

**SMOKY LAKE COUNTY**

Minutes of the **County Council Meeting** held on Thursday, **January 9, 2025**, at 9:01 A.M. held both virtually online and physically in Council Chambers.

The meeting was called to order by the Deputy Reeve, Dominique Céré, in the presence of the following persons:

<b>ATTENDANCE</b>		
<u>Div. No.</u>	<u>Councillor(s)</u>	<u>Thursday, Jan. 9, 2025</u>
1	Dan Gawalko	Present in Chambers
2	Linda Fenerty	Present in Chambers
3 / Deputy Reeve	Dominique Céré	Present in Chambers
4	Lorne Halisky	Present in Chambers
5 / Reeve	Jered Serben	Virtually Present
CAO	Kevin Lucas	Present in Chambers
Finance Manager	Brenda Adamson	Absent
Executive Srv/RS	Patti Priest	Present in Chambers

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Observers in Attendance Upon Call to Order:

Comm. Officer	Evonne Zukiwski	Virtually Present
P & D Manager	Jordan Ruegg	Virtually Present
Fire Srv/Muni Clerk	Meaghan Andreychuk	Virtually Present
GIS Operator	Carole Dowhaniuk	Virtually Present
Health & Safety Cor.	Jasmine Schaub	Virtually Present
Acting Ag Fieldman	Kierstin Dubitz	Virtually Present
Public	2 Members	Present

**2. Agenda:**

209-25: Fenerty                      That the Smoky Lake County Council Meeting Agenda for Thursday, January 9, 2025, be adopted, as presented.

Carried Unanimously.

**3. Minutes:**

**3.1. Minutes of the Committee of the Whole Council Meeting, December 4, 2024**

210-25: Halisky                      That the minutes of the Smoky Lake County Committee of the Whole Council Meeting, held on Wednesday, December 4, 2024, be adopted as presented.

Carried.

**3.2. Minutes of the Regular Council Meeting, December 12, 2024**

211-25: Gawalko                      That the minutes of the Smoky Lake County Regular Council Meeting, held on Thursday, December 12, 2024, be adopted as presented.

Carried.

**5. Public Hearing:**

Nil.

**6. Municipal Planning Commission (MPC):**

Nil.

7. Request for Decision:

7.1. **Bylaw No. 1468-25: Designation of the Bellis Store & Heritage Shoppe as a Municipal Historic Resource**

212-25: Fenerty

That Smoky Lake County **Bylaw No. 1468-25: Designation of the Bellis Store & Heritage Shoppe as a Municipal Historic Resource**, being a bylaw for the purpose of designating the Bellis Store & Heritage Shoppe as a Municipal Historic Resource, be given **FIRST READING**.

Carried.

Moved by Councillor Gawalko that Smoky Lake County **Bylaw No. 1468-25: Designation of the Bellis Store & Heritage Shoppe as a Municipal Historic Resource**, being a bylaw for the purpose of designating the Bellis Store & Heritage Shoppe as a Municipal Historic Resource, be given **SECOND READING**.

Carried.

Moved by Councillor Halisky that Smoky Lake County **Bylaw No. 1468-25: Designation of the Bellis Store & Heritage Shoppe as a Municipal Historic Resource**, being a bylaw for the purpose of designating the Bellis Store & Heritage Shoppe as a Municipal Historic Resource, be given **PERMISSION** for **THIRD AND FINAL READING**.

Carried Unanimously.

Moved by Councillor Fenerty that Smoky Lake County **Bylaw No. 1468-25: Designation of the Bellis Store & Heritage Shoppe as a Municipal Historic Resource**, being a bylaw for the purpose of designating the Bellis Store & Heritage Shoppe as a Municipal Historic Resource, be given **THIRD and FINAL READING** and the Reeve and Chief Administrative Officer be hereby authorized to fix their signatures to all necessary documents and the corporate seal be fastened where it is deemed to be necessary.

Carried.

Scott Franchuk, Fire Chief, virtually joined the meeting, time 9:09 a.m.

Daniel Moric, Natural Gas Manager, virtually joined the meeting, time 9:11 a.m.

One Member of the Public, virtually joined the meeting, time 9:13 a.m.

7.2. **Bylaw No. 1469-25: Designation of the White Earth School Hall as a Municipal Historic Resource**

213-25: Halisky

That Smoky Lake County **Bylaw No. 1469-25: Designation of the White Earth School Hall as a Municipal Historic Resource**, being a bylaw for the purpose of designating the White Earth School Hall as a Municipal Historic Resource, be given **FIRST READING**.

Carried.

Moved by Councillor Serben that Smoky Lake County **Bylaw No. 1469-25: Designation of the White Earth School Hall as a Municipal Historic Resource**, being a bylaw for the purpose of designating the White Earth School Hall as a Municipal Historic Resource, be given **SECOND READING**.

Carried.

Moved by Councillor Gawalko that Smoky Lake County **Bylaw No. 1469-25: Designation of the White Earth School Hall as a Municipal Historic Resource**, being a bylaw for the purpose of designating the White Earth School Hall as a Municipal Historic Resource, be given **PERMISSION** for **THIRD AND FINAL READING**.

Carried Unanimously.

Moved by Councillor Fenerty that Smoky Lake County **Bylaw No. 1469-25: Designation of the White Earth School Hall as a Municipal Historic Resource**, being a bylaw for the purpose of designating the White Earth School Hall as a Municipal Historic Resource, be given **THIRD and FINAL READING** and the Reeve and Chief Administrative Officer be hereby authorized to fix their signatures to all necessary documents and the corporate seal be fastened where it is deemed to be necessary.

Carried.

**7.3. Bylaw No. 1470-25: Designation of the MacDonald Stopping House General Store & Pine Creek Post Office as a Municipal Historic Resource**

214-25: Halisky

That Smoky Lake County **Bylaw No. 1470-25: Designation of the MacDonald Stopping House General Store & Pine Creek Post Office as a Municipal Historic Resource**, being a bylaw for the purpose of designating the MacDonald Stopping House General Store & Pine Creek Post Office as a Municipal Historic Resource, be given **FIRST READING**.

Carried.

Moved by Councillor Gawalko that Smoky Lake County **Bylaw No. 1470-25: Designation of the MacDonald Stopping House General Store & Pine Creek Post Office as a Municipal Historic Resource**, being a bylaw for the purpose of designating the MacDonald Stopping House General Store & Pine Creek Post Office as a Municipal Historic Resource, be given **SECOND READING**.

Carried.

Moved by Councillor Fenerty that Smoky Lake County **Bylaw No. 1470-25: Designation of the MacDonald Stopping House General Store & Pine Creek Post Office as a Municipal Historic Resource**, being a bylaw for the purpose of designating the MacDonald Stopping House General Store & Pine Creek Post Office as a Municipal Historic Resource, be given **PERMISSION** for **THIRD AND FINAL READING**.

Carried Unanimously.

Moved by Councillor Serben that Smoky Lake County **Bylaw No. 1470-25: Designation of the MacDonald Stopping House General Store & Pine Creek Post Office as a Municipal Historic Resource**, being a bylaw for the purpose of designating the MacDonald Stopping House General Store & Pine Creek Post Office as a Municipal Historic Resource, be given **THIRD and FINAL READING** and the Reeve and Chief Administrative Officer be hereby authorized to fix their signatures to all necessary documents and the corporate seal be fastened where it is deemed to be necessary.

Carried.

**7.4. Policy Statement No. 62-05-07: Grasshopper Control Compensation**

215-25: Gawalko

That Smoky Lake County Policy Statement No. 62-05-07: Grasshopper Control Compensation, be amended:

<b>Title: Grasshopper Control Compensation</b>	<b>Policy No.: 05-07</b>
<b>Section: 62</b>	<b>Page No.: 1 of 3</b>

**Legislation Reference:** *Agricultural Pests Act*

**Purpose:** To providing funding in the event of an Agricultural Disaster to landowners for the control of grasshoppers on County right-of-ways.

**Policy Statement and Guidelines:**

- 1. STATEMENT:**
  - 1.1. Smoky Lake County recognizes that grasshoppers are a provincially regulated pest that can cause devastation to agricultural crops and that there is an obligation of pest control under the *Agricultural Pests Act*; and as such, the County will take an active measure to compensate landowners for grasshopper control subject to the guidelines and procedures of this policy.
- 2. OBJECTIVE:**
  - 2.1. To financially assist landowners with grasshopper control during Agricultural Disaster.
- 3. DEFINITIONS:**
  - 3.1. **Agricultural Disaster** means a significant event, such as drought, flood, pest infestation, or other conditions that severely affect crop production, livestock, or infrastructure, necessitating emergency assistance.
  - 3.2. **Economic Threshold** for the purpose of this policy shall be 12 grasshoppers/m<sup>2</sup> based on the Economic Thresholds of the Provincial government.
- 4. GUIDELINES:**
  - 4.1. It is the landowner's responsibility to prevent the establishment of, to control, or destroy pests under the *Agricultural Pests Act, Sec. 5, RSA 200, Chapter A-8*.
  - 4.2. When the Economic Threshold has been met or exceeded, and the County has declared an Agricultural Disaster, the County may allocate funds to compensate landowners for grasshopper control on County right-of-ways; however, the availability of funds is contingent upon the budgetary discretion of Council.
  - 4.3. Compensation for grasshopper control on County right-of-ways shall be Twenty-Five Dollars (\$25.00) per mile of adjacent land, up to a maximum compensation in the amount of Two-Hundred Dollars (\$200.00) per applicant, per year.
  - 4.4. The County will coordinate with Provincial Programs, if provincial assistance is available for the control of grasshoppers and assist landowners in expediting access to these programs.
- 5. PROCEDURES:**
  - 5.1. The Agricultural Services Department shall conduct field and County right-of-way surveys to monitor grasshopper populations as required by the Government of Alberta for Economic Threshold data.

<b>Title: Grasshopper Control Compensation</b>	<b>Policy No.: 05-07</b>
<b>Section: 62</b>	<b>Page No.: 2 of 3</b>

- 5.2. Landowners seeking compensation for controlling grasshoppers on County right-of-ways must complete and submit the application form under "**Schedule A" Application for Grasshopper Control Compensation**, between May 15<sup>th</sup> and September 15<sup>th</sup> along with:
  - 5.2.1. valid receipts for chemicals and/or custom spraying applications, indicating the area treated, the date of application, product used, and the total cost of the service, and
  - 5.2.2. a detailed map of treated area.
- 5.3. Applications will be reviewed by the Agricultural Fieldman or designate, to ensure it meets the criteria outlined in this policy and will be rejected if the applicant's land does not directly border the County road right-of-way.

<b>Title: Grasshopper Control Compensation</b>	<b>Policy No.: 05-07</b>
<b>Section: 62</b>	<b>Page No.: 3 of 3</b>

**SCHEDULE "A"  
APPLICATION FOR GRASSHOPPER CONTROL COMPENSATION**

<b>DETAILS</b>	Property Owner: Name: _____ Address: _____ Telephone Number: _____ Cell Number: _____ Email: _____
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<b>LEGAL DETAILS</b>	I DO HEREBY apply for compensation of \$25.00/mile for chemicals and/or completing a custom spray application for grasshopper control. I declare that I have incurred expenses along the following road right-of-way as described by the following legal land locations.  Maximum one application per year to a maximum compensation in the amount of \$200.00  Adjacent Legal Land Description _____ Adjacent Legal Land Description _____ Adjacent Legal Land Description _____ Adjacent Legal Land Description _____  Total number of miles _____
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<b>PROOF OF EXPENDITURES</b>	Please attach: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o valid receipts for custom spraying applications, indicating the area treated, the date of application, product used, and the total cost of the service, and</li> <li>o a detailed map of treated area.</li> </ul>
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**I, THE UNDERSIGNED, HAVE READ THIS POLICY AND APPLICATION AND AM AWARE OF ITS CONTENTS AND AGREE TO THE CONDITIONS THEREIN.**

SIGNATURE OF OWNER: _____	DATE: _____
SIGNATURE OF SMOKY LAKE COUNTY: _____	DATE: _____

Carried.

**7.5. Policy Statement No. 62-08-01: Agricultural Use of Municipal Right of Way**

216-25: Gawalko

That Smoky Lake County Policy Statement No. 62-08-01: Agricultural Use of Municipal Right of Way, be adopted:

<b>Title: Agricultural Use of Municipal Right-of-Ways</b>		<b>Policy No.: 08-01</b>
<b>Section: 62</b>	<b>Code:</b>	<b>Page No.: 1 of 5</b>

<b>Legislation Reference:</b>	<i>Municipal Government Act, Chapter M26.1, Section 18(1) and Section 545.</i>
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<b>Purpose:</b>	To provide landowners authorization to conduct the agricultural activities of haying or livestock grazing, within the road right-of-ways adjacent to their land.
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<b>Policy Statement and Guidelines:</b>	
<p><b>1. STATEMENT:</b></p> <p>1.3 Smoky Lake County supports local agricultural operations by permitting agricultural haying and grazing within the untraveled portion of the road right-of-ways by issuing haying permits or grazing licenses, which are subject to conditions and seasonal restrictions to ensure public safety and infrastructure integrity.</p> <p><b>2. DEFINITIONS:</b></p> <p>2.1 <b>License:</b> A formal authorization allowing livestock grazing within the untraveled portion of the road right-of-way, under specific conditions.</p> <p>2.2 <b>Permit:</b> A formal authorization allowing landowners to cut and remove hay the untraveled portion of the road right-of-way, under specific conditions.</p> <p>2.3 <b>Zone:</b> The designated area the untraveled portion of the road right-of-way that can be used for haying or livestock grazing as outlined on the License or Permit application.</p> <p>2.4 <b>Ditch:</b> Drainage areas between the County roads edge and the landowners land(s) that are managed by the municipality.</p> <p>2.5 <b>Temporary Fencing:</b> An easily moveable barrier designed for short-term use to contain livestock. Approved materials consist of electric poly wire, poly tape, or portable mesh netting, supported by stakes or small posts that are quick to install and remove (there shall be no pounding of any wooden posts into County ditches).</p> <p>2.6 <b>Roads Edge:</b> Boundary where gravel/paved surface meets the surrounding natural terrain, such as grass, soil, etc.</p> <p><b>3. OBJECTIVE:</b></p> <p>3.1 To govern the issuance of Permits and Licenses, authorizing adjacent landowners to utilize the untraveled portion of the road right-of-way for haying and grazing purposes.</p> <p>3.2 To support local agriculture while maintaining the integrity of municipal infrastructure.</p> <p>3.3 To specify the conditions, responsibilities, and requirements for adjacent landowners, to facilitate a structured and mutually beneficial use of municipal lands and ensure compliance from the Permit and License holders.</p> <p><b>4. GUIDELINE:</b></p> <p>4.1 Applications made under <b>Schedule "A": Haying Permit Application</b> and <b>Schedule "B": Grazing License Application</b>, must be received by the County <b>prior to June 1<sup>st</sup> of each year</b>.</p> <p>4.2 Smoky Lake County may grant landowners, the right to use and occupy a portion of the municipal right-of-way, which is not closer than such distance that may interfere with road grading, snowplowing, or maintenance, to the outer edge of the traveled portion of the road nearest the applicants' land, for purposes of haying or livestock grazing, at the landowners' risk.</p>	

<b>Title: Agricultural Use of Municipal Right-of-Ways</b>		<b>Policy No.: 08-01</b>
<b>Section: 62</b>	<b>Code:</b>	<b>Page No.: 2 of 5</b>

<p><b>5. PROCEDURE</b></p> <p>5.1 <b>Haying Permit Application:</b> Applicants must read and understand the conditions within <b>Schedule "A": Haying Permit Application</b> and complete and submit the application prior to June 1<sup>st</sup> of each year, at no cost.</p> <p>5.2 <b>Grazing Permit Application:</b> Applicants must read and understand the conditions within <b>Schedule "A": Haying Permit Application</b> and complete and submit the application prior to June 1<sup>st</sup> of each year, at no cost.</p> <p>5.3 <b>Right to Enter:</b> Smoky Lake County officers, employees, agents and contractors shall have the right at any time to enter upon the municipal right-of-way for the purpose of reconstructing, maintaining, repairing, inspecting, testing or removing any public works, utility or road existing at the date of this agreement, and shall make reasonable effort to communicate the intent to the applicant prior to entry. The County shall in undertaking such activities use reasonable efforts to cause its officers, employees, agents and contractors to minimize any disruption or damage to the landowners use and fence which occurs pursuant to such activities to the extent that any loss, damage or injury shall have been caused by the acts of negligence of the County's officers, employees, agents or contractors.</p> <p>5.4 <b>Inspections:</b> Smoky Lake County's Agricultural Department staff will conduct periodic inspections to ensure compliance with License and Permit conditions and failure to meet the conditions may result in the License or Permit being immediately revoked.</p> <p>5.5 <b>Cancellation or Denial:</b> Permits and Licenses may be cancelled or denied at any time with no liability or obligation to the County, under the following circumstances:</p> <p>5.5.1 If spraying schedule priorities for vegetation control on that specific right-of-way cannot be deferred until after the haying or grazing period.</p> <p>5.5.2 If road construction, repair, gravelling or any other maintenance activities are scheduled during the haying or grazing period.</p> <p>5.5.3 If the applicant did not comply with Permit of License conditions previously.</p>	
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<b>Title: Agricultural Use of Municipal Right-of-Ways</b>		<b>Policy No.: 08-01</b>
<b>Section: 62</b>	<b>Code:</b>	<b>Page No.: 3 of 5</b>

**SCHEDULE "A"**  
**Haying Permit Application**

**Applicant Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Date of Application:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Telephone:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Mailing Address:** \_\_\_\_\_

Legal Land Description of the Adjacent Lands:

Qrt	Sec	Twp	Rge	Mer
				W4
				W4
				W4
				W4

In consideration of granting this license, the following conditions apply:

- Up to June 1<sup>st</sup>, priority will be given to applications received from landowners for the purpose of cutting hay along Municipal right-of-way adjacent to their land. Applications received after June 1<sup>st</sup> cannot be guaranteed to be free of herbicide application.
- Approved permits are valid only from June 15<sup>th</sup> to August 1<sup>st</sup>. All haying operations must be completed by this time.
- Baled hay must be removed within 7 days of cutting. Permitted bales not removed after 7 days shall, at the discretion of the County, invalidate the permit and be removed by County forces with no liability to the County.
- Approved permits will be noted by the appropriate County personnel conducting right-of-way and road management.
- Permits may be cancelled at any time by the County with no liability or obligation from the County to the permit holder.
- The permit holder indemnifies and saves harmless the County from any claims arising from his/her operations.
- The permit holder will carry out haying operations in a manner creating no hazard to vehicular traffic.
- The permit holder will not sublet or sell the rights granted under this permit.
- The permit holder will satisfy himself as to the presence of herbicides or pesticides.
- The County reserves the right to enter upon the right-of-way described in this permit for the purposes of weed control, roadside maintenance or any other reason whatsoever.

I (We) hereby agree to, in consideration of the benefit derived by me (us) from the work description above shall indemnify and save harmless Smoky Lake County, its councillors, officers, employees, and agents from any claim, damage, liability, cost, fee, penalty, action, cause of action, demand, damage to property, injury to person/livestock or death (including, without limitation to, legal fees of Smoky Lake County on a solicitor-client full indemnity basis), that may arise directly or indirectly out of the performances of the above described activities.

I (We) have read, understand, and accept the terms and conditions of the policy and of this permit.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Applicant Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Agricultural Fieldman

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

<b>Title: Agricultural Use of Municipal Right-of-Ways</b>		<b>Policy No.: 08-01</b>
<b>Section: 62</b>	<b>Code:</b>	<b>Page No.: 4 of 5</b>

**SCHEDULE "A"**  
**Grazing License Application**

**Applicant Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Date of Application:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Telephone:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Mailing Address:** \_\_\_\_\_

Legal Land Description of the Adjacent Lands:

Qrt	Sec	Twp	Rge	Mer
				W4
				W4
				W4
				W4

In consideration of granting this license, the following conditions apply:

- Up to June 1<sup>st</sup>, priority will be given to applications received from landowners for the purpose of grazing livestock along Municipal right-of-way adjacent to their land. Applications received after June 1 cannot be guaranteed to be free of herbicide application.
- Approved licenses are valid only from June 15<sup>th</sup> to October 1<sup>st</sup>. All grazing operations must be completed by this time.
- Temporary electric fences must be removed by October 15<sup>th</sup>; if fences remain and at the discretion of the County, they will be removed by County forces with no liability to the County.
- Approved license will be noted by the appropriate County personnel conducting right-of-way and road management.
- License may be cancelled at any time by the County with no liability or obligation of the license holder.
- The license holder indemnifies and saves harmless the County from any claims arising from his/her operations.
- The license holder will carry out grazing operations in a manner creating no hazard to vehicular traffic.
- The license holder will not sublet or sell the rights granted under this license.
- The license holder will satisfy himself as to the presence of herbicides or pesticides.
- The County reserves the right to enter upon the right-of-way described in this license for the purposes of weed control, roadside maintenance or any other reason whatsoever.

I (We) hereby agree to, in consideration of the benefit derived by me (us) from the work description above shall indemnify and save harmless Smoky Lake County, its councillors, officers, employees, and agents from any claim, damage, liability, cost, fee, penalty, action, cause of action, demand, damage to property, injury to person/livestock or death (including, without limitation to, legal fees of Smoky Lake County on a solicitor-client full indemnity basis), that may arise directly or indirectly out of the performances of the above described activities.

I (We) have read, understand, and accept the terms and conditions of the policy and of this permit.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Applicant Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Agricultural Fieldman

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

Carried.

**Policy Statement No. 62-17-02: License of Occupation of Road Allowance for Ranching and Farming Purposes**

217-25: Gawalko

That Smoky Lake County Policy Statement No. 62-17-02: License of Occupation of Road Allowance for Ranching and Farming Purposes, **be rescinded** as made redundant by Policy Statement No. 62-08-01: Agricultural Use of Municipal Right of Way.

Carried.

**7.6. Policy Statement No. 62-30-01: Animal Health & Livestock Emergency Preparedness**

218-25: Fenerty

That Smoky Lake County Policy Statement No. 62-30-01: Animal Health & Livestock Emergency Preparedness, be adopted:

<b>Title: Animal Health &amp; Livestock Emergency Preparedness</b>		<b>Policy No.:</b> 30-01
<b>Section:</b> 62	<b>Code:</b>	<b>Page No.:</b> 1 of 3
<b>Legislation Reference:</b> <i>Animal Health Act</i>		
<b>Purpose:</b>	To identify Smoky Lake County's role in supporting animal health and disease prevention under the <i>Animal Health Act</i> and ensure coordination of timely communication and collaboration with the Chief Veterinary Officer, producers and provincial authorities.	

<b>Policy Statement and Guidelines:</b>	
<b>1. STATEMENT:</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1.1. Under the <i>Animal Health Act</i>, Smoky Lake County, in partnership with the Provincial Chief Veterinary Officer (CVO), will assist the Provincial authorities in implementing animal health regulations that relate to animal diseases affecting animal health, public health, and food safety, animal disease outbreaks, or animal health during natural disasters.</li> <li>1.2. Smoky Lake County promotes and encourages producers to develop an Emergency Response Plan for their livestock.</li> </ul>	
<b>2. OBJECTIVE:</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>2.1. To ensure a coordinated approach to preparedness, response and recovery for livestock related emergencies, such as disease outbreaks, natural disasters or other threats, while working collaboratively with producers and provincial authorities.</li> <li>2.2. To facilitate effective communication and collaboration between Smoky Lake County, the CVO, residents, livestock owners and agricultural producers.</li> <li>2.3. To promote education and resources for livestock producers in respect to emergency preparedness measures, including biosecurity, evacuation plans and emergency feeding.</li> <li>2.4. To establish clear communication channels between the municipality, livestock producers, emergency services, and provincial authorities to ensure timely and effective responses to livestock emergencies.</li> </ul>	
<b>3. PROCEDURES:</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>3.1. The County's Agricultural Fieldman or designate, will act as the primary liaison between the municipality and the Chief Veterinary Officer (CVO).</li> <li>3.2. The County's Agricultural Fieldman or designate, will monitor and report any animal health concerns to the CVO as required under the <i>Animal Health Act</i>.</li> <li>3.3. Smoky Lake County will provide residents with accurate, timely and relevant information regarding animal health, disease outbreaks, and preventative measures through available communication channels.</li> <li>3.4. Smoky Lake County will assist producers by providing information on any recovery resources, including financial assistance programs and veterinary support, to rebuild and restore operations following an emergency.</li> <li>3.5. The County's Agricultural Fieldman or designate will work closely with the CVO, agricultural organizations, and other municipalities to align local efforts with regional and provincial livestock emergency management strategies.</li> </ul>	

<b>Title: Animal Health &amp; Livestock Emergency Preparedness</b>		<b>Policy No.:</b> 30-01
<b>Section:</b> 62	<b>Code:</b>	<b>Page No.:</b> 2 of 3

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>3.6. The County shall encourage producers to develop an Emergency Response Plan for their livestock that addresses: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>3.6.1. Risk Assessments - identify potential threats such as floods, wildfires, disease outbreaks etc. this would include conducting regular evaluations of farm vulnerabilities.</li> <li>3.6.2. Shelter in place strategies in the event evacuation is not feasible.</li> <li>3.6.3. Identifying and prioritizing a risk animal (pregnant, young, sick)</li> <li>3.6.4. Access to feed, water and veterinary care during crisis.</li> <li>3.6.5. Communication plan- maintain up-to-date list of emergency contacts (vets, local authorities, transportation services, your neighbours)</li> <li>3.6.6. Livestock records- inventory, including current location</li> <li>3.6.7. Pre-identifying safe relocation sites i.e. higher ground or neighbouring farms.</li> <li>3.6.8. Shelter in place procedures - designate secure areas on property to house livestock during an emergency, stockpile at least 72 hours with of feed, water and essential medical supplies</li> <li>3.6.9. Establishing quarantine procedure, maintain sanitation protocols.</li> <li>3.6.10. Conducting post-emergency assessment as soon as possible (animal health, infrastructure damage) and updating your emergency management plan asap on lessons learned.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	
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Carried.

One Member of the Public, virtually joined the meeting, time 9:27 a.m.

Town of Smoky Lake Family and Community Support Services (FCSS), Director, Rachele Amyotte, and Chief Administrative Officer, Dawn Phillips, entered Council Chambers, time 9:27 a.m.

**7.7. Bylaw No. 1471-25: Fire Protection Services**

219-25: Halisky

That Smoky Lake County **Bylaw No. 1471-25: Fire Protection Services**, being a bylaw of providing for the establishment and operation of fire protection services, be given **FIRST READING**.

Carried.

Moved by Councillor Gawalko that Smoky Lake County **Bylaw No. 1471-25: Fire Protection Services**, being a bylaw of providing for the establishment and operation of fire protection services, be given **SECOND READING**.

Carried.

Moved by Councillor Fenerty that Smoky Lake County **Bylaw No. 1471-25: Fire Protection Services**, being a bylaw of providing for the establishment and operation of fire protection services, be given **PERMISSION** for **THIRD AND FINAL READING**.

Carried Unanimously.

Moved by Councillor Serben that Smoky Lake County **Bylaw No. 1471-25: Fire Protection Services**, being a bylaw of providing for the establishment and operation of fire protection services, be given **THIRD and FINAL READING** and the Reeve and Chief Administrative Officer be hereby authorized to fix their signatures to all necessary documents and the corporate seal be fastened where it is deemed to be necessary.

Carried.

**7.8. North Saskatchewan Watershed Alliance (NSWA) Membership for 2025**

220-25: Fenerty

That Smoky Lake County Council approve to purchase a Year-2025 membership in the amount of \$1,510.20 as per their invoice #2025.028, dated October 02, 2024, calculated as a per capita funding request based on a population of 2,517 x \$0.60/capita, to North Saskatchewan Watershed Alliance (NSWA).

Carried.

**4. Delegation:**

**4.1. Town of Smoky Lake Family and Community Support Services (FCSS), Director, Rachele Amyotte, to discuss a proposal for Regional FCSS**

Physically Present before Council from 9:33 a.m. to 9:53 a.m., was Town of Smoky Lake Family and Community Support Services (FCSS), Director, Rachele Amyotte, and Chief Administrative Officer, Dawn Phillips, to discuss a proposal for Regional FCSS, with the following presentation, including but not limited to the following slides:

SINGLE-MUNICIPALITY FCSS STRUCTURE

	SMOKY LAKE TOWN OF SMOKY LAKE	SMOKY LAKE COUNTY	VILLAGE OF WASKATENAU	VILLAGE OF VILNA
Delivery Model	Direct Programming Includes FCSS and FRN	Family School Liaison FTE Grant Funds to Partners	Family School Liaison FTE Programming (in partnerships with the Anne Charney Public Library, Holy Family Catholic School & the Senior Citizen Association)	Family School Liaison FTE Direct Programming via Library
Staffing	Fiscal Management 1x FTE FCSS Director 2x PT FRN Program Specialists	Fiscal Management	Fiscal Management	Fiscal Management PT Direct Programming w/ Library Staff
Grants & Partnerships	Grants received (past 3 years) • Alberta for Healthy Communities Initiative • New Horizon • Rural Mental Health Animators  Partnerships • Drive Happiness, Cyber Seniors • Metis Nation of AB (Truth & Reconciliation Annual Event) • Community Helpers Program (AHS)		Grants received (past 3 years) • Celebrate Canada Day Grant • Volunteer Alberta Grant  Partnerships • Smoky Lake Region Junior Fire Fighting Camp  <small>There is a recognized need for community support through system navigation and referral services.</small>	Grants received (past 3 years) • Celebrate Canada Grant (Indigenous Peoples Day, Multiculturalism Day & Canada Day) • OROS Grant (Northern Lights)  <small>By enhancing librarian-led direct programming, the Village of Vilna has seen improvements in program delivery, including the launch of a monthly community newsletter. There is a recognized need for community support through system navigation and referral services.</small>



**MULTI-MUNICIPALITY OPPORTUNITY**

**KEY BENEFITS**

- ENHANCED PROGRAMMING CAPACITY**  
Combining resources enables FCSS programs to deliver enhanced regional support and streamline services effectively.
- INCREASED FRN ACCESSIBILITY**  
Enhance access to Family Resource Network (FRN) services, ensuring more families benefit from localized programs.
- COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT**  
Regional development brings benefits to each participating community.
- FUNDING STREAMS**  
Increase eligibility for larger grants and strategic partnerships, maximizing the impact of shared goals.

**GROWTH STRATEGY**

How we'll scale in the future



221-25: Gawalko

That Smoky Lake County Council acknowledge the information received from the January 9, 2025, Delegation: Town of Smoky Lake Family and Community Support Services (FCSS), Director, Rachelle Amyotte, with Chief Administrative Officer, Dawn Phillips, in respect to Regional FCSS.

Carried.

Town of Smoky Lake Family and Community Support Services (FCSS), Director, Rachelle Amyotte, and Chief Administrative Officer, Dawn Phillips, left Council Chambers, time 9:54 a.m.

One Member of the Public, virtually joined the meeting, time 10:00 a.m.

**7. Request for Decision:**

**7.9. Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM) Membership for 2025**

222-25: Halisky

That Smoky Lake County Council approve to purchase a Year-2025 membership in the amount of \$829.08, as per their invoice #INV-43416-D1L7Q3, dated December 17, 2024, calculated as a per capita funding request based on a population of 2,517 x \$0.2263/capita, to Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM).

Carried.

**7.10. Go East of Edmonton Membership for 2025**

223-25: Gawalko

That Smoky Lake County Council approve to purchase a Year-2025 membership in the amount of \$400.00 to Go East of Edmonton.

Carried.

**8. Chief Administrative Officer's Report:**

**8.1 Action List from October 2024 Council Meetings**

224-25: Halisky That Smoky Lake County Council accept Action List report from the October 2024 Council Meetings, as information. Carried.

**8.2 Action List from November 2024 Council Meetings**

225-25: Fenerty That Smoky Lake County Council accept Action List report from the November 2024 Council Meetings, as information. Carried.

**8.3 Action List from December 2024 Council Meetings**

226-25: Gawalko That Smoky Lake County Council accept Action List report from the December 2024 Council Meetings, as information. Carried.

**8.4 Ratification of the Collective Agreement with CUPE Local 4575**

227-25: Halisky That Smoky Lake County Council approve the ratification of the Collective Agreement between Smoky Lake County and the Canadian Union of Public Employees (CUPE) Local 4575, effective January 1, 2025, to December 31, 2026. Carried.

**8.5 Ratification of the Collective Agreement with IUOE Local 955**

228-25: Gawalko That Smoky Lake County Council approve the ratification of the Collective Agreement between Smoky Lake County and the International Union of Operating Engineers (IUOE) Local 955, effective January 1, 2025, to December 31, 2026. Carried.

**9. Council Committee Reports:**

Nil.

**10. Correspondence:**

**10.1 Federation of Alberta Gas Co-ops Ltd. Spring 2025 Zone Meeting**

229-25: Halisky That Smoky Lake County Council who can attend – attend the Federation of Alberta Gas Co-ops Ltd., Spring 2025 Zone Meeting, scheduled for February 21, 2025, to be held at a location to be determined. Carried.

**10.2 Alberta Transportation & Economic Corridors – Response to the Fall RMA Meeting**

230-25: Serben That Smoky Lake County acknowledge receipt of the correspondence received from Alberta Transportation and Economic Corridors Regional Director, dated December 20, 2024, responding to the 2024 Fall RMA meeting noting “As part of the safety improvements along the Highway 28 corridor, the existing intersection at Highway 28 and Highway 855 will be replaced with a two-lane roundabout. An engineering consultant has been engaged and design work is underway. In addition, the following safety improvements are identified for west of Smoky Lake to Highway 36:

- 12 intersection improvements;
- upgrading an existing Safety Rest Area;
- constructing two new Safety Rest Areas;
- constructing five new climbing/passing lanes; and
- improving three horizontal curves.”

Carried.

**10.3. County of Stettler No. 6 - Non-Renewal of FCM Membership for 2025**

231-25: Serben That Smoky Lake County acknowledge receipt of the correspondence received from County of Stettler No. 6 to Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM), dated December 16, 2024, formally notify the FCM of their decision to not renew their membership for the 2025 fiscal year.

Carried.

**10.4. Del Huchulak Letter in respect to the St. Albert Gazette’s Oct. 31, 2024, Article**

232-25: Halisky That Smoky Lake County acknowledge receipt of the correspondence received from Del Huchulak, received December 1, 2024, in respect to the St. Albert Gazette’s October 31, 2024, article titled “Advocacy plays crucial role in thriving communities”.

Carried.

**10.5. Minister of Public Safety & Emergency Services, Civilian Governance of RCMP**

233-25: Gawalko That Smoky Lake County acknowledge receipt of the correspondence received from the Minister of Public Safety & Emergency Services, dated November 20, 2024, in respect to civilian governance of the RCMP and frequently asked questions.

Carried.

**10.6. Call for RMA District 5 Agenda items to add to the January 24, 2025 Meeting**

234-25: Serben That Smoky Lake County acknowledge receipt of the correspondence received from the Executive Assistant of Legislative Services, Beaver County, dated January 2, 2025, calling for RMA District 5 Agenda items to add to the January 24, 2025, Meeting; and respond to ensure the following subjects are on the agenda:

- the decline of rural volunteers for community halls,
- rural crime reduction,
- rural healthcare,
- Local Government Fiscal Framework (LGFF) funding, and
- Oil & Gas Property Tax.

Carried.

**11. Information Releases:**

**Information Releases to Council – November to December 2024**

235-25: Gawalko That Smoky Lake County “Information Releases” sent to Council for the period of September – November 2024, listed as follows, be filed for information:

Tracking Number & Description of Information Released:	Date Released:	Municipal File #:
R145-24 - Go East of Edmonton Letter of Support Travel AB Grant	Nov. 08, 2024	7-28
R128-24 - LARA Message to the Board & Report	Nov. 15, 2024	62-9
R129-24 - LICA Region Lake Summary Report	Nov. 15, 2024	1-244
R146-24 - DRAFT Minutes AFCA Region 3, September 28 2024	Nov. 15, 2024	2-6
R147-24 - ERWMS Budget to Actual & Draft Minutes - October 2024	Nov. 15, 2024	4-29
R148-24 - RMA District Update - November 2024	Nov. 15, 2024	1-10
R149-24 - LICA Region Lake Summary Report	Nov. 15, 2024	1-244
R150 -24 - RMA Contact Newsletter Nov.15, 2024	Nov. 18, 2024	See RMA Website
R151 -24 - RMA Contact Newsletter Nov.22, 2024	Nov. 22, 2024	See RMA Website
R152-24 - Waskatenau Pryveet Dance Meeting Minutes Nov.6 2024	Nov. 27, 2024	7-69
R158-24 - RMA Contact Newsletter Nov.29, 2024	Nov. 29, 2024	See RMA Website
R153-24 - Managers Monthly Reports Nov-Dec, 2024	Dec. 06, 2024	N/A
R154-24 - RMA Follow-up on delinquent oil & gas taxpayers & LGFF	Dec. 06, 2024	1-10
R155-24 - RMA Contact Newsletter Dec.6, 2024	Dec. 06, 2024	See RMA Website
R156-24 - RMA District Update - December 2024	Dec. 12, 2024	1-10
R157-24 - RMA Contact Newsletter Dec.13, 2024	Dec. 16, 2024	See RMA Website
R159-24 - RMA 12 18 24 Mature Asset Strategy Member Update #2	Dec. 18, 2024	1-10
R160-24 - RMA Contact Newsletter Dec. 20, 2024	Dec. 20, 2024	See RMA Website
R161-24 – Evergreen Regional Waste Management Agenda Pkg Items	Dec. 23, 2024	4-29

Carried.

**12. Financial Reports:**

Nil.

**13. Next Meeting(s):**

**Schedule the County Council Meeting Dates**

236-25: Halisky

That the next Smoky Lake County Council Meetings be reconfirmed as follows:

Thursday, January 23, 2025, at 9:00 a.m. (Regular),  
Thursday, February 13, 2025, at 9:00 a.m. (Regular),  
Thursday, February 27, 2025, at 9:00 a.m. (Regular),  
Thursday, March 13, 2025, at 9:00 a.m. (Regular), and  
Thursday, March 27, 2025, at 9:00 a.m. (Regular),

to be held physically and/or virtually in County Council Chambers.

Carried.

**Schedule a County Council Committee of the Whole Retreat for Strategic Planning**

237-25: Halisky

That a Smoky Lake County Council Committee of the Whole Retreat for the purpose of Strategic Planning be scheduled for Thursday, January 30 and Friday January 31, 2025, to be held at Smoky Lake Agricultural Society's Complex, upstairs, if available.

Carried.

**14. In-Camera (Executive Session):**

No In-Camera.

**Meeting Recessed**

Meeting recessed for Lunch, time 10:39 a.m.

H.A. Kostash School's Grade 6 Class of 22 students, entered Council Chambers, time 11:21 a.m.

**Meeting Reconvened**

The meeting reconvened on a call to order by the Deputy Reeve at 11:30 a.m. in the physical (or virtual) presence of all Council Members, Chief Administrative Officer, Finance Manager, Executive Services Clerk, Natural Gas Manager, Health & Safety Coordinator, GIS Operator, Assistant Ag. Fieldman, and 4 Members of the Public, and 3 Delegations.

11:31 to 12:16 a.m.

**Public Question and Answer Period:**

The H.A. Kostash School's Grade 6 Students questioned:

- why the County doesn't have a cat bylaw?

The County Reeve responded:

- we haven't felt the need to create one – we create bylaws based on data and needs and we haven't had people asking for one, but now that you've brought it up we can.

The H.A. Kostash School's Grade 6 Students questioned:

- why is Jered the Reeve?

The County Reeve responded:

- to make a difference; I've lived here all my life and want to contribute to my community, I was nominated and elected as Reeve.

The H.A. Kostash School's Grade 6 Students questioned:

- How big is the County?

The County Reeve responded:

- Just over 2,500 people and covers almost 3,400 square kilometers.

The H.A. Kostash School's Grade 6 Students questioned:

- What is the most recent bylaw passed?

The County Reeve responded:

- Bylaw No. 1471-25: Fire Protection Services.

The H.A. Kostash School's Grade 6 Students questioned:

- Do we always have fire services 24/7?

The County responded:

- We have 2 working full time and all others are volunteer.

The H.A. Kostash School's Grade 6 Students questioned:

- What was the last bylaw defeated?

The County responded:

- Not sure, there had not been one recently, we would have to look further into our records.

The H.A. Kostash School's Grade 6 Students questioned:

- How long will it take for fire services to come out to the countryside?

The County responded:

- 7 minutes before the fire truck leaves the fire hall – so anywhere from 10 -30 minutes to get to sight.

The H.A. Kostash School's Grade 6 Students questioned:

- How long does it take to pass a bylaw?

The County responded:

- It varies.

To help the students understand the County invited them all to switch spots with Council and sit in the Councillors chairs and conduct a meeting to debate a hypothetical proposed cat bylaw.

**15. ADJOURNMENT:**

238-25: Gawalko

That the Smoky Lake County Council Meeting of January 9, 2025, be adjourned, 12:18 p.m.

Carried.

\_\_\_\_\_  
REEVE

**S E A L**

\_\_\_\_\_  
CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER