



Smoky Lake County
Meeting Minutes
Council Meeting June 12, 2025 - 09:00 AM

ATTENDANCE		
<u>Div. No.</u>	<u>Councillor(s)</u>	<u>Thursday, June 12, 2025</u>
1	Dan Gawalko	Present in Chambers
2	Linda Fenerty	Virtually Present
3 / Deputy Reeve	Dominique C��r��	Present in Chambers
4	Lorne Halisky	Present in Chambers until 12:20 p.m.
5 / Reeve	Jered Serben	Present in Chambers
CAO	Kevin Lucas	Present in Chambers
Executive Assistant	Chyenne Shaw	Present in Chambers
Finance Manager	Brenda Adamson	Absent
Recording Secretary	Meaghan Andreychuk	Present in Chambers

<u>Observers in Attendance Upon Call to Order:</u>		
Comm. Officer	Evonne Zukiwski	Virtually Present
P & D Manager	Jordan Ruegg	Virtually Present
Health & Safety Cor.	Jasmine Schaub	Virtually Present
Acting Ag Fieldman	Kierstin Dubitz	Virtually Present
Enviro Ops Manager	Dave Franchuk	Virtually Present
Natural Gas Mng.	Daniel Moric	Virtually Present
Com. Peace Officer	Chandler Kerr	Virtually Present
Public	12 Members	Virtually Present

- 1

Called To Order

The meeting was Called to Order at 9:03 a.m. by the Reeve, Jered Serben.
- 2

Adoption of Agenda of the Regular Council Meeting June 12th, 2025

Moved By: Lorne Halisky

That the Smoky Lake County Council Meeting Agenda for Thursday, June 12, 2025, be adopted, with the following additions:

 - 8.10 Dust Control Concerns from County Resident
 - 8.11 Third Party Business Interests, in respect staff from the Chief Administrative Officer, under the authority of the FOIP Act, Sections 24: Privileged Information and 16: Third Party Personal Privacy – Cattle Lease
 - 8.12 Smoky Lake Town and Country Club Email
 - 8.13 Agriculture Poster Contest
 - 8.14 Additional used road graders to the County fleet

Carried.
- 3

Adoption of Minutes

Moved By: Dan Gawalko
- 543-25

That the minutes of the Smoky Lake County Regular Council Meeting, held on Thursday, May 22nd, 2025, be adopted with the following amendments:

- Correction to delegation's name
- 525-25 County Community Fund
- Amended Reeve Report:
- Add attendees to each mtg's
- Remove NAAGGO meeting
- 9.5 duplicated on the Reeve Report

Carried.

3.1 Approval of Minutes- CAO Evaluation May 22, 2025

545-25 Moved By: Dominique Céré

That the minutes of the Smoky Lake CAO Evaluation, held on Thursday, May 22, 2025, be adopted with the following amendments:

- Corrections to the attendance
- Motion numbers 529-25 and 535-25

Carried.

8.1 Regional Emergency Management Meetings

546-25 Moved By: Lorne Halisky

That Smoky Lake County schedule a Regional Emergency Management Agency (REMA) meeting on September 10, 2025, to be immediately followed by a Hazard, Risk, and Vulnerability Assessment (HRVA) session facilitated by the Alberta Emergency Management Agency (AEMA).

Carried.

8.2 Material Change Request for MCC

547-25 Moved By: Linda Fenerty

That Smoky Lake County, in its capacity as a Joint Shareholder in the Municipally Controlled Corporation for the MCC for Smoky Lake Development Corp. hereby approves the proposed material change to services suspending the current services of tourism development as for the public notice advertised on May 1st to May 14th, 2025 via Smoky Lake County Webpage, Smoky Lake County Facebook page, and X (also known as twitter) furthermore request repayment of funds invested by Smoky Lake County in the amount of \$490,000.

Carried.

8.3 Backsloping Agreements Resolutions 336-25 & 335-25 (Rescind Motions)

548-25 Moved By: Dominique Céré

That Smoky Lake Council Rescind Motions 335-25 "That Smoky Lake County Council approve the backsloping program project along the lands legally described as NW-12-58-14-W4, as per the application received from Brad Shapka, dated March 4, 2025, and subject to the pass of an inspection conduction by the Public Works Manager or designate, upon completion the County will provide funding to the applicant in the amount of half the total cost of the project up to a maximum amount of \$2,500.00, in accordance with County Policy Statement No.03-21-06" and Motion 336-25 "That Smoky Lake County Council approve the backsloping program project along the lands legally described as SW-1-60-14-W4, as per the application received from Brad Venio, dated March 12, 2025, and subject to the pass of an inspection conduction by the Public Works Manager or designate, upon completion the County will provide funding to the applicant in the amount of half the total cost of the project up to a maximum amount of \$5,000.00, in accordance with County Policy Statement No.03-21-06" Due to the amounts in the resolutions being incorrect.

Carried.

8.3.1 Back sloping Agreements Resolutions 336-25 & 335-25 (Rescind Motions)
Moved By: Dominique Céré

549-25

Furthermore, making motions for the following: Motion #1 That Smoky Lake County Council approve the backsloping program project along the lands legally described as NW-12-58-14-W4, as per the application received from Brad Shapka, dated March 4, 2025, and subject to the pass of an inspection conduction by the Public Works Manager or designate, upon completion the County will provide funding to the applicant in the amount of half the total cost of the project up to a maximum amount of \$5,000.00, in accordance with County Policy Statement No.03-21-06 Motion # 2 That Smoky Lake County Council approve the backsloping program project along the lands legally described as SW-1-60-14-W4, as per the application received from Brad Veno, dated March 12, 2025, and subject to the pass of an inspection conduction by the Public Works Manager or designate, upon completion the County will provide funding to the applicant in the amount of half the total cost of the project up to a maximum amount of \$2,500.00, in accordance with County Policy Statement No.03-21-06.

Carried.

8.3.2 Backsloping Project for NW-12-58-14-W4
Moved By: Dominique Céré

550-25

Furthermore, making motions for the following: Motion #1 That Smoky Lake County Council approve the backsloping program project along the lands legally described as NW-12-58-14-W4, as per the application received from Brad Veno, dated March 4, 2025, and subject to the pass of an inspection conduction by the Public Works Manager or designate, upon completion the County will provide funding to the applicant in the amount of half the total cost of the project up to a maximum amount of \$5,000.00, in accordance with County Policy Statement No.03-21-06

Carried.

4 Delegation(s)

Present before Council from 9:30 a.m. to 9:49 a.m. was Kevin Bernhardt, Business Development, MCSNet for the purpose of but not limited to:

- Updates on new wireless internet technologies
- Address connectivity issues in blackout areas within the Smoky Lake County Region

4.1 MCSNet - Kevin Bernhardt Business Development Manager @ 9:30 a.m.
Moved By: Lorne Halisky

551-25

That Smoky Lake County accepted the presentation of Kevin Bernhardt, Business Development, MCSNet, as information.

Carried.

8.4 Smoky Lake County Open House
Moved By: Jered Serben

552-25

That Smoky Lake County Council Rescind Motion 522-25:

That Smoky Lake County Council Direct Administration host an Open House with Hotdogs and Hamburgers for all relevant departments to demonstrate programs, equipment and services which are offered within Smoky Lake County, located at the Smoky Lake County Public Works shop, to be scheduled on August 29, 2025.

Carried.

8.4.1 Smoky Lake County Open House Spring 2026
Moved By: Jered Serben

553-25

That Smoky Lake County Council direct administration to host a Smoky Lake County Open House event in the Spring of 2026 located at the public works shop.

Carried.

8.5 Policy 15-07-01 Employee Participation in Municipal Election Campaigns
554-25 Moved By: Dan Gawalko

That Smoky Lake County Council approve Policy HR-07-01 titled "Employee Participation in Municipal Election Campaigns" as presented, to ensure compliance with the Municipal Government Act and the Local Authorities Election Act, and to safeguard administrative neutrality and the integrity of municipal operations.

Carried.

8.10 Dust Control Request from Ratepayer
555-25 Moved By: Jered Serben

That Smoky Lake County Council direct administration to advertise a speed limit reminder for Range Road 131 to help promote a decrease in dust debris in the area as well as, increasing Community Peace Officer presence to monitor the increase traffic.

Carried.

Declaration of Pecuniary Interest and Recusal from Discussion

Councillor Dominique Céré declared a pecuniary interest in Mons Lake Campground Waterfront Delegation, due to a family relationship with an individual or entity involved in the matter. In accordance with Section 172 of the Municipal Government Act, Councillor Dominique Céré abstained from discussion and voting on this item and left the meeting room at 10:16 a.m.

4.2 Delegation from Fran Byers @10:00 a.m.

Present before Council from 10:17 a.m. to 10:47 a.m. was Fran Byers, Campground Attendant, for the purpose of discussion of support in the following but limited to:

- Designating the Mons Lake Campground waterfront as a safe swim and family recreation area for registered campers only.
- Enforcing that all boats be launched from the public launch site, the Day Use Area at the south end of the lake
- Restricting boat mooring and unauthorized use of the campground waterfront by non-campers. It is common knowledge that children love to throw rocks into the water. If people are allowed to moor their boats in this area, who is liable for any resulting damage? As the campground managers, we want to make it very clear that we will not accept liability for any damages to the boats caused by this or any other activity.
- Due to some of the Facebook posts as the managers of the campground we would very much appreciate a reply regarding the boat launching concerns as soon as possible. We do not want to have conflict with the Mons Lake Residents and with a decision from council taking public safety into consideration would resolve this matter.

4.2.2 Delegation from Fran Byers
556-25 Moved By: Dan Gawalko

That Smoky Lake County accepted the presentation of Fran Byers, Mons Lake Campground Attendant, as information.

Carried.

4.2.2 Delegation from Fran Byers request for Decision from Council

557-25 Moved By: Jered Serben

That Smoky Lake County Council instruct administration to post “Boat Launch” signs near the public campground to match the boat launch signs found on the South Side of Mons Lake Boat Launch.

Carried.

Councillor Dominique Céré returned to the meeting at 10:52 a.m. following the conclusion of the item.

5 Public Hearing

Nil

7 Municipal Planning Commission

Nil

8 Business

Nil

8.6 19th Annual Federation Charity Golf Classic

558-25 Moved By: Lorne Halisky

Smoky Lake County Council sponsor the 19th Annual Federation Charity Golf Classic in the form of a donation, prize, or hole sponsorship, at Councils discretion. in the amount of \$500.00

Carried.

8.7 Natural Gas Charges

559-25 Moved By: Dan Gawalko

Smoky Lake County Council take no action in regards to the request to waive the natural gas charges in the amount of \$1,142.15, that was transferred to tax roll 18601410, on March 25, 2024.

Carried.

Councillor Linda Fenerty virtually left the meeting at 11:00 a.m.

8.8 Bellis Ukrainian Orthodox Church Special Tax Cancellation

560-25 Moved By: Lorne Halisky

That Policy Statement No 08-10-04: Special Tax Cancellation be amended to cancel the 2025 Local Improvement Tax charged to the Bellis Ukrainian Orthodox Church.

Carried.

8.9 Truck Replacement

561-25 Moved By: Lorne Halisky

Smoky Lake County Council amend the 2025 Natural Gas capital budget by changing the vehicle replacement of Unit 208 from year 2026 to year 2025 with a budget of \$28,000; and the vehicle replacement of Unit 232 from year 2025 to 2026 with a budget of \$40,000.

Carried.

Moved By: Lorne Halisky

562-25 Smoky Lake County Council approve the purchase of the 2011 Dodge 5500 ex-odorant truck (Unit 214) from Alberta Odorant Services for the price of \$19,000 plus GST, for the replacement of Unit 208 2008 Chev 5500, and sell Unit 208 at auction.

Carried.

Meeting Recessed Meeting recessed, time 11:09 a.m.

Meeting Reconvened The meeting reconvened on a call to order by the Reeve at 11:15 a.m. in the physical (or virtual) presence of all Council Members, Chief Administrative Officer, Finance Manager, Executive Services Clerk, Natural Gas Manager, and the Legislative Services Clerk.

8.10 RV Bylaw 1432-23 Request for Information.

563-25 Moved By: Dominique Céré

That Smoky Lake County Council bring Bylaw 1432-25 to the next Committee of the Whole meeting for review.

Carried.

6 Public Question and Answer Period

PUBLIC QUESTION AND ANSWER PERIOD - announced between 11:43 a.m. & 11:45

Virtual online guest Rachelle, asked if Bylaw 1432-23 RV Bylaw was still active

Reeve Serben responded: RV Bylaw is currently not being enforced at this time.

8.12 Executive Session (in camera)

564-25 Moved By: Lorne Halisky

That Smoky Lake County Council go into Executive Session, under the authority of the FOIP Act, **Section 19**: Advice from Officials, Regarding Bylaw 1432-23 in the physical presence of divisions 1,3,4, and 5 Council Members, Chief Administrative Officer, Executive Services Clerk, Planning and Development Manager, and recording Secretary, time 11:45 a.m.

Carried.

8.12 Executive Session (out of camera)

565-25 Moved By: Jered Serben

That Smoky Lake County Council go out of Executive Session, time 12:06 p.m.

Carried.

8.12 Executive Session (in camera)

566-25 Moved By: Lorne Halisky

That Smoky Lake County Council go into Executive Session, under the authority of the FOIP Act, **Section 16**: Third Party Business Interests, Regarding ***Cattle Lease adjacent to the Legacy Gravel Pit***, in the physical presence of divisions 1,3,4, and 5 Council Members, Chief Administrative Officer, Executive Services Clerk, and Legislative Services, time 12:06 p.m.

Carried.

8.12 Executive Session (out of camera)

567-25 Seconded By: Lorne Halisky

That Smoky Lake County Council go out of Executive Session, time 12:19 p.m.

Carried.

8.12 Executive Session *Cattle Lease adjacent to the Legacy Gravel Pit*

568-25 Seconded By: Jered Serben

That Smoky Lake County Council request administration to do research about details of Cattle Lease adjacent to the Legacy Gravel Pit and bring it back to the June 25th, 2025

Carried.

8.13 Email from David Ponich- Smoky Lake Town and Country Club

567-25 Moved By: Lorne Halisky

Smoky Lake County Council Defer the decision of donation of funds to Smoky Lake County Golf club until the next Smoky Lake Council meeting.

Carried.

8.11 Agriculture Poster Contest

568-25 Moved By: Dan Gawalko

That Smoky Lake County acknowledge receipt of the 2025 submissions to the Agricultural Services Poster Contest, and prizes be awarded as per Policy No. 62-06-02. "Agricultural Services Poster Contest".

Carried.

Meeting Recessed Meeting recessed, time 12:11 p.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, Chief Administrative Officer, Executive Services Clerk, and the Legislative Services Clerk.

8.14 Sale of Surplus Equipment

569-25 Moved By: Dan Gawalko

That Smoky Lake County declared as surplus, one Cat 14M road grader unit number 508 and approve it to be taken to Ritchie Brothers public auction in Nisku, Alberta on the 23rd to 25th of June, 2025.

Carried.

9 Chief Administrative Officer (CAO) Report (Action List)

570-25 Moved By: Jered Serben

Smoky Lake County forward the following motion to the next Rural Municipalities Meeting in October 2025:

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

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

Carried.

9.1 Chief Administrative Officer (CAO) Report

571-25 Moved By: Dominique Céré

That Smoky Lake County Council Accept the CAO Report (Action Item Report) dated up until May 8th, 2025 as presented.

Carried.

10 Council Committee Reports

Nil

11 Correspondence

Nil

11.1 Village of Waskatenau - Repairs on HWY 31 Bridge

572-25 Moved By: Dan Gawalko

That the Smoky Lake County Council Acknowledge receipt of letter to Michael Botros, Alberta Transportation, regarding Repairs on Highway #831 Bridge, North Saskatchewan River, dated, May 15, 2025, as information.

Carried.

11.2 Bridge HWY 831 County of Smoky Lake

573-25 Moved By: Dominique Céré

That the Smoky Lake County Council Acknowledge receipt of the email from Sgt. Anita Doktor, regarding Repairs on Highway #831 Bridge, North Saskatchewan River, dated, May 16, 2025, as information.

Carried.

11.3 Mons Lake RV

574-25 Moved By: Dominique Céré

That Smoky Lake County Council acknowledge receipt of the email received from Mons Lake resident Cindy Wearmouth, dated, Tuesday, May, 20, 2025, regarding concerns of Bylaw 1432-23 as information.

Carried.

11.4 Government of Alberta: Regional Employer Supports

575-25 Moved By: Dominique Céré

That Smoky Lake County Council acknowledge receipt of the Grants and Funding Programs for 2025 and instruct administration to bring back any relevant grant programs to the next Smoky Lake County Council Meeting on Wednesday, June, 25, 2025 as information.

Carried.

11.4.1 Transportation and Economic Corridors

576-25 Moved By: Dan Gawalko

That Smoky Lake County Council acknowledge receipt of the letter from Honourable, Devin Dreeschen, Minister of Transportation and Economic Corridors, dated May, 20, 2025 as information.

Carried.

11.5 Government of Alberta

577-25 Moved By: Dominique Céré

That Smoky Lake County Council acknowledge receipt of the dated May, 20, 2025 as information.

Carried.

11.6 Government of Alberta; Trade and Export Expansion Branch

578-25 Moved By: Dan Gawalko

That Smoky Lake County Council acknowledge receipt of the Trade and Export Expansion Branch ENERGY Industry Newsletter dated May, 20, 2025 and file for information.

Carried.

11.7 Economic Development
579-25 Moved By: Dominique Céré

That Smoky Lake County Council knowledge receipt of the Economic Development Funding Resources report, dated May, 20, 2025, as presented.

Carried.

11.8 Collaborating for Business Success
580-25 Moved By: Jered Serben

That Smoky Lake County Council acknowledge receipt of the "Collaborating for Business Success Event invitation received from Community Futures held on Wednesday, June 25, 2025 be filed for information.

Carried.

11.9 Oil & Gas Show
581-25 Moved By: Dan Gawalko

That Smoky Lake County Council acknowledge receipt of the Bonnyville District Oil and Gas Show Event invitation hosted on June 18th, 2025 to June 19th located at the Bonnyville Centennial Centre as information.

Carried.

11.10 RMA Contact Newsletter
582-25 Moved By: Dan Gawalko

That Smoky Lake County Council acknowledge receipt of the Rural Municipalities Contact Newsletter dated May, 30th, 2025 as information.

Carried.

11.11 Warspite Revitalization Foundation
583-25 Moved By: Dominique Céré

That Smoky Lake County Council donate funds in the amount **\$1,500.00** to the Warspite Foundation Event on June 14th, 2025

Carried.

12 Information Release

12.1 Smoky Lake RCMP Detachment
584-25 Moved By: Dominique Céré

That the Smoky Lake County Council Acknowledge receipt of the letter sent to Division Commanding Officer Trevor Daroux “K”-Division from Reeve, Jered Serben, regarding Support for RPAS Procurement- Smoky Lake RCMP Detachment, dated, April 29, 2025, as information.

Carried.

13 Financial Reports
585-25 Moved By: Dan Gawalko

That Smoky Lake County File Financial Reports dated June 12th, 2025, as information and request the administration to follow up with finance on detailed information regarding the School Alberta School Fund Payment.

Carried.

14 Confirmation of Upcoming meetings

586-25 Moved By: Dan Gawalko

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

- Wednesday, June, 25, 2025, at 9:00 a.m. (Regular),
- Thursday, August 28, 2025, at 9:00 a.m. (Regular)
- Thursday, September 11 and 25, 2025. at 9:00 a.m. (Regular)

Carried.

8.15 Additional Road Graders to the County Fleet

587-25 Moved By: Jered Serben

That Smoky Lake County Council direct administration to provide Council with an operational plan for the addition of 3 graders with operators which would include benefits and costs the June 25th Regular Council Meeting for further discussion.

Carried.

16 Adjournment

588-25 Moved By: Jered Serben

That the Smoky Lake County Council Meeting of June, 12th, 2025, be adjourned, time 2:12 p.m.

Carried.

REEVE,
Jered Serben

S E A L

CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER,
Kevin Lucas