

Crofton Community Advisory Forum Meeting Minutes
February 19, 2019 – Crofton Community Center
6:00 – 8:00 PM

Forum participants:

Catalyst: Brian Houle, George Milosevich

PPWC (Catalyst): Darryl Pugh

Crofton and area Residents: Jen Hlannon, Keith Batstone, Annette Batstone

Our mandate is to review and make recommendations to address concerns regarding environment, health, safety and other issues relevant to Crofton Mill operations and the surrounding communities that may be brought before us, and by so doing to build and maintain a solid relationship between Catalyst Paper Crofton Division and its neighbours.

1) Agenda Approval:

February agenda approval – Approved

2) Minutes Approval:

December minutes for approval – Minutes were approved.

Minutes are posted online at following link:

<http://www.catalystpaper.com/page/community-advisory-forum>

Minutes from Sept and Dec meetings to be posted to .com site

3) Mill general update: (George Milosevich)

- The sale agreement with Paper Excellence is expected to close in March
- Paper Excellence (PE) is a large pulp and paper organization
- PE has mills in Howe Sound, Skookumchuck, Meadow Lake, Pictou, Mackenzie and 2 kraft mills in France
- Under new ownership, Catalyst Paper to retain independent name “Catalyst, A Paper Excellence Company”
- At this time and after sale concludes the program for mill is “business as usual”.
- Shut-downs coming are the annual hog boiler (Power Boiler #4) in June and the major kraft mill down including Recovery Boiler #4 in the fall.
- 2018 concluded as a strong year with both good pricing of kraft pulp, good production levels and especially important, a good safety year.

- The December wind storm impacted the mill significantly with down-time due to loss of water from the river – when power to the River Pump House was impacted.

4) Mill Environmental update: (Brian Houle)

- **Lake and River:** Preparations for 2019 will begin soon. Meetings with regulators is first initiative to ensure a program is in place as early as possible. It is likely 2019 will again be a challenging year for water in the river, the lake and at the mill and preparations are needed to ensure a minimum river flow will extend through to the return of rainfall later in the year. Currently the lake is well below full supply and dropping and the snow pack is not at levels achieved in previous two winter seasons (on same day).
- **Air monitoring program update:** Program is moving forward to relocate the Ambient Air monitoring station from Georgia Park Heights to the Elementary School in Crofton. The December wind storm damaged the station while monitoring at George Park Heights. With station damage and now power for over a full week at station, the station was shut down and disconnected. The new ambient station has been placed on school property and some work to re-start air monitoring has taken place. It is expected the station will be fully operating before end of March.
- **Quality improvements achieved with Treated Effluent:** Over the past few years there have been upsets to effluent treatment and to mill that resulted in issues with the quality of treated effluent. Following from review of the issues, a new focus on operating the treatment plant has been very effective at sustaining near non-detect biochemical oxygen demand (BOD) levels on every test. For 2018 the Treated Effluent BOD was from 7-13 mg/l for every monthly average. Achieving these very low and stable BOD's is due to both effective operation of treatment plant and more care within the mill to not spill to mill sewers. The treatment plant was operating very efficiently through 2018 and continues to operate well in 2019.

5) Open House review and planning for 2019: (All)

- Open house to take place on May 2 and from 7:00 to 9:00 PM
- Open house to follow similar format as in 2018 with adjustment to schedule as follows
 - 7:00 – 7:15 / informal discussion at the various show and tell stations
 - 7:15 – 7:45 / Formal presentation by General Manager (G.Milosevich)
 - 8:00 – 9:00 / Informal discussion at the various show and tell stations
 - Specific tables for:

- 1. Paper Making,
- 2. Kraft Pulping,
- 3. Human Resources / mill careers,
- 4. Cowichan Watershed,
- 5. EEM Program and
- 6. Timber West South Island Log Facility

6) Public Questions:

- Mill tours was discussed. Jen to follow-up with community for interest level regarding mill tours. Suggested that tour groups be kept maximum 10 people to ensure tour is effective

7) - Agenda Items for future meetings:

- Crofton road condition highlighted as very poor and needing attention
- Halalt area road speed restriction was also discussed as an issue to review at a future meeting
- Repeat the EEM presentation for Cycle 8 summary in later 2019 and after submission of report early in 2019.

CAF meetings for 2019 are to take place on Tuesdays from 6:00-8:00 PM
2019: Feb 19, May 14 (revised to after open house), Sep 17, and Dec 10
Open house May 2 and from 7:00 – 9:00 PM

Adjourned at 6:58 PM

Minutes prepared by Brian Houle