

**Military Installation Remediation and
Infrastructure Authority (“MIRIA”)
Board Meeting Minutes
October 6, 2023**

In attendance:

BOARD:

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

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 9:10 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 asked for the will of the board regarding the September 1, 2023 meeting minutes. Mr. Burns noted that Mr. DeRosa had sent him two minor edits to the minutes which have been incorporated into the board package available at the meeting. He also noted that the package available has been amended and revised and includes a 2020 MIRIA Grant final distribution for Horsham Water & Sewer Authority that was received on October 5th. Ms. Harman motioned to approve the minutes to the September 1, 2023 board meeting. Mr. Whiteside seconded. All were in favor and the motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Stephens noted the next agenda item was for the Executive Directors report and invited Mr. Burns’ comments. Mr. Burns noted that as discussed at previous meetings, the Pennsylvania Department of Revenue over the summer had requested enhanced reporting on the last 3 cycles. He confirmed that on September 27th he Fed-X’ed 12 pounds of materials to the Department of Revenue which included summary results of each of the 2020, 2021 and 2022 grant cycles and he thanked Mary Eberle, MIRIA’s Solicitor, for her help and direction in assembling the packages and also thanked the Chair and the Vice-Chair for their input on the process. He indicated that at the last board meeting, it was approved to have an appraisal done on a parcel discussed at the September 1 Executive Session, and that appraisal is underway and he expected the work product to be available in mid-October. He went on to comment that at the last meeting the board approved 6 Quick Response Grants and award letters have been issued. He confirmed that this

year we changed things up slightly, requiring that funds are required to be used by year-end 2023. North Wales Water Authority has chosen not to accept their award as funds could not be expended by year end. At this date, we have not yet heard responses from the other grant awardees. On the West Moreland Avenue project, the board authorized the bid at the last meeting, and the bid was advertised and put on PennBID. Bids are due back on October 13th. He confirmed he provide Ms. Eberle this morning with a Deed pertaining to the project for recordation. Ms. Eberle noted it was a deed related to dedicating the Right of Way to PennDOT and recommended that as additional business, that the board seek to authorize the Executive Director to sign-off on the Deed so it would appear in meeting minutes. Mr. Burns noted as a joint effort between the Township and MIRIA, that he expected that Council at their meeting of October 23rd could act of awarding the contract and the MIRIA Board could do the same at our November 3rd meeting. Regarding the 100 Easton Road property, he noted Ms. Conner-Hallston had been concerned with dangling wires from the roofline of the property and that the township's public works department had cleaned-up the property regarding that issue. He confirmed that was all his comments and invited any questions the board might have. Mr. Stephens asked if there were any questions. There were none. Mr. Stephens remarked that at previous meetings Mr. Burns had given thought to potentially demolishing the structure at the property and asked where we might stand on the issue. Mr. Burns confirmed that as part of a MIRIA Grant to Horsham Township, that preliminary engineering for the Blair Mill Road widening project, Phase 3 is underway, and that project would encompass and include the 100 Easton Road property. He went on that given the West Moreland Avenue intersection improvement project is expected to cost in the area of \$1.7 to \$2 million, and that our budgeted funds would not afford us to take the structure down. If the United Engineers would be willing to take the property down for us as a training exercise, as they did with the GrandMa's Grotto property, he would be all for it. He had not been in contact with them regarding 100 Easton Road. The overall intent was to have 100 Easton Road incorporated into the Phase 3 project which probably could go to construction in 2026 or 2027. Mr. Stephens asked if we needed to wait til 2026 or 2027 for that building to come down? Mr. Gildea-Walker said that if still there when engineering is wrapped up, that could be the case. Preliminary engineering should be done next year, and that with final plans to be done, it probably could go out to bid in 2026 with construction to start in late 2026 or early 2027. Mr. Stephens asked is that entirely a Horsham Township project or is PennDOT doing that project? Mr. Gildea-Walker responded that it is entirely a Horsham Township project with MIRIA funding. Mr. Stephens noted that might give us some hope that the project could move on along the timeline noted. Mr. Gildea-Walker further noted that usually demolition would occur after utility relocation for the project. Mr. Stephens thought it would make sense to look at the demolition when we start building next years' budget. Mr. Burns said the board could address it in December as part of the 2024 budget approval. Mr. Whiteside asked if there were any issues at the property given the structures closeness to the apartment building next to it. Mr. Burns confirmed that while he has not had a discussion with an engineer or demolition firm, the closeness to the apartment building could be a challenge in taking the building down.

Mr. Stephens moved on to Bills and Communications and asked for the will of the board regarding the approval of the October 6, 2023 list of checks. Ms. Harmon motioned to approve the October 6, 2023 list of checks to be paid from the MIRIA Operating Account in the amount of \$1,013,455.33 to fund MIRIA operating expenses, MIRIA project costs and to fund a total of 8 MIRIA grant disbursement requests for Horsham Township, Horsham Water & Sewer Authority, North Wales Water Authority and Upper Southampton Municipal Authority. 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 the October 6, 2023 list of checks related to shuttle bus operations. Mr. Whiteside motioned to approve the October 6, 2023 list of checks to be paid from the MIRIA Shuttle Bus Account in the amount of \$15,048.80. Ms. Harmon seconded. All were in favor and the motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Stephens asked that on our Solicitors recommendation, is there a motion to permit our Executive Director to sign a deed granting Right of Way to PennDOT with regards to the West Moreland Avenue project? Mr. Whiteside motioned and Ms. Harmon seconded. All were in favor and the motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Stephens asked if there was any additional business. There was none. He noted the next meeting of the board would be on Friday, November 3, 2023 at 9:00 am here in the Horsham Township Building.

With no other business, Mr. Stephens adjourned the meeting at approximately 9:18 am.

/S/

Thomas Panzer, Secretary