

POLICY NO:	PS 007
POLICY TITLE:	APPOINTMENT OF FIRE GUARDIANS
DEPARTMENT:	PROTECTIVE SERVICES
APPROVAL DATE:	14-04-15 (April 9, 2015)
REVISION DATE:	
REVIEW DATE:	

Policy Statement:

Council shall appoint a sufficient amount of Fire Guardians to enforce the provisions of the Forest and Prairie Protection Act and The County of Vermilion River Fire Bylaw before April 1 of each year.

Purpose:

To appoint Fire Guardians in order to be compliant with provincial legislation and County of Vermilion River bylaws.

Policy:

The County of Vermilion River shall appoint sufficient numbers of Fire Guardians. The appointment shall be done by motion of Council annually by April 1st each year. Fire Guardians shall include the Director of Protective Services, Chief Administrative Officer, all of Council and any other persons deemed necessary to fulfill these obligations.

Fire Guardians have the authority to:

1. Issue a fire permit for any property within the County
2. Issue a fire permit unconditionally or impose any conditions on the permit that the Fire Guardian considers appropriate, in his or her sole discretion
3. Suspend or cancel a fire permit at any time
4. Refuse to issue fire permit if, in the opinion of the Fire Guardian, there is a risk to the public

Subject to the *Forest and Prairie Protection Act* and its regulations, Fire Guardians have the authority to:

1. Enforce the provisions of the *Forest and Prairie Protection Act* within the boundaries of the County
2. Require any able-bodied adult person, who is not exempted by the regulations of the *Forest and Prairie Protection Act*, to assist in fighting a fire

5. Commandeer and authorize payment for the possession or use of equipment for the purposes of fighting a fire
6. Enter a closed area, without a permit or written permission of a Forest Officer
7. Obtain from every person found on, leaving or entering public land that person's name, address and an account of their activities, the route of said activities they intend to carry out and the route they intend to follow on public land.
8. Without a warrant at any reasonable time enter on and inspect any land and premises, except for private dwellings, for the purpose of exercising powers or performing duties under this Act or the County of Vermilion River Bylaw
9. Without a warrant enter any private dwelling house which is on fire and proceed to fight the fire.
10. Direct or perform the operations of extinguishing or controlling the fire or the operations to preserve life and property
11. Prevent interference with the efforts of persons engaged in the extinguishing of the fires or preventing the spread thereof by regulating the conduct of the public at or in the vicinity of the fire.