

**Military Installation Remediation and  
Infrastructure Authority (“MIRIA”)  
Board Meeting Minutes  
December 15, 2023**

In attendance:

BOARD:

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

STAFF:

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

Mr. Stephens opened the meeting with a Pledge of Allegiance at 9:02 AM in the Horsham Township Municipal Building at 1025 Horsham Road.

Mr. Stephens remarked that the board had held an executive session just prior to this meeting, for the purpose of discussing real estate matters. Real estate properties for potential acquisition were discussed in executive session as to not impede or effect potential negotiations, and that the board would entertain a motion relating to those matters. Mr. Nesbitt made a motion to ratify the priority of the properties for potential acquisition discussed at executive session. Mr. Whiteside seconded. All were in favor and the motion passed unanimously.

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

Mr. Stephens asked for the will of the board regarding the November 3, 2023 meeting minutes. Mr. DeRosa motioned to approve the minutes to the November 3rd board meeting. Mr. Nesbitt seconded. Mr. Panzer abstained, the remaining board members were in favor and the motion passed.

Mr. Stephens confirmed the next item on the agenda was the presentations from the grant applicants.

Mr. Stephens asked if anyone here was representing Ambler Borough? There was no representative from Ambler Borough in attendance, and Mr. Stephens indicated the next applicant was Horsham Water and Sewer and asked if there was a representative from Horsham Water and Sewer for remarks? Mr. Burns confirmed that Tina O’Rourke had been in touch and

that had a meeting with DEP that she could not reschedule and asked him to make comments on their behalf. Mr. Burns confirmed that Horsham Water and Sewer actually has two separate applications. One is more economic development and infrastructure focused, the other deals more directly with PFAS remedial efforts. The first one addresses total projects of \$134,458.00, with \$22,858.00 in local effort and seeking a MIRIA grant for \$111,600.00. Proposed projects include a water and sewer needs evaluation, an initial investigation into a supply well to support the base redevelopment, an investigation into enlarging the Park Creek Sewage Treatment plant, equalization pumps and affluent pumps that may be required to support the base redevelopment, and utility relocation costs related to the Horsham Road and Limekiln Pike project. In addition, the second application for Horsham Water and Sewer Authority seeks a MIRIA grant of \$598,809.00 on total projects of \$721,457.00, with \$122,648.00 in local effort, to fund 2023 surcharge funded operation and maintenance costs, reimbursement of costs to connect properties with PFAS contaminated private wells to public water, cost to cover converting the emergency interconnect at Lower State Road to a permanent interconnection with remedial PFAS systems, well 22 PFAS pretreatment, and other system upgrades that may be required due to PFAS contamination.

Mr. Stephens asked if there were any questions or comments of the board regarding the applications or projects? There were none. Mr. Stephens indicated that for the record, Ambler's application sought to cover the costs of additional PFAS remedial systems on additional wells. Total projects were \$4,309,000.00, with local effort of \$784,000.00 and a requested MIRIA grant of \$3,525,000.00.

Mr. Stephens confirmed the next application was North Wales Water Authority. Mr. Bob Bender introduced himself as the Executive Director of North Wales Water and said he was there to thank you for projects already completed and underway with MIRIA Grant support. He also introduced some of his colleagues in attendance, being Joe Murphy, Director of Operations, Lisa Sobetsky, Executive Assistant, and Larry Kremsky, Contract Compliance Manager. Mr. Bender confirmed that they have not used any MIRIA money in North Wales Borough, and they probably won't. He noted they've been primarily focused on helping municipalities in our region in addressing PFAS remediation efforts and we're using MIRIA monies and spreading it around on your behalf and making sure people know about your program and mission. In summary, we helped Warminster Township with an emergency interconnection and made sure they had safe and clean water when they needed it. We did the same thing with Horsham in insuring they had emergency capacity from our facilities. It ultimately rolled into that water tank that you helped fund as we gave away a lot of our storage capacity. Warrington Township before we bought the system, needed emergency water. We expedited everything and got them connected. Thousands of people in Warrington Township benefited from your program, not only getting safe and clean water, but also receiving a rebate of the surcharges related to PFAS that they had paid prior to our ownership of their system. The rebate was significant, in the area of \$600 per household. We

proud of the design, permitting, and expedited construction of interconnects for local townships to provide safe and clean water to the region. We have 86 families in Warrington Township alone who received connections to safe and clean water. They had contaminated wells, many with readings up to 2,000 parts per trillion. We installed 3,580 feet of new water mains to make those connections. That would not have happened if it were not for your program. Let me explain why. We're currently considering a project in Upper Dublin. The estimated cost is \$30,000.00 per household. The project requires a lot of water mains as the homes are spaced far apart. Base on typical returns, funding such a project is just not possible, and MIRIA making these grants affords clean water to families that would not otherwise be connected. He concluded remarks with additional thanks for the program and introduced Joe Murphy to discuss the current 2023 application and projects. Joe Murphy introduced himself and with the help of a power point presentation, confirmed that North Wales Water has applied for and received significant funding in addressing PFAS in our region. These contaminants originated from the former Willow Grove base property and without MIRIA funding, most of the projects undertaken would not be possible without delay and without significant direct cost to the public. Completed projects, we've collected over 40 samples to identify contaminated private wells in Upper Dublin and Warrington Township that cost about \$48,000.00. In addition, we have the installation of remedial systems in Warrington Township on wells 5, 8 and 11, with MIRIA funds just under 1.4 million. We laid more than 2,100 linear feet of new water mains in Warrington Township to make connections to contaminated private wells at a cost of about \$275,000.00. Projects that are now underway, a project in Upper Dublin requiring the installation of about 2,050 linear feet of new water mains to connect 15 homes using about \$615,000.00 of MIRIA funding. The completion of the 4.1-million-gallon storage tank located in Montgomery Township will help supply safe and clean supplemental water to Horsham, Warminster, Warrington and Upper Dublin Townships who all suffer from PFAS contamination in some of their public water wells. Approximately 32 percent of the capacity of the new tank has been allocated to these neighboring municipalities. The tank is very near completion at an estimated cost of just over \$10 million. An estimated \$3.2 million in MIRIA grant funding has supported the tank project. For the 2023-2024 MIRIA funding cycle, our first project, project "A" plans on installing new filters at the Upper Dublin township wells #31 and #34, with MIRIA funding requested of \$2.4 million. Project "B" seeks reimbursement for additional water testing of \$360,000.00 for Warrington township, Upper Dublin and other areas in proximity to the base. Project "C" calls for installing additional water mains in Warrington to make connection for contaminated private well owners with requested MIRIA funding of \$960,000.00. Project "D" requests PFAS related funding of ongoing operation and maintenance costs for wells #5, #8 and #11 in the amount of \$204,000.00. Project "E" is to complete work needed to facilitate the future installation of filters at the North Wales Water Authority well field and at well #25, both located in Lower Gwynedd Township, mostly for the design and permitting process, and seeking MIRIA grant support of \$490,500.00. Totaling the request for the 2023-2024 cycle, we are seeking a grant award of \$4,414,500.00. Mr. Murphy concluded noting North Wales Water Authority serves approximately 40,000 homes and businesses in the region providing safe and clean water with an estimated population of over 100,000 residents. Daily sales average

about \$16 million gallons per day with peak flows approaching and exceeding \$18 million gallons per day. In addition, they also supply water to more than 16 municipalities and authorities in Bucks and Montgomery Counties. Our water supply reaches not only homes, businesses, schools, libraries, parks, recreation facilities, nursing homes, retirement centers, factories and industrial users, it also includes water supplies for fire fighting for communities ranging from Lansdale to Lower Bucks County. We currently maintain over 571 miles of pipe and now have 17 water storage tanks with a total capacity approaching 20 million gallons and 40 pump and well stations. MIRIA funding has proven to be an important part of our ability to serve our local communities in light of regional PFAS contamination. Mr. Stephens asked if there were any questions? There were none.

Mr. Stephens confirmed Upper Southampton Municipal Authority was the next applicant to be heard. Mr. Herb Schoell introduced himself as the manager for Upper Southampton Municipal Authority and he introduced Mr. Bob Campbell, the engineer for the Authority. Mr. Schoell thanked the board for their support and for the opportunity to participate in the MIRIA grant program. He commented that the problems of Upper Southampton are a little different from other participating communities. He noted they have a large area very close to the former NADC Warminster base that does not have access to public water. Their approach was to develop a plan to systematically, expand and install service in that area. He indicated their problems are by no means as expansive as some other communities, and after working with MIRIA staff, started planning and phase in the project efficiently to provide safe and clean water to all in their service area. He noted Upper Southampton Township is bordered by Southampton Township, Northampton, Lower Moreland, Upper Moreland, and Warminster Township. He referenced a power point presentation and the proximity of his community to the former NADC Warminster property. He confirmed the road that divides Warminster and Upper Southampton is Davisville Road. From the intersection of Davisville Road and Bristol Road, it is a mere 1,200 feet to the former base property. The subject of the Authority's concern, is the area known as Casey Hills and the Huntingdon Hills neighborhoods. He referenced Laurel and Clover Roads, which were close to Davisville Road, from Street Road to County Line Road. In those neighborhoods, few have public water though testing has shown PFAS contamination in the area and the Authority devised a plan to systematically phase in service to these neighborhoods, with locations closest to water service getting connected first. In 2014, the Navy began testing primarily in Warminster, but did cross Davisville Road into our township and tested a number of our local wells. Most of those wells tested positive from PFAS. The first project undertaken was connecting with existing mains and running new mains and making connections of homes with tainted wells. The second project was a little more challenging, as connecting some adjoining neighborhoods required directional drilling, something the Authority was not very familiar with. Directionally drilling is generally used to avoid property damage, and in this case, we attained easements, ran new mains through properties, and connected neighborhoods in need that were not readily accessible for service. All toll, this last project we did about 400 feet of directional drilling and then we open cut areas and ran mains behind the curb, and then connected homes to the system. When completed, all

properties were restored to their previous condition and neighbors were excited and grateful for their connections to service and safe and clean water. The first year and grant, we did 3 streets, Clover Circle, Laurel and Tulip. Last year we completed Sylvia and Pearl. In the last 2 years with your funding, we spent about \$1.2 million, connected 46 homes to the public water systems, installed 4,500 feet of mains, and 4,500 feet of ¾" copper from the mains to the homes connected. In 2024, as part of our phasing project, we are looking to do work along County Line Road. That's going to include from Davisville Road down about 2,000 feet of mains and connect to an existing main. When completed, we'll connect 10 properties to public water. Working on County Line Road will have its challenges and we'll work down from Davisville Road to the 10 hundred block of County Line. He thanked the board again for the support and appreciation for MIRIA's program. Mr. Stephens thanked Herb for his remarks. He asked if there were any questions? There were none.

Mr. Stephens confirmed the next application and presentation was for the Warminster Municipal Authority. Mr. Tim Hagey introduced himself as the general manager of the authority, and Laura Hucklebridge, the Director of Finance. He too wanted to voice his authority's thanks and appreciation for the support from the board and to underscore the importance of our program and mission. He noted challenges his authority is facing. They made connections to all but 50 impacted homeowners and most are hesitant to connect. At the onset, there were about 200 impacted homeowners and with MIRIA's help, we've really made substantial progress in making those connections. He commented this groundwater contamination issue while impacting our drinking water, also impacts the affluent of waste water. He indicated they've been testing their affluent for several years and affluent at our plant is above state limits. DEP has said in the future, that permits will contain PFAS limits. We will all need to figure out how to address this issue in the future. Like many authorities in this area, our sludge is contaminated with PFAS. Removing PFAS from the waste water stream is going to be an ongoing challenge. There's currently no approved method for treating PFAS contaminated sludge, though there are a number trials underway. In the coming year, some of that should clarify itself but processing equipment to address PFAS in sludge could run into the hundreds and millions of dollars. On the drinking water side, we all know there are thousands of PFAS compounds and federal regulations that are proposed are expected to reach beyond PFOA and PFOS, other PFAS compounds that are both short and long-chain. Long chain compounds are easy to capture but short-chain PFAS is much more difficult to address and remediate. He acknowledged his board has some difficult decisions to make whether we will put treatment systems on all our wells and utilize those wells and not seek rebates for additional charges from North Wales or to enter into a permanent contract with North Wales for safe and clean water. Mr. Hagey concluded his comments, and thanked the board for their help and support. Chair Stephens remarked that Tim and his group have been great partner and that he and the board appreciate Laurel Hucklebridge with the aid or a power point presentation, discussed what Warminster Municipal Authority has accomplished from 2020 to 2022. The primary uses for the grant funding is four main components, water mains, treatment systems, rebates and public water connections. For water mains, they have run several projects

that in total have installed 13,422 linear feet of water mains. Total MIRIA funding for those projects was \$1.84 million. One of the projects was Hartsville, actually outside of the township, but we installed mains to make connections to 38 homes there with tainted private wells. For treatment systems, we installed a temporary, then permanent, chlorine injection system at well #3. This allows us to meet regulatory requirements for chlorine residual levels without operating well #3. In addition, we've had to purchase caustic soda to maintain operations at our treatment plant. These purchases will be ongoing given the change in water sourcing that regional PFAS contamination has required. That relates specifically to the purchase of the North Wales water, which has different alkaline and pH levels than the groundwater that we were treating at our plant previously. In total, we received MIRIA funding of \$647,000.00 for treatment systems. Regarding customer rebates, we began purchasing 2.35 million gallons per day from North Wales Water Authority in July, 2016. We have issued rebates to our customers for a portion of that additional costs that we incurred to buy that additional water which was not being produced from our wells. We have given rebates through December of 2022 totaling \$4.97 million to our customers. This was done through reduced usage rates on the regular quarterly bills. We use our local effort and MIRIA Quick Response Grants to offset these rebates that were given and have received MIRIA reimbursements of \$2.27 million and our MIRIA Quick Response Grants were \$2.7 million. Regarding public water connections, we've hooked up 180 customer water connections to our public water supply. We've abandoned 22 wells for those customers. The average cost for connection was just under \$20,000.00. The MIRIA reimbursements received for connections was \$4.89 million. Ms. Hucklebridge remarked that they've almost made 200 connections and are hopeful to continue these efforts. She displayed a variety of maps and photos regarding connections made and restoration of properties after connection. She summarized, in all from 2020 to 2022, Warminster Municipal Authority received \$11.85 million and used local effort to offset customer rebates. For 2023, there are 3 main focuses of our program and grant application; treatment systems, customer rebates and public water connections. In addition to the ongoing purchases of caustic soda, we'll be building a new chlorine injection system at well #2, similar to the one installed at well #3. Also, we are looking to install PFAS remedial systems at two of our wells, #14 and #15. The proposed cost of these projects is \$1.8 million. With the higher cost of purchased water, we expect to reimburse customers for with additional rebates. The projected rebates for a quarter are \$1.2 million for all of our different customers. The current rate that we bill is \$5.61 per thousand gallons. The reimbursement we'll seek from MIRIA on customer rebates is \$825,000 and our local effort of \$625,000 will also be used in that effort. On customer connections, we expect 30 connections under the 2023 grant and the average cost of connection has increased to about \$25,000.00 per connection. Total MIRIA reimbursements requested is \$750,000.00. The total projects proposed with the help of MIRIA funding is \$4,050,000.00, our local effort contribution is \$675,000.00 and seeking MIRIA grant funding of \$3375,000.00. She thanked the board and asked if there were any questions? Mr. Panzer asked what percentage of the water sold by Warminster comes from North Wales? Mr. Hagey responded "about 90 percent". Mr. Panzer continued; you identified four wells that are being retrofitted? Where are they? Mr. Hagey responded that "two wells are

getting treatment systems, those are wells 14 and 15. Well 14 is on Log College, closest to Bristol Road. Well 15 is at the corner of Sinkler and Valley. The other two wells are getting treatment systems to allow us to adequately chlorinate. We continue to have a lot of challenges as are wells were spread-out through our system and we have to chlorinate throughout the system to meet regulatory requirements and adding chlorine injection at those wells allows those neighborhoods to meet standards". Mr. Panzer said "the breakdown showed rebates to customers in excess of a million dollars?" Ms. Hucklebridge responded "\$1.2 million per quarter" is what it has historically been". Mr. Panzer asked "over what period of time will those rebates occur?" Ms. Hucklebridge replied "we usually issue the rebates for one billing quarter, for the 3 months, so every customer who was billed during that time will receive the reduced water rate. We've done them, we are just in one now for Q4, they've been getting rebates since October, November, December bills. We've done them in the summer months. We try to run them through the year. There was a period of 3 straight quarters of zero-dollar usage, that we did at the beginning of MIRIA funding. So we try to make customers aware that they are receiving a discounted rate due to the MIRIA program and funding". Mr. Panzer asked "you showed a picture of 770 East Street Road, and he asked is that a residential property? Is it across from Davisville Shopping Center?" Ms. Hucklebridge and Mr. Hagey answered yes to both. Mr. Panzer thanked them for the presentation and their responses. Mr. Stephens asked if there were any other questions. There were not.

Mr. Stephens confirmed the next item on the agenda was Horsham Township. Mr. Bill Gildea-Walker introduced himself as township manager and noted that after all the water providers are awarded their funds they need to assure that our citizens are drinking safe water, that MIRIA also provides funding for economic development and transportation improvements for the redevelopment of the Willow Grove base. He thanked the board for their efforts and for their support. Mr. Gildea-Walker said he believes the base project is the largest economic development projects in this region and in Southeast Pennsylvania, and every day, Mike Shinton, our Executive Director of the HLRA and his team gets closer and closer to something happening on that base, in the way of redevelopment. We work very closely with the Navy, we continue to negotiate with the U.S. Navy, we continue to work with DOD and the EPA on the clean-up. Each year, each month, each week, each day, we are getting closer and closer to something good happening there. We as a township look at ourselves as we managed the township over many decades in a proactive manner, and apply the same concepts to the base. You've heard many Governors say "Shovel Ready. Shovel ready projects". That's what we do. That's what we do in Horsham. We want to be ready when the time comes. It takes so long, so long to get plans approved. Transportation plans designed, engineered, and approved. Years. So, we want to be ready when the time comes for redevelopment that we are ready for that redevelopment. Our MIRIA grant application that we've submitted, most of the funding that we are asking for is for the Horsham Road and Limekiln Pike intersection project. We started that project with preliminary engineering in 2016. We are hoping to wrap up Right-of-Way acquisition early next year in the first quarter. The project effects about 41 properties. We anticipate going to bid next year and to

start construction. That is a project that in 2016 was budgeted to be \$8 million. The cost estimate today is \$15 million. That intersection is part of the transportation plan for the redevelopment of the base. When the redevelopment plan was done by RKG Associates, their traffic engineers, Urban Engineers, they identified this intersection as one that needed to be improved for the redevelopment of the base. That project is the largest we're looking to fund with the 2023 MIRIA grant request. Other projects that we may be looking to fund with our submission include the Route 611 Corridor Improvement Plan. The question becomes, what happens to 611 with the redevelopment of the base? Michael Baker International did a conceptual study in 2014-2016, a plan and a study done for PennDOT. It was a conceptual study. PennDOT has certain steps that you must take before you go to engineering and construction. It called for 611 to be six or seven lanes. Again, it was a conceptual study. The next step is a plan, a corridor plan. It is a two-year process. It is all dictated by PennDOT. We appointed Michael Baker International for the plan. That makes sense, they did the conceptual study and they also serve as a township traffic consultant. It saves us time as we don't have to go out to bid or issue and RFP. Again, it's a 2-year process and the plan will cost \$700,000.00. They will look at 611 from Blair Mill Road to County Line Road with an eye on every aspect of transportation. Pedestrian movement, public transportation, sidewalks. Should it be six lanes? Should it be two lanes with a road diet? Should there be round-a-bouts? These roads coming through the base, should they incorporate round-a-bouts? Everything is going to be looked at in detail and then they will come up with "the plan". After this plan gets done, we'll be able to go to phased-in construction for the improvements on 611. As I said, it's going to be a two-year process, a lengthy process, but in the end, no more studies, no more plans. After this, we start phasing in construction of the Route 611 improvements getting ready for the full redevelopment of the base. Mr. Gildea-Walker also confirmed that in our application, we sought money for a Site Selector. One thing you need for the base is companies, major corporations, and a major number of jobs. Myself and Larry Burns work on a daily basis with commercial real estate brokers. We have a master economic development plan for the township. We hired Larry. We have a shuttle bus running. We do all sorts of things. We advertise Horsham nationally. Where all these commercial real estate brokers are looking. The next step for us is a national site selector. These are unique individuals that you can count of one hand across the country that have the inside intel of these Fortune 500 companies of who's to expand, who's looking to relocate, and they have the scoop on what's going on with these companies. We need to get a site selector on board that's nationally known to work with us and guide us on attracting businesses to the base and to Horsham. We are ready. It takes a long time. Once a company starts thinking about it, it could be 5 years until there are actually bodies in a building. We'd like to be proactive. It is going to be very important for the redevelopment of the base and the economic development of the region to attract large companies with a large number of jobs to this area. So, we have a site selector in our application. We also have engineering and other related costs for the Norristown Road extension. Some of you might ask, why you doing that? Again, we're being proactive. We have to be ready. When we reach a deal and an agreement with the Navy, we have to be ready. We want to be ready to go to construction. We don't want to start talking about design of a road through the base after a



Navy deal. Engineering, design, permitting, approvals. We want to be shovel ready when that agreement is struck with the Navy. So, we want to started on preliminary engineering on the Norristown Road extension through the base which will go from Horsham Road and Norristown Road to 611 and Maple Avenue. I think those four projects will probably take up all the money that might be allocated for us, however, I always like to put in other projects just in case there may be money left over, that we don't return it and we use it for the economic development good of the region. So, we also put in the application for the acquisition of property for future road infrastructure improvements. We also put in for costs related to a landscape architect to help conceptualize a design for 100 Easton Road, the gateway into Horsham. You folks acquired that property and the Adam's Pit Stop building was just knocked-down this week. Once the construction improvements are done for Blair Mill Road, we wanted to do some landscaping feature there so when people drive off the turnpike, and hopefully some company CEO's that are coming to Horsham to look at the base property, decide they want to come to Horsham and the base. When they are stuck at that light at Blair Mill and 611, we hope to wow them. Also, in our application, if there is money left over, we included funds for a business attraction incentive plan, to help business owners improve their properties along 611. We look at those properties as old, not blighted, and some of the business owners may need some assistance improving their facades, landscaping, streetscapes, walkability, street lamps. We want to be in a position to help them if they need it. Mr. Gildea-Walker concluded with and that is our application. Mr. Stephens asked if there were any questions? Mr. Panzer remarked that the water contamination mitigation responsibilities of this board are important, but the economic development is just exciting. It's awesome to see Horsham being proactive, tackling a massive project like this, that will have impact not just on Horsham Township, but the region, as you indicate. At some point I'd like to hear about outreach to communities north of Horsham, starting with Warrington, right across County Line Road, on how they are communicating with Horsham about the future. Horsham Township is obviously dialed-in on redevelopment and making this an effective economic driver in the area and it would be nice to know what other communities are doing to support that, help that, glom onto that, whatever the case may be. Not for today but another time it would be great to hear something along those lines. Mr. Gildea-Walker answered affirmatively. Mr. Stephens asked if there were any other questions? There were none. Mr. Stephens thanked Mr. Gildea-Walker for his remarks.

Mr. Stephens noted the next agenda item was for the Executive Directors report. Mr. Burns indicated he'd be brief in his remarks. Mr. Burns confirmed in the board packages that were distributed, included was the MIRP award letter from the Department of Revenue confirming funding of \$21,159,415.00. He noted that Mr. Gildea-Walker had stolen his thunder, regarding the demolition of the Adam's Pit Stop structure. He also said that under new business, we'll be talking about the West Moreland and Easton Road project. He had no further comments and invited the board for any questions they might have. Mr. Stephens remarked to Mr. Burns that it was great work on getting Adam's Pit Stop taken down. He asked the board if there were any questions for Mr. Burns? Mr. Nesbitt encouraged Mr. Burns that he might post a picture that the

Adam's Pit Stop building was taken down and let people know why it came down. He noted that sometimes when buildings go down, people like to spread misinformation. Mr. Burns noted that he just approved the social media calendar for January and the property demo is covered with a posting. Mr. Stephens remarked great point.

Mr. Stephens referred to the next agenda item Bills and Communications and asked for the will of the board regarding the approval of the first list of checks. Mr. Nesbitt motioned for approval of the list of checks in the amount of \$1,479,213.95 to fund MIRIA operating expenses, to fund MIRIA project costs and to fund 3 grant disbursements totaling \$1,445,344.48 to Upper Southampton Municipal Authority, Horsham Township and Warminster Municipal Authority. Mr. DeRosa seconded. All were in favor and the motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Stephens noted the next agenda item was the approval of the list of checks related to shuttle bus operations and asked for the will of the board. Mr. Whiteside motioned to approve list of checks to be paid from the shuttle bus operating account in the amount of \$10,293.20. Mr. DeRosa seconded. All were in favor and the motion passed unanimously. Mr. Stephens remarked, just to be clear on that, the shuttle bus operating funds ultimately come from the township, it's a pass-through, right? Mr. Burns answered yes.

Mr. Stephens said moving on to new business, and we talked about being proactive, one of those examples is the intersection at West Moreland Avenue and Easton Road, which we are preparing for ultimate connection through the base, and he asked Mr. Burns to expand upon what we're considering under new business? Mr. Burns confirmed that MIRIA went out to bid for the intersection project, and at the time, Horsham Water and Sewer was going to piggy-back the project with us. We went out to bid and the sewer portion of the bid came out about three times more than was expected. As a result, it was agreed we would go back out to bid, just for the intersection improvement project and hopefully, we'd be able to accommodate Horsham Water and Sewer with the timing of their project. We expect a flurry of activity in the June to August timeframe, where the road will be realigned and actual hard scaping will be done and it will be later in the year when the actual poles arrive and are installed. We are hoping we can coordinate activity with Horsham Water and Sewer. We had four bidders this time around, Gilmore reviewed them for us and recommended the low bid of \$2,205,499.00 to Scott Building Corporation. Mr. Stephens remarked, I know things can come up, but we expect to have this completed by the end of 2024? Mr. Burns confirmed yes, that was the case. Mr. Stephens asked for the will of the board regarding the bid award? Mr. Whiteside motioned to approve and award the bid for the signalization at Easton Road and W. Moreland Avenue project to Scott Building Corporation trading as Scott Contractors, Inc. in the amount of \$2,205,499.00. Mr. DeRosa seconded. All were in favor and the motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Stephens noted the agenda provided for review and approval of the MIRIA grants, and first under consideration was Ambler Borough. Mr. Panzer moved to approved a MIRIA grant to

Ambler Borough in the amount of \$3,525,000.00 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, 2024. Ms. Harmon 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 Water & Sewer Authority. Mr. Nesbitt moved to approved a MIRIA grant to the Horsham Water & Sewer Authority in the amount of \$102,773.53 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, 2024. Mr. Whiteside seconded. Mr. Stephens inquired why Horsham Water and Sewer had two separate applications? Mr. Burns responded that one application is more economic development and infrastructure related while the second is related to clean water. Mr. Stephens continued and all were in favor and the motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Stephens asked for the will of the board regarding the approval of a second MIRIA grant to Horsham Water & Sewer Authority. Mr. Nesbitt moved to approved a MIRIA grant to the Horsham Water & Sewer Authority in the amount of \$551,446.68 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, 2024. Ms. Harmon 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 \$4,410,746.17 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, 2024. Mr. DeRosa 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 \$658,136.38 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, 2024. Mr. DeRosa 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 Warminster Municipal Authority. Mr. DeRosa moved to approved a MIRIA grant to the Warminster Municipal Authority in the amount of \$3,034,917.09 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, 2024. 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. Harmon moved to approved a MIRIA grant to the Horsham Township in the amount of \$6,744,260.20 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, 2024. Mr. Whiteside seconded. All were in favor and the motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Stephens indicated the next item under new business on the agenda was consideration of Resolution #2023-03 and the approval of the 2024 MIRIA Budget and invited Mr. Burns' comments. Mr. Burns confirmed that of the \$21 million MIRIA was awarded, MIRIA operating expenses by statute come off the top. He noted Exhibit "A" of the resolution confirms expenses for 2023 were \$265,388.28 and did come in lower than the 2023 budget of \$286,000.00. Next year we propose an operating budget of \$327,500.00. As you recall, we increased the contract with our compliance consultant as part of a five-year extension and that flows through these numbers. We also stressed payroll this year as a result of the special project of enhanced reporting requested by the Department of Revenue. So, we've adjusted these numbers and think that a budget of \$327,500.00 is manageable. Also, Exhibit "B" shows the grants that you just approved and in addition to that, \$1,866,746.77 that will be kept for MIRIA economic development and infrastructure projects. Mr. Stephens asked if there were any questions for Mr. Burns? There were none. Mr. Stephens asked for the will of the board regarding Resolution #2023-3. Mr. Whiteside motioned to approve Resolution#2023-3 and the approval of the 2024 MIRIA Budgets as submitted. Mr. DeRosa seconded. Mr. Burns confirmed it was a roll-call vote.

Mr. Nesbitt - Aye

Mr. DeRosa – 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 #2023-4 and invited Mr. Burns comments. Mr. Burns confirmed that the resolution addresses the \$1,866,746.77 in designated funding and sets priority projects regarding that funding. One of which, about \$950,000.00 is required, in concert with prior cycle monies, to fund the intersection improvement project at West Moreland Avenue and Easton Road. In addition, we've talked about designating up to \$400,000.00 for engineering and other costs related to the Norristown Road extension project. We've talked about designating about \$100,000.00 for the demolition of the Adam's Pitstop building and the carrying, maintenance and other costs related to 100 Easton Road and 986 Easton Road properties. The resolution also designates funding can be used for the acquisition of certain property in vicinity to the base, which might be instrumental in making road and intersection improvements projects. Also, the resolution affords up to \$75,000.00 to fund efforts and projects in concert with the Horsham Land Redevelopment Authority, to promote redevelopment efforts at the base.

Ms. Harmon motioned to approve Resolution #2023-4 which designates and budgets \$1,866,746.77 for economic development and infrastructure projects in accordance with PA 2019 Act 101. Mr. Whiteside seconded. Mr. Burns confirmed it was a roll-call vote.

Mr. Nesbitt – Aye

Mr. DeRosa – 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? Mr. Bender from the North Wales Water Authority offered some concerns about the future and issues MIRIA may need to address. He said a concern he has is there is no dedicated funds at the state level and noticed a PFAS garnering less conversation on the state level and that additional funding to address PFAS will not be forthcoming and that more folks will look to MIRIA to assist with PFAS efforts. His authority and others have been successful in placing equipment at wellheads, but he is concerned that running remedial systems, that the cost will increase, perhaps 10-fold. The cost of installing equipment, the cost of buying media, the costs of disposing of sludge, those costs will all be moving. The Forest Park Plant, its nearing capacity. The plant was built over 30 years ago at a cost of \$500 million. Estimates today for a 10-million-gallon expansion were at \$100 million. The cost of water is on the move. Running wells is going to be incredibly expensive. Building new capacity is incredibly expensive. There is no dedicated source of funding for these things. Again, funding some of these needs may fall back to MIRIA.

Mr. Stephens thanked Mr. Bender for his remarks. He reminded the room that this program only works with the cooperation of everyone in this room. We've all been great partners here. We're happy to continue to work with all of the municipalities where needed. The program was designed to require give and take, and mutual cooperation and for the first several years, it's been really terrific. We can't function without you. You can't function without us. We're thankful for your participation and for working with us and our great staff to make sure this program works. I appreciate all your efforts. Mary Eberle remarked, along the same lines, we will have another providers meeting at the staff level, and those meetings are extremely beneficial because we get the benefit of all your experiences. Hearing your problems and trying to brainstorm how we can use MIRIA to do things that are a little outside the box. We'll do that again in early spring and we encourage you to come with ideas. Whether it be joint purchasing of the materials that you're going to need for the treatment. We've had a lot of ideas thrown back and forth and we continue to do that. Mr. Stephens added one last thing that you should be aware of, and Mr. Burns did touch on it in his comments, the Department of Revenue did this year ask for very detailed information about the program and the flow of money and everything else like that. While I certainly appreciate the out-of-the-box thinking, and this whole program was out-of-the-box thinking to begin with, we do also have to make sure that we continue to justify all our expenses to the Department of Revenue. I think my understanding is the Shapiro Administration asked for further details of everything the program is. Mr. Burns answered affirmatively. So, somebody is thinking about PFAS in some way, shape or form at least in Harrisburg, which is good.

Mr. Bender interjected that he had one last thing about cost, I have to answer to Tim Hagey at Warminster Municipal Authority. He talks to the cost of the water. The cost of water from Forrest Park is substantially higher than running a well. Back when we started this, it was 90 cents per 1,000 gallons to operate a municipal well. You'd add a little chlorine and send it on its way. Forrest Park was sourcing at \$2.50 per thousand. 90 cents a thousand or \$2.50? Tim's chairman took me to task about that at one his meetings one day. Its about half what we charge retail customers, but that's what it costs. I remember saying Mr. Chairman, I can't compete with your contaminated wells. My point is, it cost money, and its going to cost even more to make this water pure and to keep it that way. People will be knocking on your door. Ms. Eberle said following up on Mr. Stephen's point that the state is interested in how the money's being spent, I think they have indicated that they are very interested in seeing what these MIRIA dollars can do. So, if you could send us, if you already haven't, copies of your power points, that would be wonderful. Mr. Bender indicated that he hoped to talk at length with Tim Hagey and perhaps they in the future could share expectations of the industry, needs and funding in the future.

Mr. Stephens reminded all that the next MIRIA board meeting will be January 5, 2024 at 9am here in the Horsham Township Municipal Complex.

Mr. Stephens wished everyone a wonderful holiday season.

With no other business, Mr. Stephens adjourned the meeting at approximately 10:24 am.

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Thomas Panzer, Secretary