

**MINUTES OF THE SMOKY RIVER REGIONAL WATER
MANAGEMENT COMMISSION MEETING HELD IN THE
SMOKY RIVER REGIONAL FIREHALL
on November 25, 2025**

PRESENT: Alain Blanchette
 Lindsay Brown
 Donna Buchinski
 Jason Doris
 Danielle Laflamme
 Luc Levesque
 Leona Moore
 Gilles Roy
 Yvonne Sawchyn
 Vance Yaremko
 Joseph Zdeb Chair

Administration: Rick Gervais, Manager

CALL TO ORDER: Chairperson Joseph Zdeb called the meeting to order at 7:10 p.m.

AGENDA: Moved by Jason Doris that the agenda be accepted as presented.
CARRIED

DELEGATION: M2 Engineering: (7:13 pm) Jackie Myktiuk and Nathan Miller from M2 Engineering presented to the Board via teams meeting, costs and reasoning to the studies needed at both the Little Smoky River intake location, and at Winagami Lake, to determine which location would be more viable and long-term sustainable.

Jackie Myktiuk and Nathan Miller left the meeting at 8:11 pm.

REGULAR MINUTES: Moved by Gilles Roy that the Regular Meeting minutes of September 29, 2025, be approved as amended.

CLOSED SESSION: Moved by Joseph Zdeb to enter a closed session at 7:40 pm; discussion as per:

- *Access to Information Act, SA 2024, c A-1.4 s94
Protection of Employee*

CARRIED

BUSINESS ARISING: None.

BANK RECONCILIATION: Moved by Donna Buchinski that Bank Reconciliation dated September 30, 2025, and Bank Reconciliation dated October 31, 2025, be accepted as circulated. (copies attached)
CARRIED

FINANCIAL REPORTS: Moved by Leona Moore that Income Statement dated November 13, 2025, be accepted as information. (copy attached)
CARRIED

BILLS FOR PAYMENT: Moved by Vance Yaremko that the accounts payable for cheques No. 5128 to 5156 and 11 online payments ending November 13, 2025, in the amount of \$84,288.33, to be ratified by the Board. (copy attached)
CARRIED

MANAGER UPDATE: Current Budget: Discussion about adding a line item to the operating budget that reflects the capital expenses incurred throughout the year.

DFPP Grant: Moved by Alain Blanchette to apply for a grant through the Drought & Flood Protection Program (DFPP) for studies required at the Little Smoky River Intake, for \$298,912.00 (\$75K Environmental Contingency), as well as at Winagami Lake, for \$171,130.00, to determine which would be the best long-term solution for a raw water source. The Board will re-visit this topic for further discussion if funding is not available.
CARRIED

Metering Station Truck Fill

Moved by Lindsay Brown that the Manager Update be accepted as information. (copy attached)
CARRIED

PROPOSED Operating Budget: The Manager presented 2026 Draft Operating Budget scenarios for Board discussion.

Moved by Danielle Laflamme to enter a closed session at 10:02 pm; discussion as per:

- Access to Information Act, SA 2024, cA-1.4 s22 Confidential evaluations.

CARRIED

The Manager, Rick Gervais left the meeting at 10:02 pm.

Moved by Donna Buchinski to exit the closed session at 10:04 pm.

CARRIED

The Manager, Rick Gervais entered the meeting at 10:05 pm.

Moved by Jason Doris that effective January 1, 2026, the employees receive a 2 % cost of living increase.

CARRIED

Moved by Vance Yaremko that effective January 1, 2026, to increase the water rate by \$1.00 per cubic meter, bringing the new water rate to \$7.25 per cubic meter.

Luc Levesque requested a recorded vote.

In Favor	Opposed
Alain Blanchette Lindsay Brown Donna Buchinski Jason Doris Danielle Laflamme Leona Moore Gilles Roy Yvonne Sawchyn Vance Yaremeko Joseph Zdeb	Luc Levesque

CARRIED

Moved by Alain Blanchette to accept the Manager's proposed 2026 Budget B as presented. (copy attached)

CARRIED

Capital Budget: Moved by Danielle Laflamme to defer the Capital Budget until actual costs pertaining to certain Capital projects can be provided. (copy attached)

CARRIED

BOARD MEMBERS
ROLES AND
RESPONSIBILITIES:

Moved by Gilles Roy to defer this topic until the next regular meeting. (copy attached)

CARRIED

MEETING REQUEST
WITH AB EPA DWOS:

The Board has decided not to pursue this currently.

TOWN OF
MCLENNAN
MEMBERSHIP:

Moved by Joseph Zdeb to defer this topic until results are received from McLennan's Water Treatment Plant Study, or if McLennan wants to bring it back for discussion.

CARRIED

SIGNED TRUCK FILL
AGREEMENT:

Moved by Alain Blanchette to ratify a Board motion made via email on October 20, 2025, that the Truck Fill Agreement between the Municipal District of Smoky River No. 130 and the Smoky River Regional Water Management Commission be approved as presented and signed by both parties' representatives. (copy attached)

CARRIED

OTHER BUSINESS:

Debt Servicing: Gilles Roy presented a debt servicing report that he generated.

Moved by Jason Doris to accept the debt servicing report as information. (copy attached)

CARRIED

Christmas Gift Cards: Moved by Donna Buchinski that the employees receive a \$200.00 gift card from the business of their choice.

CARRIED

CORRESPONDENCE:

- a) Water & Wastewater Agreement VOG / SRRWMC
- b) Letter to Town of McLennan
- c) AEPA Approval Renewal Letter
- d) Letter to Smoky River Water Co-operative
- e) Email RE: ACE Water Corp. Grant

Moved by Lindsay Brown that the correspondence be accepted as information. (copies attached)

CARRIED

NEXT MEETING:

The next meeting is scheduled for Monday January 27, 2026, at 7:00 pm at the Smoky River Regional Fire Hall.

