



West Virginia House of Delegates

Standing Committee on Energy and Public Works

Minutes

January 27, 2026

3:00 P.M.

Pursuant to the call of the Chair, the Standing Committee on Energy and Public Works met on January 27, 2026, 3:00 P.M., in the House Judiciary Committee Room 410-M.

Members present: Anderson, Campbell, Cannon D., Crouse, Eldridge, Fehrenbacher, Green, Hansen, Hillenbrand, Holstein, Howell G., Jordan, Leavitt, Linville, Lucas, Moore, Parsons, Riley, Sheedy, Young, and Zatezalo.

Members absent: Bridges, Dillon, and Street.

A silent roll call being taken, the presence of a quorum was established.

On motion by Vice Chairman Zatezalo, the Minutes of the previous meeting, January 22, 2026, were approved.

COMMITTEE HEARINGS:

HOUSE BILL 4012, Relating to reducing the regulatory burden on utility companies when constructing and maintaining electric power generation and transmission facilities within this state.

Chairman Anderson recognized Delegate Linville as lead sponsor for purposes of explaining the bill. Delegate Linville explained the bill. Chairman Anderson called for questions of Delegate Linville. Questions from the committee members followed. With leave of the committee and having been previously placed under oath by Chairman Anderson, Ms. Charlotte Lane, Chairman, West Virginia Public Service Commission, answered questions from the committee members. Chairman Anderson advanced the bill to markup and passage.

HOUSE BILL 4489, Authorizing the DMV to issue certain vital records in the custody of the state registrar.

Chairman Anderson recognized Delegate Howell as lead sponsor for purposes of explaining the bill. Delegate Howell explained the bill. Chairman Anderson called for questions of Delegate Howell. Discussion by the committee members followed.

Delegate Linville moved to ask the Regulatory and Fiscal Affairs (RAFA) to generate their own fiscal note. Delegate Linville explained the motion. Delegate Linville asked for unanimous consent to seek a fiscal note provided by the legislative staff.

Chairman Anderson called for questions of Delegate Linville. Hearing none, Chairman Anderson put the question before the committee on the adoption of the motion presented by Delegate Linville. The motion failed.

Chairman Anderson advanced the bill to markup and passage.

HOUSE BILL 4696, Authorize the Department of Environmental Protection to deposit funds granted pursuant to federal programs.

For this portion of the meeting, Chairman Anderson, as lead sponsor of House Bill 4696, and for purposes of explaining the bill, temporarily ceded the chair to Vice Chairman Zatezalo.

Chairman Zatezalo recognized Delegate Anderson as lead sponsor for purposes of explaining the bill. Delegate Anderson explained the bill. Chairman Zatezalo called for questions of Delegate Anderson. Questions from the committee members followed. With leave of the committee, and having been placed under oath by Chairman Zatezalo, Mr. Isaac Tincher, West Virginia Department of Environmental Protection, answered questions from the committee members. In addition, with leave of the committee, and having been placed under oath by Chairman Zatezalo, Mr. Travis Parsons, Deputy Director, West Virginia Department of Environmental Protection, Office of Abandoned Mine Land and Reclamation, answered questions from the committee members. Chairman Zatezalo advanced the bill to markup and passage.

Delegate Anderson, returned to the podium for chair duties upon completion of the hearing phase of House Bil 4696, with Delegate Zatezalo returning to his vice chair duties.

HOUSE BILL 4700, To require railroad companies to provide alternative entry and exit ways.

Chairman Anderson delayed hearing of House Bill 4700 to a later date.

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION 4, Requesting the Joint Committee on Technology & Infrastructure to establish a Genesis Working Group to coordinate statewide planning for artificial intelligence, high-performance computing, digital infrastructure, and energy-based economic development.

Chairman Anderson recognized Delegate Linville as lead sponsor for purposes of explaining the bill. Delegate Linville explained the bill. Chairman Anderson called for questions of Delegate Linville. Questions from the committee members followed. Chairman Anderson advanced the bill to markup and passage.

On Motion by Vice Chairman Zatezalo the committee adjourned.

Bill Anderson
Committee Chairman

Mari Humphrey
Committee Clerk