

SMOKY LAKE COUNTY

Minutes of the **County Council Meeting** held on Thursday, **February 22, 2024**, at 9:01 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. 22, 2024</u>
1	Dan Gawalko	Present Virtually
2	Linda Fenerty	Present in Chambers
3	Dominique Céré	Present in Chambers
4	Lorne Halisky	Present in Chambers
5	Jered Serben	Present in Chambers
Interim CAO	Lydia Cielin	Present in Chambers
Finance Manager	Brenda Adamson	Present in Chambers
Executive Svcs/R.S.	Patti Priest	Present in Chambers

Observers in Attendance Upon Call to Order:

Fire Srv. Clerk	Meaghan Andreychuk	Present Virtually
	Evonne Zukiwski	Present Virtually
	Carole Dowhaniuk	Present Virtually
	Chris Minailo	Present in Chambers
Public	1 Member	Present Virtually
Media	No Members	N/A

2. Agenda:

349-24: Fenerty That the Smoky Lake County Council Meeting Agenda for Thursday, January 25, 2024, be adopted, as amended:

Additions to the Agenda:

1. National Police Federation – Budget 2024 Update.

Carried Unanimously.

3. Minutes:

3.1. Minutes of the Regular Council Meeting – January 25, 2024

350-24: Cere That the minutes of the **Smoky Lake County Regular Council Meeting**, held on Thursday, January 25, 2024, be adopted as presented.

Carried.

3.2. Minutes of the Committee of the Whole Meeting – January 19, 2024

351-24: Halisky That the minutes of the **Smoky Lake County Council Committee of the Whole Meeting**, held on Friday, January 19, 2024, be adopted as presented.

Carried.

3.3. Minutes of the Committee of the Whole Meeting – January 31, 2024

352-24: Cere That the minutes of the **Smoky Lake County Council Committee of the Whole Meeting**, held on Wednesday, January 31, 2024, be adopted as presented.

Carried.

3.4. Minutes of the Regular Council Meeting – February 8, 2024

353-24: Gawalko That the minutes of the **Smoky Lake County Regular Council Meeting**, held on Thursday, February 8, 2024, be adopted as presented.

Carried.

One Member of the Public, virtually joined the meeting, time 9:07 a.m.

4. Delegations:

4.1. Lise van der Vaart, Manager, Smoky Lake Public Library

Present before Council from 9:05 a.m. to 9:18 a.m. was Smoky Lake Public Library representatives: Lise van der Vaart, Manager, and Susannah Eldridge, Programmer, to provide an overview of their 2023 program statistics, and to request Family and Community Support Services (FCSS) Grant Funding towards the Smoky Lake Public Library's 2024 Programs.

5. Public Hearing:

Nil.

6. Municipal Planning Commission:

Nil.

One Member of the Public, virtually joined the meeting, time 9:20 a.m.

Carleigh Danyluk, Agricultural Fieldman, virtually joined the meeting, time 9:20 a.m.

Jordan Ruegg, Planning & Development Manager, entered Council Chambers, time 9:24 a.m.

One Member of the Public, virtually joined the meeting, time 9:25 a.m.

7. Request for Decision:

7.1. Lakeland Agricultural Research Association Funding

354-24: Serben That Smoky Lake County acknowledge the Lakeland Agricultural Research Association (LARA) Board removed the option to purchase individual memberships to LARA at their meeting held on February 5th, 2024, and therefore the recommendation made by the Agricultural Service Board (ASB) on December 12, 2023, to fund individual memberships in the amount of \$200.00 per producer Premise ID Number and/or Farm Fuel Benefit Number, in Year-2024, up to a total County wide maximum funding in the amount of \$30,000.00 to Lakeland Agricultural Research Association (LARA) and have the Smoky Lake County ASB provide in-house extension event(s), is no longer an option.

Carried.

355-24: Gawalko That Smoky Lake County provide a municipal contribution in the amount of \$55,000.00 towards the Lakeland Agricultural Research Association (LARA) Year-2024 Operating Budget and enter into an agreement to allow Smoky Lake County producers access to LARA's Year-2024 environmental and extension programming.

Carried.

356-24: Cere

That Smoky Lake County request detailed historical information from Lakeland Agricultural Research Association (LARA) in respect to the number of LARA events held in Smoky Lake County and the number of Smoky Lake County producers who attended any LARA event, as well as all relevant information which validates Smoky Lake County providing municipal funds to LARA.

Carried.

357-24: Fenerty

That Smoky Lake County's Agricultural Fieldman bring forward options for providing environmental and extension programming specific to Smoky Lake County Producers in Year-2025, for consideration in October 2024.

Carried.

Delegation, Casey Tchir, Landowner, entered Council Chambers, time 9:33 a.m.

7.2. Agricultural Services Board Business Plan

358-24: Halisky

That Smoky Lake County Council amend Policy Statement No. 62-10-09: Agricultural Service Board Business Plan 2024, to include changes made to Policy Statement No. 62-28-06 Mowing Program, and the fulltime Animal Control Technician position, as recommended by Smoky Lake County's Agricultural Service Board, on December 12, 2023, Motion #ASB08-23, to be as follows:

Title: Agricultural Service Board Business Plan		Policy No.: 10-09
Section: 62	Code: P-A	Page No.: 1 of 12 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:		
1. STATEMENT:		
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.		
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.		
2. VISION STATEMENT:		
2.1 To encourage sustainable agriculture, environmental integrity and improved quality of life in Smoky Lake County.		
3. MISSION STATEMENT:		
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.		
4. STRATEGIC PRIORITIES:		
4.1 The Smoky Lake County Agricultural Service Board identifies the following priorities:		
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	

Title: Agricultural Service Board Business Plan		Policy No.: 10-09
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- 5. IMPLEMENTATION:**
- 5.1 Smoky Lake County Agricultural Service Board shall review annually as required by Alberta Agriculture and Irrigation.
 - 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.

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Policy: 10-09



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Agricultural Service Board: Business Plan 2024

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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>	
	

Agricultural Service Board: Business Plan 2024

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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 second seasonal pass will be completed to the property line, where possible, ensuing passes are only done if deemed efficient to eliminate extra freewheeling and passes are 5 feet or more. -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 November 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> . -Full 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. -Number of flooded roads.
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 tablets given out annually.
Richardson Ground Squirrel (Gopher) 	-2% Liquid Strychnine registration has been cancelled. -Recommend alternatives to producers. -Recommend local trappers.	-Number of producers assisted.

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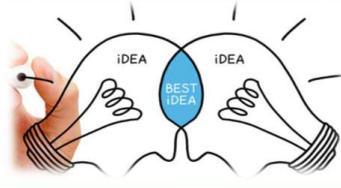
4. Problem Wildlife Continued		
Strategies	Action	Measures
Wild Boar 	-Participate annually in the Wild Boar Ear Bounty with Alberta Agriculture (if eligible). -Promote the Alberta Invasive Species Council "Squeal on Pigs" Campaign for awareness and reporting wild boar sightings.	-Number of wild boar ears 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 	-Respond to ratepayer reports of loose dogs within Smoky Lake County.	-Number of stray dogs picked up and transported to an approved animal shelter; or if possible, reunite them with owners.

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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.
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	<p>Liaison with the Chief Provincial Veterinarian, Canadian Food Inspection Agency (CFIA) and local Veterinarians, when necessary, on any livestock emergencies.</p> <p>Livestock emergencies include cattle liner accidents on the highway.</p> <p>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).</p> <p>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.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Number of investigations asked to assist on. -Number of highway livestock emergencies assisted with.
		

Carried.

7.3. Northlands Farm Family Award – Division 4

359-24: Halisky That Smoky Lake County Council identify a Farm Family in Division 4, in accordance with Policy Statement No. 62-22- 06: Northlands Farm Family Award, and prior to the nomination deadline of June 30, 2024, to be nominated for the Year-2024 Farm Family Award.

Carried.

7.4. Capital Purchase – Mower and Side Arm to Replace Unit #473 & Unit #474

Tabled to end of this meeting.

7.5. Requests for Donations

360-24: Halisky That Smoky Lake County provide funding in the amount of \$500.00 towards the 7th Annual Randy Russ Memorial Barrel Race, scheduled for August 4-5, 2024, in Bellis, Alberta; as a Silver Sponsorship, in response to the letter request received from Anne-Marie Russ, dated February 2024; and recommend the County Agricultural Department provide assistance by providing names for potential speakers at the said event; and provide County promotional items in accordance with Policy Statement No. 01-37-02: Promotional Items.

Carried.

7.6. FCSS Grant Funding Applications - Warspite Community Hall Association

361-24: Cere That Smoky Lake County **approve** to allocate funding from the 2024 Family and Community Support Services (FCSS) Grant budget in accordance with Policy No. 08-17-01: Family and Community Support Services (FCSS) grant as follows:

Community Group	Eligibility	Funding
Warspite Community Hall Association	Volunteer Appreciation	\$2,000.00

Carried.

7.6. FCSS Grant Funding Applications - Town of Smoky Lake Library Board

362-24: Cere That Smoky Lake County **approve** to allocate funding from the 2024 Family and Community Support Services (FCSS) Grant budget in accordance with Policy No. 08-17-01: Family and Community Support Services (FCSS) grant as follows:

Community Group	Eligibility	Funding
Town of Smoky Lake Library Board	2024 Family Programing	\$6,500.00

and recommend the Town of Smoky Lake to match or exceed the funding.

Carried.

4. Delegations:

4.2. Casey Tchir, Developer – Revisions to Estates of Bonnie Lake Out Line Plan

Present before Council from 9:52 a.m. to 10:19 a.m. was Casey Tchir, Developer, to recommend revisions to the Estates of Bonnie Lake Out Line Plan, to allow access to Township Road 600 from and through the land legally described as NE-34-59-13-W4, for the purpose of providing another exit/access route to the unapproved, conceptual subdivision plan on and for the said land.

Chris Minailo, Public Works Manager, left Council Chambers, time 10:40 a.m.

7. Request for Decision (Continued):

7.7. Assessment Review Board Appointments

363-24: Halisky That Smoky Lake County, in accordance with Bylaw No. 1417-22: Assessment Review Board, appoint members to the Assessment Review Board (ARB) for Year-2024, as follows:

Raymond Ralph, as the ARB Chairperson,
Gerryl Amarin, as the Certified ARB Clerk, and
Darlene Chartrand, Sheryl Exley, Tina Groszko, Stewart Hennig,
Richard Knowles, Denis Meier, and Raymond Ralph, as the ARB
Certified Panelists.

Carried.

Daniel Moric, Natural Gas Manager, and One Member of the Public, virtually joined the meeting, time 10:45 a.m.

Executive Session:

Legal Issue:

364-24: Halisky That Smoky Lake County Council go into Executive Session to discuss a Legal Issue: Private Industry Aggregate Hauling Activities, under the authority of the FOIP Act Section 16: Third Party Business Interests and Section 27: Privileged Information, in the presence of all Council, Interim Chief Administrative Officer, Planning & Development Manager, Finance Manager, and Executive Services Clerk, time 10:46 a.m.

Carried.

365-24: Fenerty That Smoky Lake County Council go out of Executive Session, time 10:56 a.m.

Carried.

7. Request for Decision (Continued):

7.8. Bylaw No. 1456-24: Aggregate Extraction Business License

366-24: Gawalko That Smoky Lake County **Bylaw No. 1456-24: Aggregate Extraction Business License**, for the purpose of establishing a fee schedule based on the type of business and the amount of productivity for the following businesses: Gravel Crushing, Aggregate Hauling, Concrete Batching Plant, or Asphalt Batching Plant, be given **FIRST READING**, and forego Public Participation as there is no significant change except for under Schedule "B" to raise the Class "P" Batching Plants Fee to the amount of \$500.00 from the amount of \$200.00, and clarify the Class "1" Tonne threshold amount to "1 – 2,500" from "0 – 2,500"

Carried.

Moved by Councillor Halisky that Smoky Lake County **Bylaw No. 1456-24: Aggregate Extraction Business License**, for the purpose of establishing a fee schedule based on the type of business and the amount of productivity for the following businesses: Gravel Crushing, Aggregate Hauling, Concrete Batching Plant, or Asphalt Batching Plant, be given **SECOND READING**.

Carried.

Moved by Councillor Serben that Smoky Lake County **Bylaw No. 1456-24: Aggregate Extraction Business License**, for the purpose of establishing a fee schedule based on the type of business and the amount of productivity for the following businesses: Gravel Crushing, Aggregate Hauling, Concrete Batching Plant, or Asphalt Batching Plant, be given unanimous consent for **PERMISSION FOR THIRD READING**.

Carried Unanimously.

Moved by Councillor Cere that Smoky Lake County **Bylaw No. 1456-24: Aggregate Extraction Business License**, for the purpose of establishing a fee schedule based on the type of business and the amount of productivity for the following businesses: Gravel Crushing, Aggregate Hauling, Concrete Batching Plant, or Asphalt Batching Plant, be given **THIRD & FINAL READING**, and the Reeve and Interim 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.

7.9. PatientFirst Letter Writing Campaign

367-24: Fenerty

That Smoky Lake County promote the “PatientsFirst” Letter Writing Campaign on social media and Grapevine to encourage residents and stakeholders to participate in the campaign, with the intent of removing red tape hindering the attraction and retention of physicians affecting the George McDougall Health Care Centre's Emergency Room Services and Medical Clinics in the Smoky Lake Region, as recommended at the Physicians and Healthcare Professional Committee Meeting held on February 7, 2024.

Carried.

7.9. College of Physicians and Surgeons

368-24: Halisky

That Smoky Lake County submit a letter to the College of Physicians and Surgeons, Government of Alberta Minister of Health to advocate removing the red tape hindering attraction and retention of physician and healthcare professionals, affecting the George Mc Dougall Health Care Centre’s Emergency Room Services and Meical Clinics in the Smoky Lake Regions.

Carried.

7.10. Physicians & Health Care Professionals Year-2024 Budget

369-24: Serben

That Smoky Lake County approve the Year-2024 Budget for the Smoky Lake Region’s Physicians & Health Care Professionals Committee, as recommended at the Physicians & Health Care Professionals Committee meeting held on February 7, 2024, by Motion #15-2024, with the following cost-sharing percentage funding formula:

Municipality	Percentage	Amount
Smoky Lake County	61%	\$ 14,640.00
Town of Smoky Lake	26%	\$ 6,240.00
Village of Vilna	7%	\$ 1,680.00
Village of Waskatenau	6%	<u>\$ 1,440.00</u>
Year-2024 Doctor RETENTION Total Budget:		\$ 24,000.00

Carried.

7.11. RhPAP’s 2024 Rhapsody Rural Physician Award

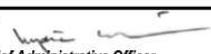
370-24: Halisky

That Smoky Lake County provide a letter of support to the Town of Smoky Lake, Managing Partner of the Physicians and Health Care Professionals Committee, for their application to the 2024 Rural Health Professions Action Plan’s (RhPAP) Rhapsody Award for the Rural Health-Care Heroes to nominate Dr. Anton Raubenheimer, Dr. Stephan Raubenheimer and Dr. Hendrick Lourens, as well as their dedicated staff, at the Raubenheimer Medical Clinic in Smoky Lake and at the Vilna Medical Centre in Vilna.

Carried.

8. Interim Chief Administrative Officer's Report:

8.1 Chief Administrative Officer (CAO) Report – January 26 to February 15, 2024

Chief Administrative Officer - Report Period: January 26, 2024 – February 15, 2024		
LEGISLATIVE / GOVERNANCE		
Projects	In Progress	Completed
<p>Brief overview of what the Legislative Department has and is working on in conjunction to the work for meetings, minutes, and action list:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> > Working with the Fire Protective Services on the Smoky Lake Region Fire Rescue: developing draft Advisory Committee – Terms of Reference, creating a Three-Year Budget and budget detail breakdown; its Organizational Structure. > Council: Working on information packages for upcoming committee meeting <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Tax Incentives: Options ▪ LGFF (Local Government Fiscal Framework): Funding Shortage / Impacts. ▪ Firefighter Incentives ▪ Firefighting services: Potential drought situation, Water and Firefighting Resources. ▪ Presentation Packages for RMA meetings with Ministers and RCMP. > Policies: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Completed Health and Safety Communication Policy: to address how the information is communicated, and it was adopted at last Joint Health & Safety Committee Meeting. ▪ Compiling information in respect to Haul Road Agreement ▪ Next: Organizational Chart / Structure and review of Council Code of Conduct. > Administrative Meeting: February 7, 2024 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Discussion held in respect to alignment of Land Use Bylaws and Strategic Plans in respect to Housing. 	2024	
<p>Smoky Lake County Strategic Plan 2023 – 2025:</p> <p>County Council approved its Strategic Plan on April 27, 2023 – Motion #565-23 identifying goals and objectives for the next three years: 2023-2025. A Priorities Progress report was presented to Council at a Committee of the Whole held on January 30, 2024 to review and hold discussion in respect to the actions completed in Year 2023.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">(Attachment: L-1)</p> <p>Recommendation: That Smoky Lake County Council accept the Strategic Plan 2023-2025 Progress Priorities update for 2023, for information.</p>	Jan. 16/24	Jan.25/24
<p>Inside Outside Studios Inc. – iHunter Alberta App</p> <p>There was an error in the Correspondence received from Inside Outside Studios Inc., that was brought to the February 8, 2024 Council meeting, this paragraph:</p> <p style="padding-left: 20px;">Due to inflation, we would still recommend increasing the end user map pricing if you feel it is appropriate. We suggest a minimum map pricing of \$19.99 instead of \$14.99, but are willing to consider higher pricing if preferred. For counties that changed this price last year, it doesn't seem to have affected sales.</p> <p>Smoky Lake County had already approved to increase the price to \$19.99 last year in 2023, as per the February 15, 2023, Council Motion #377-23. Therefore, Motion #334-24 which was passed at the February 8, 2024 Council Meeting (to NOT increase the price from \$14.99 to \$19.99) is invalid and should be rescinded.</p> <p>Recommendation: That Smoky Lake County Council rescind the February 8, 2024, Motion #334-24; and acknowledge receipt of the 2023 County Map Sales – Annual Report, received from Inside Outside Studios Inc., of Calgary Alberta, in regard to the sale of virtual Smoky Lake County maps sold through their mobile application software: "iHunter Alberta", reporting a total of 345 maps sold in Year-2023, which generated a royalty revenue to the County in the amount of \$2,957.92, as per the correspondence received from Mark Stenroos of Inside Outside Studios Inc., dated January 12, 2024.</p>	Jan. 11/24	Jan. 19/24
ADMINISTRATIVE		
Projects	In Progress	Completed
Nil		
FINANCIAL		
Projects	In Progress	Completed
<p>Wildfire Community Preparedness Day Grant</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Submitted January 29, 2024 – No response yet. 	Jan. 29/24	
HUMAN RESOURCES		
Projects	In Progress	Completed
<p>Council Meeting Debriefing for Staff: scheduled for February 27, 2024 at 10:00 a.m.</p>	Feb. 12/24	
<p>Waste Management Operator</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Waste Management Operator hired: Craig Hennessey, effective February 6, 2024. ▪ Job Description established for this position. Provided to Council for awareness purposes only. <p style="text-align: right;">(Attachment: H-1)</p> <p>RECOMMENDATION: That Smoky Lake County acknowledge receipt of the Management Policy 1-M-45-01: Waste Management Operator for information purposes.</p>	Jan. 18/24	Feb 6/24
<p>Manager's Reports were submitted to the Interim CAO for the Month of February and distributed by email to Council through a Release of Information February 21, 2024.</p>	Feb. 20/24	
<p>Chief Administrative Officer (CAO) Recruitment: Position HumanEdge Executive Search is conducting the "Screening Process" and an update will be provided to Council under Executive Session.</p>	Jan. 2024	
COMMUNITY		
Projects	In Progress	Completed
<p>Metis Nation of Alberta (MNA)</p> <p>On January 5, 2024, Ron Henderson, Energy and Sustainability Manager reached out to our Planning and Development Department for a Letter of Support of the Metis Nation of Alberta's 2024 Emerald Nomination for Environmental Excellence in respect to their Solar Farm Project.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">(Attachment: C-1)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ As per email, the Métis Nation of Alberta is self-nominating the Métis Crossing Solar Project for an Alberta Emerald Award for 2024 - One of the requirements for an Emerald award nomination is a letter of support from a third party. ▪ Smoky Lake County has always collaborated and supported clubs and organizations in opportunities for growth and recognition. This strengthens our relationship and enhances community success. <p>Recommendation: That Smoky Lake County approve action taken in providing the Metis Nation of Alberta (MNA) with a Letter of Support for the Metis Nation of Alberta 2024 Emerald Nomination for Environmental Excellence in respect to their Solar Farm Project.</p>	Feb. 5/24	Feb. 8/28
TRAINING / MEETINGS		
Nil		
ACTION LIST		
December 14, 2023 Council Meeting Action List (Attachment: AL-1)		
<p>Signature: </p> <p><i>Interim Chief Administrative Officer</i></p>	County Council Meeting: February 22, 2024	

Smoky Lake County Strategic Plan 2023 – 2025 Progress Update

371-24: Halisky

That Smoky Lake County Council accept the Strategic Plan 2023-2025 Progress Priorities update for 2023, for information.

Carried.

Inside Outside Studios Inc. – iHunter Alberta App – Map Sales in 2023

372-24: Cere

That Smoky Lake County Council **rescind** the February 8, 2024, **Motion #334-24; and acknowledge receipt** of the 2023 County Map Sales – Annual Report, received from Inside Outside Studios Inc., of Calgary Alberta, in regard to the sale of virtual Smoky Lake County maps sold through their mobile application software: “iHunter Alberta”, reporting a total of 345 maps sold in Year-2023, which generated a royalty revenue to the County in the amount of \$2,957.92, with a map sale price in the amount of \$19.99, as per the correspondence received from Mark Stenroos of Inside Outside Studios Inc., dated January 12, 2024.

Carried.

Management Policy 1-M-45-01: Waste Management Operator

373-24: Fenerty

That Smoky Lake County acknowledge receipt of the Management Policy 1-M-45-01: Waste Management Operator for information purposes:

Title: Waste Management Operator	Policy No.: 45-01
Section: 1 - M <i>Job Description</i>	Code: P-A Page No: 1 of 3

Classification: Hourly Salary

Purpose:	Under the supervision of the Environment and Parks Manager, the Waste Management Operator is responsible for operating the solid waste vehicle to collect and transport solid waste and operates the mechanism for loading, compressing, and dumping refuse; they drive to designated areas to collect and/or deliver refuse materials; safely operate the solid waste collection truck; safely operate the packing and dumping apparatus; assure that the solid waste collection truck is properly fueled, equipped, lubricated, and serviced; wash interior and exterior of the solid waste collection truck; report needed repairs immediately; and participate in related cross-training opportunities as assigned, such as skid steer operation for moving solid waste. <i>The duties, responsibilities, and scope of this position may, from time to time, be amended, altered, or changed by the Smoky Lake County (the County) acting reasonably to meet the business, community, and/or regulatory needs of the organization.</i>
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Policy Statement and Guidelines:

<p>RESPONSIBILITIES</p> <p>1. General</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1.1. Inspect the vehicle and equipment before they start driving (to ensure things are safe and in good working order) 1.2. Conduct daily pre-inspection and post-inspection checks on trucks 1.3. Perform daily cleaning, safety, and preventative maintenance checks on assigned equipment 1.4. Follow a regular pickup route or route card instructions 1.5. Load blue bins or bags into collection units or sort materials into truck compartments 1.6. Answer questions about recycling and deal respectfully with the public 1.7. Speak with dispatchers concerning delays, unsafe sites, accidents, equipment breakdowns, and other maintenance problems 1.8. Report operational and safety-related incidents to supervisor / foreperson 1.9. Return to recycling depots or warehouses to dump truck contents 1.10. Refuel trucks at depots 1.11. Keep work areas and trucks clean, and remove snow as required 1.12. Review policies and procedures often 1.13. Ensure that all health and safety procedures are followed, and all required safety PPE is used 1.14. Complete required paperwork.
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Title: Waste Management Operator	Policy No.: 45-01
Section: 1 - M <i>Job Description</i>	Code: P-A Page No: 2 of 3

2. Safety:

- 2.1. Ensure that Smoky Lake County's Health and Safety Program along with the requirements and procedures as outlined in the Safety Policy Manual are adhered to, and the Alberta Occupational Health and Safety (OH&S) standards are met.
- 2.2. Perform Safety Hazard Assessments.
- 2.3. Attend training sessions and workshops, as required.

3. Working Environment, Physical Conditions and Capabilities:

- 3.1 This position works closely with the County waste management facility, exposed to and coming into contact with waste or recycling materials. Safety precautions and gear are provided and must be used at all times.
- 3.2 Some exposure to the environmental elements and weather may be expected.
- 3.3. Physical requirements include: standing, walking, bending, and lifting. Work is physical and requires a moderate degree of fitness.
- 3.4 Work may be conducted working alone, requiring the need to report in and/or use the work alone system (Kytech) according to County procedures.
- 3.5 Good depth perception and hand-eye coordination are requirements of this job.
- 3.6 This is a safety sensitive position.

QUALIFICATIONS

- Ability to perform all job functions required in a safe manner to avoid personal injury, injury of others, and equipment or property damage.
- Being accountable for own actions and to be organized on the job, ensuring that work is conducted at a steady and efficient pace.
- Good communication skills that allow for clear communication and information exchange.
- Ability to establish and maintain respectful and effective working relationships with others, and to manage conflicts that may arise in a respectful, inclusive, and calm manner, ensuring a positive attitude is employed in day-to-day work.
- Considerable knowledge of safety standard practices governing the operation of vehicles
- Considerable knowledge of relevant traffic laws
- Considerable knowledge of the principles, operation and servicing of trucks and related automotive equipment
- Ability to properly use, operate, and care for tools, equipment, and materials
- Ability to perform routine maintenance and minor repairs to equipment
- Ability to read and understand vehicle operator's manual.

Job Description: Waste Management Operator

Environment & Parks Department

Title: Waste Management Operator	Policy No.: 45-01
Section: 1 - M <i>Job Description</i>	Code: P-A Page No: 3 of 3

EMPLOYEE EVALUATION

- Evaluated by the Environment and Parks Manager on a yearly basis.
- Hourly Salary Range: as per Local 955 Collective Agreement with Smoky Lake County.

Carried.

Métis Nation of Alberta (MNA) – Letter of Support

374-24: Cere

That Smoky Lake County approve action taken in providing the Métis Nation of Alberta (MNA) with a Letter of Support for the Métis Nation of Alberta 2024 Emerald Nomination for Environmental Excellence in respect to their Solar Farm Project.

Carried.

Interim Chief Administrative Officer Report

375-24: Halisky

That Smoky Lake County Council accept the Interim Chief Administrative Officer Report, for the period of January 26, 2024, to February 15, 2024, including the December 2023 Council Meeting Action Lists, for information.

Carried.

9. Council Committee Reports:

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

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

January 22-24, 2024

- attended the 2024 ASB Conference in Lethbridge AB. With our Ag fieldman Carliegh, Amanda and producer rep Tamara Flondra the first day I attended the ASB town hall meeting, some points discussed were the Feds gave 36 million for OFCAF so far , new program coming out in February, increased funding for weed control on Alberta highways, Alberta bee keepers produced more honey than any other jurisdiction, some of the other topics of the conference included history and impact of ASB's in Alberta and ASB updates, history of the soil conservation act and reality of soil erosion, pest act, weed control act, clubroot protocols, a Cleanfarms update, the Alberta rat control program, hydrogen and energy transition for rural Alberta, drones in agriculture, farm transitions, the Taber sugar beet factory, and a presentation on the story of the Irvine school agriculture discovery centre, a resolutions session, and an address from the Hon. RJ Sigurdson minister of Agriculture and Irrigation.

February 5, 2024

- attended the LARA meeting along with our 2 producer reps Barb Shapka & Amanda Fischer, municipal funding was discussed and Lakeland HR will be working on some of the policies and staff grid, met the new research scientists Angelica and Lance Ouellette they are excited to be at LARA and have some new ideas for research including hemp as a cash crop, rye grass inter crop, distance between rows using 15" rows for canola and using a seedmaster drill, also a camelina trial, the chair went to a recent RDAR meeting, Alyssa gave the executive directors report along with the financials she attended several ASB meetings LICA and a watershed meeting EFP's are being done, purchased a new Ford truck for towing the trailer, the RALP program opened up again and she is working on the financials for the RDAR audit. Upcoming events
 - o Feb 7 regenerative living labs workshop Vilna
 - o Feb 9 farmer appreciation Glendon
 - o Feb 13 sheep and goat forum Elk Point
 - o Feb 15 securing success programs and funding opportunities Lac La Biche
 - o Feb 21 gardening for pollinators Flat Lake Hall
 - o March 2 innovation on the ranch Lac La Biche
 - o March 6 LARA AGM Goodridge Hall
 - o March 12 Lakeland agronomy update Ashmont Agri plex
 - o March 13 securing success programs and funding opportunities Smoky Lake National Hall
 - o March 25 policy and regular meeting Ashmont

February 9, 2024

- I attended the Farmer appreciation evening in Glendon with our 2 producer reps Barb Shapka and Amanda Fischer along with some of their family members
- February 12 chaired the Smoky Lake ASB meeting, had a presentation from Alyssa executive director of LARA and the board made a recommending motion to fund LARA for the 2024 year and for our ag fieldmen to bring back how and what they could do for extension work in the county by Oct 2024 also received an event poster from connect for food happening on April 15next ASB meeting March 5.

February 15, 2024

- attended the Evergreen regional waste, Ashley gave the financials Paul had a meeting with our engineers about the new inert waste cell construction he also updated us on some spring seminars and conferences happening with SWANA and Alberta CARE, he gave his site report, Beaver river waste commission has hauled 10 walking floor loads into our site and everything is going well with that trial, fire department will be coming in to inspect where we will be stockpiling tire aggregate, the metal recycler Richmond Steel has finished baling metal on site, he is looking for a seasonal worker, and we also discussed some new landfill technologies, next meeting is March 21 in St. Paul.

February 16, 2024

- attended the Alberta health engagement session in Westlock some good discussions on what isn't working what is and what could we do better in health delivery by AHS.

Cleanfarms Inc.
376-24: Halisky

That Smoky Lake County continue to work with agricultural product suppliers to minimize the amount of unwanted pesticide & livestock/animal medication waste entering the landfills and encourage the continuation of storing the items in preparation for the Year-2025 collection program proposed through Cleanfarms Inc. (a non-profit industry stewardship organization helping farmers recycle or properly dispose of waste agricultural plastic and other waste materials generated on farms).

Carried.

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

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

January 29, 2024 – Regional Emergency Mgmt. Advisory Comm. – County Chambers – 1:00 p.m.

- Action lists were reviewed & updated
- Draft changes to Emergency Management Bylaw were reviewed by attendees. The revised bylaw will be sent to Ian Fox for approval.

- Next meeting: April 4, 2024 – 9:00 a.m.
- February 12, 2024 – Muni-Corr – via Zoom – 10:00 a.m.
- Meeting cancelled
- Other Meetings
- January 26, 2024 – RMA District 5 Mtg. – Fort Kent
- January 29, 2024 – Smoky Lake Region – ICC – Fire Services – County Chambers – 9:00 a.m.
- January 31, 2024 – COW Meeting – County Chambers – 9:00 a.m.
- February 5, 2024 – MCC (Lydia's office) – 1:00 p.m.
- February 6, 2024 – Information Session: Provincial Police Advisory Board – County Chambers – 10:00 a.m.
- February 7, 2024 – Physicians & Health Care Professionals Comm – 5:00 p.m. – via Zoom
- February 8, 2024 – County Council Meeting – Council Chambers – 9:00 a.m.
- February 15, 2024 – Emerging Trends in Municipal Law – County Chambers – 7:45 a.m. (late due to Dr. appt)

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

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

January 29: Smoky Lake Region ICC Meeting – Fire Services

- Transitional Solutions options reviewed
- Fire Chief will have list of assets for next meeting
- Some sections will be reviewed at next meeting (job description, hours of operation, pay as well as how to hire, for example).

January 29: Regional Emergency Management Advisory Committee (Alternate)

January 29: Joint Municipalities Meeting

- RCMP report indicates property crimes are up at the moment
- New corporal to arrive February 12
- MLA Glenn van Dijken reported on behalf of the Gov't. of Alberta; included updates on Highway 28 improvements as well as speed zone request, Doctor internship placement (Manning), new school (Waskatenau) update, new funding programs

January 31: Council Meeting of the Whole – Strategic Planning

- Police Transition Grant program reviewed/discussed
- Discussed various approaches to tax incentives
- Reviewed Off Highway Vehicle Restriction proposal in preparation of upcoming fire season

February 4: Provincial Police Advisory Board

- Online presentation describing structure of Provincial Police Advisory Board

February 8: Regular Council Meeting

February 12: Agricultural Service Board (Alternate; Zoom)

February 14: Joint Health & Safety Committee (Alternate; Zoom)

February 15: Brownlee LLP Emerging Trends in Municipal Law (Zoom presentation in chambers; hopefully we can get a copy of the presentations for those who were unable to attend)

- Listened to Brownlee Law LLP's presentations on the following:
- Teamwork: How Governance CAN Work
- Flushing Out the Details: Clearing Up Concerns Related to Municipal Utility By-Laws
- Tax Incentives: Harnessing Opportunities for Growth & Tax Base Expansion
- Is the "Just Cause" Test Finally Catching Up to Our New Higher Standards of Workplace Conduct and Harassment-Free Workplaces?
- Municipal Risk Management: Public Spaces, Employment & Construction
- Case Law & Legislative Update

February 16: Smoky Lake Foundation Board:

- Regular Board meeting as well as a tour of the facility

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

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

January 17, 2024 – Northeast Alberta HUB Meeting (in-person)

- Opening remarks from MLA Scott Cyr with MLA's Shane Getson and Tany Yao in attendance.
- Discussion on Canadian Exporters & Manufacturers meeting with GOA discussing lack of banking support in rural Alberta and that there will be 10 business support sessions held by the GOA with one in Bonnyville and Two Hills.
- Executive Director Report – Bob Bezpalko discussed Economic Corridors including highways/rail in the Northeast Region, County of Vermillion River is the lead on an ACP Grant for a GIS project for the HUB Region, drone use trials for all industries in the HUB Region and housing initiative through CIB - Canadian Infrastructure Bank Funding with a survey being sent out to all HUB Members.
- MLA Shane Getson – Parliamentary Secretary for Economic Corridors discussed agriculture/energy/manufacturing etc. has to increase due to world demands and that there needs to be development of Economic Corridors throughout Alberta to enable product etc. movement.
- Financial report was giving with all in good standing.
- Next Meeting is scheduled for March 26, 2024.

January 18, 2024 – Alberta's Lakeland DMO Meeting (virtually)

- Website – Q4/23 slowed down which wasn't unexpected due to shoulder season to which the region is looking into more winter activities, Q1/24 has over 400% increase in traffic compared to December 2023 and the event calendar use is the primary focus presently.
- 2024 Marketing Plan and Budget is to attend (have a booth) at the Edmonton Boat & Sportsman Show/ other shows, continue web design work, region contests, radio advertising and Veteran Memorial Highway Magazine ad etc.
- Chris Downs from Travel Alberta gave a presentation on Destination Management Organization is growing the marketing including air service and places.

- Treasurers report was giving with all in good standing.
 - Next Meeting date is TBD.
- January 22, 2024 – Ukrainian Twinning Meeting (virtually)
- Appointment of Chair (Lorne Halisky) and Vice Chair (Marianne Prockiwi-Zarusky).
 - Village of Vilna withdrawal from committee was discussed and a decision was made so the Managing Partner and Committee Chair reach out to the Village.
 - A Thank You letter was sent to Community Futures for their donation of \$722.50-CAD and will be wired to Kosiv by January 31, 2024.
 - Education project is still in the works with creating virtual Pen Pals through Kosiv student videos sharing culture, heritage etc.
 - Financial report was giving with all in good standing.
 - Thank you to Michelle Wright for her service on this committee as her contract has expired and the Managing Partner will be taking over.
 - Next Meeting date will be called by the Chair.
- January 30, 2024 – Alberta Drought Preparedness Telephone Town Hall
- Discussion on food security/affordability and we must be water wise by minimizing use of water for nonessential uses such as lawns, swimming pools etc.
 - Southern Alberta is in a severe drought condition with reservoirs and rivers in extremely low volumes/flows.
 - Fire Prevention/Protection is also in force fire smarting regions etc.
 - Public awareness campaigns will be out shortly to minimize water use etc.
- February 5, 2024 – MCC Meeting (virtually)
- Discussion was held on moving the MCC monies into a MUSH Account with a floating interest rate, is redeemable etc. and discussed setting up a meeting with all partners on CEO matters etc.
 - Minutes of October 2023 and 2023 Financials were approved.
- February 6, 2024 – Provincial Police Advisory Board – East Information Session Webinar
- RCMP follow Alberta legislation etc.
 - Municipalities fund local policing committees.
 - An online questionnaire can be accessed using PSES.Engagement@gov.ab.ca closing date March 15, 2024.

Reeve & Division 5 Councillor's Report on various Committees, Boards and Commissions

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

January 16, 2024 - Ad-Hoc Working Group Committee for Housing Opportunities and Initiatives, held in Council Chambers (Jered, Lorne & Dominique)

- Discussed the offerings and restrictions of each municipality's development and housing and also referenced the Needs & Demand Assessment – Smoky Lake Region, prepared by: The Sustainable Housing Initiative at the Rural Development Network, Dated February 2023, to aim to be development & developer to attract housing investment to the region.

January 16, 2024 – Smoky Lake RCMP – Crime Prevention Town Hall Meeting, held in Smoky Lake (All Council, except Dan)

- Smoky Lake RCMP, along with Smoky Lake County Rural Crime Watch and Citizens on Patrol (C.O.P), provided presentations including: CPTED – Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design, C.O.P Program, and further information on how to protect yourself and your property in both rural or urban areas.

January 19, 2024 – Smoky Lake Foundation Board of Directors Meeting, held Bar-V-Nook, (Jered & Dominique)

- Received updates from the CAO, Financial Reports.
- Was briefed on the Alberta Seniors, Community and Social Services' Compliance Audit that was completed in October 2023 and the items that need to be addressed.
- Approved to enter a 3-Year Operating Agreement with Homeland Housing effective February 12, 2024.

January 19, 2024 – Council Committee of the Whole meeting, held virtually (All Council)

- Held discussion in Executive Session under the authority of the FOIP Act Section 16: Third Party Business Interests and Section 27: Privileged Information, to discuss a Legal Issue in respect Métis Nation of Alberta's proposed Supportive Living Facility Development: Healing Waters Treatment Center, with Delegations: Alberta (MNA) Representatives: Aaron Barner, Senior Executive Officer, Reagan Bartel, Director of Health, Ron Harrison, Executive Director of MNA Holdings Inc., and Juanita Marios, Executive Director of Métis Crossing.

January 25, 2024 – Regular Council Meeting, held in Chambers (All Council)

- Approved the Annual Membership to Go East of Edmonton for \$400.
- Approved a Roadway License for Smoky Lake Trail Twisters Snowmobile Club to use the undeveloped road allowance along Rge Rd 171, between Twp R 595A & 621, as part of their trail.
- Agreed to sell County-Owned land: PT. SE-09-58-15-4W, containing +/- 20.04 acres, for \$50,000.00 + GST.
- Amended Policy Statement No. 62-12-04: Clubroot.
- Approved a sponsorship of \$1,000 to Alberta Invasive Species Council.
- Approved a sponsorship of \$500 to the "Original Grazing School for Woman" event.
- Approved to provide \$250 towards the Smoky Lake Stars U7 Minor Hockey tournament.
- Approved \$1,706 of FCSS funds to Village of Waskatenau Library Board.
- Approved \$1,875 of FCSS funds to Vilna & District Agricultural Society.
- Approved for Council to NOT receive any Cost-of-Living increment in 2024.
- Approved to renew the \$808.73 Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM) membership.
- Recommended implementing a letter writing campaign involving members of the public, community stakeholders, businesses, Smoky Lake Region Municipalities, Settlements, Reserves, and anyone, to urge the Provincial Government and Regional Health Authority in taking action to remove the red tape hindering the attraction and retention of physicians affecting

- the George McDougall Health Care Centre's Emergency Room Services and Medical Clinics in the Smoky Lake Region.
- Acknowledged Alberta Community Partnership (ACP) 2023-24 grant funding approvals for:
 - \$99,900.00, in support of the Smoky Lake Region Municipal Land Use Suitability Tool (MLUST) project;
 - \$200,000.00, in support of the Smoky Lake Regional Water and Wastewater Infrastructure project; and
 - \$200,000.00, in support of the Smoky Lake Regional Recreation Services Strategy project.
 - Agree to renew the Standing Offer Agreement (SOA) with Associated Engineering Alberta Ltd., for 3 more years.
 - Denied support for Metis Crossing Limited's application under Alberta's Community Organization Property Tax Exemption Regulation (COPTER) for property tax roll 17581251.
 - Approved to engage HumanEdge Executive Search for \$15,000 to help recruit a County CAO.
- January 26, 2024 – RMA District 5 Meeting, held in Fort Kent (All Council)
- Brought forward a draft Resolution for RMA to consider advocating to the Government of Alberta to collaborate with the Federal Government and Fire Underwriters Survey for the purpose of assisting municipalities to retain fire services by recruiting firefighters and addressing the declining Fire Department Services across Rural Alberta.
- January 29, 2024 – Smoky Lake Region Intermunicipal Collaboration Committee, held in Chambers (All Council)
- Approved the Smoky Lake Region Fire & Rescue Levels of Service.
 - Approved the funding requisition model for the Regional Fire Services' three-year budget.
- January 29, 2024 – Joint Municipalities Meeting, held in Waskatenau (All Council)
- Received updates and presentations from Smoky Lake RCMP, MLA Glenn van Dijken, Portage College, and Aspen View Public School Division.
- January 31, 2024 - Council Committee of the Whole (All Council, except Dan)
- Held discussion in Executive Session, under the authority of the FOIP Act Section 21: Intergovernmental Relations and Section 24: Advice from Officials, to discuss a Land Issue in respect to White Earth Creek Water Flow.
 - Recommended clarification be sought for what actions Smoky Lake County can or cannot undertake in respect to White Earth Creek's water flow flooding surrounding lands.
 - Recommended further research to consider options for implementing Property Tax Incentives / Exemptions.
 - recommend Administration bring forward a draft bylaw to revise and repeal the Bylaw No. 1149-07: Off Highway Vehicles (OHV), to allow for the incorporation of OHV restriction regulations for the purpose of enforcing fire prevention.
 - Reviewed the County's Strategic Plan 2023-2025 Priorities Progress.
- February 7, 2024 - Northeast Alberta Alliance for Growth & Opportunity (NAAGO) Meeting, held in Myrnam (Jered)
- Approved the 2024 Budget and the recommend municipal funding contribution amounts.
 - Received advocacy updates about Alberta Health Services and Highway 28.
 - Acknowledged the 26 letters to be sent to various Ministers expressing interest in consultation, engagement, and partnership opportunities between municipalities in our region and the Government of Alberta.
- February 7, 2024 - Physicians and Health Care Professionals Committee Meeting, held in Town Chambers and Virtually (Jered & Linda)
- Discussed potential additional uses and specialty opportunities for both Vilna and Smoky Lake Health Centre.
 - Agreed to promote the PatientsFirst Letter Writing Campaign to residents and stakeholders with the intent of removing red tape hindering the attraction and retention of physicians affecting the George McDougall Health Care Centre's Emergency Room Services and Medical Clinics in the Smoky Lake Region.
 - Agreed to apply for the 2024 Rural Health Professions Action Plan's (RhPAP) Rhapsody Award for the Rural Health-Care Heroes and nominate Dr. Anton Raubenheimer, Dr. Stephan Raubenheimer and Dr. Hendrick Lourens as well as their dedicated staff at the Raubenheimer Medical Clinic.
 - Approved to recommend the 2024 Budget of \$24,000 funded by the County, Town & Villages.
- February 8, 2024 – Regular Council Meeting, held in Chambers (all Council)
- Agreed to allow billboards on County-Owned land north of Smoky Lake along Hwy, subject to approval through the Development Permit process.
 - Gave First Reading to Bylaw No. 1454-24: Off Highway Vehicles (OHV), to regulating the operation of off-highway vehicles and provide enforceable OHV restrictions for fire prevention; and ask for Public Participation.
 - Gave three Reading to Bylaw No. 1455-24: Corridor Regulation, for use of the corridor owned by North East Muni-Corr Ltd. (Iron Horse Trail).
 - Denied a claim from a member of the public, claiming personal vehicle damages on January 23, 2024, in the amount of \$419.
- February 12, 2024 – Agricultural Service Board Meeting, held in Chambers (Jered & Dan)
- Recommended that Smoky Lake County provides \$55,000 towards the Lakeland Agricultural Research Association (LARA) Year-2024 Operating Budget, to allow County producers access to their 2024 environmental and extension programming.
 - Requested all relevant detailed historical information from LARA in respect to the number of LARA events held in Smoky Lake County and the number of Smoky Lake County producers who were in attendance.
 - Recommended the County Ag Fieldman bring forward options for providing environmental and extension programming specific to Smoky Lake County Producers in Year-2025.
- February 14, 2024 – Joint Health & Safety Committee, held virtually (Jered & Dominique)
- Reviewed the Safety Audit Report - COR Maintenance dated December 15, 2023.
 - Approved new Policy Statement No. 01-07-01: Health & Safety Communication.
 - Received Committee Member updates and reports.

- No incidents since December 8, 2023.

Reeve's Report and Councillors Reports

377-24: Cere

That Smoky Lake County's Reeve Report received for the period of January 12, 2024, to February 15, 2024, be posted to the County's website and the Councillors reports on various committees, boards and commissions, be accepted as presented.

Carried.

11:41 to 11:57 a.m.

Public Question and Answer Period:

Bill Yaceyko, landowner: questioned the certification of the septic system existing on the land at SW-36-58-13-W4, and expressed concerns about the development permit approval process and the neighboring dogs.

Jordan Ruegg, Planning & Development Manager: noted the septic system would have been a condition of the original subdivision.

Jered Serben, Reeve: responded that there are bylaws in place to address the number of dogs and noise and we can get back to you with further information.

Meeting Recessed

Meeting recessed for Lunch, time 11:58 a.m.

Meeting Reconvened

The meeting reconvened on a call to order by the Reeve at 12:44 p.m. in the physical (or virtual) presence of all Council Members (except for Dan Gawalko), Interim Chief Administrative Officer, Finance Manager, Executive Services Clerk, Planning & Development Manager, Communications Officer, GIS Operator, Environment & Parks Manager, Natural Gas Manager, Fire Services Clerk, and five Members of the Public.

14. Executive Session:

Legal Issue: Métis Nation of Alberta's Proposed Supportive Living Facility Development

378-24: Halisky

That Smoky Lake County Council go into Executive Session to discuss a Legal Issue: Métis Nation of Alberta's Proposed Supportive Living Facility Development: Healing Waters Treatment Center, under the authority of the FOIP Act Section 16: Third Party Business Interests and Section 27: Privileged Information, in the presence of all Council (except Dan Gawalko), Interim Chief Administrative Officer, Planning & Development Manager, Finance Manager, and Executive Services Clerk, time 12:44 p.m..

Carried.

379-24: Halisky

That Smoky Lake County Council go out of Executive Session, time 1:11 p.m.

Carried.

10. Correspondence:

10.1. Village of Vilna – Notice of Sewage Lagoon Release

380-24: Halisky

That Smoky Lake County acknowledge receipt of the letter from the Village of Vilna, dated February 7, 2024, providing formal notice in respect to the release of the Vilna sewage lagoon due to an unanticipated breach of the lagoon caused by a failed gate valve and allowing sewage outflow into the designated channel, to empty the lagoon and repair the valve, effective February 7, 2024, and to be completed by February 21, 2024.

Carried.

10.2. Alberta Public Safety & Emergency Services, Policing Cost Share

381-24: Halisky That Smoky Lake County remit payment in the amount of \$188,262.00 to the Government of Alberta, for the Policing Cost Share Under the Police Funding Model, calculated on a population of 2,660, as per the letter received from the Acting Assistant Deputy Minister, Alberta Public Safety and Emergency Services, dated January 31, 2024, requesting same.

Carried.

10.3. Alberta Municipalities – Membership Renewal Invoice for 2024

382-24: Fenerty That Smoky Lake County Council approved to purchase a Year-2024 membership to the Alberta Municipalities, in the amount of \$1,386.00, including GST, as per the email correspondence from Alberta Municipalities, dated January 25, 2024, and invoice #AS202401-052, dated January 18, 2024.

Carried.

10.4. NWST Charitable Foundation – Free Tree Planting Proposal

383-24: Halisky That Smoky Lake County Council acknowledge the additional information received from NWST Charitable Foundation, dated February 15, 2024, in accordance with the February 8, 2024, Council Meeting Motion #335-24, in respect to the email from Harpreet Kaur, NWST Charitable Foundation, dated January 23, 2024, proposing an initiative to enhance the preservation of nature by planting trees, free of cost; and acknowledge the County's suitable areas to engage this initiative are already being planted through North East Muni-Corr Ltd., and therefore Smoky Lake County has no capacity to participate.

Carried.

10.5. Municipal Affairs - Grant Meetings at RMA Spring 2024 Convention

384-24: Cere That Smoky Lake County arrange a meeting for Council and relevant Staff who can attend – to attend a meeting with Municipal Affairs Grant Program Staff on location at the Rural Municipalities of Alberta (RMA) Spring 2024 Convention for one-on-one, 20-minute private meeting on a date and time between Tuesday, March 19th from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. and on Wednesday, March 20th from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m., as per the email correspondence received from Municipal Affairs, dated February 15, 2024; and respond to the said email by the deadline of March 6, 2024, to provide the: discussion topic(s), attendee name(s), and preferred time slot.

Carried.

10.6. Alberta RCMP Traffic Strategic Plan 2024-2028

385-24: Fenerty That Smoky Lake County acknowledge receipt of the Alberta RCMP traffic Strategic Plan 2024-2028 report, aimed to enhance public safety by reducing harm and hazardous behaviour on Alberta roadways through strategic partnerships, enforcement, education and crime reduction initiatives.

Carried.

10.7. Strategic Performance Planning, Smoky Lake Provincial Detachment 2023

386-24: Halisky That Smoky Lake County acknowledge receipt of the K Division Criminal Intelligence, RCMP, report titled: Strategic Analysis and Research Unit, Calls for Service, Strategic Performance Planning, Smoky Lake Provincial Detachment, January – December 2023.

Carried.

Addition to the Agenda:

10.8. National Police Federation - Budget Update

387-24: Halisky

That Smoky Lake County acknowledge receipt of the email correspondence from the National Police Federation (NFP), dated February 8, 2024, including the NFP’s document titled: 2024 Pre-Budget Submission to the Government of Alberta, dated January 2024; and provide a letter in support of equitable investment into the Alberta RCMP, to Premier Smith, as requested.

Carried.

11. Information Releases:

388-24: Fenerty

That Smoky Lake County Council’s “Information Releases” received within the period of January to February, 2024, listed as follows, be filed for information:

Tracking Number & Description of Information Released:	Date Released:	Released by:	Municipal File #:
R001.24 – Vilna Solar Project December 2023 Newsletter	Jan. 04’24	Legislative	61-39
R002.24 – Town of Smoky Lake January 2024 Newsletter	Jan. 04’24	Legislative	1-113
R003.24 – RMA President's Update January 2024	Jan. 05’24	Reeve	1-10
R004.24 – RMA Contact Newsletter January 5, 2024	Jan. 09’24	Legislative	1-10
R005.24 – RMA Contact Newsletter January 12, 2024	Jan. 12’24	Legislative	1-10
R006.24 – UCC E-Bulletin January 12, 2024	Jan. 15’24	Legislative	1-209
R007.24 – Pryveet Dance Club Minutes Nov 29 2023	Jan. 16’24	Legislative	ANI Binder
R008.24 – RMA Contact Newsletter January 19, 2024	Jan. 16’24	Legislative	1-10
R009.24 – County Manager’s January 2024 Reports	Jan. 22’24	Legislative	N/A
R010.24 - FCM Newsletter January 22, 2024	Jan. 22’24	Legislative	1-152
R011.24 - Minister of Ag & Irrigation - Thank You Letter	Jan. 25’24	Legislative	62-40
R012.24 - RMA Contact Newsletter, January 26, 2024	Jan. 29’24	Legislative	1-10
R013.24 - NSWSA January Newsletter	Feb. 01’24	Legislative	4-35
R014.24 - Aspen View Public Schools Newsletter - January 25	Feb. 01’24	Legislative	17-4
R015.24 - Oil and Gas Outstanding Taxes in Smoky Lake County	Jan. 31’24	Finance	12-44
R016.24 - RMA Contact Newsletter Feb. 2, 2023	Feb. 02’24	Legislative	1-10
R017.24 - FCM Newsletter February 5, 2024	Feb. 06’24	Legislative	1-152
R018.24 - HAK School Newsletter - February 2024	Feb. 07’24	Legislative	17-4
R019.24 - Town of Smoky Lake February 2024 Newsletter	Feb. 07’24	Legislative	1-113
R020.24 - RMA Contact Newsletter Feb. 9, 2024	Feb. 09’24	Legislative	1-10
R021.24 – Gas Alberta Inc. Interim Report Dec 31-2023	Feb. 12’24	Legislative	9-23

Carried.

12. Financial Reports:

Budget to Actual Report

389-24: Cere

That Smoky Lake County financial reports, including the Budget to Actual as of January 16, 2024, and Financial Statements for the month of December 2023, to the next scheduled Council meeting.

Carried.

13. Next Meeting(s):

Scheduled County Council Meetings

390-24: Fenerty

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

- Friday, March 1, 2024, at 9:00 a.m. (Committee of the Whole),**
- Tuesday, March 5, 2024, at 10:00 a.m., (Committee of the Whole),**
- Thursday, March 7, 2024, at 9:00 a.m., (Regular),**
- Thursday, March 28, 2024, at 9:00 a.m., (Regular),**
- Thursday, April 11, 2024, at 9:00 a.m., (Regular), and**
- Thursday, April 25, 2024, at 9:00 a.m., (Regular),**

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

Carried.

14. Executive Session:

Personnel Issue: Chief Administrative Officer (CAO) Recruitment

391-24: Halisky That Smoky Lake County Council go into Executive Session to discuss a Personnel Issue: Chief Administrative Officer (CAO) Recruitment, under the authority of the FOIP Act Section 24: Advice from Officials, and FOIP Section 27: Privileged Information, in the presence of all Council (except Councillor Gawalko), Interim Chief Administrative Officer, Finance Manager, and Executive Services Clerk, time 1:58 p.m..

Carried.

392-24: Fenerty That Smoky Lake County Council go out of Executive Session, time 2:05 p.m.

Carried.

Councillor Halisky, left Council Chambers, time 2:10 p.m.

Mark Fedoretz, Public Works Shop Foreman, virtually joined the meeting, time 2:14 p.m.

Councillor Halisky, entered Council Chambers, time 2:16 p.m.

7. Request for Decision (Continued):

7.4. Capital Purchase – Mower and Side Arm to Replace Unit #473 & Unit #474

393-24: Halisky That Smoky Lake County Council **amend** the interim Year-2024 Capital Budget to accommodate an increased expense in the amount of \$12,000.00 to a total in the amount of \$92,000.00 for the purpose of purchasing a mower and side arm to replace the Agricultural Department's Unit #473 & Unit #474; **and** acknowledge receipt the bids received for the said equipment tender for a 15' REV Rotary Mower and Sidearm as follows:

Agland	\$97,636.96 + GST
Deerland	\$92,000.00 + GST
Industrial Machine Inc.	\$99,920.00 + GST

and award the said tender to Deerland, for the purchase of the said equipment in the amount of \$92,000.00 + GST.

Carried.

15. ADJOURNMENT:

394-24: Fenerty That the Smoky Lake County Council Meeting of February 22, 2024, be adjourned, time 2:23 p.m..

Carried.

REEVE

S E A L

CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER