

SMOKY LAKE COUNTY

Minutes of the **County Council Meeting** held on Thursday, **February 13, 2025**, at 9:00 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, Feb. 13, 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 | Absent |
| CAO | Kevin Lucas | Present in Chambers |
| Finance Manager | Brenda Adamson | Present in Chambers |
| Executive Srv/RS | Patti Priest | Present in Chambers |
| ***** | | |

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 |
| Health & Safety Cor. | Jasmine Schaub | Virtually Present |
| Acting Ag Fieldman | Kierstin Dubitz | Virtually Present |
| Enviro Ops Manager | Dave Franchuk | Virtually Present |
| GIS | Carole Dowhaniuk | Virtually Present |
| Public | No Members | N/A |

2. Agenda:

274-25: Fenerty

That the Smoky Lake County Council Meeting Agenda for Thursday, February 13, 2025, be adopted, as amended:

Deletion to the Agenda:

#7.2 Bylaw No. 1472-25: LUB Amendment for NE-34-59-13-W4.

Carried Unanimously.

3. Minutes:

3.1. Minutes of the Regular Council Meeting, January 23, 2025

275-25: Halisky

That the minutes of the Smoky Lake County Regular Council Meeting, held on Thursday, January 23, 2025, be adopted as presented.

Carried.

Two members of the Public virtually joined the meeting, time 9:08 a.m.

7. Request for Decision:

7.3. Joint Use & Planning Agreement (JUPA) with Lakeland Catholic School District

276-25: Fenerty

That Smoky Lake County **Bylaw No. 1474-25: Joint Use and Planning Agreement (JUPA) with Lakeland Catholic School District**, for the purpose of entering a regional JUPA with the said school district, be given **FIRST READING**.

Carried.

Moved by Councillor Gawalko that Smoky Lake County **Bylaw No. 1474-25: Joint Use and Planning Agreement (JUPA) with Lakeland Catholic School District**, for the purpose of entering a regional JUPA with the said school district, be given **SECOND READING**.

Carried.

Moved by Councillor Halisky that Smoky Lake County **Bylaw No. 1474-25: Joint Use and Planning Agreement (JUPA) with Lakeland Catholic School District**, for the purpose of entering a regional JUPA with the said school district, be given **PERMISSION FOR THIRD READING**.

Carried Unanimously.

Moved by Councillor Fenerty that Smoky Lake County **Bylaw No. 1474-25: Joint Use and Planning Agreement (JUPA) with Lakeland Catholic School District**, for the purpose of entering a regional JUPA with the said school district, be given **THIRD & 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.

County Council Meeting Recessed

The Smoky Lake County Deputy Reeve announced the Council Meeting recessed, time 9:10 a.m.

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

5. Public Hearing:

Nil.

PUBLIC HEARING:

Proposed Bylaw No. 1467-24: to amend the Land Use Bylaw No.1272-14, by redistricting Plan 9121735, Lot A (58562 RGE RD 183), from “Agriculture (AG) District” to “Rural Industrial (M2) District”; and to amend the Municipal Development Plan Bylaw No. 1249-12, by reclassifying the lands, from an “Agriculture Area” to an “Industrial Area”

1.0 Opening

The Public Hearing was **called to order at 9:15 a.m.** by the Deputy Reeve, Dominique Céré in the physical presence of all Council members (except Reeve Serben), Chief Administrative Officer, Executive Services Clerk, Finance Manager, and Planning and Development Manager with **3 Members of the Public** online, as well as 7 other County Staff.

The purpose of the hearing was summarized: To obtain public input in regard to Proposed Smoky Lake County Bylaw No. 1467-24: a Bylaw amending the Smoky Lake County Land Use Bylaw No.1272-14 to redistrict all the portions of the lands legally described as Plan 9121735, Lot A (Municipal Address: 58562 RGE RD 183), from “Agriculture (AG) District” to “Rural Industrial (M2) District”; and to amend Municipal Development Plan Bylaw No. 1249-12, to reclassify all the portions of the lands legally described as Plan 9121735, Lot A (Municipal Address: 58562 RGE RD 183), from “Agriculture Area” to “Industrial Area”.

The rules of the Public Hearing were stated, and confirmation was provided by the Chief Administrative Officer that the Public Hearing had been advertised and notice was provided in accordance with the applicable legislation.

One Member of the Public virtually joined the meeting, time 9:22 a.m.

2.0 Staff Presentation

Jordan Ruegg, Planning and Development Manager provided the following information:

BACKGROUND:

- The Smoky Lake County Planning and Development Department received an application to amend Smoky Lake County Land Use Bylaw No. 1272-14 & Municipal Development Plan Bylaw No. 1249-12, from William Merrifield, dated November 11, 2024, to redistrict/reclassify all the portions of the lands legally described Plan 9121735, Lot A (Municipal Address: 58562 RGE RD 183).
- The lands in question are approximately 6.99 acres in area.
- The applicant proposes to amend the Land Use Bylaw & Municipal Development Plan to accommodate the development of a Heavy Equipment Sales and Service, Repair or Storage operation. The applicant proposes to sell/lease/service compressors, power generators, excavation & construction equipment, welding equipment, etc.
- The current Agriculture districting of the lands under the Land Use Bylaw does not allow for the establishment of a Heavy Equipment Sales and Service, Repair of Storage operation.
- Smoky Lake County Land Use Bylaw No. 1272-14 defines a “Heavy Equipment Sales, Service, Repair or Storage” as a “building or part of a building or structure in which
 - a) Heavy machinery and equipment are offered for sale, rent, lease or hire under agreement for compensation; and/or
 - b) Heavy machinery and equipment are service or repaired;
 - c) Heavy machinery and equipment is stored.”
- Should Bylaw No. 1467-24 receive Third Reading, the owner of the lands will be required to obtain a Development Permit for the proposed Heavy Equipment Sales and Service, Repair or Storage operation prior to commencement of operations.
- The subject site is classified as “Agriculture Area” under Section 7.2.3 of Smoky Lake County Municipal Development Plan Bylaw No. 1249-12, which is incongruent with the proposed redistricting. Therefore, Bylaw No. 1467-24 proposes to amend the Municipal Development Plan to reclassify the subject site to “Industrial Area” to ensure consistency between the Land Use Bylaw and the Municipal Development Plan.

3.0 Public Presentations Via Written Submissions

There was one written submission received in advance of the February 13, 2025, Public Hearing, from Audrey Laschuk, and it was read into the record as follows: *“In regard to your letter about an equipment business make sure he doesn’t bring in a bunch of old equipment and devalue my property – farm land should be farmland.”*

There was one email submission received on February 11, 2025 from the proponent (Will Merrifield) and it was read into the record as follows: *“Jordan can you please remove our request, we do apologize for any inconvenience. Thank you for the quick call yesterday to discuss.”*

4.0 Public Presentations at the Public Hearing from those Opposed:

Nil.

4.0 Questions and Answers

Nil.

5.0 Closing Remarks

There being no further presentations, and seeing that the Proponent withdrew their request, the Deputy Reeve thanked everyone for their comments and for attending the Public Hearing.

The Public Hearing for the **Proposed Bylaw No. 1467-24**, was then declared closed, time **9:26 a.m.**

County Council Meeting Reconvened

Meeting Reconvened The Smoky Lake County Council Meeting reconvened, at a call to order by Deputy Reeve Céré, time **9:26 a.m.**, in the physical presence of all Council Members (except Reeve Serben), Chief Administrative Officer, Finance Manager, Executive Services Clerk, and 11 virtual attendees including 7 other County staff members.

6. Municipal Planning Commission (MPC):

Nil.

7. Request for Decision:

7.1. **Bylaw No. 1467-24: LUB Amendment for Plan 9121735, Lot A (58562 RGE RD 183)** 277-25: Halisky

That Smoky Lake County's proposed **Bylaw No. 1467-24**: a Bylaw amending the Smoky Lake County Land Use Bylaw No.1272-14 to redistrict all the portions of the lands legally described as Plan 9121735, Lot A (Municipal Address: 58562 RGE RD 183), from "Agriculture (AG) District" to "Rural Industrial (M2) District"; and to amend Municipal Development Plan Bylaw No. 1249-12, to reclassify all the portions of the lands legally described as Plan 9121735, Lot A (Municipal Address: 58562 RGE RD 183), from "Agriculture Area" to "Industrial Area", be **DEFEATED, as the applicant has withdrawn**, as per the email received by the Planning and Development Manger on February 11, 2025 from Will Merrifield.

Carried.

7.4. **Surface Lease of Municipally-Owned Properties - SW8-62-13-W4 & SE-8-62-13-W4** 278-25: Gawalko

That Smoky Lake County Council agree to respond to the offer received from Mr. John Romaniuk, dated January 27, 2025, relating to the County's Limited Invitation to Tender to lease the lands legally described as SW-8-62-13-W4M & SE-8-62-13-W4M; with a counter-offer of a flexible lease option without a "first right of refusal", and in of the amount of \$510.00, for the period of May 1, 2025, to December 1, 2025.

Carried.

7.5.1 **Returning Officer for the 2025 Municipal Election**

279-25: Fenerty

That Smoky Lake County appoint Stephanie Mahon, as the Returning Officer for the 2025 general Municipal Election, to be held on October 20, 2025, in compliance with the *Local Authorities Election Act*.

Carried.

7.5.2 **Substitute Returning Officer for the 2025 Municipal Election**

280-25: Fenerty

That Smoky Lake County appoint Kevin Lucas, as the Substitute Returning Officer for the 2025 general Municipal Election, to be held on October 20, 2025, in compliance with the *Local Authorities Election Act*.

Carried.

Deputy Reeve, Dominique Céré, declared Conflict of Interest and left Council Chambers, time 9:44 a.m.

7.6.1. Campground / Rec. Area Supervision & Caretaking Services Hanmore & Is. Lake
281-25: Halisky That Smoky Lake County enter into a three-year contract agreement for Campground / Recreational Area Supervision & Caretaking Services with Jaclyn Jarema, for the period of May 1st to November 1st in each year from 2025 to 2027, at the following locations described as: Hanmore Lake East (16 campsites, 1 group campsite, 1 day-use area, including the change room, 1 camp kitchen), Hanmore Lake West (39 campsites, 1 day-use area, and 1 camp kitchen), and Island Lake (9 campsites, and 1 day-use area).

Carried.

7.6.2. Campground / Recreational Area Supervision & Caretaking Services Mons Lake
282-25: Fenerty That Smoky Lake County enter into a three-year contract agreement for Campground / Recreational Area Supervision & Caretaking Services with Fran Byers and Richard Sadowinski, for the period of May 1st to November 1st in each year from 2025 to 2027, at the following location described as: Mons Lake, containing 9 campsites, 2 day-use areas with playgrounds.

Carried.

7.6c. Campground / Recreational Area Supervision & Caretaking Services Proposals
283-25: Gawalko That Smoky Lake County acknowledge there were no proposals received prior to the deadline of January 6, 2025, in response to the County's Request for Proposals (RFP) for 2025 to 2027 Campground / Recreational Area Supervision & Care-taking Services, for the for Bellis Beach and Kaduk Lake locations.

Carried.

Deputy Reeve, Dominique Céré, entered Council Chambers, time 9:55 a.m.

One Member of the Public virtually joined the meeting.

7.7.1. February Requests for Donation from Vilna Agricultural Society
284-25: Fenerty
DEFEATED That Smoky Lake County provide funding in the amount of \$500.00 towards the Vilna & District Agricultural Society Comedy night, scheduled for February 28, 2025, in response to the letter request received from Tamara Flondra, dated January 14, 2024.

DEFEATED.

7.7.2. February Requests for Donation from Spedden Fish & Game
285-25: Fenerty That Smoky Lake County provide funding in the amount of \$500.00 Towards Spedden Fish and Game Association Family Day Fishing Event, scheduled for February 16, 2025, in response to the letter request received from Chris Habiak, dated February 4, 2025.

Carried.

February Requests for Donation from Vilna Curling Club
286-25: Fenerty That Smoky Lake County provide funding in the amount of \$500.00 towards the Vilna Curling Club's annual Greg Flondra Memorial Bonspiel, scheduled for February 21 to 23, 2025, in Vilna, in response to the letter request received from Vilna Curling Club, dated January 10, 2025.

Carried.

7.8. Family and Community Support Services (FCSS) Grant Applications

287-25: Halisky

That Smoky Lake County **defer** application for funding received from the Town of Smoky Lake Library Board for Smoky Lake County’s 2025 Family and Community Support Services (FCSS) Grant in accordance with Policy No. 08-17-01: Family and Community Support Services (FCSS); and extend an invitation to the said Board, to a future Council meeting.



Carried.

7.9. Policy Statement No. 62-10-10: Agricultural Service Board Business Plan

288-25: Gawalko


That Smoky Lake County Policy Statement No. 62-10-10: Agricultural Service Board Business Plan, be amended to be as follows, to aligned with Policy Statement No. 62-28-06: Mowing Program, 1080 Toxicant recall, Canola Flower Midge monitoring, Animal Control Technician position, the recently adopted Policy Statement No. 62-30-01 Animal Health & Emergency Preparedness:



| | | |
|--|------------------|----------------------------|
| Title: Agricultural Service Board Business Plan | | Policy No.: 10-10 |
| Section: 62 | Code: P-A | Page No.: 1 of 13 E |
| Legislation Reference: <i>Alberta Provincial Statutes</i> | | |
| Purpose: To establish a Business Plan for the Smoky Lake County Agricultural Service Board | | |
| Policy Statement and Guidelines: | | |
| <p>1. STATEMENT:</p> <p>1.1 The Smoky Lake County Agricultural Service Board (ASB) is in the business of providing its residents with agricultural programming to enhance the environment, farm income and quality of life. This is achieved through Vegetation Management Programming, Agricultural Extension Programming, Problem Wildlife Programming, Pest Control and Monitoring as well as, Government Lobbying.</p> <p>The Agricultural Service Board is also responsible for enforcement of Provincial Legislation such as the Weed Control Act, Agricultural Pest Act, Agricultural Service Board Act, Soil Conservation Act and the Animal Health Act.</p> <p>2. VISION STATEMENT:</p> <p>2.1 To encourage sustainable agriculture, environmental integrity and improved quality of life in Smoky Lake County.</p> <p>3. MISSION STATEMENT:</p> <p>3.1 To provide services, policies and education for Agricultural families, businesses and the public to enhance the environment, farm income and quality of life.</p> <p>4. STRATEGIC PRIORITIES:</p> <p>4.1 The Smoky Lake County Agricultural Service Board identifies the following priorities:</p> <p>One: Vegetation Management Program Two: Weed Control Act Duties Three: Environmental Stewardship and Extension Four: Problem Wildlife Program Five: Agricultural Pest Act Duties Six: Soil Conservation Act Duties Seven: Intergovernmental Collaboration</p> | | |
| Title: Agricultural Service Board Business Plan | | Policy No.: 10-10 |
| Section: 62 | Code: P-A | Page No.: 2 of 13 E |
| <p>5. IMPLEMENTATION:</p> <p>5.1 Smoky Lake County Agricultural Service Board shall review annually as required by Alberta Agriculture and Irrigation.</p> <p>5.2 Smoky Lake County Agricultural Service Board staff will consider and follow the priorities of the Business Plan when creating budgets and work plans.</p> | | |










Agricultural Service Board Business Plan 2025




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| Business Plan | Executive Summary |
|---|-------------------|
| <p>The Smoky Lake County Agricultural Service Board is in the business of providing its agricultural producers with agricultural programming to enhance the environment, farm income and quality of life. This is achieved through Vegetation Management, Agricultural Extension, Problem Wildlife, Pest Control, programming and monitoring as well as, government lobbying. The Agricultural Service Board is also responsible for enforcement of Provincial Legislation such as the <i>Weed Control Act</i>, <i>Agricultural Pest Act</i>, <i>Agricultural Service Board Act</i>, <i>Soil Conservation Act</i>, and the <i>Animal Health Act</i>.</p> <p>VISION STATEMENT: To encourage sustainable agriculture, environmental integrity and improved quality of life in Smoky Lake County.</p> <p>MISSION STATEMENT: To provide services, policies and education for Agricultural families, businesses and the public to enhance the environment, farm income and quality of life.</p> <p>VALUES:</p> <p>Integrity: The Smoky Lake County Agricultural Service Board will conduct business in an ethical manner respecting the environment, public and applicable legislation.</p> <p>Commitment to Service: The Smoky Lake County Agricultural Service Board will strive to provide the best service possible to its ratepayers conducting operations in an efficient and cost effective manner.</p> <p>Progressive: The Smoky Lake County Agricultural Service Board will take a proactive and innovative approach in its programming examining new technologies and protocol while accepting and implementing relevant public input.</p> | |
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| 1. Vegetation Management Program | | |
|---|--|--|
| Goal: To implement an integrated vegetation management program on municipal right-of-ways for the purpose of reducing noxious weeds and ensuring sightlines are clear for the motoring public. | | |
| Strategies | Action | Measures |
| Identify problem noxious weeds within the municipal right of way | -Key emphasis will be on Prohibited Noxious and Noxious weed species analyzing both environmental and economic threats. | -All roads inspected for noxious weeds at least once during the growing season. |
| Herbicide Application  | -1/2 of all county roads will receive a herbicide application using the One-Pass mower herbicide applicators following the rotation guidelines set out in <i>Policy Statement 62-15 "Vegetation Management Plan"</i> and <i>Policy Statement 62-23 "Tansy Reduction Program"</i> . Brush Spraying will be completed during the regular roadside spraying rotation in coordination with Public Works brushing program. -Spot spraying will be completed in the other two zone in which regular roadside spraying is being completed. Noxious weeds and brush will be targeted. Custom spraying of private lands will occur if time and budget allow, and priority is put on landowners struggling to control prohibited noxious weeds. | -Number of miles that receive a herbicide application. -Amount of herbicide applied for brush control. -Number of locations spot sprayed. -Amount of herbicide applied during spot spraying. -Number of landowners who receive help eliminating their Prohibited noxious weeds by the ASB Department. |
| Roadside Mowing  | -Roadside mowing will be conducted as stated in <i>Policy Statement 62M-02 "Mowing Program"</i> . Roadsides will first receive a single shoulder pass. A secondary shoulder pass will occur once the primary shoulder passes are complete. -Lake roads leading to resorts, Victoria Trail and Township Road 610 will be mowed before the July and August long weekends. | -1 'shoulder' pass and a second seasonal pass of roadside mowing to the property line for weed and brush control is to be completed by October 1st of each year. -Miles of road mowed. -Iron Horse Trail mowed once a year. -Amount of additional mowing completed for community events. -Amount of additional mowing completed on other municipal properties. |


| 2. Weed Control Act Duties | | |
|---|--|---|
| Goal: To control the spread and prevent the establishment of invasive species on privately owned land through responsible communication with landowners, occupants, industry stakeholders and members of the general public as set out in the Weed Control Act of Alberta. | | |
| Strategies | Action | Measures |
| Weed Inspection Program  | -Weed Inspection are conducted on private land during the growing season annually. -Letters are sent to landowners who are in non-compliance with the Weed Control Act of Alberta, as specified in <i>Policy Statement 62-14 "Weed Inspection and Weed Notice"</i> . -Weed Notices are issued to landowners who do not comply with recommendation letters. -Enforcement actions are completed by the Agricultural Services Department for landowners who are non-compliant with a weed notice that has been issued. | -Number of inspections completed. -Number of letters sent to landowners/renters. -Number of weed notices issued. -Number of Weed enforcements completed. |
| Noxious Weed Education and Awareness  | -Provide weed identification for landowners on farm or samples brought in for identification. -Promote weed awareness at our annual Smoky Lake County Farmer Appreciation Event. -Produce and circulate information on invasive species through our website, local newspapers and social media. -Weed Wanted posters hung annually at the Town, Villages & Hamlets including all the water stations and lake lot bulletin boards. | - Number of landowners assisted annually. -Number of events hosted. -Number of articles circulated. -Number of brochures and weed wanted posters given out/posted. |

| 3. Environmental Stewardship and Extension | | |
|--|--|---|
| Goal: To provide Environmental Farm Plans to producers and work in partnership with Lakeland Agricultural Research Association to deliver collaborative environmental stewardship initiatives and unbiased research that results in sustainable growth of Smoky Lake County's Agricultural Community. | | |
| Strategies | Action | Measures |
| Environmental Farm Plans  | -Assist local producers with completion of Environmental Farm Plans. -Provide air photographs for fields and farmyards and soils information. Provide water well information from the Alberta Water Wells Database. | -Number of Environmental Farm plans assisted with. -Increased adoption of beneficial management practices by producers. |
| Sustainable Canadian Agricultural Partnership  | -Assist local producers with information about new agricultural programs and grants. -Stay current with program updates and changes. | -Number of producers assisted. |
| Lakeland Agricultural Research Association  | -Ensure Smoky Lake County received programs as promised by LARA. -Ensure crop plot trials are complete in Smoky Lake County. -LARA to give updates throughout the year by attending ASB meetings. | -Number of events hosted by LARA in our County. -Field Day hosted for local producers at the Smoky Lake County Plots. -Number of unbiased research plots within Smoky Lake County. -How many updates were received. -Attendance of Smoky Lake County Farmers & Ranchers Appreciation Event. |
| Classroom Agriculture Program  | -Deliver the Classroom Agriculture Program to Grade 4 students at schools that register for the program within Smoky Lake County. | -Number of Classroom Agriculture Program presentations delivered. |

| 4. Problem Wildlife Program | | |
|---|--|--|
| Goal: To co-operate and execute an Integrated Problem Wildlife Management Program. | | |
| Strategies | Action | Measures |
| Beavers  | -Beaver Tail Bounty for \$15.00 per tail from pre-approved locations as specified in <i>Policy Statement 62-07 "Beaver Management"</i> . -Beaver Dam Removal may occur to mitigate flooding which causes damage to municipal infrastructure. Dam removal will be conducted as per <i>Policy Statement 62-21 "Beaver Control- Fee for Removal with Explosives"</i> . -Part time Animal Control Technician will obtain required easements from landowners and all provincial and federal permissions needed. -Maintain Certified Blasters License with the Province of Alberta. -Trapping and removing problem beavers and muskrats. -Install/ maintain pond levelers and other Flow Devices. | -Number of Beaver tails brought in. -Number of dams removed affecting municipal infrastructure. -Amount of revenue generated completing private land blasting. -Damage Control Licenses issued by Alberta Environment. -Trapping of County owned property at Lakes. -Renew every 5 years as required. -Number of beavers and muskrats removed. -Number of pond levelers installed/maintained. |
| Coyotes  | -Maintain Form 7 License to ensure Smoky Lake County can provide 1080 toxicant to agricultural producers as per <i>Policy Statement 62-03 "Coyote Control"</i> . -Coyote control booklets available for agricultural producers to help better manage coyote predation. | -Number of 1080 tablets given out annually. -As of December 2024, Health Canada has recalled all 1080. |
| Richardson Ground Squirrel (Gopher)  | -2% Liquid Strychnine registration has been cancelled. -Recommend alternatives to producers. -Recommend local trappers. | -Number of producers assisted. |

| 4. Problem Wildlife Continued | | |
|---|--|---|
| Strategies | Action | Measures |
| Wild Boar  | -Participate annually in the Wild Boar Ear Bounty with Alberta Agriculture (if eligible). -Promote the Alberta Invasive Species Council "Squal on Pigs" Campaign for awareness and reporting wild boar sightings. | -Number of wild boar cars brought in. -Posts on County Website and Social Media shares. |
| Waterfowl Damage Control  | -Scare Cannons are available for rent as per <i>Policy Statement 62-26 "Scare Cannon Rental"</i> . -Suggest alternative control measures to mitigate crop damage cause by waterfowl during fall migration. | -Number of rentals that occur. -number of producers that engage in alternative control measure. |
| Alternative Control Methods  | -Agricultural Fieldmen will continue to look into alternative control methods for all pest species. -Promote and notify producers of alternative control measures when they come in. | -Attend In Service Training to hear from other Ag Fieldman from across the province. -Attend demonstrations with government research groups. |
| Northern Pocket Gopher (Mole)  | -Mole tail bounty for \$1.00 per tail can be brought in as per <i>Policy Statement 62-02 "Bounty for Pocket Gopher Tails"</i> . | -Number of mole tails brought in for bounty. |
| Stray Dog Pickup  | -Assist Smoky Lake County's Peace Officer in responding to ratepayer reports of loose dogs within Smoky Lake County as needed. | -Number of stray dogs picked up and transported to an approved animal shelter; or if possible, reunite them with owners. |

| 5. Agricultural Pest Act Duties | | |
|---|--|---|
| Goal: To provide Smoky Lake County agricultural producers with responsible pest management strategies, pest monitoring and enforcement of declared agricultural pests as deemed by the Agricultural Pest Act of Alberta. | | |
| Crop Surveying | | |
| Strategies | Action | Measures |
| Swede Midge of Canola  | -Swede Midge is monitored on behalf of Agri-food Canada. It is an 8-week program where sticky pads are changed weekly. | -Continue to monitor for new and invading pest that threaten our agriculture industry. |
| Canola Flower Midge  | -Canola Flower Midge is monitored on behalf of Agri-food Canada. It is an 8-week program where sticky pads are changed weekly. | -Continue to monitor for new and invading pest that threaten our agriculture industry |
| Grasshoppers  | -Townships are surveyed annually and data is sent to Alberta Agriculture for forecasting. The county ditch and field are sampled at each location. | -Number of fields surveyed. -Number of outbreaks that occur. |
| Bertha Army Worms  | - 3 Fields across the county are monitored starting in June until August. The traps are set out in the fields to collect the moths that lay the eggs. | -Number of moths counted annually. -Number of outbreaks that are forecasted. |
| Wheat Midge  | - Wheat Midge in high numbers can cause yield loss, wheat crops are monitored around the end of June as wheat heads are emerging up until anthesis (Flowering). | -Samples collected annually and sent to Alberta Agriculture when required. |
| Blackleg of Canola  | - Canola fields are sampled annually for Blackleg severity. Samples are provided to the Crop Diversification Centre for research purposes. Blackleg can cause significant yield loss and harm international exporting. | -Number of fields sampled annually. |
| Clubroot  | - Random canola fields are surveyed after the crop has been swathed. We look for visual symptoms and if we find galls the plant sample is sent to the lab for DNA confirmation. | -Number of Canola fields sampled annually. -Number of Clubroot Management Agreements sent to producers annually as per <i>Policy Statement 62-12 "Clubroot"</i> . -Number of Pest Notices given annually. |

| 6. Soil Conservation Act Duties | | |
|---|--|--|
| Goal: Protect the quality and integrity of agricultural soils in Smoky Lake County. | | |
| Strategies | Action | Measures |
| Soil Conservation | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Agricultural Fieldman are deemed as inspectors and can issue notices under this Act. -Document and photograph any non-compliance with the Soil Conservation Act. -Promote soil health workshops and site demonstrations. -Monitor soil conditions and respond to an area of concern that needs to be assessed following an event that could impact soil/water sources. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Number of Soil Conservation Notice issued. -Number of Soil Conservation Letters issued. -Number of workshops. -Number of areas assessed for soil condition concerns. |
|  <p>Soil Conservation Issue 2016</p> | | |

| 7. Intergovernmental Collaboration | | |
|--|---|--|
| Goal: Conduct intergovernmental collaboration will all levels of governments. | | |
| Strategies | Action | Measures |
| Collaborate with multiple levels and forms of government | -Agricultural Service Board to participate in drafting and passing resolutions at Regional and Provincial Agricultural Service Board Conferences annually. | -Attend annual conferences and participate by discussion and voting on various agricultural issues. |
| Protect the interests of Smoky Lake County Agricultural Community | -Every effort will be made to convey agricultural concerns from the agricultural community to relevant government agencies via face-to-face interactions, letter writing or any other available means. | -Number of letters sent to MLA's, PM's or other government members. |
| Animal Health Act | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Liaison with the Chief Provincial Veterinarian, Canadian Food Inspection Agency (CFIA) and local Veterinarians, when necessary, on any livestock emergencies as stated by <i>Policy Statement 62-30 "Animal Health & Livestock Emergency Preparedness"</i>. -Livestock emergencies include cattle liner accidents on the highway. -If a positive case or outbreak as stated in the <i>Animal Health Act</i> is confirmed within Smoky Lake County boundaries, ASB staff will act in accordance with the directives of the Chief Provincial Veterinarian (CPV). -Work with our Fire Protective Service Department in case of livestock emergency on the highways. These duties would include helping them source rendering truck, trailers or calling a local vet. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Number of investigations asked to assist on. -Number of highway livestock emergencies assisted with. |

Carried.

7.10. Policy Statement No. 03-20-05: Safety Apparel and Footwear

289-25: Halisky

That Smoky Lake County Policy Statement No. 03-20-05: Safety Apparel and Footwear, be amended to align with Article 33:02 of the International Union of Operating Engineers, Local 955 Collective Agreement:

| | | |
|---|---|--------------------|
| Title: Safety Apparel and Footwear | | Policy No.: 20-05 |
| Section: 03 | Code: P-R | Page No.: 1 of 2 E |
| Legislation Reference: | Alberta Provincial Statutes, Occupational Health & Safety Regulations, IUOE Local 955 Collective Agreement | |
| Purpose: | To allow for reimbursement of safety apparel and footwear purchased required by the County's Safety Manual. | |
| Policy Statement and Guidelines: | | |
| <p>1. OBJECTIVE:</p> <p>1.1. This policy is to provide guidelines for reimbursement to all staff in positions that require the use of safety apparel and/or safety footwear.</p> <p>2. GUIDELINES:</p> <p>2.1. Allowance Amount:</p> <p>2.1.1. Smoky Lake County employees that are required to wear safety apparel and safety footwear for the purpose of their job description is entitled to a maximum safety allowance of \$300 (three hundred) dollars per calendar year for the purchase of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CSA-approved safety work boots • Other required safety apparel (e.g. clothing with reflective stripes, specialized gloves, protective eyewear, etc.) <p>This reimbursement can only be used once (1) per calendar year.</p> <p>2.2. Safety Apparel:</p> <p>2.2.1. Safety apparel must be visually confirmed by the Health and Safety Coordinator or designate after purchase for reimbursement. However, obtaining visual confirmation before purchase is highly recommended to ensure reimbursement approval.</p> <p>2.3. Safety Footwear:</p> <p>2.3.1. Safety footwear may require visual confirmation by the Health and Safety Coordinator or designate after purchase for reimbursement if the receipt does not specify that the footwear is CSA-approved.</p> <p>2.4. Reimbursement Process:</p> <p>2.4.1. Employees shall be required to complete and submit Schedule "A": Safety Apparel & Safety Footwear Reimbursement Form and provide a copy of the receipt of purchase to receive the refund.</p> | | |

Section 03

Policy 20-04-05



SCHEDULE "A"

SAFETY APPAREL & SAFETY FOOTWEAR REIMBURSEMENT FORM

Name of Employee: _____

Address: _____
Box Town Province Postal Code

I, hereby do apply for:

A maximum cost of \$ 300.00 (three hundred) dollars for approved footwear and apparel as per Policy.

Receipt for proof of purchase is attached.

Employee Signature Date: _____

Approved For Reimbursement

 Health and Safety Coordinator Date: _____

Carried.

7.11. Bylaw No. 1475-25: Natural Gas

290-25: Gawalko

That Smoky Lake County **Bylaw No. 1475-25: Natural Gas**, for the purpose of setting and collecting Natural Gas rates, fees, and charges, be given **FIRST READING**, as amended.

Carried.

Moved by Councillor Halisky that Smoky Lake County **Bylaw No. 1475-25: Natural Gas**, for the purpose of setting and collecting Natural Gas rates, fees, and charges, be given **SECOND READING**.

Carried.

Moved by Councillor Fenerty that Smoky Lake County **Bylaw No. 1475-25: Natural Gas**, for the purpose of setting and collecting Natural Gas rates, fees, and charges, be given **PERMISSION FOR THIRD READING**.

Carried Unanimously.

Moved by Councillor Halisky that Smoky Lake County **Bylaw No. 1475-25: Natural Gas**, for the purpose of setting and collecting Natural Gas rates, fees, and charges, be given **THIRD & 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.

8. Chief Administrative Officer's Report:

Nil.

9. Council Committee Reports:

Nil.

10. Correspondence:

10.1. CUPW-STTP - Industrial Inquiry Commission Reviewing Canada Post

291-25: Halisky

That Smoky Lake County forward the letter received from CUPW-STTP, dated January 16, 2025, requesting a resolution in respect to an Industrial Inquiry Commission Reviewing Canada Post, to the Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM), Northeast Alberta Alliance for Growth and Opportunities (NAAGO), and the Rural Municipalities of Alberta (RMA), for their awareness and action.

Carried.

10.2. Alberta Community Partnership (ACP) Iron Horse Trail Staging Area Development

292-25: Fenerty

That Smoky Lake County acknowledge receipt of the letter from Minister of Municipal Affairs, dated January 20, 2025, announcing **approval** of the Alberta Community Partnership (ACP) Program application for funding **in the amount of \$200,000.00**, which was submitted by the Village of Horseshoe Bay as the Managing Partner, in in partnership with the Smoky Lake County, Town of St. Paul, County of St. Paul #19, Town of Smoky Lake, Town of Bonnyville, Town of Elk Point, Village of Vilna, City of Cold Lake, and Village of Glendon (all being Members of N. E. Muni-Corr Ltd.), for **Iron Horse Trail Staging Area Development Project** to create nine staging area design plans for Alberta's Iron Horse Trail within the adjacent municipalities of Waskatenau, Smoky Lake, St. Paul, Heinsburg, Elk Point, Bonnyville, Ardmore, and at the Beaver River Trestle.

Carried.

10.3. Alberta Community Partnership (ACP) Regional Ec. Dev Hwy Corridor Concept

293-25: Halisky

That Smoky Lake County acknowledge receipt of the letter from Minister of Municipal Affairs, dated January 20, 2025, announcing **approval** of the Alberta Community Partnership (ACP) Program application for funding **in the amount of \$200,000.00**, which was submitted by the Town of Smoky Lake, as the managing partner, in partnership with Smoky Lake County, Village of Waskatenau and the Village of Vilna, for the **Regional Economic Development – Highway Commercial Initiative Project**.

Carried.

10.4. Alberta Community Partnership (ACP) Regional Service Delivery Waste Mgmt.

294-25: Gawalko That Smoky Lake County acknowledge receipt of the letter from Minister of Municipal Affairs, dated January 20, 2025, announcing **approval** of the Alberta Community Partnership (ACP) Program application for funding in the amount of \$200,000, which was submitted by the Town of St. Paul, as the managing partner, in partnership with Smoky Lake County, 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), for the Regional Service Delivery for Waste Management Project.

Carried.

10.5. Smoky Lake Pumpkin Growers at the Edmonton Boat and Sportsmen Show

295-25: Fenerty That Smoky Lake County not participate in the Edmonton Boat and Sportsmen Show scheduled for March 19 to 23, 2025, in response to the letter from Smoky Lake Pumpkin Growers, dated January 20, 2025, proposing representation at the Edmonton Boat and Sportsmen Show through sponsoring the Pumpkin Growers to attend and represent the Smoky Lake Region.

Carried.

11. Information Releases:

Nil.

12. Financial Reports:

12.1. Financial Statements for the month of November 2024

296-25: Halisky That Smoky Lake County's Financial Statement, dated November 2024, as prepared by the Finance Manager, be filed for information.

Carried.

12.2. Financial Statements for the month of December 2024

297-25: Halisky That Smoky Lake County's Financial Statement, dated December 2024, as prepared by the Finance Manager, be filed for information.

Carried.

13. Next Meeting(s):

13.1. Reschedule the Council Committee of the Whole Retreat for Strategic Planning

298-25: Halisky That Smoky Lake County Council reschedule the Council Committee of the Whole Retreat for the purpose of Strategic Planning, from January 30 & 31, 2025, to one-day meeting, to be held on March 25, 2025, at 9:00 to 3:00 to be held in Chambers.

Carried.

13.2. Schedule a Joint Town of Smoky Lake and Smoky Lake County Council Meeting

299-25: Fenerty That the next Joint Town of Smoky Lake and Smoky Lake County Council Meeting be scheduled for Monday, March 3, 2025, at 9:30 a.m., to be held physically and/or virtually in County Council Chambers.

Carried.

13.3. Reconfirm the Scheduled County Council Meeting Dates

300-25: Fenerty That the next Smoky Lake County Council Meetings be reconfirmed as follows: 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.

13.4. Schedule the next Smoky Lake County Regular Council Meetings for:

301-25: Halisky That the next Smoky Lake County Council Meetings be scheduled as follows: Thursday, April 10 and 24, 2025, at 9:00 a.m. (Regular), Thursday, May 8 and 22, 2025, at 9:00 a.m. (Regular), Thursday, June 12 and 26, 2025, at 9:00 a.m. (Regular), and to be held physically and/or virtually in County Council Chambers.

Carried.

14. Executive Session:

14.1. Legal Issue, Intermunicipal Collaboration Framework (ICF) with Lamont County

302-25: Halisky That Smoky Lake County Council go into Executive Session in the presence of all Council, Chief Administrative Officer, Finance Manager, Planning & Development Manager, Executive Services Clerk, to discuss the following a Legal Issue, in respect to the Intermunicipal Collaboration Framework (ICF) with Lamont County, under the authority of the FOIP Act, Section 21: Intergovernmental Relations, time 11:13 a.m.

Carried.

303-25: Halisky That Smoky Lake County Council go out of Executive Session, time 11:17 a.m.

Carried.

Intermunicipal Collaboration Framework (ICF) with Lamont County

304-25: Halisky That Smoky Lake County execute the amending agreement with Lamont County to amend the agreement under Lamont County's Bylaw No. 829.21, for the purpose of replacing Section 1.4.3 of Schedule "A" with the statement: "It is agreed by the Municipalities that the Councils shall review at least once every seven years, commencing no later than 2027, the terms and conditions of the agreement."

Carried.

14.2. Land & Legal Issue, Update on Log Harvesting on County Lease Land

305-25: Gawalko That Smoky Lake County Council go into Executive Session in the presence of all Council, Chief Administrative Officer (CAO), Finance Manager, Planning & Development Manager, Executive Services Clerk, to discuss a Land & Legal Issue, in received an update from the CAO in respect to log harvesting on County lease land, under the authority of the FOIP Act, Section 16: Third Party Business Interests, time 11:19 a.m.

Carried.

306-25: Fenerty That Smoky Lake County Council go out of Executive Session, time 11:34 a.m.

Carried.

Log Harvesting on County Lease Land

307-25: Halisky That Smoky Lake County acknowledge the update received from the Chief Administrative Officer (CAO), in respect to log harvesting on County leased lands, as discussed under the authority of the FOIP Act, Section 16: Third Party Business Interests.

Carried.

11:35 to 11:36 a.m.

Public Question and Answer Period:

None.

14.3. Personnel Issue, Update on Staff from the Chief Administrative Officer

308-25: Fenerty That Smoky Lake County Council go into Executive Session in the presence of all Council, Chief Administrative Officer (CAO), Finance Manager, Planning & Development Manager, Executive Services Clerk, to discuss a Personnel Issue, in respect to an update on staff from the CAO, under the authority of the FOIP Act, Sections 27: Privileged Information and 17: Third Party Personal Privacy, time 11:36 a.m.

Carried.

309-25: Halisky That Smoky Lake County Council go out of Executive Session, time 12:12 p.m.

Carried.

Meeting Recessed Meeting recessed for Lunch, time 12:13 p.m.

Meeting Reconvened The meeting reconvened on a call to order by the Deputy Reeve at 1:01 p.m. in the physical (or virtual) presence of all Council Members (except Reeve Serben), Chief Administrative Officer, Finance Manager, Executive Services Clerk, Natural Gas Manager, Planning & Development Manager, Health & Safety Coordinator, GIS Operator, Fire Services Clerk, Communications Officer, 2 Members of the Public, 1 Delegation.

4. Delegation:

- 4.1. Sgt. Anita Doktor, Smoky Lake RCMP - Policing Priorities and Performance Plan**
Present before Council from 1:01 p.m. to 1:14 p.m. was Sgt. Anita Doktor, Smoky Lake RCMP Detachment to provide information, including but not limited to the following points:
- Cst. Lidstone's and Cst. Ferrie are being transferred.
 - Continuing speed enforcement for 80km on Hwy 28 through traffic services out of Redwater and the County's CPO.
 - Continuing crime reduction through hotspot patrols, regular patrols and bait projects.
 - Continuing community engagement in person and through social media – new Facebook page is now live.

Smoky Lake RCMP - Community Policing Report and Priorities Update

310-25: Halisky That Smoky Lake County Council acknowledge receipt of the quarterly Community Policing Report covering the period from October 1st to December 31st, 2024, and verbal update from Sgt. Anita Doktor, Smoky Lake RCMP Detachment on February 13, 2025, along with the Detachment's 2024-25 Community Priorities of: Crime Reduction - Property Crime, and Police / Community Relations - Police Visibility & Youth Engagement.

Carried.

- 4.2. Mark Johnson, Landowner to discuss development of road allowance access**
Virtually present before Council from 1:15 p.m. to 1:24 p.m., was Mark and Nancy Johnson, Landowners, to propose development of a road allowance for access to their property.

- 4.3. Noreen Easterbrook, Chairperson, Smoky Lake Regional Heritage Board**
Present before Council from 1:32 p.m. to 1:43 p.m., was Noreen Easterbrook, Chairperson, Smoky Lake Regional Heritage Board (SLRHB), at the request of Council, as per the January 23, 2023, Council Motion #253-25, in relation to and further to the SLRHB's proposal provided at the Joint Municipalities Meeting, held on January 13, 2025.

7. Request for Decision:

7.12. Smoky Lake Region Heritage Board Recommendation - Subcommittee

311-25: Halisky

That Smoky Lake County Council address the Smoky Lake Regional Heritage Board (SLRHB) recommendation from the January 13, 2025, Joint Municipalities Meeting: “to form a committee to collaboratively manage historic resources and increase heritage driven tourism”; by acknowledging Smoky Lake County’s existing appointees to the SLRHB (being Councillor Fenerty and Councillor Halisky as alternate) serve as the County’s representation on the SLRHB, as well we as any SLRHB subcommittee.

Carried.

7.12. Smoky Lake Region Heritage Board Recommendation – STEP Worker

312-25: Fenerty

That Smoky Lake County Council address the Smoky Lake Regional Heritage Board (SLRHB) recommendation from the January 13, 2025, Joint Municipalities Meeting: “for the County to employ a seasonal temporary employee to augment the existing two employees hired by the Town of Smoky Lake to enhance the visitor experience beyond paper and electronic media, thereby increasing heritage-driven tourism for the region”; by providing an option of utilizing a portion of the Year-2025 SLRHB budget allocation to hire an employee under a seasonal temporary employment position, for the purpose of heritage-driven tourism.

Carried.

7.12. Smoky Lake Region Heritage Board Recommendations – Tourism Booth

313-25: Gawalko

That Smoky Lake County Council address the Smoky Lake Regional Heritage Board (SLRHB) recommendation from the January 13, 2025, Joint Municipalities Meeting: “to install a tourism booth in a prominent location, with a variety of guides to services and heritage information for visitors from mid-April through to the Pumpkin Fair week”; by recommending the Town of Smoky Lake and/or the SLRHB seek grant funding for a tourism booth, with the County providing a letter of support for any grant applications.

Carried.

4.2. Mark Johnson, Landowner request for development of road allowance access

314-25: Gawalko

That Smoky Lake County Council administration **defer** further discussion in respect to the February 13, 2025, Delegations: Mark and Nancy Johnson, Landowners, and their request for minor development of an undeveloped road allowance for the purpose of providing access to their property; to a future Council meeting with information presented by Public Works in respect to the cost as well as the manpower and equipment requirements to undertake such a request.

Carried.

15. ADJOURNMENT:

315-25: Gawalko

That the Smoky Lake County Council Meeting of February 13, 2025, be adjourned, 1:50 p.m.

Carried.

REEVE

S E A L

CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER