

**ANNUAL RATEPAYER MEETING
SPECIAL AREA No. 2, SUB-DIVISIONS NO. 1 & 5
Hanna Legion Hall
May 29, 2025**

The meeting was called to order at 1:32 p.m. with three ratepayers in attendance.

Don Viste nominated Mark Blair as the meeting Chairman. Seconded by Greg Gordon.

Greg Gordon moved the 2024 minutes be adopted as presented. Seconded by Merle Blair.
Carried.

ADVISORY COUNCIL REPORTS

Kevin Bossert – Subdivision 1:

- Acadia – new addition on the Oyen lodge
- Medical – having trouble getting doctors

Mark Blair – Subdivision 5:

- Southern Alberta Energy from Waste Association – have an MOU with a company to build at County of Newell, looking at modular technology, possible Big County Waste opportunity
- Big Country Waste – assessing waste transfer sites, some near to replacement
- Harvest Sky, MOUs signed for Sheerness Industrial Park lots

SPECIAL AREAS BOARD REPORTS

Shaune Kovitch, Chair, Special Areas Board:

Commented on:

- 2025 Municipal Election
- Municipal Partnerships
- Regional Medical Projects & Programs
- MD of Acadia & Special Areas Irrigation Project
- Tax Recovery Land Sale Policy
- Resident Satisfaction Survey

Darren Jones, Director of Finance and Administration:

Commented on:

- 2024 Financial Statements
- Future financial trends

Shaune Kovitch, for the Director of Municipal Services (vacant position):

Commented on:

- Major Road Projects and Secondary Highways
- Water Services Projects,
- Regional Fire Services and Emergency Management
- Enforcement Services
- Parks and Campgrounds
- Facility Management

Trent Caskey, Director of Property Administration:

Commented on:

- Assessment total
- Assessment Appeals
- Annual Rate Review
- Grazing lease Rates
- Community Pastures
- Land Use Order
- Tax Recovery Land Sale (TRLS)
- Sheerness Industrial Park and Reservoir
- MD of Acadia & Special Areas Irrigation

Discussion:

- Assessment of the Sheerness coal mine as it reclaims
- Policy to assist with the cost of grass seed for regrassing permits
- Renewables remain prohibited from crown lands
- TRLS Policy, refunding of 10 years of oil and gas if reclaimed in the meantime
- Routing of large loads and equipment down backtrails

SA2SUB1&5 – Motion 1: Don Viste moved that Special Areas Board write letters to lobby the appropriate federal agency/ department to reinstate the registration of Strychnine for gopher control. Seconded by Merle Blair. **Carried.**

SA2SUB1&5 – Motion 2: Greg Gordon moved that the Special Areas Board enact the coyote control incentive program. Seconded by Don Viste. **Carried.**

Merle Blair moved to adjourn at 3:25 p.m.

Brett Richards, Administrator
Special Area No. 2

Motion to approve minutes to occur at the next annual ratepayer meeting.