

Crofton Community Advisory Forum Meeting Minutes
December 4, 2018 – Crofton Community Center
6:00 – 8:00 PM

Forum participants:

Catalyst: Brian Houle, George Milosevich

PPWC (Catalyst): Rick Bronson, Darryl Pugh

Crofton and area Residents: Jen Hlannon, Wayne Kingham, Bob Mayers, 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:

December agenda approval – Approved

2) Minutes Approval:

September minutes for approval – Minutes were approved.

Once approved, minutes are posted online at following link:

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

3) Mill general update: (George Milosevich)

- Financial performance for year has been good
- Recent decline in market of Asia in part related to international trade issues
- Market down turn and fibre supply issues have resulted in an announced 9 days of downtime for 2 paper machines
- Safety record continues at very good “safe” level.
- Company invested \$9.5 million during November kraft mill half mill major annual down – good safety performance during this very busy period
- Catalyst Paper has been sold to Paper Excellence and the sale is expected to conclude during Q1 of 2019
- Paper Excellence, headquartered in Richmond, is a pulp and paper company
- New ownership brings more depth in pulp and paper business world wide.

4) Mill Environmental update: (Brian Houle)

- **Lake and River:** 2018 was another drought condition year and requiring significant reductions to the flow in Cowichan River. Early melting of snow pack resulted in a need to reduce river flow to below 7 cms in July and then down to 4.5 cms in early August. With rainfall arriving in September and continuing through October, the concern for low lake level ended at the beginning of November and another difficult year – but not needing to pump from lake to river is very helpful. Chinook counts for the year are currently preliminary – but with an estimated 20,000 returning Chinook, 2018 will continue a very good trend in numbers – 2017 had an estimated 25,000 returning Chinook.
- **Storm water overflow event at mill foreshore:** In response to a previous storm water overflow event and with linkage to the new activities of Timber West, a major rework of the foreshore storm water management infrastructure was conducted. The first major rainfall event of this fall occurred, and the storm water improvements proved effective – preventing overflows from the South end of the foreshore property. Unfortunately, the added pumping capacity moving storm water North overwhelmed pumping capacity from the Woodroom ponds and a short overflow occurred from that outfall. The toxicity test showed zero dead trout as was expected from a storm water overflow during excessive rainfall event.
- **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 plan is to have the new station running prior to the end of January or first thing in February. BC MOECC guidance when moving ambient stations is to move in January to ensure a full year of data from all monitoring stations every year.

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

- Discussion resulted in agreement to host another open house
- Resolve when open house to be held – Should be before May 14 for B.Houle to be present to coordinate.
- 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 Catalyst Paper (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

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6) 2017 Annual Ambient Air Report: (Brian Houle)

- Report for 2017 was reviewed page by page through entire report
- See report for details from the report.
- 2018 annual report to submit to BC MOE prior to June 2019

7) Public Questions:

- For January meeting – resolve if mill tours are needed for 2019
- Cycle 8 EEM (environmental effects monitoring) to submit in April 2019 and after that date will be shared with CAF

8) - 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, Sep 17, and Dec 10

Open house in 2019 to be scheduled for early May and from 7:00 – 9:00 PM

Adjourned at 7:52 PM

Minutes prepared by Brian Houle