



Smoky Lake County

Meeting Agenda

Special County Council Meeting

August 11, 2026 – 01:00 p.m.

In Person - Council Chambers

4612 - McDougall Drive, Smoky Lake, Alberta

Please join using this link:

<https://video.businessconnect.telus.com/join/924831121>

1. CALLED TO ORDER
2. ADOPTION OF AGENDA
3. REQUESTS FOR DECISION
 - 3.1. Declaration of Agriculture Disaster
 - 3.2. Reimbursement of Vehicle Damages Resulting from Roadway Sinkhole
4. IN CAMERA
 - 4.1. In Camera session - Access to Information and Protection of Privacy Act (ATIA), Pursuant to Section 20: Personnel Matter for the purpose of CAO Evaluation
5. ADJOURNMENT



Request for Decision (RFD)

Meeting Date: August 11, 2026

Agenda Item: # 3.1

Topic: Declaration of Agricultural Disaster

Presented By: Manager of Agricultural Services, Sebastien Dutrisac

Recommendation:

That Smoky Lake County Council declare an agricultural disaster within Smoky Lake County

Background:

After discussions on July 27, an email was sent requesting feedback from Smoky Lake County's Agricultural Service Board regarding the continuous precipitation. On August 11, 2026, a motion was carried to support Smoky Lake County Council declares Agricultural Disaster due to excessive precipitation, and to request the Reeve to send a letter to the Minister of Agriculture and Irrigation notifying the Minister of Council's declaration".

Many areas of the County have received nearly 200 to 300% of average monthly precipitation during June and July 2026. As a result of the influx of rainfall, agricultural producers across the county have experienced severe impacts. Partial to entire fields have been left unseeded; seeded crops have been partially flooded, and the remaining threatened by disease. Good quality hay is now impossible to put up and, while livestock producers are now facing increased animal health concerns, including hoof rot as the pastures are severely flooded. Overall, continued wet and cool conditions will increase production costs for many producers. Reduced yields, higher input costs, limited feed supplies, and ongoing uncertainty are and will be putting significant financial and mental health pressure on farm families.

Benefits:

Acknowledgement of the agricultural industry's plight in Smoky Lake County

Disadvantages: Not applicable

Alternatives

1. That Smoky Lake County Council accepts the RFD as information

Financial Implications:

Not applicable

Legislation:

Not applicable

Intergovernmental:

Not applicable

Strategic Alignment:

Not applicable



Request for Decision (RFD)

Enclosure(s):

Not applicable

Signature of the CAO:





Request for Decision (RFD)

Meeting Date: August 11, 2026

Agenda Item: # 3.2

Topic: Request for Reimbursement of Vehicle Damages Resulting from Roadway Sinkhole

Presented By: Jasmine Schaub, Human Resources and Safety Manager, Deputy DEM

Recommendation:

At the discretion of Smoky Lake County Council.

Background:

On April 22, 2026, a resident reported damage to their vehicle after driving over a sinkhole that formed on County Range Road 153 South of TWP 584. The resident then submitted a request for reimbursement of repair costs for their vehicle associated with the incident.

Administration investigated the occurrence and confirmed that a sinkhole had developed in the area identified by the resident. The roadway defect had not been previously reported to the County or by the County, and Administration was not aware of its existence prior to the incident. It was determined that the sinkhole was caused by the recent adverse weather incident that caused multiple washouts and affected a large number of county roads.

The resident has provided supporting documentation identifying the damage sustained and has requested reimbursement for repair costs totaling \$3,140.75.

Administration consulted with the County's insurance provider regarding the incident and whether a claim should be submitted under the County's insurance policy. The insurance provider advised that a claim under the \$5,000 deductible would be denied, in addition, the insurance provider advised that as there was no evidence of negligence on the part of the County related to the formation of the sinkhole.

As the incident is not going to be covered through insurance and no negligence has been identified, Administration is bringing the matter forward for Council's consideration and direction regarding the resident's request for reimbursement.

Benefits:

- Provides compensation to the resident for damages sustained.
- Resolves the resident's request for reimbursement.
- Allows Council to address the matter on a discretionary basis.

Disadvantages:

- Creates an unbudgeted financial impact to the County.
- Reimbursement would not be recoverable through the County's insurance program.
- May influence future requests for similar compensation.

Alternatives



Request for Decision (RFD)

1. Approve Reimbursement
2. Approve Partial Reimbursement
3. Deny Reimbursement

Financial Implications:

Should Council choose to approve full or partial reimbursement, the payment would result in a maximum unbudgeted expenditure of \$3,140.75.

Should Council choose to deny reimbursement, there would not be any financial impact to the County.

Legislation:

- Municipal Government Act (MGA)

Intergovernmental: N/A

Strategic Alignment: This matter aligns with Council's strategic priority of Service Delivery & Community Wellbeing by ensuring resident concerns are reviewed in a fair, transparent, and accountable manner while balancing fiscal responsibility and risk management considerations.

Enclosure(s):

1. Photographs of the roadway sinkhole.
2. Vehicle towing and repair receipts.

Signature of the CAO: _____







