

SMOKY LAKE COUNTY

Minutes of the County Council Committee of the Whole Meeting for the Purpose of a Strategic Retreat of Tuesday, March 25, 2025, at 9:03 A.M. held in County Council Chambers.

The meeting was called to Order by the Reeve Mr. Jered Serben, in the presence of the following persons:

ATTENDANCE		
<u>Div. No.</u>	<u>Councillor(s)</u>	<u>Tuesday, Mar. 25, 2025</u>
1	Dan Gawalko	Present in Chambers
2	Linda Fenerty	Present in Chambers
3 /Deputy Reeve	Dominique Céré	Present in Chambers
4	Lorne Halisky	Present in Chambers
5 / Reeve	Jered Serben	Present in Chambers
CAO	Kevin Lucas	Present in Chambers
Recording Secretary	Meaghan Andreychuk	Present in Chambers
P&D Manager	Jordan Ruegg	Virtually Present
Comm. Officer	Evonne Zukiwski	Virtually Present
Ex. Srv. Clerk	Patti Priest	Virtually Present

No Members of the Public were present.
No Members of the Media were present.

Agenda:

360-25: Cere That the Agenda for Smoky Lake County Council Committee of the Whole Meeting for the Purpose of a Strategic Retreat, for Tuesday, March 25, 2025, be adopted, as amended:

Addition to the Agenda:

- 1. Community Peace Officer Services Review
- 2. Potential dates to tour the Red Deer Healing and Wellness Center

Carried Unanimously.

Items for Information:

Strategic Review

Smoky Lake County Council reviewed the following documents:

- 2023-2025 Strategic Plan,
- Strategic Priorities Progress Update,
- Investment Attraction Strategy - March 14, 2024, and
- Rural Municipalities of Alberta (RMA) Rural Economic Development Toolkit.

Discussion led to the following points, including but not limited to:

- More attention is needed at Island Lake for fishing, and there is a need for a boat launch. Improvements, such as a shower house, change rooms, and/or playgrounds, would be beneficial at the lake recreation areas. Partnering with organizations such as the Kinettes and Lions Club on these projects should be considered. An inventory of related potential projects for the lakes should be utilized to have a plan and funding requirements ready to take advantage of any funding opportunities.
- Lobbying continues for crime reduction, policing, fire and rescue, EMS, healthcare, and housing, and it is important to promote that message to the public for awareness of Smoky Lake County’s efforts.
- More maintenance is needed at the trail staging areas and campsites.
- Rate payers should be encouraged to have fire insurance coverage and educated on what the County charges for fire

services. Fire Smart Programs, should be promoted in ways including involvement with the schools and public.

- There is potential to partner with the school boards, Portage College, and/or adjacent Reserves and Settlement to help implement or create a plan for local trades education including mechanics, beauty, robotics, fire schools, culinary, etc.
- A rebrand for the County logo should be considered to reflect an overall picture of who we are, including agriculture and lakes.

Addition to the Agenda:

Community Peace Officer Services Review

Council held discussion in respect to the activities and purpose of the Community Peace Officer (CPO), and the need to focus on educating the public on speed limited zones, being community minded, enforcing County bylaws, and presence at lake subdivisions.

Potential dates to tour the Red Deer Healing and Wellness Center

Council provided their open availability on April 15, 2025 and April 29, 2025, as potential dates for the Chief Administrative Officer to coordinate a tour of the Red Deer Healing and Wellness Center.

ADJOURNMENT

361-25: Halisky

That the Smoky Lake County Council Committee of the Whole Meeting of March 25, 2025, be adjourned, time 12:02 p.m.

Carried.

REEVE

S E A L

CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER