

**Crofton Community Advisory Forum Meeting Minutes**  
**September 17, 2019 – Crofton Community Center**  
6:00 – 8:00 PM

Forum participants:

**Catalyst:** Brian Houle, Chuck Walls

**PPWC (Catalyst):**

**Crofton and area Residents:** Jen Hlannon (telephone), Keith Batstone, Annette Batstone, Robert Mayers

*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:**

September agenda approval – Approved

### **2) Minutes Approval:**

February/2019 minutes for approval – Minutes were approved.

Minutes are posted online at following link:

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

### **3) Mill general update: (Chuck Walls)**

- Chuck introduced himself and clarified his previous experience within the kraft pulping industry of BC.
- The industry is currently experiencing very challenging issues and fibre supply is a key issue for mill
- Adding to mill issues is the low price for kraft pulp and the continuing challenges with paper sales (low demand / low price).
- Strike at Western Forest Products sawmills is further impacting the fibre supply
- Crofton is finding fibre but with shortage of fibre comes quality issues as we reach out further for fibre from suppliers who normally would not qualify due to quality

- And in 2019, even water supply issues causing concern for mill – water supply discussed in more detail in Environment review
- The transition to Paper Excellence is going very well
- Long term vision for Crofton remains strong as we work through poor market conditions

#### **4) Mill Environmental update:** (Brian Houle)

- **Lake and River:** 2019 dry season is now coming to a close and will rank as the most challenging dry season ever for mill. The total precipitation since the storm of January ended has been insignificant until this past weekend. The lack of rainfall combined with half of normal snow pack in the mountains resulted in the need for pumping this year. The pumps were started on August 29 and continue to operate. We are hopeful the rainfall of this week will be adequate to allow the pumps to be shut down and return to gravity fed river water.
- **Air monitoring program update:** The ambient air monitoring station that was previously located on Georgia Park Heights has been relocated to the Crofton Elementary School. The station continues to monitor particulate matter less than 2.5 microns in size (PM2.5), Sulphur Dioxide (SO<sub>2</sub>) and Total Reduced Sulphur (TRS).
- **Swallowfield Landfill review in progress**  
In response to questions about the function and releases from the long closed Swallowfield landfill, a revised monitoring program was proposed by BC MOECC. In addition to monitoring the effluent and estuary water, special testing of fish tissue will be included in this special testing program. The landfill has been closed for over 25 years.
- **Lime Pit #8 construction in progress**  
The solid waste landfill permit (PR-506) which authorizes the storage of Lime Mud and other wastes from the recausticizing area of the kraft mill is shifting from Pit 7 which is now full and will begin to be stored in Pit 8 during the fall of 2019.

#### **5) Open House review and planning for 2020:** (All)

- Open house this year took place on May 2 and from 7:00 to 9:00 PM
- The open house was the third annual open house and followed the following format:
  - 7:00 – 7:15 / informal discussion at the various show and tell stations

- 7:15 – 7:45 / Formal presentation by General Manager
- 8:00 – 9:00 / Informal discussion at the various show and tell stations
- Specific “show and tell” tables for:
  - 1. Paper Making,
  - 2. Kraft Pulping,
  - 3. Human Resources / mill careers,
  - 4. Cowichan Watershed,
  - 5. EEM Program and
  - 6. Mosaic South Island Log Facility

In general, group supports that 2020 include another open house. The specific details of this public event for 2020 will be discussed at future CAF meetings and could be a different format than was followed this year.

### **6) Public Questions:**

- Mill tours was discussed. Yes, the mill can host mill tours. Jen to confirm with group of interested residents (residents who attended 2019 open house) regarding who and when the tour will take place.
- Will members of the workers union Private and Public Workers of Canada (PPWC) continue to participate in CAF. Question forwarded to PPWC member.
- Mosaic participation in CAF. Brian will approach Mosaic and offer agenda spot for Dec. 10 CAF meeting.

### **7) - Agenda Items for future meetings:**

- Cycle 8 EEM (environmental effects monitoring) summary slide deck presentation by Hatfield
- 2018 Ambient Air report review – proposed for Dec. meeting
- BCMOEECC to present the state of air report for most recent year issued
- Plan 2020 meeting times/dates – for Dec. meeting

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 7:30 PM

Minutes prepared by Brian Houle