

**Military Installation Remediation and
Infrastructure Authority (“MIRIA”)
Board Meeting Minutes
December 17, 2021**

In attendance:

BOARD:

Todd Stephens, Chair
W. William Whiteside, Vice Chair
Thomas Panzer, Secretary
Theresa Harmon, Treasurer
Tara Conner-Hallston
Scott DeRosa
Gregory Nesbitt (absent)

STAFF:

Larry Burns, Executive Director
William Gildea-Walker, Deputy
Director (absent)
Mary Eberle, Esq., Solicitor

Mr. Stephens opened the meeting with a Pledge of Allegiance at 9:12 AM in the Horsham Township Municipal Building at 1025 Horsham Road.

Mr. Stephens asked if there were any question or comments from the public. There were none.

Mr. Stephens apologized for a late start on the board meeting and confirmed there had been a brief executive session of the board at which real estate matters were discussed.

Mr. Stephens asked for the will of the board regarding the November 5, 2021 meeting minutes. Mr. Whiteside motioned to approve the minutes to the November 5th board meeting. Mr. DeRosa seconded. All were in favor and the motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Stephens confirmed the next item on the agenda was the main reason we are here today and this is our most exciting meeting of the year as we get to hear from and consider grant applications. We get to hear from each of the grant applicants as it relates to their specific grant request.

Mr. Stephens asked if anyone here was representing Ambler Borough, and Ms. Terry Funk of Gilmore and Associates introduced herself and confirmed she was here on Ambler Borough’s behalf. Ms. Burns confirmed he was experiencing issues with the audio/visual system. Ms. Funk assisted and was able to access the Ambler presentation. She thanked the board for the opportunity to present the application and for their work in establishing MIRIA and for their continued advocacy for finding funding for this obviously huge issue. Ambler is considered a next level community as it comes to PFAS. Between a DEP grant and MIRIA, Ms. Funk feels that Ambler

is finally getting the funding they need to help address this giant issue that is PFAS. Ms. Funk noted her first slide of the presentation gives a sense of the number of sources in Ambler. The highlighted wells are sources that are subject to a MIRIA application, either this year or last year or both. The concentrations as shown are encouraging to see they show consistency of concentrations and in recent years made decision making easier in addressing PFAS and investing tax payer money to do so. The next slide showed a map of Ambler's sources and their layout. Last years application included a piping project for 3 wells shown in the presentation. Ambler's DEP grant is for the construction of one treatment system. Because of the proximity of the three wells, we were able to use a MIRIA project to extend piping from the three wells to a centrally located treatment system and allow us to treat a lot more water for PFAS removal at the central treatment system. That was last years' MIRIA project and some over-flow from that project is included in this years' application. The bulk of this years' application involves a treatment system which our preferred source is well #14 and a second option is well #12. As most know, Ambler Borough serves many customers outside the borough limits. Upper Dublin, Whitemarsh, Whitpain and Lower Gwynedd Townships all have customers that are served by Ambler Borough. That sleepy little one square mile borough serves actually a population of an estimated 20,000 people and produces about a million and a half gallons of water every day. Lower Gwynedd partnered with Ambler in their application this year and contributed a lot to the local effort. Our biggest priority is to get treatment on a well that primarily serves our customers in Lower Gwynedd. The next slide shows well #14 which is located on the property of the Butler Park Condominiums on Butler Pike. The slide showed a cloud around the existing wellhouse which showed the limit to their easement. In addition to needing PFAS treatment, a current treatment for manganese needs to be replaced because it wouldn't work in conjunction with the PFAS treatment proposed. So, this would be a demo and a rebuild and very likely extension of the easement limits. You can see in our cost estimate in our application some land acquisition in there to extend that easement. There are some site constraints. You can't tell from the aerial but there's a big cliff and the gradient is challenging here. I think we can overcome them and this is our biggest priority for treatment under this years' project, but we did include in our narrative of our application well #12 is also an option if this doesn't play out well. Well #12 also serves Lower Gwynedd. The next slide showed photos of the Whitemarsh Treatment Plant which is a project under our current application. The plant has an existing GAC filter to treat organics. It is a spring-fed source. In order to address PFAS also at this source we have been working with a supplier to replace that carbon with a carbon that will address both current organics and PFAS. That is scheduled for replacement this month as part this years' projects and another replacement is included in the application for next year. As we all learned, when you are treating PFAS at the levels that we are treating, you do have to change-out GAC more frequently. Finally, the next slide showed an index plan of the overall treatment project in Upper Dublin Township and the centralized treatment facility that will be constructed and the piping shows the piping to well #2, to well #6 and well #7. The piping project is the project approved by the MIRIA board last year and has actually just completed construction. The treatment system will follow. The cost estimate in the application includes a small amount for some increased cost that we

discovered during construction. Primarily, some of the piping had to be up-sized from 8 inch to 12 inch, and some supply cost issues associated with COVID did increase the cost of that project and the increased cost are included in the application. She concluded and asked if there were any questions? Mr. Stephens asked if there were any questions from the board members? Ms. Eberle inquired so that we get things right for the minutes, how much money in projects? Ms. Funk confirmed the total project costs are \$1.375 million and the grant application request is \$1.125 million. Mr. Stephens asked if there were any other questions of the Ambler project? There were none and he thanked Ms. Funk.

Mr. Burns confirmed the next item on the agenda was a presentation by Horsham Township and that Mr. Gildea-Walker could not be in attendance and requested that he talk of the Horsham application. Mr. Burns noted that he had talked with Ms. Aversa and Mr. Gildea-Walker about the original December 10th meeting and both had indicated they had to leave early and that explains the order on the agenda. Mr. Burns confirmed that Horsham Township provided MIRIA with \$400,000.00 in local effort and applied for a grant of \$2 million to be used for an improvement project at the intersection of Horsham Road and Limekiln Pike. The cost is about a \$12 million project and the township has gotten some PennDOT money and some DCED money, but the bulk of the project is being funded by the township's capital and that is the request at hand. Mr. Stephens noted he has learned of the project through other conversations, but inquired that's all the improvements and widening at Horsham and Limekiln Pike, left hand turn lanes, right hand turn lanes, to make traffic travel through that intersection more efficiently? Mr. Burns responded Correct. Ms. Eberle inquired what are the total project costs? Mr. Burns responded that total projects costs are \$12 million on that project. Mr. Stephens asked if there were any more questions from the board members. There were none.

Mr. Stephens noted the third grant item was for Horsham Water and Sewer Authority and invited Ms. O'Rourke to speak. Ms. O'Rourke confirmed that their application was set to support projects totaling \$4.125 million with a contribution of \$750,000. She confirmed their key project was to keep their PFAS surcharge suspended. Past bills had included a PFAS surcharge that covered costs related to PFAS that were not covered by the military. The next part is private wells and house connections for PFAS impacted private well properties. As of last year, where mains existed we had about 350 properties with private wells that had public sewer. During 2021 we got 86 homes connected with MIRIA funding support. We fell a little bit short of our goal of 100 homes. We're going to keep trying. As people saw the contractors and crews out there, we did see more and more interest. It was surprising that initially we did have problems recruiting people to make connections and that was the primary reason we did not make our goal. Believe it or not, we did have home owners decline our offer to connect to public water. Our goal for this years' grant is about 30 home connections, and main extensions that will allow for an additional 13 homes or so to be connected. One of the main extensions is on Butler Pike between Limekiln and Welsh and the second is on Welsh Road between Limekiln and Butler. There is also a small

extension on Mullen Road. The third part of our application was for system improvements. You may recall Horsham adopted both a short-term and long-term plan to address PFAS remediation. That included making some major changes to our system such as taking four of our wells out of service because they had PFAS detections and we not originally slated for treatment. Those included wells #1, #3, #7 and well #9. Well #9 is the first well we're looking at to potentially add treatment as it is a good location as there is property there that could allow a treatment system. As part of our work for 2022, we will be further examining the feasibility of placing treatment on that well. Wells #3 and #7 are about 3,800 feet apart as the crow flies. Well #7 has no room for a treatment system. We will be investigating building a single treatment facility that would support both wells #3 and #7. Ms. O'Rourke ended her presentation and Mr. Stephens asked if any board members had any questions? Mr. Panzer noted we all had copies of the applications and that he was appreciative of the verbal presentation supporting the application.

Mr. Stephens confirmed the next application was North Wales Water Authority. Mr. Brad Fischer introduced himself and some of his colleagues. Mr. Fisher confirmed North Wales Water has made application for reimbursement of two specific activities resulting from PFAS contamination. The first is a funding request for \$1.4 million to support the new Hancock Road \$9.9 million water storage tank project. 32% of the capacity of the new tank was deemed associated with supporting regional PFAS remediation efforts. That was also part of our 2020 application. The second request is to fund \$520,000 for impacted household connections in Warrington Township. We do have a DCED grant to pay for the water mains but that grant does not provide for the service lines to each home. The total amount is \$520,000 for the service lines and \$1.4 million for the eligible tank costs for a total of \$1.9 million. Our local effort is about \$430,000 for a total project cost of \$2.36 million. He invited the boards questions. Mr. Stephens noted that last year North Wales Water provided a credit to Warrington customers for additional PFAS remediation costs. Mr. Fisher confirmed that was correct and the amount was \$2.7 million. Mr. Stephens thanked him and the authority for making the Warrington customers whole. He further noted for the record that his colleague Representative Polinchock who represents Warrington texted him this morning and had that he had a conflict. He was emailed the North Wales Water Authority grant application and was in full support of it. He asked if there were any other questions of the board. There were none.

Mr. Stephens confirmed the next application and presentation was for the Warminster Municipal Authority. Mr. Tim Hagey spoke and thanked the MIRIA board for its continued support and leadership in making their customers whole, both physically in support of clean water at their taps and financially through grant funding support. Mr. Stephens noted that we believe that this effort is truly a partnership and we appreciate the work that each the water providers, including Warminster. We know it's a lot of work to put together these applications and to run service lines and water mains where there are none to help address PFAS. We're happy to work hand in glove to help accomplish this mission for all the people who we serve. Mr. Hagey thanked him. He confirmed the presentation was fairly simple and thought it would be helpful to confirm

what's been done with MIRIA funding. He referred to Hart Lane, Brandy Way and Old York Road where it was in no man's land as PFAS contamination existed but the Navy and Air Guard would not accept responsibility for it. The state did provide Warwick with 2 grants totaling \$600,000, and transferred to us which is not part of the ask for MIRIA. What we did in the Hartsville area we installed new mains and provided service to almost the entire system in that area and just have a few left to connect. That's a real home run for that community. Connections are expensive and time consuming. Transmission mains will be a future ask for funds. We have installed mains in Valley Road and County Line Road and North Wales has supported us with back up water supply. We've also returned \$1.7 million to our residents for PFAS costs and this program is ongoing as additional amounts are intended to be rebated. He showed the Hatch area as part of his presentation and again confirmed all have connected and the community was so thankful for the MIRIA funding and support. Mr. Stephens thanked Mr. Hagey for all his organization was doing for our region and asked if there were any board questions. Mr. Panzer commented that as a customer of Warminster Municipal Authority that he thanked Mr. Hagey and his organization for returning PFAS monies back to its customers, and for the infrastructure improvements and house connections. It is a great example of the benefits of the MIRIA board and for his spearheading these efforts. Mr. Hagey noted that the origination's first priority is focusing on infrastructure first to ensure households have clean water and secondarily to reimburse customers for the added costs related to PFAS. He thanked the board. Mr. Panzer noted that Representative Schroeder who serves the Warminster area had intended to be in attendance but also had a conflict this morning. Mr. Stephens confirmed that that was true and that he had talked with Representative Schroeder in Harrisburg and shared Warminster's application with her and that she is in full support of the application and of the efforts of the Warminster Municipal Authority.

Mr. Stephens confirmed Upper Southampton Municipal Authority was the next applicant to be heard. Mr. Herb Schoell, the manager for the Upper Southampton Municipal Authority introduced himself and his colleagues and thanked the MIRIA board for the opportunity to present their case for their grant and for the boards efforts in making funding available. He noted the authority was formed in 1946 to provide drinking water and fire protection capabilities to the Upper Southampton Township community. Since that time, the authority has extended the water system through out the township, though pockets of unserved home still exist. One pocket is located in the north western part of our township and borders Davisville Road, County Line Road and also Street Road. In 2016, the EPA authorized testing private wells in the area of the US Navy former Johnsville base property, including those in Upper Southampton Township. That area is in the vicinity of Davisville Road and tested to show that PFOA and PFOS concentrations were detected in this area. USMA has submitted a grant application to MIRIA to extend the water mains to three streets in this area, being Laurel Road, Clover Circle and Tulip Circle. All these streets are less than two miles from the former Johnsville Naval Air Station property. The project calls for the installation of 2,600 feet of water mains and to afford connection of some 40 homes on the streets noted that have experienced impacts of PFAS. As a result, the USMA has made it

a priority to connect the effected homes to the public system. USMA expects to start the project in the spring of 2022. Total project cost is \$716,945.00, the grant request is for \$586,591.00 and the USMA match is \$130,353.00. He concluded his presentation and asked if there were any questions. Mr. Stephens thanked him and confirmed his appreciation of his help and his efforts to utilize the program for the benefit of his community. He noted the State Representative for Upper Southampton is Frank Farry, and that he did have the opportunity to share the application and grant request with him and that he fully supported the request and the efforts of the authority. Mr. Stephens asked if there were any questions of the board members? Ms. Eberle inquired whether the request included connections to the homes above and beyond the mains in the street. Mr. Schoell confirmed that yes that was the case. Ms. Eberle noted that was unusual in a grant program where mains are usually covered but home owners generally fund connections from their house to the mains. Mr. Schoell agreed.

Mr. Stephens noted the next agenda item was for the Executive Directors report. Mr. Burns indicated he'd be brief. Mr. Burns noted with last years allocation, that MIRIA undertook a number of projects including the traffic study, a presentation of which was made to a joint Horsham Council, MIRIA board and HLRA board in November and is available for viewing on the township's website, and that he had shared the link with the MIRIA board. Also, there is the field study, and a draft study is in hand and that a presentation is expected at our January board meeting. Mr. Burns noted the small island project is underway and that electricity has been run to the site but water service has not yet been extended to the site. The Grand Ma's Grotto property has taken longer than expected to get to the demo phase but we are hopeful the building at the site will come down shortly. He reminded that at the last board, it was approved to start designing the traffic control system at the site and that is underway. He further confirmed that this cycle has been better than last year, and he was pleasantly surprised by that. On December 1, 2022, MIRIA received a letter from the Department of Revenue confirming the award of \$15,803,371.10 for this cycle. These funds will primarily fund grant awards to the applicants we just heard from and for economic development and infrastructure projects here in Horsham Township. He indicated that was his report today and invited questions. Mr. Stephens asked for the record regarding the "island" project and asked for confirmation it was not a project in the Caribbean Islands. Mr. Burns confirmed that the board had approved undertaking a small medial island project at Dresher Road and Horsham Road and that was the project he noted. Mr. Stephens asked if there were any additional questions or Mr. Burns? There were none.

Mr. Stephens referred to the next agenda item and asked for the will of the board regarding the approval of the list of checks. Mr. Panzer motioned for approval of the list of checks in the amount of \$3,428,317.44 to fund MIRIA operating expenses, to fund MIRIA project costs and to fund 2020 cycle grant disbursements for North Wales Water Authority of \$1,539,671.51, Ambler Borough of \$156,118.93 and Horsham Water and Sewer Authority of \$1,700,466.34. Mr. DeRosa seconded. All were in favor and the motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Stephens noted the next agenda item was the approval of the PLGIT supplemental list of checks and asked for the will of the board. Mr. DeRosa motioned to approve the PLGIT supplemental list of checks for \$15,803,371.10 representing a transfer of PA State 2021 MIRIA funding to Huntingdon Valley Bank, the MIRIA local bank. Ms. Conner-Hallston seconded. All were in favor and the motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Stephens indicated the next agenda item was new business and was consideration of the approval of MIRIA grant applications. Mr. Stephens asked for the will of the board regarding the approval of a MIRIA grant to Horsham Water & Sewer Authority. Mr. Whiteside moved to approved a MIRIA grant to the Horsham Water & Sewer Authority in the amount of \$3,375,000.00 for funding of projects detailed in their grant application, and subject to the execution of a MIRIA Grant Agreement and further subject to the provision of documents sufficient to demonstrate that funds for the project have been spent, designated of budgeted prior to January 1, 2022. Ms. Conner-Hallston seconded. All were in favor and the motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Stephens asked for the will of the board regarding the approval of a MIRIA grant to North Wales Water Authority. Ms. Harmon moved to approved a MIRIA grant to the North Wales Water Authority in the amount of \$1,936,442.25 for funding of projects detailed in their grant application, and subject to the execution of a MIRIA Grant Agreement and further subject to the provision of documents sufficient to demonstrate that funds for the project have been spent, designated of budgeted prior to January 1, 2022. Mr. Whiteside seconded. All were in favor and the motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Stephens asked for the will of the board regarding the approval of a MIRIA Grant to the Upper Southampton Municipal Authority. Mr. Panzer moved to approved a MIRIA grant to the Upper Southampton Municipal Authority in the amount of \$586,591.74 for funding of projects detailed in their grant application, and subject to the execution of a MIRIA Grant Agreement and further subject to the provision of documents sufficient to demonstrate that funds for the project have been spent, designated of budgeted prior to January 1, 2022. Mr. DeRosa seconded. All were in favor and the motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Stephens noted that it was brought to his attention by the Vice-Chair that they had skipped over the Ambler Borough grant request. He asked for the will of the board regarding the approval of a MIRIA Grant for Ambler Borough. Ms. Harmon moved to approved a MIRIA grant to Ambler Borough in the amount of \$1,125,000.00 for funding of projects detailed in their grant application, and subject to the execution of a MIRIA Grant Agreement and further subject to the provision of documents sufficient to demonstrate that funds for the project have been spent, designated of budgeted prior to January 1, 2022. Mr. Whiteside seconded. Mr. Stephens noted that this grant is being achieved through really tremendous cooperation between Lower Gwynedd Township and Ambler Borough. This is a situation where Ambler Borough, who owns

the water department there, provides water to residents of Lower Gwynedd Township and the board of commissioners of Lower Gwynedd Township wanted to work to utilize the MIRIA program in order to alleviate PFAS in the water system. By working together with Ambler, Lower Gwynedd provided the local effort funding and the two entities worked hand in hand with one another to ensure the residents of Lower Gwynedd who are drinking water from the Ambler Water Department have the benefit of the MIRIA program. So, I just wanted to convey my thanks for the cooperation and coordination between those two municipalities to deliver results for those residents. Having said that, Mr. Stephens called for a vote on Ambler Borough's grant application and award of \$1,125,000.00. All were in favor and the motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Stephens asked for the will of the board regarding the approval of a MIRIA grant to the Warminster Municipal Authority. Mr. DeRosa moved to approved a MIRIA grant to the Warminster Municipal Authority in the amount of \$5,400,000.00 for funding of projects detailed in their grant application, and subject to the execution of a MIRIA Grant Agreement and further subject to the provision of documents sufficient to demonstrate that funds for the project have been spent, designated of budgeted prior to January 1, 2022. Mr. Panzer seconded. All were in favor and the motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Stephens asked for the will of the board regarding the approval of a MIRIA grant to Horsham Township. Ms. Conner-Hallston moved to approved a MIRIA grant to the Horsham Township in the amount of \$1,800,000.00 for funding of projects detailed in their grant application, and subject to the execution of a MIRIA Grant Agreement and further subject to the provision of documents sufficient to demonstrate that funds for the project have been spent, designated of budgeted prior to January 1, 2022. Mr. Whiteside seconded. All were in favor and the motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Stephens congratulated all the grant recipients and acknowledged our appreciation all the work that you are doing and certainly appreciate your efforts for all the residents that you serve.

Mr. Stephens indicated the next item under new business on the agenda was consideration of Resolution #2021-08 and the approval of the 2022 MIRIA Operating Budget. He confirmed the Resolution along with Exhibits "A" and "B" had been sent out. Exhibit "A" was the MIRIA 2022 operating budget and Exhibit "B" was the 2021 MIRIA Grant & Economic Development and Infrastructure Budget. He asked for the will of the board regarding Resolution 2021-08. Mr. DeRosa motioned to approve Resolution 2020-9 and the MIRIA Budget as submitted. Mr. Panzer inquired if there could be discussion on the matter. Mr. Burns indicated that the resolution has two exhibits, Exhibit "A" being the MIRIA operating budget for 2022 and Exhibit "B" which details the award of the grants just approved as well as funds designated for economic development and infrastructure in 2022. Mr. Burns noted that expenses for 2021 came in below budget and were about \$213,000. This figure included only about a half of a year with our communications consultant in place. The exhibit shows a continuation of normal expenditures for 2022. Exhibit

“B” shows the grant awards as well as \$1,366,366.76 being budgeted and designated for economic development and infrastructure projects. Mr. Burns confirmed it was a roll-call vote.

Mr. DeRosa – Aye

Ms. Conner-Hallston – Aye

Ms. Harmon - Aye

Mr. Panzer – Aye

Mr. Whiteside – Aye

Mr. Stephens – Aye

Motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Stephens indicated the next item on the agenda was consideration of Resolution #2021-9 and the approval of designating and budgeting funding for economic development and infrastructure projects. He asked for the will of the board regarding Resolution #2021-9. Ms. Conner-Hallston motioned to approve Resolution #2021-9 which designates and budgets \$1,366,366.76 for economic development and infrastructure projects in accordance with PA 2019 Act 101. Mr. Panzer noted this resolution ties directly with the prior resolution and the budgets that had just been approved. Mr. Burns confirmed yes, that was the case. Mr. Burns confirmed it was a roll-call vote.

Mr. DeRosa – Aye

Ms. Conner-Hallston – Aye

Ms. Harmon – Aye

Mr. Panzer – Aye

Mr. Whiteside – Aye

Mr. Stephens – Aye

Motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Stephens asked if anyone had any additional business? There was none.

Mr. Stephens gave his thanks to all the providers and applicants. We really appreciated all your work. Working together with one another and working with us, in our second year of projects, we continue to encounter a couple bumps in the road, but by working together we're able to achieve some great things for the residents in the area. We appreciate all your work and Happy Holidays and Merry Christmas to everybody.

He reminded all that the next MIRIA board meeting will be January 7, 2022 at 9am here in the Horsham Township Municipal Complex.

With no other business, Mr. Stephens adjourned the meeting at approximately 9:59 am.

/S/

Thomas Panzer, Secretary