-division during the RMA (Rural Municipalities of Alberta) Fall Convention.
- Brendon Feere, is the new Corporal for the Smoky Lake Detachment.
- Our members arrested a few people connected to an armed robbery in Foisy.
- Continuing to plan the crime prevention Townhall in January which will be open to everyone.

Sgt. Anita Doktor, Smoky Lake RCMP Detachment, left Chambers, time 10:25 a.m.

69-23: Halisky

That the verbal report received by Smoky Lake County from Sgt. Anita Doktor, Smoky Lake RCMP Detachment, on October 26, 2023, accepted for information.

Carried.

Métis Crossing – Juanita Marois, CEO

Present before Council from 10:27 a.m. to 11:02 a.m. was Juanita Marios, CEO of Métis Crossing, to provide information to Council under Executive Session, in respect to Metis Crossing's application under Alberta's Community Organization Property Tax Exemption Regulation (COPTER) seeking tax exemption status of tax roll 17581251, legally described as River Lot 12-58-17-W4.

14. Executive Session:

Legal Issue: Métis Crossing's Request for Tax Exemption

70-23: Fenerty

That Smoky Lake County Council go into Executive Session, in the presence of all Council, Interim Chief Administrative Officer, Finance Manager, GIS, Fire Chief, Communications Officer, Executive Services Clerk, Delegation: Juanita Marios, CEO of Métis Crossing, to discuss the following, Legal Issue: in respect to Métis Crossing's application under Alberta's Community Organization Property Tax Exemption Regulation (COPTER) seeking tax exemption status of tax roll 17581251, legally described as River Lot 12-58-17-W4, under the authority of the FOIP Act Section 16: Third Party Business Interest, time 10:27 a.m..

Carried.

71-23: Cere

That Smoky Lake County Council go out of Executive Session, time 11:01 a.m.

Carried.

Métis Crossing's CEO and one member of the public, left Council Chambers, time 11:02 a.m.

Request under Community Organization Property Tax Exemption Regulation (COPTER)

72-23: Fenerty

That Smoky Lake County acknowledge receipt of the information received under Executive Session on October 26, 2023, from Delegation: Juanita Marios, CEO of Métis Crossing, in respect to Metis Crossing Limited's application under Alberta's Community Organization Property Tax Exemption Regulation (COPTER) seeking tax exemption status of tax roll 17581251, legally described as River Lot 12-58-17-W4, including but not limited to providing:

- proof of active encouragement for the general public to use the said property, and
- proof of educational programing.

Carried.

Request under Community Organization Property Tax Exemption Regulation (COPTER)

73-23: Halisky

That Smoky Lake County request additional information from the not-for-profit, Métis Crossing Experience Company, to support Metis Crossing Limited's application under Alberta's Community Organization Property Tax Exemption Regulation (COPTER) for tax roll 17581251, legally described as River Lot 12-58-17-W4, of:

• the portion of assessment to be contemplated for tax exemption; as well as the partially outstanding information previously requested, as per Council's October 12, 2023, Motion # 947-23, as follows:

- proof of signed lease agreement between Métis Crossing Experience and Metis Crossing Limited,
- proof of a prominently posted sign indicating the hours when the facility is accessible to the public, and
- proof of financial profit and loss statements for Metis Crossing Experience,

to be received by the County prior to November 30, 2023.

Carried.

5. Public Hearing:

Nil.

6. Municipal Planning Commission:

Nil.

7. Request for Decision:

Remembrance Day Ceremony Wreaths

74-23: Cere

That Smoky Lake County donate funds to both Royal Canadian Legions: Smoky Lake Legion Branch No. 227 and Waskatenau Legion Branch No. 261, in the amount of \$200.00 each, towards the Remembrance Day Ceremony wreaths and approve the Deputy Reeve to place a wreath at the ceremony being held in the Town of Smoky Lake, and approve the Reeve to place a wreath at the ceremony being held in the Village of Waskatenau.

Carried.

8. Interim Chief Administrative Officer's Report:

Chief Administrative Officer - Report Period: September 29, 2023 - October 23, 2023			
EGISLATIVE / GOVERNANCE			
Projects	Date In Progress	Date Outstanding	Date Completed
Development Approval with the Town of Smoky Lake for Smoky Lake Kinsmen Club: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Town of Smoky Lake and Smoky Lake County are joint owners of lands located on Plan 8120751, Block 3, Lot 47MSR (Municipal and School Reserve). ■ March 26, 2015: Smoky Lake County with the Town of Smoky Lake executed a "Lease Agreement" with Smoky Lake Kinsmen Club to operate a Kinsmen Pavilion for a 5-year renewable term, commencing January 1, 2015 to January 31, 2024. No expense to County). ■ October 16, 2023: received an email from Raman Sahota, Development Officer, Town of Smoky Lake – permission from owners is required for the Development Permit to allow for a Sea Can for Kinsmen Park / Gazebo. No expense to the County and is within Town's land use bylaw. <p>Recommendation: Approve action taken for granting permission that Smoky Lake County with the Town of Smoky Lake as joint owners of lands located legally on Plan 8120751, Block 3, Lot 47 MSR approve the Development Permit for Smoky Lake Kinsmen Club for the placement of a Sea Can at no expense to the County.</p>	October 16		
Ad-Hoc Working Group Committee for Housing Opportunities and Initiatives: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Spoke with the CAO in respect to scheduling a meeting. Will find out by end of October if the Town will host this sub-committee created by ICC. Goal is to start meetings in November. 	October 23		
ADMINISTRATIVE			
Projects	Date In Progress	Date Outstanding	Date Completed
Waskatenau Drainage – CN Owned Property adjacent to the Waskatenau Creek, near the Village of Waskatenau: <p>ATTACHMENT: A-1</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Administration executed a License agreement "Release of Liability and Permit License" with Canadian National Railway Company (CN) on October 10, 2023 granting 	March 16	Sept 15	Nov. 30

Smoky Lake County permission to enter upon said lands Section 9 and 16, 59-19-W4. Term ends November 30, 2023. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Public Works has also obtained permission from the adjacent landowner – vegetation removal has started. Recommendation: Approve action taken for Smoky Lake County in executing the “Release of Liability and Permit License with the Cnadian National Railway Company (CN) for permission to enter on the said lands Section 9 & 16, 59-19- 4 with a term of October 10, 2023 to November 30, 2023 to address the draining landscaping.			
Smoky Lake Tourism Company Ltd.: Attended its first meeting. All Corporation entities were established. Now in the process to find a Chief Executive Officer (CEO).	October 19		
RCMP Liaison Committee Meeting: Introduction to the two new Fish and Wildlife Sheriffs: Jason Duncalfe and Chase Cooper. More information highlighted in the Reeve’s Report.			October 17
MSCNet: Reached out again for inquiring for MSCNet to outline: What Public Works building is the GigAir equipment being installed. Still waiting.	June 15	October 4	
FINANCIAL			
Projects	Date In Progress	Date Outstanding	Date Completed
Accompanied various departments in Budget meetings with the Finance Manager.			
HUMAN RESOURCES			
Projects	Date In Progress	Date Outstanding	Date Completed
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Held a Staff Debrief in respect to the last Council meeting. County has implemented a Suggestion Box last year – nice to see suggestions coming forward. We have received 5 during my Interim to date. 	October 18		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> CAO Recruitment: Posting for the CAO Position closes on November 3, 2023. To date: 36 Applications. In the process to assist Council – legislative department is summaries the applications into categories based on the advertisement. 			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Municipal Clerk: Received letter from an employee for Maternity Leave January 1, 2024 for (12-18 months). 	October 12		
COMMUNITY			
Projects	Date In Progress	Date Outstanding	Date Completed
Letter: Received from Tom Bullas about the upcoming 19th Annual T.L.C. Dart Tournament for Charities (Food Bank and Christmas Hamper). Scheduled for November 25, 2023 at Warspite Hotel. County has been supporting this concept since Tom started this. ATTACHMENT: C-1 Recommendation: That Smoky Lake County Council approve action taken by administration for providing funds in the amount of \$100.00. to the 19th Annual T.L.C. Dart Tournament for Charities to be held on November 25, 2023 at Warspite Hotel.	October 23		
TRAINING / MEETINGS			
Legislative Department completed the Cyber Awareness Training			October
Signature: <i>Interim Chief Administrative Officer</i>	County Council Meeting: October 26, 2023		

Development Permit for Kinsmen Park in Smoky Lake

75-23: Gawalko

That Smoky Lake County Council approve action taken by Administration in respect to agreeing, in principle, to provide permission as a joint owner of the lands (described below) with the Town of Smoky Lake, to submit a development permit application to the Town of Smoky Lake, for the purpose of allowing the Smoky Lake Kinsmen Club to permanently place a sea-can on the lands legally described as Plan 8120751, Block 3, Lot 47 MSR, (also known as the Kinsmen Park), within the Town of Smoky Lake, near the Gazebo, at no expense to the County.

Carried.

Release of Liability and Permit License with the Canadian National Railway Company (CN)

76-23: Serben

That Smoky Lake County Council approve action taken by Administration in executing the “Release of Liability and Permit License” with the Canadian National Railway Company (CN) granting permission for the County to enter the CN owned lands legally described as Section 9-59-19-W4 and Section 16-59-19-W4, for the purpose of constructing drainage landscaping, with a term effective October 10, 2023, and ending November 30, 2023.

Carried.

3 Members of the Public Virtually joined the meeting, time 11:08 a.m.

Annual T.L.C. Dart Tournament for Charities held in Warspite

77-23: Cere

That Smoky Lake County Council approve action taken by Administration for providing funds in the amount of \$100.00, towards the 19th Annual T.L.C. Dart Tournament for Charities scheduled for November 25, 2023, to be held at Warspite Hotel, Warspite, with proceeds going towards the Smoky Lake Food Bank and the Smoky Lake Christmas Hamper, in response to the donation request letter received from Tom Bullas, dated October 23, 2023.

Carried.

Interim Chief Administrative Officer Report

78-23: Cere

That Smoky Lake County Council accept the Interim Chief Administrative Officer Report, for the period of September 29, 2023 to October 23, 2023, for information.

Carried.

9. Council Committee Reports:

Division One Councillor’s Report on various Committees, Boards and Commissions

Dan Gawalko – Previous Deputy Reeve & Division One Councillor’s report from various Committees, Boards and Commissions:

September 28, 2023

- Attended Bellis/Vilna Citizens on Patrol meeting in Vilna, Officer Anita Doktor gave her report on ongoing crime in the region keep reporting anything suspicious, ensure keys are not left in vehicles and she also took in a few criminal record checks for some of the members. I gave a short update on what the county is doing, meeting with Curtis Zablocki commanding officer at K division during RMA, raffle tickets for the fundraising is going well, they discussed the ACOPA AGM happening on Oct 13-15 and a winter celebration on Sunday Nov 26, finances were presented by Leanna, next meeting November 16, 7:00 pm in Bellis.

October 4, 2023

- Attended the ASB regional resolution review committee held virtually with our Ag Fieldman Carleigh, reviewed the rules of procedure, reviewed 3 resolutions, agriculture in the classroom, Alberta transportation vegetation management, bee package imports and control of Varroa mites, these will be brought forward to the NE regional ASB conference on October 20 in Smoky Lake County.

October 13, 2023

- Attended the ASB meeting with Jared Serben and 3 new producer reps and 2 alternates from the county, we did an orientation on the ASB bylaws and policy, Doug Macaulay ASB program manager gave the board a very good orientation and presentation on ASB boards in Alberta, discussed the report card on the resolutions 2023 from Linda Hunt executive assistant of ASB provincial committee, Alyssa Krawchuk gave an update on LARA and how they are moving forward in 2024 with new staff coming onboard in January and also the upcoming extension events, next ASB meeting December 12, 9:00 am.

October 16, 2023

- Attended the Lakeland Agricultural Research Association LARA meeting, the small plot sprayer has arrived total price was 31,800 with shipping, Alyssa is the new agriculture director on the LICA board, will be selling the old 2006 Chev truck and will start looking to purchase a better cond. used truck, no FarmRITE report at this time, executive director report was given by Alyssa, finished combining Faba beans on oct 10, majority of the RVT trials had a passing mark, met with Lakeland college to start collaborating on some projects will meet again in January, met with MLA Scott Cyr he would like to have the Ag Minister and other MLA's come out to see what LARA is doing and raise awareness of agriculture in NE Alberta, had a meeting with living labs and attended several ASB meetings in the region, Dustin is now certified to do EVP's, LFA report heifers came out of the pasture Oct 1, dugouts are full, working with Lakeland college on increasing utilization on brush pastures and GPS ear tags, starting January 2024 2 free feed tests for member producers till the feed test budget runs out of funds, went over the clubroot policy, March 6 will be the AGM in Glendon or Goodridge, other upcoming events Nov 13-14 drone training clinic, Nov 16 working well webinar, Nov 28 Strategic weed management webinar, Nov 30 young farmers appreciation, Dec 1 Finding fairness in transitions held in Smoky Lake with Elaine Froese, next meeting Nov 20 @ 10:00 am.

October 19, 2023

- Attended the Evergreen Regional Waste Management Commission meeting, discussed the RFP for engineering, the RMA site visit which included an inspection of our Spedden landfill, Maxine and Paul had a meeting with Mark Power of the Beaver River Commission about hauling to Evergreen and when their contracts end, also talked about new ramp access to MSW cells and new inert waste cell construction, went over the EPR extended producer responsibility information that will be fully operational in 2025, Ashley gave the treasurers report, and Paul gave the managers' report, on Truth and Conciliation day they had hotdogs and chips for all the drivers, Omni McCann just completed a MSW and Inert waste survey, leachate has slowed down, Oct 16 Alberta Environment did a unannounced thorough inspection, Lakeland waste in Lac La Biche says Quest bought them out and Smoky Lake transfer was sold to Derrick Rosichuk, winter hours started open from 8 - 4:30 and closed on Saturdays, next meeting November 16 @ 9:00 am.

October 20, 2023

- Attended the 2023 Northeast Regional Agricultural service board Conference at Metis Crossing with all of the new ASB board, Jared Serben councillor, producer reps Curtis Boychuk, Tamara Flondra, and Tori Ponich, along with Reeve Lorne Halisky and councillor Dominique Cere, also in attendance were our ag fieldman Carleigh and assistant fieldman Amanda our interim CAO Lydia C. and recording secretary Patti P., welcomed MLA's Scott Cyr from Bonnyville- Cold Lake and Garth Rowsell from Vermilion- Lloydminster -Wainwright, Doug Macaully Director of crop assurance program section gave a program update, followed by Momna Farzand a cropping agrologist who talked about LARA and the research and extension programs they do in NE Alberta, then Maureen Vadias-Sloan from AFCS gave an update on insurance programs available to producers in Alberta, Don Christenson gave a very interesting presentation on diversifying your agriculture operation, Cole Ambrock talked about effectiveness of agritourism and raising awareness of primary ag production for millennial urbanites, and Linda Hunt talked about AgKnow Alberta farm mental health network and the program they offer to producers, we did a resolution session and concluded with the MD of Provost inviting us to attend the 2024 NE Regional ASB Conference in their municipality next year.

Division Two Councillor's Report on various Committees, Boards and Commissions

Linda Fenerty – Current Deputy Reeve & Division Two Councillor's written report from various Committees, Boards and Commissions:

October 3 - 5, 2023 - Power Up North Conference - Cold Lake

- This Conference was sponsored by the Lakeland Community Futures (Cold Lake). It was designed for entrepreneurial business owners, and anyone with a business idea (start-up, home-based, or as a side business). Several good speakers whose presentations delved into topics such as expansion diversification, selling and/or retiring. Topics included Future Proof (Business Finances), Future of Tourism, and The Future Face of Employment.

October 16, 2023 - Muni-Corr Mtg. - St. Paul- 10:00 a.m.

- Cold Lake First Nation Section of Right-of-Way - continued attempts to meet Rick Janvier (AICAO/investment Councillor) to discuss to right-of-way at the Nation.
- Black Ace - Recommendation to not grant access from 45 Street as it could be an impediment to the Trail.
- Reports - RRTS, Executive Director, Financials presented and accepted.
- New business - Marianne to contact Water Commissions for a list of taxpayers connected to water along the trail and bring back to the Board.
- Correspondence - Vilna Solar Project

October 17, 2023 - Ukrainian Twinning - Microsoft Teams - 9:00 a.m.

- Could not connect as Microsoft Teams was not working.

October 17 - Regional Emergency Management Advisory Committee - 1 :00 p.m.

- Chair & Vice-Chair elected - Tyson Berlinguette & Linda Fenerty
- Last meeting held April 24, 2019, so a lot of catching up to do - DEM's for each municipality, training, location of EOC's, update on contact information, personnel, business, services.
- Regional Emergency Management By-law reviewed.
- CAO's will be updating information for the next meeting scheduled for January 16, 2024 at 9:00 a.m.

October 18, 2023 - RCMP Community Engagement - Vilna Seniors' Centre - 6:00 p.m.

- RCMP Staff Sargeant Anita Doktor met with residents of the Village, a meeting which was very well attended. Issues discussed included guarding your residence from break-ins, fan-outs, statistics.

Other Meetings:

October 12, 2023 - County Council Meeting - County Chambers

October 19, 2023 - MCC - 11 :30 a.m.

October 19, 2023 - SL TC Inaugural Mtg - 1 :00 p.m. - Metis Crossing

Division Three Councillor's Report on various Committees, Boards and Commissions

Dominique Cere – Division Three Councillor written report from various Committees, Boards and Commissions:

September 28: Regular Council Mtg.

October 05: ASCHA North Region Mtg.

- Annual meeting held in Sherwood Park at the Sandman Hotel. Meeting began with an informal roundtable discussion and then a guest speaker (Joe Van Kampen) talking about the importance of having a "Marketing Strategy," the value in "Branding" as well as "Personalization" with your online presence. Reminded us that it isn't about just having a website but also using Facebook and Instagram to name a few. Explained the importance of regular updates, using imagery (food, furniture, individuals), think about lighting, angles, as well as instead of zooming in when taking photos consider getting closer. Strongly suggested that the budget include a marketing budget. ASCHA business was next; we received an update as to what administration has been doing followed by elections and New Business. The afternoon began with three government representatives (Phil Henke, Davis Knight and Barb Panich as the Assistant Deputy Minister, David Williams, was unavailable. Phil Henke began by saying that there was not much new at this time. The meeting ended with another roundtable discussion on Community Housing. Emergent issues as well as priorities were discussed.

October 12: Regular Council Mtg.

October 13: Foundation Mtg.

- Managers and Interim CAO presented their reports. Financials were reviewed. Delegation arrived and Board went into Closed Session. Once out of Closed Sessions, the remainder of the agenda was addressed.

October 17: Regional Emergency Management Advisory Committee Mtg.

- Alternate. Attended via Zoom.

October 18: Joint Health and Safety Mtg.

- Alternate. Attended via Zoom.

Division Four Councillor's Report on various Committees, Boards & Commissions

Lorne Halisky – Previous Reeve & Division Four Councillor's report from various Committees, Boards and Commissions:

September 21, 2023 – Alberta Lakeland (DMO) Destination Management Organization Meeting, Hybrid (Lorne - virtually)

- Tourism Partnership Updates were given on Kalayna Country and how they play apart in tourism in the Lakeland, PrairiesCan Projects are still on pace for completion, work is progressing on the Escape to the Lakeland Contest and on STEP Regional Trails Master Plan.
- Treasurers report was giving with all in good standing.
- Kalayna Country is still looking for volunteers to work a casino.
- Discussed options such as Hot Summer & Cool Winter Guides, TV episodes in Lakeland Region etc.
- Event Calendar can be used by member communities at no charge and can be shared on individual member municipalities websites.

September 24, 2023 – Metis Crossing Day Celebration (Lorne in-person)

- Attended and participated in the evenings program etc. maintaining partnership, relationship, and collaboration etc.

September 26, 2023 – (CAO) Chief Administration Officer Recruitment Council Meeting, held in Chambers (All Council in-person)

- Held under Executive Session, to discuss a Personnel Issue: Chief Administrative Officer (CAO) Recruitment, under FOIP Act Section 24: Advice from Officials, and FOIP Section 27: Privileged Information, and review the CAO hiring guide.

September 26, 2023 – Government Liaison Meeting, held in Chambers (All Council in-person)

- Agreed to not engage Government Relations (Lobbyist) Support in Year-2023 to allow time to pursue engagement utilizing internal support through Council and Administration.
- Recommend to pursue meetings with each respective Ministry or their Chiefs of Staff, responsible for: Regional Volunteer Firefighters, Strategic Transportation Infrastructure Program (STIP) – Bridge Funding, Municipal Sustainability Initiatives (MSI) funding, Agricultural Society and Community Hall funding, Enhanced Healthcare and Medical Service, Justice System – Rural Crime, and Affordable Housing Collaboration.

September 27, 2023 – (SLTC) Smoky Lake Tourism Company Meeting (Lorne and Linda – virtually)

- Discussion was held on number of Directors required on SLTC, positions required on SLTC, (CEO) Chief Executive Officer position/preparation of CEO job description and October 19,2023 Agenda Items to move things along to finite setting up the SLTC.

September 28, 2023 – Regular Council Meeting, held in Chambers (All Council in-person)

- Received an update on Smoky Lake County's bridge management program and will be seeking funding for 12 bridges through the provincial Strategic Transportation Infrastructure Program (STIP).
- Approved a one-time donation of \$14,000.00 to the Waskatenau Curling Club.
- Approved to execute an agreement with Accurate Assessment Group Ltd. for 5 years of assessment services 2024-2028, with an option to renew for another 5.
- Approved to provide \$2,000 of FCSS funds to Smoky Lake Minor Hockey Association.
- Approved to execute "Power+ Agreement" with Alberta Municipal Services Corporation (AMSC), for buying electricity from January 1, 2025 to December 31, 2029.
- Adopted Policy Statement No. 01-04-01: Proclamations.

- Accepted the Expression of Interest for \$9,450.00 (\$9,000.00 + \$450.00 G.S.T.) from Earl O'Hagan, to purchase Plan 716CL, Block 1, Lot 9 in Warspite.
 - Approved to advertise a Public Land Sale Tender, closing December 1, 2023, for 14 properties.
 - Approved to advertise a Public Land Sale Tender through CLHbid.com, for 3 properties.
 - Proclaimed the Manitoba Maple Trees at Métis Crossing, River Lot 12, as historical significance.
 - Approved to jointly apply for 4 Alberta Community Partnership (ACP) 2023-24 Grants under the Intermunicipal Collaboration Stream.
 - Gave 3rd & Final Reading to Bylaw No. 1451-23: Municipal Reserve (MR) Designation – Warspite.
 - Extended an invitation to Saddle Lake Cree Nation Band #462 to attend a luncheon meeting.
 - Adopted the "Service Assessment and Economic Development Strategy – Smoky Lake Region" document, dated October 2022, prepared by 13Ways Inc. as an information resource in implementing a good governance model for developing a Regional Economic Development Plan.
- October 3, 2023 – Hwy 28/63 Regional Water Services Commission, held in Chambers (Lorne & Dan in-person)
- Held in-camera discussion relating to Commission Membership.
 - Received updates from the Interim Manager, Finance Manager, Provincial Representative, and Engineers.
 - Re-appointed JMD Group LLP Chartered Professional Accountants as the Auditor for 2023 & 2024.
 - Deferred the letter received from the County of St. Paul, requesting Membership until after the estimated costs of legal fees has been received for drafting changes to the Commission's bylaws and relevant agreements, and after the Commission's Management services are at full capacity.
- October 3-5, 2023 – Power Up North Conference, held in Cold Lake, (Lorne in-person Wednesday, Oct. 4th, Linda in-person for all 3 days)
- Presentations included:
 - The future of Tourism, Top 10 fastest Growing Trends in Tourism, Travel Alberta Tourism Grants and Opportunities, Indigenous Tourism Alberta
 - Future Proof your Business Finances, Marketing your Business on a minuscule budget.
 - The Future Face of Employment, The Humour Advantage – Putting Humour to Work for Less Stress and More Success.
- October 5, 2023 - Lakeland Industry and Community Association (LICA), held in Lac La Biche (Lorne & Dan in-person)
- Annual General Meeting was held, and presentations and activities included:
 - Portable Air Monitoring Station Tours
 - Methane Monitoring Collaborative Study Presentation
 - Environmental Education Through Project-based Learning at New Myrnam School
 - LICA Accomplishments & Programs Update
 - Presentations included: Environmental Monitoring Programs i.e., Air/ground/water, Education and Outreach Program with great student educational programs such as composting, gardening etc. that can be brought to any member schools.
- October 7, 2023 – Smoky Lake Pumpkin Fair, held in Smoky Lake (Lorne in-person)
- Brought greetings on behalf of Smoky Lake County and participated in the dignitary's parade.
- October 11, 2023 – RMA – (EPR) Extended Producer Responsibility Webinar (Lorne - virtually)
- EPR makes Producers pay for recycling.
 - The EPR Program is targeted to be in place in Alberta in 2025.
 - The EPR Program involves Producers managing the entire program such as collection, transportation etc. of products.
 - Registration deadline for the EPR Program in Alberta is December 31, 2023.
- October 11, 2023 – (EDA) Economic Developers Alberta, Investors and Site Selectors Webinar (Lorne - virtually)
- Provide investors with what it would be like to conduct business in the region and help in making informed investment decisions.
 - Identify best locations for talent, operating costs, office/plant options etc.
 - Identify Stakeholders, quality of life, transportation, cost of living, recreational/amenities, cultural activities etc. in the region.
 - Don't bite off more than can be chewed.
- October 11, 2023 – Elevate Wellness Team Meeting (Lorne - virtually)
- Reviewed final changes to the health and wellness trail system, mapping, and signage.
- October 12, 2023 – Regular Council Meeting, held in Chambers (All Council in-person)
- Amended Policy Statement No. 01-04-01: Proclamations.
 - Gave 3rd & Final Reading to Bylaw No. 1452-23: Chief Administrative Officer Bylaw.
 - Authorized the Public Works Manager to carry a firearm to used for beaver control.
 - Increased the 2023 allocation to purchase a snowmobile for trapping.
 - Approved an adjustment to the reserve bids on the 3 County properties being sold through CLHbid.com.
 - Approved a loyalty bonus of \$10,800, to Larry Kokotilo, for over 27 years of consecutive service.
 - Approved the to executive an intermunicipal agreement with the Town of Smoky Lake for the County to provide Certified Water and Wastewater Operator Supervision Services, and denied to provide the same to Métis Crossing, as it is non-municipal.
 - Approved a 2024 municipal contribution of \$2,457.60 to North Saskatchewan Watershed Alliance.
 - Acknowledged an additional Corporal is being added to the Smoky Lake RCMP Detachment.
 - Rescheduled the Year-2023 Property Tax Sale, from Dec. 1st to Dec. 12, 2023, at 10:00 am.
- October 17, 2023 – Ukrainian Twinning Meeting, held in Chambers & virtually (Lorne in-person)
- Community Futures fundraising will be providing a donation of \$775 to Kosiv.
 - Ukrainian Twinning Committee fund raising sent \$3000 to Kosiv on June 12, 2023.
 - The Village of Vilna was not present and are considering withdrawing from the Committee.

- The next opportunity with Kosiv will be education.
 - Financials were presented with \$5000 budget and \$1400 remaining.
- October 17, 2023 – RCMP Liaison Meeting, held in Chambers & virtually (Lorne in-person)
- Attendees included representatives from Smoky Lake RCMP Detachment, Fish & Wildlife, Smoky Lake Fire Department, and the Smoky Lake County Loss Prevention Coordinator, Interim CAO, and Reeve, who discussed mutual concerns and how to help each other.
 - Water and Ice rescue continues to be an issue in the region due to lack of trained/certified individuals, and equipment such as a boat etc.
 - Deceased body removal and Victim Services were discussed with a Victim Service Representative soon to be in place in the region and lobbying etc. for better “timely” body removal services.
 - Provincial Highway Maintenance Contractor signs still not in place on the region’s provincial highways.
 - RCMP are reporting more crime info on social media which is well received by the citizens.
 - Fish & Wildlife are investigating lots of Hunter Trespassing.
 - Disaster Services operations, logistics and resources etc. were briefly discussed on how it plays a role with disaster situations in the region.
- October 17, 2023 – Regional Emergency Management Committee, held in Chambers and virtually (Linda, Lorne & Jered in-person, Dominique - virtually)
- Recommend the Regional Emergency Management Bylaws be updated to align with current Provincial Local Authority Emergency Management Regulation.
 - Reviewed the Community Emergency Management Program Emergency Plan, and the Alberta Emergency Management Agency Annual Visit / Review 2022-2023.
 - Next meeting is January 16, 2023.
- October 18, 2023 – Joint Health & Safety Committee, held virtually (Lorne & Dominique - virtually)
- Received updates on: Old Business, Safety Audit Action Plan, Training, Incidents, and Committee Member Reports.
 - The 5 of the 7 incidents were related to criminal activity. Theft in the region continues so please ensure vehicles / equipment / property are secured and report all suspicious activities to the RCMP immediately.
- October 19, 2023 – (MCC) Municipal Controlled Corporation for Smoky Lake Development Corporation Meeting (Lorne and Linda in-person)
- Reviewed (USA) Unanimous Shareholder Agreement between MCC and Smoky Lake Tourism Company LTD and made a resolution to agree to terms/conditions etc.
 - Change banking account to a redeemable less cost and higher interest rate account.
 - Treasurer report was presented with all in good standing.
 - Take no action and file old HAK School inquiry.
- October 19, 2023 – (SLTC) Smoky Lake Tourism Company LTD. Meeting (Lorne and Linda in-person)
- Discussion was held and selected number of Directors on SLTC, positions on SLTC, (CEO) Chief Executive Officer position and job description, Financial Institute, Financial Auditor, Legal Firm etc. in setting up the SLTC.
- October 20, 2023 – Northeast Regional ASB Conference at Métis Crossing (Lorne, Jered, Dominique, & Dan in-person)
- Provided a welcoming address to this event which was hosted by Smoky Lake County.
 - Councillor Gawalko Chaired the event’s meeting.
 - Reviewed Resolutions rules, procedures, and format.
 - Election for Regional ASB Committee Representatives/Alternates.
 - Presentation on Diversifying Your Agricultural Operation.
 - Presentation on The Effectiveness of Agritourism in Raising Awareness of Primary Agriculture Production Practices.
 - Presentation on AgKnow Alberta Farm Mental Health Network.

Division Five Councillor’s Report on various Committees, Boards and Commissions

Jered Serben – Current Reeve & Division Five Councillor written report from various Committees, Boards and Commissions was unavailable and will be included in the next reporting period.

Reeve’s Report and Councillors Reports

79-23: Fenerty

That Smoky Lake County’s Reeve Report received for the period of September 21, 2023, to October 20, 2023, be posted to the County’s website and the Councillors reports on various committees, boards and commissions, be accepted as presented.

Carried.

10. Correspondence:

2023 Alberta Rural Connectivity Forum – November 6th to November 7th, 2023

80-23: Halisky

That Smoky Lake County take no action to the correspondence received from the Alberta Rural Connectivity Coalition, dated October 18, 2023, in respect to the Year-2023 Alberta Rural Connectivity Forum, scheduled for November 6-7, 2023, to be held in Banff, Alberta.

Carried.

11. Information Releases:

Nil.

12. Financial Reports:

Financial Statements

As annexed to the minutes:

↳ Financial Statement for the months of: **Nil.**

Budget to Actual Report

81-23: Halisky

That Smoky Lake County's financial reports, including the Budget to Actual report as at October 17, 2023, be filed for information.

Carried.

Cheque Register

82-23: Cere

That Smoky Lake County's Cheque Register as of October 26, 2023, as follows, be filed for information:

County Council Meeting: Oct. 26, 2023

Batch #	Cheque Numbers	Total of Batch
PMCHQ172	53618 to 53634	\$703,179.31
PMCHQ173	53635 to 53649	\$94,721.87
PMCHQ176	53650 to 53659	\$221,032.61
PMCHQ177	53660 to 53688	\$46,675.44
PMCHQ179	53689 to 53698	\$2,843.14
Total Cheques from 53618 to 53698		\$1,068,452.37

Batch #	EFT Numbers	Total of Batch
230921	1021 to 1036	\$244,056.88
230926	1037 to 1041	\$15,583.43
231003	1042 to 1048	\$35,029.61
231012	1049 to 1068	\$151,533.93
Total EFTs from 1021 to 1068		\$446,203.85

Direct Debit Register

Batch #	Description	Total of Batch
Total Direct Debits		\$0.00

Grand Total Bills and Accounts	\$1,514,656.22
<i>(Note: From General Account)</i>	

Carried.

11:29 to 11:30 a.m.

Public Question and Answer Period:

None.

13. Next Meeting(s):

Smoky Lake Region Intermunicipal Collaboration Committee (ICC) Meeting

83-23: Fenerty

That a Smoky Lake Region **Intermunicipal Collaboration Committee (ICC) Meeting** be scheduled for, **Wednesday, November 15, 2023 at 9:00 a.m.**, to be held virtually, through Electronic Communication Technology **and/or** physically in County Council Chambers.

Carried.

Policy Committee Meeting

84-23: Cere

That the next Smoky Lake County **Policy Committee Meeting**, be scheduled for **Monday, December 4, 2023, at 10:00 a.m.**, to be held virtually, through Electronic Communication Technology as per Bylaw 1376-20 **and/or** physically in County Council Chambers.

Carried.

Council Committee of the Whole for CAO Recruitment Meeting

85-23: Cere

That the next Smoky Lake County Council **Committee of the Whole Meeting for the purpose of Chief Administrative Officer (CAO) Recruitment** be scheduled for **Wednesday, November 15, 2023 at 1:00 p.m.**, to be held virtually, through Electronic Communication Technology as per Bylaw 1376-20 **and/or** physically in County Council Chambers.

Carried.

Scheduled County Council Meetings

The previously scheduled upcoming Smoky Lake County Council Meetings are as follows:

**Tuesday, October 31, 2023, at 9:00 a.m. (Budget),
Tuesday, November 21, 2023, at 9:00 a.m. (Budget),
Thursday, November 23, 2023, at 9:00 a.m. (Regular),
Tuesday, December 5, 2023, at 9:00 a.m. (Budget), and
Thursday, December 14, 2023, at 9:00 a.m., (Regular),**

to be held virtually, through Electronic Communication Technology as per Bylaw 1376-20 **and/or** physically in County Council Chambers.

14. Executive Session:

Personnel Issue: Interim Chief Administrative Officer

86-23: Halisky

That Smoky Lake County Council go into Executive Session to discuss a Personnel Issue, under the authority of the FOIP Act, Section 24: Advice from Officials, and Section 19: Confidential Evaluation, in respect to the Interim Chief Administrative Officer, in the presence of all Council, Interim Chief Administrative Officer and Executive Services Clerk, time 11:54 a.m..

Carried.

87-23: Cere

That Smoky Lake County Council go out of Executive Session, time 12:11 p.m.

Carried.

15. ADJOURNMENT:

88-23: Gawalko

That the Smoky Lake County Council Meeting of October 26, 2023, be adjourned, time 12:11 p.m..

Carried.

REEVE

S E A L

CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER