

Minutes
Veterans Memorial Highway Association
South Zone Meeting
held Friday, September 27th, 2013
County of Newell
183037 Range Road 145
Brooks, Alberta

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 11:21 a.m. by Chairman Barry Morishita.

In Attendance: The List of Attendees is attached and forms part of these minutes.

Chairman's Report: Although the Minister of Transportation seemed receptive to the idea of more rest stop areas along Highway 36 it appears that with the Provincial Budget being tightened and the expense over the flooding problems encountered in the south and at Fort McMurray movement on rest stop areas will be slow. The Department of Transportation still has not announced the time table for the start of the 40 year highway strategic plan or the pilot/escort training program.

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Concerns & Issues: The Chin Coulee part of Highway 36 has had the one lane moved over and the highway remarked away from the coulee side. The long term plan would be that when the reservoir is expanded a new bridge and re-alignment may take place, however this is speculation and nothing has been formally announced.

The railway crossings at Milk River and Coutts are very rough and in need of work. The railway line is owned by Canadian Pacific.

Highway 36 is heaving badly south of Chin Coulee and there are major grooves north of Brooks. Some pavement sealing has taken place in the Vauxhall area.

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Russ Norris mentioned that during the flooding the bridge of Highway 36 near Vauxhall had been closed. Municipal Officials and residents had not been informed which created problems for a lot of people in the area. If people were made aware of the closing they could have made other arrangements. The other matter Mr. Norris brought forward was how they could find out when dangerous goods are using the Highway. Highway 36 runs through Vauxhall and they would like notification in some manner. Mr. Norris was told that Vauxhall could register with Road Data which you can then access about road closures, what permits have been issued for wide loads and dangerous goods for specific areas.

Ben Elfring stated that the M.D. of Taber is still looking for a partner to create a rest stop area at Vauxhall under some type of P3 proposal.

George Jamieson mentioned that at a meeting with MLA Richard Starke, it was mentioned that rest stop areas constructed with the Veterans Honorarium may be eligible for funding through Tourism, Parks and Recreation.

Adjournment:

There being no further discussions the meeting was adjourned at 12:15 p.m.

Secretary Treasurer