



West Virginia Senate

Committee on Government Organization

Minutes for January 22, 2026, 10:00 AM

Pursuant to the call of the Chair, the Senate Committee on Government Organization met on January 22, 2026, 10:00 AM in Room 208-W.

Members present: Senators Morris, Woodrum, Barrett, Charnock, Hamilton, Jeffries, Maynard, Maynard, Phillips, Rucker, Thorne, Weld

Members absent: Senators Helton, Rose, Woelfel

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

On motion of Senator Woodrum, the minutes of the previous meeting were approved.

Com. Sub. For SB 390- Enhancing Flood Resiliency Disbursements

Carl Fletcher, Committee Counsel, explained the purpose of the committee substitute and responded to questions. With leave of the committee, Dr. Matthew Blackwood, Acting Director, Emergency Management Division, addressed the committee, and responded to questions (see attached oath). The question on agreeing to the committee substitute, was put, and adopted. On motion of Senator Woodrum, the committee substitute for S.B. 390 was reported to the full Senate with the recommendation that it do pass.

SB 443- Granting municipal fire marshals authority to assist in lawful execution of law-enforcement officer's official duties

Carl Fletcher, Committee Counsel, explained the purpose of the bill and responded to questions. On motion of Senator Woodrum, S.B. 443 was reported to the full Senate with the recommendation that it do pass.

Com. Sub. For SB 481- Changing term "precinct" to "polling location"

Carl Fletcher, Committee Counsel, explained the purpose of the committee substitute and responded to questions. The question on agreeing to the committee substitute, was put, and adopted. On motion of Senator Woodrum, the committee substitute for S.B. 481 was reported to the full Senate with the recommendation that it do pass; but under the original double committee reference first be referred to the committee on Judiciary.

SB 146- Uniform Unlawful Restriction in Land Records Act

Carl Fletcher, Committee Counsel, explained the purpose of the bill and responded to questions. On motion of Senator Woodrum, S.B. 146 was reported to the full Senate with the recommendation that it do pass; but under the original double committee reference first be referred to the committee on Judiciary.

On Motion of Senator Woodrum the committee adjourned.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Robert L. Morris Jr.", written in a cursive style.

Robert L. Morris Jr., Chair

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Sierra Williams", written in a cursive style.

Sierra Williams, Clerk



The Senate of West Virginia

Testimony taken this 22 day of January, 2026 in
the Senate Committee on Government Organization

"I solemnly swear (or affirm) that the testimony I shall give shall be
the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth, so help me
God."

Matthew Blackwood

Print Witness Name

Matthew Blackwood

Sign Witness Name

Oath was administered by:

Robert L. Morris Jr.

Print Member Name

Robert L. Morris Jr.

Sign Member Name