



Policy Statement and Guidelines:	
<b>1. STATEMENT:</b>	1.1. Smoky Lake County is committed to protecting municipal infrastructure from flooding and water movement that relates to beaver activity and may provide flood mitigation services for a fee to landowners for blasting beaver dams and/or installing pond levelers, within the County's jurisdictional boundaries.
<b>2. OBJECTIVE:</b>	2.1. To mitigate damage to municipal infrastructure caused by beaver activity i.e. dam creation. 2.2. To utilize pond leveler technology or dam removal to manage beaver activity on private land.
<b>3. GUIDELINES:</b>	3.1. Applicants must submit the "Service Fee" identified under <b>Schedule "B": Request for Service Permission to Enter Land(s) from Landowner</b> with the signed <b>Schedule "A": Request for Service - Permission to Enter Land(s) for Municipal Work</b> , prior to any work being completed. 3.2. Landowners will subsequently be charged for each stick of explosives used. 3.3. Smoky Lake County has the right to refuse any Request for Service if it is determined by the certified blaster or County Administration to be unsafe work conditions, i.e.: near gas lines, power lines, or infrastructure and may be subject to approval from the Department of Fisheries and Oceans.
<b>4. PROCEDURES:</b>	4.1. Request for Service - Municipal Work: 4.1.1. Smoky Lake County shall remove only the necessary sections of Beaver Dams, as required to facilitate the flow of water. Removal of entire dams will not be done to avoid downstream flooding and situations causing damage to municipal infrastructure. 4.1.2. In the event the Beaver activity is located outside the municipality's right-of-way, the Agricultural Service Board Staff shall obtain Landowners' permission for dams/beaver removal activities to access land(s); as per Schedule "A": Request for Service - "Permission to Enter Land(s) for Municipal Work". 4.1.3. It is highly recommended that the property owner removes all beavers by their own means prior to blasting to prevent the dam(s) from being rebuilt. 4.2. Request for Service - Agricultural Land: 4.2.1. Beaver Control measures may be undertaken on a fee for service basis at the request of a landowner on lands to which access is permitted. This will provide producers assistance when seeded land is being affected by flooding caused by beaver dams. 4.2.1.1. Prior to the start of blasting, the Landowners must grant permission and commit payment for the services rendered, as per Schedule "B": Request for Service - "Permission to Enter Land(s) from Landowner".

<b>Title:</b> Beaver Control on Private Lands	<b>Policy No.:</b> 21-07
<b>Section:</b> 62	<b>Page No.:</b> 2 of 5 E

4.2.2. A service fee of ONE HUNDRED DOLLARS (\$100.00) shall be collected prior to every entry upon the land.
4.2.3. In addition, FIFTY DOLLARS (\$50.00) per stick of explosives used shall be collected after the removal of a beaver dam(s).
4.2.4. The timing and amount of water lowered at any one time will be at the sole discretion of the Smoky Lake County employee conducting the work, bearing in mind effects on other landowners, down and up-stream from the work area. Timing of the work will only take place after July 16th and before November 1st to align with the Department of Fisheries and Oceans 'timing windows' for dam removal.

<b>Title:</b> Beaver Control on Private Lands	<b>Policy No.:</b> 21-07
<b>Section:</b> 62	<b>Page No.:</b> 3 of 5 E

**SCHEDULE "A"**  
**PERMISSION TO ENTER LAND(S) FOR MUNICIPAL WORK**

<b>DETAILS</b>	Property Owner: Name: _____
	Address: _____
	Telephone Number: _____ Fax Number: _____ Cell Number: _____

<b>LEGAL DETAILS</b>	Legal Description (hereinafter referred to as the "Lands"):
	Location: LEGAL, LAND LOCATION: 1/4 _____ SECTION: _____ TOWNSHIP: _____ RANGE: _____ W4M
	1/4 _____ SECTION: _____ TOWNSHIP: _____ RANGE: _____ W4M
	1/4 _____ SECTION: _____ TOWNSHIP: _____ RANGE: _____ W4M

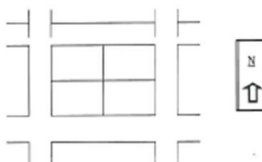
<b>PERMISSION</b>	I (We), do hereby grant permission to SMOKY LAKE COUNTY and its employees or agents, to enter upon the "Land(s)" and use such equipment and material as considered necessary for: <input type="checkbox"/> Removal of beaver dams <input type="checkbox"/> Installation and maintenance of pond leveler <input type="checkbox"/> Trapping/Hunting beavers <input type="checkbox"/> Other work(s) as described on the reference "Land(s)": _____
	I (We) hereby agree to, in consideration of the benefit derived by me (us) from the work description above shall indemnify and save harmless the <u>SMOKY LAKE COUNTY</u> , its Councillors, officers, employees, and agents from any claim, damages, liability, cost, fee, penalty, action, cause of action, demand, damage to property, injury to person or death (including, without limitation to, legal fees of <u>SMOKY LAKE COUNTY</u> on a solicitor-client full indemnity basis), that may arise directly or indirectly out of the performances of the above described work(s).
	I (We) hereby acknowledge that pond levelers are property of <u>SMOKY LAKE COUNTY</u> , therefore maintained by <u>SMOKY LAKE COUNTY</u> .
	I (We) hereby agree this easement is considered valid for 5 years at which time <u>SMOKY LAKE COUNTY</u> will contact me (us) for renewal of easement if required, or in the event property is sold.

**I, THE UNDERSIGNED, HAVE READ THIS APPLICATION AND AM AWARE OF ITS CONTENTS AND AGREE TO THE CONDITIONS.**

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

Title: Beaver Control on Private Lands	Policy No.: 21-07
Section: 62	Code: _____ Page No.: 4 of 5 E

**SCHEDULE "B"**  
**REQUEST FOR SERVICE: PERMISSION TO ENTER LAND(S) FROM LANDOWNER**

<b>DETAILS</b>	Applicant: Name: _____ Address: _____ Telephone Number: _____ Fax Number: _____ Cell Number: _____ Land Property: <input type="checkbox"/> Owner <input type="checkbox"/> Lessee
<b>LEGAL DETAILS</b>	Legal Description (hereinafter referred to as the "Lands"): Location: LEGAL, LAND LOCATION: ¼ _____ SECTION: _____ TOWNSHIP: _____ RANGE: _____ W4M ¼ _____ SECTION: _____ TOWNSHIP: _____ RANGE: _____ W4M ¼ _____ SECTION: _____ TOWNSHIP: _____ RANGE: _____ W4M 
<b>SERVICE FEE</b>	A service fee of ONE HUNDRED DOLLARS (\$100.00) shall be collected prior to entry upon the land. A per stick charge of FIFTY DOLLARS (\$50.00) shall be collected after the removal of a beaver dam.
<b>PERMISSION</b>	I (We), do hereby grant permission to SMOKY LAKE COUNTY and its employees or agents, to enter upon the "Land(s)" and use such equipment and material as considered necessary for the removal or destruction of <u>BEAVER DAMS</u> .  I (We) hereby agree to, in consideration of the benefit derived by me (us) from the work description above shall indemnify and save harmless the <u>SMOKY LAKE COUNTY</u> , its Councillors, officers, employees, and agents from any claim, damages, liability, cost, fee, penalty, action, cause of action, demand, damage to property, injury to person or death (including, without limitation to, legal fees of <u>SMOKY LAKE COUNTY</u> on a solicitor-client full indemnity basis), that may arise directly or indirectly out of the performances of the above described work(s).
<b>WORK</b>	Number of Dams Blown: _____ Signature of Blaster: _____ Number of Sticks Used: _____ Date of Blasting: _____
I, THE UNDERSIGNED, HAVE READ THIS APPLICATION AND AM AWARE OF ITS CONTENTS AND AGREE TO THE CONDITIONS.	
SIGNATURE OF OWNER: _____ DATE: _____	
SIGNATURE OF SMOKY LAKE COUNTY: _____ DATE: _____	

Carried.

**7.2. Federation of Alberta Gas Co-op's Annual Convention and Annual General Meeting**  
853-24: Céré  
That Smoky Lake County Council approve for up to two Councillors, or one Councillor and the Chief Administrative Officer, attend the Federation of Alberta Gas Co-op's Annual Convention and AGM, scheduled for November 25 - 28, 2024, at the River Cree Resort and Casino.

Carried.

One Member of the Public virtually left the meeting, time 9:23 a.m.

Delegation: Robyn Laczy, Project Coordinator – North Zone Health Neighborhoods Project: Four Directions Health Neighborhood, virtually joined the meeting, time 9:28 a.m.

**7.3. Policy Statement No. 03-35-14: Snow Clearing – Public and Private Services**  
854-24: Halisky  
That Smoky Lake County Council acknowledge review of Policy statement No. 03-35-14 Snow Clearing-Public and Private Services, and going forward a copy of the current Policy will be provided to each flag purchaser, and a call-out on social media will be conducted in an effort to collect information from private contractors willing to offer private snow clearing services, which will be compiled into a list made available to all residents as a private option for snow removal at no cost to the County.

Carried.

One Member of the Public virtually joined the meeting, time 9:34 a.m.

#### 4. Delegation:

##### 4.1. **Robyn Laczy, Project Coordinator – North Zone Health Neighbourhoods Project: Four Directions Health Neighbourhood**

Present before Council from 9:34 a.m. to 9:45 a.m., was the Robyn Laczy, Project Coordinator – North Zone Health Neighbourhoods Project, to provide information on the organizations' newest initiative: Four Directions Health Neighbourhood, including but not limited to the following points:

- Meetings are held once a month for approximately 1.5 hours.
- Health Neighbourhoods bring together people from diverse backgrounds to improve primary health care for the people in Northern Alberta.
- It is unique to Northern Alberta and builds bridges between health and social areas to improve the primary health care experience for everyone in Northern Alberta.
- Working together towards understanding gaps in services for the benefit of everyone in Northern Alberta, avoiding duplication, learning sharing and using ideas support primary health care needs now and in future.

Delegation: Robyn Laczy, Project Coordinator – North Zone Health Neighbourhoods Project: Four Directions Health Neighbourhood, virtually left the meeting, time 9:45 a.m.

##### **North Zone Health Neighbourhoods Project: Four Directions Health Neighbourhood**

855-24: Halisky

That the information received by Smoky Lake County Council from the September 26, 2024, Delegation: Robyn Laczy, Project Coordinator – North Zone Health Neighbourhoods Project, in respect to their newest initiative: Four Directions Health Neighbourhood, be forwarded to the Physicians & Health Care Professionals Committee.

Carried.

##### **7.4. 2024/25 Alberta Community Partnership Grant Application (ACP) – Regional Economic Development Hwy Commercial Initiative**

856-24: Céré

That Smoky Lake County, in partnership with the Town of Smoky Lake, the Village of Waskatenau and the Village of Vilna, participate in the joint application to the Alberta Community Partnership (ACP) 2024-25 Grant Intake, under the Intermunicipal Collaboration Stream, in the amount of \$200,000.00, for the purpose of undertaking a Regional Economic Development – Highway Commercial Initiative Project; and approve the Town of Smoky Lake to be the Managing Partner of the said project; and further agree to abide by the terms of the Conditional Grant Agreement governing the purpose and use of the grant funds, should the application be successful.

Carried.

##### **7.5. 2024/25 Alberta Community Partnership Grant Application (ACP) – Regional Service Delivery for Waste Management**

857-24: Halisky

That Smoky Lake County, in partnership with the Town of St. Paul, County of St. Paul #19, Town of Smoky Lake, Town of Elk Point, Village of Vilna, and the Village of Waskatenau (all being Members of the Evergreen Regional Waste Management Services Commission) participate in the joint application to the Alberta Community Partnership (ACP) 2024-25 Grant Intake, under the Intermunicipal Collaboration Stream, for the purposes of undertaking a Regional Service Delivery for Waste Management project; and approve the Town of St. Paul to be the Managing Partner of the said project; and further agree to abide by the terms of the Conditional Grant Agreement governing the purpose and use of the grant funds, should the application be successful.

Carried.

**7.6. County Surplus Equipment Sale – Bids**

858-24: Céré

That Smoky Lake County Council direct Administration to contact the highest bidder on Surplus Equipment Unit 473 and Unit 474, described as follows and complete the sale of Unit 473 and Unit 474 to the said highest bidder, for the total amount of \$17,500.00, sold as is where is:

Unit #	Description	Serial Number	Odometer/Hours
474	Rev 1500 Degelman Mower	RC17777	473, 474 sold together
473	1820 Degelman Side arm	SA1349	N/A

**and** approve for the remaining Surplus Equipment as described below, to be contracted to a structured auction house and sold to the highest bidder at the time of sale:

Unit #	Description	Serial Number	Odometer/Hours
105	2008 GMC 3500 4x4 DWB	1GTJK33678F218493	162408
726	2009 GMC SLE 3500 4x4	1GTHK73K89F161371	322720
101A	2018 GMC Serria 1500 4x4	3GTU2MEC9JG258813	253716
457	2013 3PT John Deere Mower Mx8	1P00MX8CHDP088260	N/A
634	2000 Sod Mixer	IMR081	N/A
636	98 Kuhn Mixer 7.5ft	960004	N/A

Carried.

**7.7. Smoky Lake County Investment Attraction Strategy - RMA Microgrant Program**

859-24: Gawalko

That Smoky Lake County acknowledge receipt of the report produced by Michelle Wright Consulting Services, dated March 14, 2024, titled: Investment Attraction Strategy, prepared for Smoky Lake County, funded through the Rural Municipalities of Alberta (RMA) Microgrant program; and forward the report to the Smoky Lake Region Municipalities as an information resource.

Carried.

**5. Public Hearing:**

Nil.

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

**8.1 Chief Administrative Officer (CAO) Report**

Chief Administrative Officer - Report Period: October 1, 2024 – October 30, 2024		
<b>LEGISLATIVE / GOVERNANCE</b>		
<b>Projects</b>	<b>In Progress</b>	<b>Completed</b>
Joint Municipality meeting, Bellis		x
ICC meeting/Fire	x	x
Meeting with MLA Shannon Stubbs		x
<b>ADMINISTRATIVE</b>		
<b>Projects</b>	<b>In Progress</b>	<b>Completed</b>
Land & Bldgs. Site Selector- RMA project kick off	x	
Met with local 955 Union Rep/Trevor	x	
GIS Tracker information session with Catalis	x	
Rural Renewal Stream orientation	x	
<b>FINANCIAL</b>		
<b>Projects</b>	<b>In Progress</b>	<b>Completed</b>
Enterprise lease discovery	x	
Capital Departmental budget review	x	
Associated Engineering Bridge Program	x	
Department operational budget reviews for 2025	x	
initial Land negotiation meeting Oct 26	x	
<b>HUMAN RESOURCES</b>		
<b>Projects</b>	<b>In Progress</b>	<b>Completed</b>
RMA Economic Development Initiative	x	
Onboarding/Exiting staff discussion, identifying gaps, building program	x	
<b>COMMUNITY</b>		

Projects	In Progress	Completed
Heritage River Plaque Ceremony		x
Victoria Home Guard Tour		x
<b>TRAINING / MEETINGS</b>		
Nil		

**8.1 Chief Administrative Officer (CAO) Report**

860-24: Gawalko

That Smoky Lake County Council accept the Chief Administrative Officer Report, for the period of October 1, 2024, to October 30, 2024, as presented, as information.

Carried.

**9. Council Committee Reports:**

**9.1 Division One Councillor’s Report on various Committees, Boards & Commissions**

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

September 11 – 13, Alberta CARE conference in Bonnyville also in attendance was Smoky Lake County employee Scott Adamson, everyone is looking to reduce MSW waste and recycle through different technologies full report attached.

September 19, attended the Evergreen Regional Waste Commission meeting with councillor Lorne Halisky also in attendance, went over the ACP grant partnering municipalities must make a motion to approve the town of St. Paul as the managing partner, product care update must approve to sign an site collection agreement with each municipality, EPR update more information coming, the 2016 used Cat Compactor is in Calgary oil tests were done just waiting on the results then will be trucked to Evergreen site, we purchased extended warranty on the Cat 950 loader site inspections were done in Smoky Lake county (Spedden landfill) & St. Paul county, Ashley presented the finances, Paul gave the Alberta CARE conference report and site report the soil sifter went through the pit run gravel, St. Paul county graveled & graded the roads, the inert waste cell has a new fence, parts are in for the JCB loader, trucks are hauling tire shred for the new cell, next meeting October 31 10:00 am

**9.2 Division Two Councillor’s Report on various Committees, Boards & Commissions**

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

September 11, 2024 – NLLS – General Board Meeting / Training Session – Elk Point HQ – 10:00 a.m.

- Financial report presented – budget is tracking well, except for processing supplies, which are over by 10% due to cost of barcodes being higher than anticipated.
- Two municipalities (Ryley & Lamont County) have not yet sent in their annual payment, but will be in soon.
- Two exciting services will be offered in 2026 – Discovery Layer (roll-up of abilities to search & find titles) and wireless printing which will be offered to NLLS libraries – currently patrons cannot come to library and print wireless from their phones or laptops. This service will eliminate FOIP issues since currently printing requests are handled through library manager. There still will be a charge for printing though.
- Another project that NLLS is embarking on is shelf-ready purchase of library books. This is a pilot project which two libraries will participate in. This will be a significant saving to the budget. It may reduce 2.5 personnel, but this will be absorbed by attrition.
- Question to consider was moving to one in-person meeting which will save \$6,000.00 as NLLS pays travel expenses to 46 member libraries invited to attend in-person meetings. This motion was carried.
- Several policies were carried in an omnibus motion.
- James will be sending a Financial Plan Briefing Note to all municipalities. Essentially, it states the levy will remain at 1.5% for years 2025-2027. I will send it to relevant staff.

September 11, 2024 – Community Futures – River Ranch – 5:00 p.m. (I attended via Zoom)

- Loans & Client supports – loans which were done during summer months were ratified – confidential
- Financial report – nothing unusual to report
- Carlson Roberts presented their year end Manager Report
- Judith Hess has officially retired. Evelynne & Penny have been working on updating policies
- Evelynne, Penny, Parrish, Joan & Sid will be attending CF Symposium
- Evelynne, Penny, Joan, Sid & Paul to attend Power Up North

September 17, 2024 – Smoky Lake Tourism Company (SLTC) – 9:00 (via Zoom)

- Discussion on potential Executive Director – meeting was held to consider increasing wage being offered – carried.

September 24, 2024 – Council’s Role in Land Use and Development Approvals (EOEP) – Red Deer

- Will report on this next month

September 25 – 27, 2024 – Alberta Municipalities – Red Deer

- Will report on this next month

Other Meetings

- August 26, 2024 – Joint Municipalities Meeting – Bellis Hall – 5:00 p.m.
- September 4, 2024 – Meeting with MP Shannon Stubbs – Council Chambers – 10:00 a.m.
- September 12, 2024 – Regular Council Meeting – Council Chambers – 9:00 a.m.
- September 26, 2024 – Regular Council Meeting – via zoom from Red Deer – 9:00 a.m.

- September 25-27<sup>th</sup> 2024- Alberta Municipalities Conference -- Red Deer -- Three resolutions of interest:
  - Declining Fire Department Services Across Alberta
  - Alberta First Responders Radio Communications System Equipment Funding
  - Establishing a Provincial Level of Service for Emergency Social Services

### 9.3 Division Three Councillor's Report on various Committees, Boards & Commissions

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

August 17 Vilna Boomtown Parade  
August 22 Regular Council Mtg., Smoky Lake  
August 22 Alberta Bilingual Municipalities Association

- Bilingual Signage project update: looking for municipalities to participate

August 23 RMA District 5 Mtg., Camrose  
August 26 Joint Municipalities Mtg., Bellis  
August 28 Smoky Lake Region Intermunicipal Collaboration Committee Mtg., Smoky Lake  
September 04 Meeting with MP Shannon Stubbs  
September 12 Regular Council Mtg., Smoky Lake  
September 12 Municipal Planning Commission

- Development Permit Application #040-24 for the placement of a Shipping Container was approved subject to a list of conditions including but not limited to setbacks, size, finish and use.

September 19 Rural Renewal Stream (Zoom)  
September 20 Smoky Lake Foundation  
September 24 Victoria Home Guard Tour of Victoria Trail

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

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

August 17, 2024 – Vilna & District Agricultural Society Boomtown Days Parade (in-person)

- Attended this event.

August 23, 2024 – RMA District 5 Meeting in Camrose (in-person)

- Presentations were held on Road to Rail, Sustainable Rural Communities, AgKnow – Farmer Mental Health, and Emerging Customer Solutions.
- Regions MLA's Jackie Lovely and Rick Wilson presented GOA initiatives.
- Provincial Downloading Resolution – County of Vermillion River and Full Time (24/7) Home Care Support in Lodges/Supportive Living Accommodations Resolution – Beaver County both Resolutions passed.
- RMA President Paul McLaughlin, RMA District 5 Director Kevin Wirsta, FCM Representative for RMA District 5 Robert Parks, and Alberta Municipalities Representatives Andrew Knack and Bill Rock gave brief updates.
- Next meeting to be held in January 2025 – Flagstaff County.

August 30, 2024 – Smoky Lake Tourism Company Ltd. - SLTC CEO Interviews (in-person)

- Interviewed four candidates for the SLTC CEO Position and discussed offer, next steps etc.

September 5, 2024 – Economic Development for Elected Officials Session (in-person)

- Discussion on various topics such as municipality boundaries, government funding, leveraging partnerships, regional collaboration, borrowing content vs. developing, political vs. competitive – NIMBY, proactive policies, strategic plans need to be flexible/not too long i.e. 10 yrs. with 3 or 4 SMART goals, support existing businesses firstly before exploring other opportunities, stay/plan/play/pay strategy, purposeful defined/clear KPI's, start with outcomes and work your way back to inputs, community resilience process should take place firstly etc.

September 12, 2024 – Heritage River Plaque Unveiling and Flag Raising (in-person)

- Attended this event.

September 16, 2024 – Smoky Lake Tourism Company Ltd. CEO Recruitment Meeting (virtually)

- Discussed CEO offer and decided to schedule/hold a SLTC Special Board Meeting to go over the candidate offer with all Directors before proceeding.

September 17, 2024 – Smoky Lake Tourism Company Ltd. Special Board Meeting (virtually)

- Discussed CEO offer and gained director approval to proceed with legal to develop a contract to present to chosen candidate.

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

### 14.1. Legal Issue: Smoky Lake Tourism Company Ltd.

861-24: Serben

That Smoky Lake County Council go into Executive Session to discuss a legal Issue: in respect to the Smoky Lake Tourism Company Ltd., under the authority of the FOIP Act Section 16: Third Party Business Interest, in the presence of all Council, Chief Administrative Officer, and Municipal Clerk, Executive Services Clerk, time 10:28 a.m.

Carried.

862-24: Serben

That Smoky Lake County Council go out of Executive Session, time 10:38 a.m.

Carried.

## 9.5 Reeve & Div. 5 Councillor's Report on various Committees, Boards & Commissions

Jered Serben – Reeve & Division Five Councillor written report from various Committees, Boards and Commissions:

August 22, 2024 – Regular Council Meeting (All Council)

- Approved to donate 2 loads of gravel, to the Smoky Lake Agricultural Society, for use their facility at no cost, to host the Farmers and Ranchers Appreciation Day events held in 2021 to 2024.
- Vilna Agricultural Society was a delegation offering the Vilna Arena / Curling Rink facility located within the Village of Vilna, to the County, as a way to address the Society's struggle for operating funding.
- Acknowledged receipt of the 2024-2025 County Bridge Program priorities prepared by Associated Engineering Alberta Ltd.
- Approved the unbudgeted expense of \$88,022.03 to replace all items stolen from the Vilna Fire Hall that were not covered by insurance.
- Received a report on the snow clearing (driveway) program costs for the seasons of 2019-2020, 2020-2021, 2021-2022, 2022-2023, and 2023-2024 and will be reviewing the Policy.
- Approved to write of 50% of the \$450.98 invoice issued to the Smoky Lake Ag Society, for 2 Electrodes replacements for the Automatic Emergency Defibrillator (AED) at Complex, and requested they budget for them in the future.
- Acknowledged receipt of the "Notice of Intent to Annex Lands from Smoky Lake County", received from the Village of Waskatenau.
- Acknowledged the County was awarded the Minister Awards for Municipal Excellence for the North Saskatchewan Canadian Heritage River Initiative.
- Acknowledged an update on the inspection deficiencies identified at the Smoky Lake Regional Landfill, providing assurance of the completion of the corrective action undertaken by Evergreen Regional Waste Management Services Commission.
- Acknowledged the Agricultural Service Board's recommendation for County Council to consider internal environmental and extension programming in 2025, and agreed to take no action due to the staff's expected capacity in 2025.
- Agreed to advertise 8 units of County surplus equipment for sale by public tender.

August 23, 2024 – Rural Municipalities of Alberta (RMA) District 5 Meeting (Jered, Dominique & Lorne)

- Scheduled speakers included: MLA Jackie Lovely, MLA Rick Wilson, CET of Road to Rail Construction Group Inc., Director of Emerging Customer Solutions for Fortis Alberta, Director for the AB Centre for Sustainable Rural Communities, and Program Director of AgKnow.
- Held discussion on Provincial Downloading.
- Received updates from RMA's President, RMA's District 5 Director, RMA's FCM Representative, and two Alberta Municipalities Representatives.
- Beaver County brought forward a Resolution to endorse take to the Rural Municipalities of Alberta 2024 Fall Convention regarding Full Time (24/7) Home Care Support in Lodges/Supportive Living Accommodations.

August 26, 2024 – Joint Municipalities Meeting, held in Bellis (All Council except Lorne)

- Received a verbal update from Sgt. Anita Doktor, Smoky Lake RCMP and noted:
- We will soon have a fulltime Victims Services position based out of Smoky Lake.
- We're involved heavily in Rural Crime Watch & Citizens on Patrol, and utilizing the RCMP RAVE (web-based communication platform for RCMP to fan out real time alerts to the community).
- Received a presentation from Alberta Municipal Affairs about Municipal Viability and Municipal Restructuring for information.
- Received a verbal update from MLA Glenn van Dijken, and noted:
- Highway 28 continues to be a concern and that a study is being done to determine what is necessary for improvements; and that he will follow up with the Minister about the speed reduction along Smoky Lake.
- Received a verbal update on the Smoky Lake Region's Regional Recreational Services Study being conducted through an Alberta Community Partnership (ACP) grant, with the Village of Waskatenau as the Managing Partner, with a project completion date expected to be in December 2026.
- Received a verbal update from Aspen View School Division's Donna Cherniwchan, South East School Trustee, and Constantine Kastrinos, Superintendent, and noted:
- Portage College is offering a Bachelor of Education program and where they will provide local placements after graduating.
- Athabasca University is offering one complimentary, free course to all Aspen View students graduating in 2024.
- K-12 students will not be allowed access to personal mobile devices during school instructional time in the classroom.

August 28, 2024 – SL Region Intermunicipal Collaboration Committee ICC, (Jered, Dominique & Lorne)

- Approved to incorporate a Dispute Resolution Procedure as Schedule "L" into the proposed Smoky Lake Region Fire Rescue Bylaw.
- Agreed to incorporate the Fire Hall Buildings rental expense, including the utilities, into the Smoky Lake Region Fire Rescue 3-Year Draft Budget 2025-2027, at a total rental budget of \$74,062.
- Agreed for Volunteer Firefighter Insurance Services (VFIS) coverage to be based the Volunteer Firefighters paying 1/3 of the cost and the Smoky Lake Region Fire Rescue paying 2/3 of the cost.
- Discussed the Charge for Services to be calculated at \$250/hour/unit, not including mutual aid, and with a maximum cap to be determined.

September 4, 2024 – Meeting with MP Shannon Stubbs (All Council)

- This informal meeting was scheduled by the office of the Lakeland Member of Parliament (MP) Shannon Stubbs, Shadow Minister for Natural Resources, who was touring the region.
- Sgt. Anita Doktor, Smoky Lake RCMP was also in attendance as an information resource.



- Discussion topics included: rural crime concerns, lack of jail time for offenders, lack of funding for infrastructure to hold criminals, addiction and mental health support, lack affordable housing, hinderances to local economic growth, trade agreements, tariffs on electric vehicles, carbon tax, dropping canola prices, municipalities pulling out of the Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM), grant funding application information sharing, and need for regional fire services funding.
- September 12, 2024 – Regular Council Meeting (All Council except Dan)
- Approved the Tax Notification properties, for the 2024 Property Tax Sale, to be held on November 13, 2024 at 10:00 a.m.
  - Adopted Policy Statement No. 15-06-01: Pension Participation.
  - Agreed to execute the Canada Community-Building Fund (CCBF) Memorandum of Agreement relating to the payment of funds and outlining the County's responsibilities and general provisions in respect to CCBF funding.
  - Acknowledged receipt of a letter from Land and Property Rights Tribunal (LPRT), formerly known as the Municipal Government Board (MGB), written to the Village of Waskatenau, about the Notice of Intent to Annex, confirming "On April 13, 2011 the MGB received the original Notice of Intent to Annex (Notice) from the Village. On October 23, 2012, the Village submitted a revised Notice. The LPRT will accept your correspondence of August 6, 2024 as the second revision submitted by the Village."
  - Acknowledged an update on the completed deficiencies and corrective action plan, to address the Federations of Alberta Gas Co-ops Ltd.'s, 2024 Operations & Maintenance (O&M) Audit of the County's Natural Gas system.
  - Approved for Administration to enter negotiations relating to surface material lease explorations, as discussed in Executive Session.
- September 12, 2024 – Municipal Planning Commission Meeting (All Council except Dan)
- Approved Development Permit No. 040-24: PLAN 2321586, Block 7, Lot 16, for the placement of a Shipping Container (20'x8'), subject to conditions.
- September 12, 2024 – Canadian Heritage River Designation of North Saskatchewan River (Jered & Lorne)
- The plaque unveiling and flag raising Ceremony for the North Saskatchewan Canadian Heritage River took place at Métis Crossing, where a Land Acknowledgement & Prayer was provided by Jerry and Jo Ann Saddleback, and addresses from: the Victoria Home Guard Historical Society, Senator Paula Simons, Parks Canada, Alberta Environment & Protected Areas, North Saskatchewan Watershed Alliance, and Smoky Lake County Reeve, were provided.
- September 19, 2024 – Rural Renewal Stream (RRS) Newly Designated Community Orientation (Jered & Dominique)
- Smoky Lake Region has been designated under the RRS. This designation supports the attraction and retention of immigrants to the Smoky Lake Region to meet local labour vacancies not being filled by Canadian Citizens, it empowers our region to attract, recruit, screen and retain foreign nationals who intend to live, work and settle in our region.
  - Immigrant candidates must meet several requirements and must be living and working or intending to be residing and working in our Region. Part-time, casual or seasonal employees are ineligible.
  - Employers must also meet several requirements, one of which is that they must be incorporated or registered by or under the legislature of the province and have a minimum total annual revenue of \$400,000 for the most recent fiscal year.

### **Reeve's Report and Councillors Reports on various Committees, Boards & Commissions**

863-24: Fenerty

That Smoky Lake County's Reeve Report received for the period August 22, 2024 to September 19, 2024, be posted to the County's website and the Councillors reports on various committees, boards and commissions, be accepted as presented.

Carried.

## **10. Correspondence:**

### **10.1. Ducks Unlimited Canada - County-Owned Lands near Hanmore Lake**

864-24: Halisky

That Smoky Lake County acknowledge receipt of the letter received from Ducks Unlimited Canada, dated September 13, 2024, expressing gratitude to the County for considering them in the future of the Hanmore Lake lands and declining the stewardship opportunity of the County-Owned lands near Hanmore Lake, legally described as SE-25-61-18-W4 (containing 107.35 acres), and PT. NE-25-61-18-W4M (containing 32.78 acres).

Carried.

865-24: Serben

That Smoky Lake County Council direct Administration to follow up with follow up with Ducks Unlimited Canada (DUC) in response to their letter received, dated September 13, 2024, to explain their sentence: "DUC is committed to continuing conversation with the County on our existing projects and potential future work in other areas of the County" and request DUC to identify where the said "areas" are.

Carried.

**10.2. Smoky Lake Curling Club – Request to Reconsideration of Waiving Penalties**

866-24: Gawalko That Smoky Lake County acknowledge receipt of the letter from Smoky Lake Curling Club, dated September 16, 2024, requesting reconsideration of writing off the interest accrued in the amount of \$1,039.72, on the Smoky Lake Curling Club’s Accounts Receivable account #SMOK028, in response to the defeated Council Motion #825-24 moved on September 12, 2024.

Carried.

867-24: Fenerty That Smoky Lake County Council be provided financial statements from the Smoky Lake Curling Club, prior to reconsideration of writing off the interest accrued in the amount of \$1,039.72, on the Smoky Lake Curling Club’s Accounts Receivable account #SMOK028.

Carried.

**10.3. Rural Renewal Stream Confirms Smoky Lake Region’s Community Designation**

868-24: Halisky That Smoky Lake County acknowledge the email from Nataly Ore, Manager of the Rural Renewal Stream (RRS), dated September 10, 2024, to the Smoky Lake Regional Chamber of Commerce, confirmation the approval of Smoky Lake Region’s “Community Designation”, effective, September 9, 2024, which will remain in place for 3 years for the purpose of attracting, recruiting and retaining newcomers (including foreign nationals) through the (RRS).

Carried.

**10.4. LICA – Environmental Stewards, Open House & Annual General Meeting**

869-24: Halisky That Smoky Lake County Council who can attend – attend, the LICA – Environmental Stewards, Open House and Annual General Meeting, scheduled for October 10, 2024, to be held in Cold Lake Alberta, at the Lakeland INN.

Carried.

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

Nil.

**11. Information Releases:**

Nil.

**12. Financial Reports:**

**Financial Statement**

870-24: Céré That Smoky Lake County’s Financial Statement for the Month of August, 2024, as prepared by the Finance Manager, be accepted for information.

Carried.

**Budget to Actual Report**

871-24: Fenerty That Smoky Lake County’s Budget to Actual Report as at September 16, 2024, as prepared by the Finance Manager, be accepted for information.

Carried.

**Bills and Accounts**

872-24: Gawalko

That Smoky Lake County's Bills & Accounts as of September 26, 2024, be accepted for information:

**County Council Meeting: Sept. 26th 2024**

Batch #	Cheque Numbers	Total of Batch
PMCHQ261	52946	\$164.19
PMCHQ263	52947 to 52973	\$160,918.60
PMCHQ265	52974 to 52990	\$88,587.03
PMCHQ267	52991 to 53012	\$312,166.68
PMCHQ269	53013 to 53027	\$93,789.81
PMCHQ270	53028 to 53041	\$50,331.38
<b>Total Cheques from 52946 to 53041</b>		<b>\$705,957.69</b>

Batch #	EFT Numbers	Total of Batch
240812	1498 to 1517	\$182,195.13
240820	1518 to 1530	\$64,324.89
240828	1531 to 1544	\$4,767.75
240904	1545 to 1550	\$73,048.59
240910	1551 to 1564	\$279,407.75
<b>Total EFTs from 1498 to 1564</b>		<b>\$603,744.11</b>

**Direct Debit Register**

Batch #	Description	Total of Batch
PMPAY081	My HAS	\$663.00
PMPAY082	My HAS	\$690.63
<b>Total Direct Debits</b>		<b>\$1,353.63</b>

<b>Grand Total Bills and Accounts</b>	<b>\$1,311,055.43</b>
---------------------------------------	-----------------------

*(Note: From General Account)*

Carried.

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

**Reconfirm County Council Meeting Dates**

873-24: Serben

That the previously scheduled upcoming Smoky Lake County Council Meetings be re-confirmed as follows:

- Thursday, October 10, 2024, at 9:00 a.m., (Regular),
  - Thursday, October 24, 2024, at 9:00 a.m., (Organizational & Regular)
  - Tuesday, October 29, 2024 at 9:00 a.m. (Budget)
  - Thursday, November 14, 2024, at 9:00 a.m., (Regular), and
  - Thursday, December 12, 2024, at 9:00 a.m., (Regular),
- to be held physically and/or virtually in County Council Chambers.

Carried.

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

**14.1. Legal Issue: MCC For Smoky Lake Development Corp. & Smoky Lake Tourism Company Ltd.**

874-24: Serben

That Smoky Lake County Council go into Executive Session to discuss a legal Issue: in respect to the MCC For Smoky Lake Development Corp. and Smoky Lake Tourism Company Ltd, under the authority of the FOIP Act Section 16: Third Party Business Interest, in the presence of all Council, Chief Administrative Officer, Municipal Clerk, and Executive Services Clerk, time 10:52 a.m.

Carried.

875-24: Serben That Smoky Lake County Council go out of Executive Session, time 11:08 a.m.  
Carried.

**14.2. Legal Issue: Expenses for National Heritage River Designation Celebration**

876-24: Serben That Smoky Lake County Council go into Executive Session to discuss a Legal Issue: in respect to expenses relating to the National Heritage River Designation Celebration, under the authority of the FOIP Act Section 27: Privileged Information and Section 24: Advice from Officials, in the presence of all Council, Chief Administrative Officer, and Municipal Clerk, Executive Services Clerk, time 11:09 a.m.

Carried.

877-24: Serben That Smoky Lake County Council go out of Executive Session, time 11:20 a.m.  
Carried.

One Member of the Public virtually left the meeting, time 11:23 a.m.

Councillor/Deputy Reeve Fenerty virtually left the meeting, time 11:27 a.m.

11:30 to 11:31 a.m.

**Public Question and Answer Period:**

None.

**15. ADJOURNMENT:**

878-24: Gawalko That the Smoky Lake County Council Meeting of September 26, 2024, be adjourned, 11:31 a.m.  
Carried.

\_\_\_\_\_  
REEVE

**S E A L**

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