



Reeve's Report

**Jered Serben: Reeve and Councillor for Division 5
March 22, 2025 to April 17, 2025**

March 27, 2025 – Regular Council Meeting (All Council)

- Requests for Decision:
 - First reading of Bylaw No. 1477-25 to redistrict land from Commercial to Agriculture; Public Hearing scheduled for April 24, 2025.
 - Acceptance of an offer to purchase county-owned land for \$1,050.00.
 - Annual Farmers and Ranchers Appreciation BBQ scheduled for June 13, 2025.
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- Policy Amendments:
 - Adoption of updated Signing Authority policy.
 - Rescinded an outdated policy on Organizational Meetings.
- Delegations:
 - Town of Smoky Lake Library delegation to discuss funding for family programming Approval of \$2,500.00 funding.
 - RCMP delegation provided analysis of local crime workload.

March 25, 2025 – County Council Committee of the Whole Meeting - Strategic Planning Meeting

- Island Lake Development: Emphasis on improving services, and collaborating with local organizations for project funding and planning.
- Public Awareness Campaign: Ongoing efforts to reduce crime and improve services (policing, fire and rescue, EMS, healthcare, housing).
- Trail and Campsite Maintenance.
- Fire Services Education: Encourage ratepayers to obtain fire insurance and raise awareness about County fire service charges.
- Local Trades Education Partnership: Explore collaboration opportunities with school boards and local institutions to develop trade education programs in various fields.
- County Brand Redesign: Consideration rebranding the County logo to better reflect its identity, emphasizing agriculture and lakes.
- Community Peace Officer Services Review:
 - The role of Community Peace Officers (CPOs) in educating the community about speed limits, enforcing bylaws, and enhancing their presence in lake subdivisions.
- Tour of the Red Deer Healing and Wellness Center:
 - Council Members will attend a tour April 29.

March 31, 2025 – Joint Health & Safety Meeting (Jered & Dominique with virtual audio difficulties)

- Nominations:
 - Re-election of Co-Chairperson
 - Re-Election of Secretary
- Action Log and Policy Updates
 - Action Log Acknowledgment: The updated Action Log List was received by the Committee.
 - Policy Adoption:
 - Wildlife Encounters Policy (Policy Statement No. 073601)
 - Vehicle and Equipment Maintenance Policy (Policy Statement 110101)
 - Facility and Tool Maintenance Policy (Policy Statement 110201)



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- New or Reassigned Worker Health and Safety Orientation Policy (Policy Statement 120201)
- New or Reassigned Worker Competency Policy (Policy Statement 120201)
- Emergency Response Plan Directive Policy (Policy Statement 150201)
- Emergency Preparedness Policy (Policy Statement 150102)
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- Health & Safety Coordinator Reports
 - Health and Safety Coordinator Report: Summarized incidents from February 19 to March 26, 2025
 - Summary of Incidents: Acknowledged incidents occurring during the same period
 - Training Report: Review of training completed from February 19 to March 26, 2025
- Acknowledgment of Received Documents
 - Enforcement Services Hazard Assessment (Nov. 26, 2024)
 - Shop Work Equipment Repairs (Mar. 3, 2025)
 - Emergency Response Plan (Main Office)
 - Emergency Response Plan (Public Works Shop)

April 5, 2025 – Smoky Lake Ag Society Dinner (Stars Fundraiser)

- Speech from the Reeve
- Helped in the kitchen and cleared tables
- Smoky Ag Society Raised \$120,000.00 for STARS and the Smoky Lake Ag Society name will be added to the outside of the air ambulance.

April 8, 2025 – Agricultural Service Board Meeting

- Lakeland Agricultural Research Association (LARA):
 - Reported on extension events and upcoming programs, including workshops and youth educational programs.
 - Research trials planned for 2025.
- Alberta Grazing Lease Holders Association:
 - Provided an introduction and available resources; report accepted.
- Parkland Pintails Delta Waterfowl Chapter:
 - Presented on work in Smoky Lake County; report accepted and promotion of hen house installation request directed.
- Recommended a \$55,000 contribution to LARA's operating budget for 2025.
- Recommended approval of firearms authorization for Animal Control Technician.
- Updates on Leafy Spurge Biocontrol and Wild Boar programs accepted.
- Directed to gather permits and draft a letter regarding improving water flow in Smoky Creek.
- Suggested increased funding to local Agricultural Societies.

April 10, 2025 – Regular Council Meeting (All Council)

- Requests for Decision:
 - 4H Beef Club Sponsorship: Granted \$1,400 for trophy sponsorship.
 - LARA Partnership: Approved a \$55,000 contribution for the agricultural research association.
 - Firearm Authorization: Approved for Animal Control Technician.
 - Truck Fill Options: Directed staff to explore upgrades and monitoring strategies.



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- Lagoon Security: Directed study on securing lagoon sites.
- Community Safety Report (CPO): Monthly report style approved for posting on County website and social media.
- Policy Amendments:
 - Policy 6110 Disposition of County Own Lands;
 - Changes offered clear, concise and efficient process. Title changes to reflect the specific sale of County-owned lands rather than ambiguous County-owned property.
 - Policy 0818 Council Remuneration and Expenses;
 - Amended to clarify that although the council members will keep their laptop after leaving elected office, they will lose all software subscriptions.
- Tax Waiver Request: Approved waiving penalties on a specified property.
- Golf Course Funding: Directed Council to invite Golf Course representatives for a future meeting presentation regarding their request.
- Bylaw 147925 Bellis Sewer Tax Bylaw: Bylaw for Bellis Sewer Tax was introduced and passed three readings.
- Public Queries: Addressed concerns from a resident regarding local enforcement presence.
- Surplus Equipment Auction: Authorized sale of surplus equipment through structured auctions.
- Ukrainian MOU Extension: Adjusted and approved the extension of the Memorandum of Understanding with Ukrainian counterparts from five years to three years.
- Property Assessment Presentation: Accepted information regarding the County's 2024 property assessment.
- Bellis 4H Beef Club:
 - provided an update on club activities and requested sponsorship for trophy belt buckles for the upcoming Achievement Day.
- JMD Group LLP:
 - presentation on the Smoky Lake County Consolidated Financial Statements and Gas Utility Financial Statements for the year ending December 31, 2024.
- Accurate Assessment Group Ltd; Property Assessment Presentation:
 - information regarding the County's 2024 property assessment.

April 15, 2025 – Smoky Lake Ag Society Meeting

- Fundraising Initiatives:
 - Upcoming fundraising efforts
 - Grant proposal writing
 - Soliciting bids from companies for naming rights to the arena for a designated period
- The Pumpkin Patch Daycare is seeking a trial period of 3 to 4 months to rent the conference room at the complex for five days a week.
- The replacement of the HVAC system is scheduled to commence at the end of April.
- The ice installation is being considered for September 1 instead of the second week of October to enhance revenue generation.
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April 17, 2025 – Annual Health & Safety Meeting

- Opening Remarks for the Annual Safety Meeting.
- Managers shared updates and delivered safety messages to all employees.
- Review of incidents that occurred in 2024.
- Moment of Silence to commemorate the National Day of Mourning on April 28, 2025.



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- Presentation on Employee Benefits.
- Overview of Fire Drill Procedures.
- Presentation on Formal Hazard Assessments.

Sincerely,

Jered Serben

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More information about County meetings, minutes, agendas, bylaws, policies, and departments, is available at: www.smokylakecounty.ab.ca