

Minutes  
Veterans Memorial Highway Association  
Southern Zone Member Meeting  
held Friday, September 7<sup>th</sup>, 2012  
Vauxhall Legion Branch #193  
Vauxhall, Alberta

- Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 11:10 a.m. by Chairman Barry Morishita
- In Attendance: The list of attendees is attached and forms part of these minutes.
- Introductions: All persons in attendance introduced themselves and also the jurisdiction they represented.
- Chairman's Report: Chairman Morishita welcomed everyone to the meeting and reported on the following items which the Board has been working on.
- In 2011/2012 the Board was able to hold meetings in all the zones of the Association. The Board was able to develop the list of issues and concerns for the Association to address with the Minister of Transportation for changes and improvements to Highway 36.
  - The Association has been able to obtain the support of Wood Buffalo which will benefit Highway 36 and the Association.
  - The Association has placed its support for the development of the Western Canada Pilot Car Association whose goals and objectives are to promote the education and certification of pilot car operators which will improve safety concerns expressed by our Association Members.
  - A meeting with the Minister of Transportation is scheduled for October for discussions about Highway 36.

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- Continuing to work with the NW Command of the Royal Canadian Legion to gain their support for the turn out/rest area development combined with a documented recognition of veterans in local areas. Many of the local legions have provided support, but the Association would like to have the support of the Provincial Commands.
- With the many changes to local MLA's with the recent elections the Board will be providing them with up to date information on the Association to garner their support.
- Have been able to promote a resolution to the next AAMD&C Conference which would request that the Province provide financial support to communities both rural and urban which have underground infrastructure located under Highways which need to be replaced or realigned due to the Heavy Loads creating infrastructure failures or upgrades to handle the extra weight.

Infrastructures Under  
Highway 36.

Elaine Sorochan explained that the Town of Two Hills was recently able to manage a partnership with the Provincial Government, Oil Company Associations and the Town of Two Hills to replace underground infrastructure through their community which are located under Highway 36. The shared costs will be based on 33% per organization.

South Zone

Chairman Morishita opened discussions with the South Zone Members on any issues and concerns with Highway 36.

Chin Coulee  
Bridge:

The Highway through the Chin Coulee is in need of stabilization as part of the highway is eroding and falling away. Some work has been done, however this is only a temporary repair to a severe problem.

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Pilot Car  
Oversized Loads are becoming more and more prevalent on Highway 36 and people travelling along the highway still become confused as to the signals being provided by Pilot Car Operators.

Highway 3 and Highway 36 Intersection:  
The long oversized loads create a problem at the intersection of Highway 36 and Highway 3 at Taber. The intersection becomes completely blocked to traffic when the loads are turning. This intersection should receive some study and attention to make it more convenient to all travellers using the intersection.

Rest Areas/  
Pull Outs:  
There is urgent need to developed rest areas and turn out which are large enough to handle the increased oversized loads and regular truck traffic. There is no rest area or turnout at Taber or Vauxhall. Discussion took place about the development of rest areas and what facilities would be needed. A tentative plan needs to be developed so that we can see what a rest area should look like, how the legion veteran stories could be incorporated and how can we fund the projects.  
Ben Elfring and Molly Douglass will head up a project committee In the south region to discuss such a rest area project idea with all the southern jurisdictions.

Highway 1 and Highway 36:  
There is still a need for an overpass being developed at the intersection of Highway 1 and Highway 36. The Association will obtain necessary traffic counts for the intersection through Alberta Transportation using the TRAVIS reporting system. This Information will be helpful in making a case to lobby the Province to develop an overpass at the intersection. This intersection will always be a concern until such time that an overpass is built.

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Legion Support: Need to make sure that Legions are a big part of the Highway Recognition through their support and participation in the rest stop projects.

Economic Development: When developing the rest stop areas there is potential for some economic spin offs for the communities involved and we need to address this when planning the projects.

Adjournment: There being no further discussions, Chairman Morishita adjourned the meeting at 12:30 p.m.

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Secretary - Treasurer