## HORSHAM LAND REDEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY

## **MEETING MINUTES**

## WEDNESDAY · April 16, 2025 · 3:30 PM

In Attendance:

**Authority Board** 

W. William Whiteside, III, Chair

Joanna M. Furia Esq., Vice Chair

Eric Coombs

Mark McCouch

Not Present:

HLRA Staff

Tom Ames

Michael Shinton

William Gildea-Walker

Mary Eberle, Esquire (by phone)

Not Present:

Joseph Wade

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 stated that the HLRA Board held an Executive Session on March 19, 2025 to discuss a matter of real estate.

Mr. Whiteside asked for the will of the Board regarding minutes of the HLRA meeting on January 15, 2025. It was moved by Mr. Coombs, second by Ms. Furia, to approve the minutes for the January 15, 2025 HLRA meeting. All voted in favor, motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Whiteside asked for the Executive Director's Report.

Mr. Ames stated that Mr. Shinton was on a well-deserved vacation and that a financial update had been sent out at the end of last week.

Mr. Ames advised the Board that we received notice from OLDCC that they are not able to continue to fund our operating expenses after our current grant period ends. OLDCC has

been funding the HLRA since 2009 and we have received over \$5 million in support. When we applied for our current grant, they had advised us that their support would be ending in the near future and that day is finally here. OLDCC has offered to allow us to extend our current grant to the end of the calendar year so that we can utilize as much of the remaining funds as possible. Fortunately, MIRIA was created and is able to step in and fund our operating expenses until we can complete a property transfer.

## Other updates from Mr. Ames:

- The HLRA has reached an agreement with the Navy on a Memorandum of Agreement or MOA which represents the agreement of sale for the FOST 1 & 2 properties. The terms of the agreement remain the same as those of the term sheet, which was executed in September of last year. Approval will be sought later in the agenda to execute the EDC MOA once the document is finalized.
- The HLRA continues to work with our marketing consultant, Elysium Marketing Group to develop a branding strategy for the base property.
- The HLRA continues to meet monthly with the Navy to negotiate a potential transfer of property and to receive updates on environmental remediation projects underway on the property.
- Work by Michael Baker International continues on the conceptual roadway designs for the Privet Road and Precision Drive extensions and for the north-south connector roadway.
- The HLRA staff have had several meetings over the last few months with the township and Horsham water and sewer authority to continue planning efforts for water and sewer service for the base property.

Mr. Ames concluded the Executive Director's report with a short slide presentation on the Biddle Air National Guard Base's proposal for an interim remedial action for groundwater extraction and treatment regarding PFAS contamination at the base. A copy of the presentation slides are attached. Mr. Whiteside asked if the proposed treatment (foam fractionation) was similar to the demonstration project shown last year at the base. Mr. Ames confirmed that it was.

Mr. Whiteside asked for the will of the Board regarding the list of checks. It was moved by

Mr. McCouch, seconded by Mr. Coombs, to approve the list of checks in the amount of

\$120,204.44 covering the period January 16, 2025 to April 16, 2025. All voted in favor, motion

passed unanimously.

Under new business, Mr. Whiteside asked Mr. Ames to provide information on the agenda

items relating to the lease and licenses for the Delaware Valley Historical Aircraft Association.

Mr. Ames noted that the HLRA has a lease and a license with the Navy for the DVHAA facilities

at the base and in turn the HLRA has issued a sub-lease and a sub-license to the DVHAA.

Past leases/licenses have been for two year periods and the Navy has agreed to an additional

two year extension.

Mr. Whiteside asked for the will of the board for an extension of the lease and license

between the Navy and HLRA for the area of the base occupied by the DVHAA. Ms. Furia

moved, seconded by Mr. McCouch, to approve a 2-year extension of the lease and license

between the Navy and the HLRA. All voted in favor, motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Whiteside asked for the will of the board for an extension of the sub-lease and sub-

license between the HLRA and DVHAA. Mr. Coombs moved, seconded by Ms. Furia, to

approve a 2-year extension of the sub-lease and sub-license between the HLRA and DVHAA.

All voted in favor, motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Whiteside asked for the will of the board relating to the Economic Development

Conveyance (EDC) Memorandum of Agreement (MOA). Mr. McCouch moved to approve

HLRA Resolution #2025-03 authorizing the execution of the Economic Development

Conveyance Memorandum of Agreement for a portion of the former NAS-JRB Willow Grove.

The motion was seconded by Mr. Coombs. A roll call vote was taken:

Mr. Coombs: Aye

Ms. Furia: Aye

Mr. McCouch: Aye

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Mr. Whiteside: Aye

The vote was 4-0 in favor, the HLRA Resolution #2025-03 passed unanimously.

Mr. Whiteside asked for the will of the board relating to seeking a grant from the Military Installation Remediation and Infrastructure Authority (MIRIA) for funding to HLRA operating expenses. Mr. Whiteside noted that discussions with MIRIA have occurred and they are agreeable to considering a grant application. Mr. Coombs moved to adopt Resolution #2025-04 as proposed authorizing application to the Military Installation Remediation and Infrastructure Authority for the purpose of funding HLRA projects and operating expenses. The motion was seconded by Ms Furia. A roll call vote was taken:

Mr. Coombs: Aye

Ms. Furia: Aye

Mr. McCouch: Aye

Mr. Whiteside: Aye

The vote was 4-0 in favor, the HLRA Resolution #2025-04 passed unanimously.

Mr. Whiteside announced that the next Horsham Land Redevelopment Authority meeting would be on July 16, 2025 at 3:30 p.m. in the Horsham Township Municipal Building. There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 3:44 p.m.

William Gildea-Walker

**HLRA Secretary**