

HORSHAM LAND REDEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY
MEETING MINUTES
WEDNESDAY • JULY 19, 2017 • 3:30 PM

In Attendance:

Authority Board

W. William Whiteside, III, Chair
Joanna M. Furia Esq., Vice Chair
William Donnelly
Dr. Curtis Griffin
Mark McCouch

HLRA Staff

Michael J. McGee
Tom Ames
Larry Burns
William Walker (Absent)
Mary Eberle, Esquire

Chairman Whiteside called the meeting to order at 3:30 p.m. in the Horsham Township Building at 1025 Horsham Road, Horsham PA 19044 and led those in attendance in the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag.

Mr. Whiteside asked if there were any questions or comments from the public, there were none.

Mr. Whiteside asked for the will of the Board regarding minutes of the HLRA meeting on April 19, 2017. It was moved by Mr. McCouch, second by Ms. Furia to approve the minutes for the April 19, 2017 HLRA meeting. All voted in favor, motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Whiteside asked Mr. McGee for the Executive Director's Report. Mr. McGee shared that the HLRA's current Federal Grant from Office of Economic Adjustment (OEA) is nearing the end of its term. The HLRA has requested an extension to the term of the grant. Also the HLRA has requested a reallocation of the funding to cover operational expenses for the next term. This is possible due to the limited activity between the HLRA, Navy and Consultants resulting from the delays in the transfer of property from the Navy.

Mr. McGee noted that the Horsham Land Redevelopment Authority has had limited contact with Catellus, the preferred master developer for the former Naval Air Station Joint Reserve Base (NAS-JRB) Willow Grove, over the last several months. Mr. McGee explained the limited contact with Catellus is due to the delay in transfer of land until the Navy has completed their remediation plan for the contaminates at NAS-JRB Willow Grove.

Mr. McGee shared with the Board that he was invited by OEA to attend a focus group in Washington DC with other redevelopment authority executive directors. He assured the Board that the meeting was helpful and informative. He noted that although Horsham is having difficulties with transfer of land, many other BRAC'd bases are in negative situations.

Mr. Whiteside asked Ms. Eberle for the Solicitor's Report. Ms. Eberle stated she has been addressing issues as they arise with the HLRA Executive Director and Deputy Director. She noted that she has been working diligently with the Township and the HLRA to continue the positive remediation progress with the PFOA & PFOS contaminations.

Mr. Whiteside asked for the will of the Board regarding the list of checks. It was moved by Mr. Donnelly, seconded by Mr. McCouch, to approve the list of checks in the amount of \$76,034.56. All voted in favor, motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Whiteside asked Mr. Willie Lin, Environmental Coordinator for the Navy, for the environmental update for NAS-JRB Willow Grove. Mr. Lin announced that there will be a Restoration Advisory Board meeting in mid-September at the Horsham Library. Mr. Lin's update confirmed that the radiological studies resulted in no radiological concerns for future anticipated use of the NAS JRB Willow Grove property. Mr. Lin moved on to the background and actions the Navy is taking for the remediation of the Perfluorooctanesulfonic acid (PFOS & PFOAS) upon NAS JRB Willow Grove. Mr. Lin confirmed that nearly five hundred wells in Horsham Township were tested and remediation efforts have been taken to address any wells that were found to be over the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) life time health advisory limit of 70 parts per trillion. Mr. Lin also confirmed that the Navy has provided funding to the Horsham Water and Sewer Authority to construct permanent granular activated carbon (GAC) filtrations systems on five of their wells. He noted that the Navy will be providing additional funds to the Horsham Water and Sewer Authority for filtration systems cost and drinking water connections above the lifetime health advisory. The Navy will provide Horsham well over \$16 million dollars as part of the remediation efforts. Mr. McGee questioned Mr. Greg Preston, director of the Navy's base realignment and closure program management office in Philadelphia, when the HLRA could expect the transfer of the property. Mr. Greg Preston explained that due to the on-going investigations, the projected Finding of Suitability to Transfer (FOST) date is now late 2019. Mr. Whiteside, HLRA Chairman, questioned if the EPA will make any decisions on the Navy's data collection and if the EPA will affect the property transfer in late 2019. Mr. Preston commented that the EPA shares the same vision and are as focused on the remediation efforts as the Navy. Mr. Preston commented that the projected FOST date late in 2019 will give the Navy a full year to complete the remediation efforts.

Mr. Joe Messina, 521 Horsham Road, questioned if the former NAS-JRB Willow Grove site would be transferred in multiple sections to the Horsham Land Redevelopment Authority. Mr. Greg Preston confirmed that there would be three phases of transferring property.

Mr. Whiteside announced that the next Horsham Land Redevelopment Authority meeting would be on October 18, 2017 at 3:30 p.m. in the Horsham Township Municipal Building. There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 4:10 pm.



William T. Walker
HLRA Secretary