

**HORSHAM LAND REDEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY**

**MEETING MINUTES**

**WEDNESDAY • JULY 15, 2020 • 3:30 PM**

In Attendance:

Authority Board

W. William Whiteside, III, Chair  
Joanna M. Furia Esq., Vice Chair  
Dr. Curtis Griffin (Absent)  
Mark McCouch (Absent)  
Joseph Wade

HLRA Staff

Michael J. McGee  
Tom Ames  
Larry Burns  
William Gildea-Walker  
Mary Eberle, Esquire

Due to concerns on gatherings due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the meeting was held via video teleconference. The format of the meeting was advertised and the public was provided an opportunity to participate.

Chairman Whiteside called the meeting to order at 3:38 p.m. and led the participants in the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag.

Mr. Whiteside questioned if there were any public comments. None of the public members logged into the meeting provided a comment. Mr. Burns stated that no questions or comments had been sent to or received at [horsham@horsham.org](mailto:horsham@horsham.org).

Mr. Whiteside asked for the will of the Board regarding minutes of the HLRA meeting on April 15, 2020. It was moved by Mr. Wade, second by Ms. Furia to approve the minutes for the January 15, 2020 HLRA meeting. All voted in favor, motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Whiteside asked Mr. McGee for the Financial Update. Mr. McGee noted that the Board by-laws required regular financial updates to the Board; the most recent HLRA Financial Report had been emailed to the Board Members earlier this week. He noted that a new grant from the Office of Economic Adjustment (OEA) was in place and that OEA continues to be very supportive. Currently the HLRA's debt to the Township is approximately \$400K, most of which occurred prior to the HLRA being recognized by OEA and eligible for grants. Much of the debt is rent paid to the Township for office space.

Mr. Whiteside then asked for Mr. McGee's Executive Directors report. Mr. McGee noted that these quarterly meetings are beneficial to keep everyone up to date. He stated that the Navy has still not published dates for the public meetings for the proposed remedial action plans for Sites 3 and 12. The Navy is continuing to postpone the public comment periods over concerns on how to accept public comment during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Mr. McGee advised the Board that the FOST for the SE Clear Zone parcel still had not been signed or released. The Navy and EPA continue to disagree on the standard language concerning asbestos, lead-based paint and pesticides. Information from Navy officials indicate that they may write a memo to the file citing the disagreements and move forward but this has not occurred yet. The Navy continues to operate the pilot pump and treat plant on the base and apparently will continue operations past the original period of time permitted. Over 3 million gallons of treated groundwater has been sent to the detention basins on the northern end of the base. Mr. McGee noted that he had visited the base last week and saw no evidence of ponded water in the basins. The basins appeared dry and apparently can handle that level of flow. Influent levels to the pilot system are in the range of 17,000 – 35,000 ppt of PFAS compounds. It appears that the Navy's pilot plant is drawing contamination from the Horsham Air Guard Station. The pilot plant treats 20 gallons per minute; the Navy is working on the design of two permanent treatment plants that would each treat up to 250 gallons a minute. Mr. McGee noted that the Navy is working hard to address the issues on the base. He noted that HAGS has not committed to taking any actions to remediate the groundwater despite EPA's requests to do so. HAGS is treating stormwater to remove PFAS.

Mr. McGee noted that the DVHAA had moved the P-3 aircraft from their Restoration Area to the Museum Area since the last HLRA meeting. They have requested permission from the Navy to provide escorted tours to the P-3 since it is outside the museum's fenced in area.

He also noted that Dr. Griffin had retired at the end of June 2020 from the Hatboro-Horsham School District and had submitted a resignation letter to the Township for his role with the HLRA.

Mr. McGee asked Mr. Gildea-Walker for an update on the Military Installations Remediation and Infrastructure Authority (MIRIA). Mr. Walker noted that the MIRIA Board has been very active since the last HLRA meeting. MIRA finalized local agreements and received five grant applications totaling \$11M. Each of the applicants has deposited funds with MIRIA in order to

provide 'skin in the game' as required by the statute. MIRA has also received approval from the PA Department of Revenue for the 58 parcels to be included in the MIRIA Zone. MIRA has also hired a consultant to assist property owners and businesses on those 58 parcels in filling out the required information on a dedicated website set up by the Department of Revenue. Also MIRA obtained a separate line of credit which has allowed them to reimburse the Township for funds advanced for MIRIA operating expenses. MIRIA's goal is to obtain 100% participation from the property owners and businesses on those 58 parcels prior to the September 1, 2020 deadline.

Mr. Whiteside asked Ms. Eberle for her report. Ms. Eberle noted that in accordance with the Municipal Authorities Act Dr. Griffin may continue to be a HLRA Board member until he is either replaced or his term expires.

Mr. Whiteside asked for the will of the Board regarding the list of checks. It was moved by Ms. Furia, seconded by Mr. Wade, to approve the list of checks in the amount of \$49,277.15 covering the period from April 16, 2020 to July 15, 2020. All voted in favor, motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Whiteside asked if there was any new business. Mr. McGee indicated there was no business items.

Mr. Whiteside announced that the next Horsham Land Redevelopment Authority meeting would be on October 21, 2020 at 3:30 p.m. scheduled to be at the Horsham Township building (but there may be changes if the COVID-19 restrictions are still in place). There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 4:08 pm.



William T. Gildea-Walker  
HLRA Secretary