



Reeve's Report

Craig Lukinuk: Reeve and Councillor for Division 3
October 23rd to December 12th

October 23rd

(All Council)

County Council Workshop

I, along with all of Council, attended the County Council Workshop. During this workshop, all members of Council were sworn in and completed the required Oath of Office. Each department presented its background and provided Council with an overview of its operations within the County. We also reviewed the processes for our Council meetings and discussed the structure and format of our agendas.

October 27th

(All Council)

Newly Elected Officials Training with Reynolds Mirth Richard & Farmer LLP (RMRF) Law Seminar Muni 101 Newly Elected Official Course

I, along with all of Council, attended the *Reynolds Mirth Richard & Farmer LLP (RMRF) Law Seminar Muni 101 Newly Elected Official Course* at the Smoky Lake Curling Club, where Smoky Lake Town Council, as well as the Councils of Waskatenau and Vilna, were also in attendance. It was a very informative session and an excellent opportunity for collaborative work.

October 30th

(All Council)

Organizational Meeting

At the Organization meeting I was acclaimed Reeve and Lorne Halisky as Deputy Reeve for the year of 2026. In addition to my responsibilities as Reeve, I serve as a member, alternate, and director on several boards and committees. These include Alberta's Lakeland Destination Management Organization (DMO), the Alberta Care Board, Evergreen Regional Waste Management Commission, the Highway 28/63 Regional Water Services Commission, the Intermunicipal Collaboration Committees for both the Smoky Lake



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Region and Thorhild County, the Northern Lights Library System Board, the Physicians and Healthcare Professionals Committee, the Regional Community Development Committee (RCDC), the Regional Emergency Management Advisory Committee, the Risk Management Committee, the Smoky Lake Heritage Board, the Smoky Lake Foundation, and the Ukrainian Twinning Committee.

October 30th

(All Council)

Regular Council Meeting

- Approved \$350 donations each to Smoky Lake & Waskatenau Legions for Remembrance Day wreaths: designated representatives to place wreaths.
- Appointed producers-at-large to Agricultural Service Board (term until Oct 2029).
- Awarded tractor tender to Horizon AG & Turf for John Deere 6M 155 (\$212,465).
- Approved ACP grant application for regional economic development (Town of Smoky Lake as managing partner).
- Approved councillor attendance at Gas Federation Coops Convention (Nov 24–26, 2025).
- RCMP delegation (Sgt. Anita Doktor & Steve Cunningham) met Council; presentation accepted as information.
- Directed administration to draft letter of support for Pine Creek Retreat & Stopping House.

November 6th

(All Council)

Joint Meeting with Village of Waskatenau to discuss annexation of land in the County

- That Smoky County Council direct administration to investigate the impacts of proposed annexation relating to the Gas infrastructure and revenue derived from the gas infrastructure legally described as NW-16-59-19 W4 and SW-16-59-19 W4, and to provide said information to both Village of Waskatenau Council and Smoky Lake County Council.



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- That Smoky County Council direct administration to provide information respecting costs related to the reclamation of the former nuisance ground and revenue generated from the purchase and sales transactions.

November 7th

(Craig, Lorne, & Ryan(Virtual))

Highway 28/63 Water Commission Organizational/Regular Meeting

At the meeting, Lorne Halisky was acclaimed as Chairperson and Trevor Dafoe from Thorild County was acclaimed as Vice Chair. Council confirmed all appointments for the upcoming year, including the Interim Manager Commission, Engineering Consultation Services, Legal Counsel, and other key roles. The agenda also covered several important items: a review of the history of the Hwy 28/63 Regional Water Services Commission presented by Associated Engineering, a financial and board orientation for the Commission, the Operations Finance Report for August 2025, and updates regarding the Whitefish Off Reserve Reservoir. In addition, there was discussion on the need to create three new by-laws addressing Terms of Reference, Governance, and Operations.

November 8th

(Craig)

I attended the Indigenous Veterans Day at Metis Crossing to give a speech on behalf of council and the county.

November 10th

(All Council)

County Council Budget Meeting

- Reviewed and accepted the 2025 Council Finance Orientation presentation
- Council declined the 1.9% pay increase and amended Policy 08-18 Council Remuneration and Expenses to increase meal expenses due to cost inflation and updated information within the Policy.



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- Adopted the 2026 Natural Gas System Operating Budget: total revenue in the amount of \$3,016,700 and expenditures in the amount of \$3,246,900 (including amortization).
- Adopted the 2025 Natural Gas System Capital Budget: total revenue in the amount of \$169,000 and expenditures in the amount of \$289,000.
- Directed administration to research procedures and requirements for replacing County bridges with culverts.
- Council requested appreciation recognition be given to the Lions Club members and the County residents that helped contribute to the Lions Club bus donation. Councillor Serben presented the recognition on behalf of Smoky Lake County.
- Council terminated the Mons Lake Campground Contract due to budget constraints.

November 11th

(Craig & Ryan)

2025 Remembrance Day Ceremony

(Craig & Ryan) attended the 2025 Remembrance Day Ceremony at the Nutrien Ag Centre, followed by a service at the Smoky Lake Royal Canadian Legion Branch. I had the honor of delivering a speech on behalf of Canada's Prime Minister, the Honorable Mark Carney, and I also laid a wreath on behalf of Smoky Lake County.

November 14th

(All Council)

Special Council Meeting

Discussion regarding the CAO candidate position which was Short Listed by HR then reduced to 4 for interviews



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November 17th to 20th

(All Council)

Rural Municipalities of Alberta Convention

- (Craig, Lorne, and Dave) attended the Elected Officials Education Program course titled Council's Role in Employment of the CAO.
- Participated in a meeting with the Minister of Transportation & Economic Corridors, Michael Botros, and Rob Huston to discuss STIP funding, potential bridge closures in the Smoky Lake region, proposed Highway 28 upgrades, secondary and resource roads, and intersection safety; all members of Council were present.
- Met with K Division RCMP senior officers to discuss police shortages in our area, rural crime issues, and the ways residents can assist by sharing security-camera footage through Alberta's voluntary registration system.
- Took part in discussions regarding RCMP funding and available resources.
- Reviewed crime statistics and ongoing crime-reduction initiatives.
- Discussed traffic enforcement and Highway 28 safety with Council.
- (Craig, Lorne, Dave, and Ryan) attended the Working Well Together: Fostering Positive Council-Administration Relationships workshop, as well as the Ready, Responsive & Resilient: Council's Role in Emergency Management session.
- (Craig and Lorne) attended the Mayors and Reeves meeting, where we elected Paul McLaughlin of Ponoka County as the new chair and discussed post-office closures,



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proposed boundary changes, the removal of the Code of Conduct in Bill 20, the use of water for industrial activities, and cell-service concerns and costs.

- Listened to a keynote address by Mark Cohon.
- Reviewed the RMA report on the Land & Property Rights Tribunal appeals process.
- Received an update on agricultural plastics programs through Alberta Clean farms.
- Participated in the resolution session.
- Took part in the district elections.
- Attended the Ministerial Forum.
- (Craig, Lorne, Dave, Ryan, and Peace Officer Warren) took a tour of the Real Time Operations Centre (RTOC) facility with

November 21st

(Craig, Dave and Jered)

Smoky Lake Foundation Organizational and Regular Meeting

- Election of chair Jered Serben won by acclamation.
- Election of Vice Chair Tammy-Lynn Thompson won by acclamation.
- Reviewed Chief Executive Officer Report.
- Reviewed Financial Statement.
- Reviewed the Occupancy Report
- Discussion regarding replacement of faulty appliances.
- Reviewed Q3 Workplace Health and safety Program/COR Update.
- Discussed Policy Review on Snow Removal and Ice Control.
- Discussion Menu Planning Changes.
- Reviewed Garbage Pickup Contract.
- Continuing Care Health Services Standard Review.



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November 22nd

(All Council + Lakeland HR)

Special Council Meeting - Assisting with CAO Interviews

November 24 to 26th

(Craig, Lorne, Dave, & Ryan)

2025 Federation of Alberta Gas Co-op Convention.

- Participated in governance training for elected officials.
- Listened to a keynote presentation by Dr. Mark DeVolder titled *Navigating Change with Confidence and Excitement*.
- Received an update from Co-operators and FedGas on the value of partnership.
- Reviewed the FedGas Board and Executive Director reports.
- Attended the Annual General Meeting.
- Reviewed the auditor's report.
- Motion was passed to increase the levy riser fees from \$13.60 to \$15.10.
- Received a fire update.

November 24th

(Craig & Lorne)

Tourism Industry Association of Alberta (TIAA) located at the Edmonton Convention Centre

- Took part in a discussion focused on tourism, noting that Alberta's visitor economy has grown to \$14.4 billion and now leads Canada in growth; with nearly two dozen MLAs and Ministers in attendance, we learned that there is provincial funding available to support tourism promotion in our region.



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November 27th

(All Council)

Regular County Council Meeting

- Denied property tax exemption request received from Metis Crossing
- Winter Haul Route Agreement: Approved with PEA Holdings (Jan–Feb 2026, up to 75 loads/day).
- Trail Twisters Delegation: Accepted presentation; later approved lease of municipal land for \$50/year for 25 years.
- RCMP Update: Crime reduction and performance plan was discussed; future meeting with K Division requested.
- Finning Canada: Presentation on grader rebuild costs; later approved purchase of new motor Caterpillar 160-ISA AWD grader (\$732,900).
- ACP Grant Application: Approved partnership for \$200,000 grant to streamline development application processes.
- Tax Forgiveness: Waived penalties (\$2,439.57) if full payment received by Feb 27, 2026.
- Interim CAO Extension: Brenda Adamson extended until Jan 31, 2026.
- MCC Appointments: Reeve and Deputy Reeve, Lorne Halisky appointed to Smoky Lake Development Corporation MCC.
- Property Tax Exemption: Encouraged Trail Twisters to apply; wrote off 2025 municipal taxes (\$428.72).
- Conference Attendance: Approved CPAA Conference (Apr 2026) and Municipal Law Seminars (Feb/Mar 2026).
- Bylaws Passed:
 - 1491-25: Designation of Municipal Assessor (all readings completed).
 - 1489-25: Road allowance closure (First Reading; Public Hearing set for Dec 18).



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- 1487-25: Fire Protective Services (Third Reading; rescinded Fire Ban Policy).
- Financial Reports: Accepted September bank reconciliation and November budget summary.
- Water Commission: Appointed Brenda Adamson as Interim Manager; \$500/month compensation

The Regular Council Meeting was followed by a discussion with Lakeland HR regarding CAO Recruitment

November 28th

(Craig, Lorne, Dave, & Ryan)

Smoky Lake County Christmas Party

Attended the 2025 Smoky Lake County Christmas Party in Bellis and gave seasons greeting message on behalf of the County Council.

December 1st

(All Council)

County Council Budget Meeting.

- Passed the interim budget to meet the requirements of the Province of Alberta.
- Held a discussion regarding a 3% tax increase for the upcoming year.
- Discussed potential capital purchases.
- Reviewed and discussed the five-year road plan.



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December 2nd

(All council)

Committee of The Whole Meeting.

- Council brought forward selected County policies and the organizational chart for review and discussion, and these items will be brought back to a regular Council meeting for amendments.

December 4th

(Craig, Lorne, & Ryan)

Highway 28/63 Water Commission Meeting

- Reviewed the minutes from the November 7th meeting.
- Reviewed the action list from November 7th.
- Received the Manager's Report.
- Reviewed the financial report comparing budget to actuals.
- Reviewed the proposed 2026 budget.

December 11th

(All Council-Virtual)

Smoky Lake County Budget Public Participation Presentation



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