



West Virginia Senate

Committee on Government Organization

Minutes for February 26, 2026, 9:30 AM

Pursuant to the call of the Chair, the Senate Committee on Government Organization met on February 26, 2026, 9:30 AM in Room 208-W.

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

Members absent: Senators Rose

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 947- Providing birth certificate copies to homeless individuals under 18

Carl Fletcher, Committee Counsel, explained the purpose of the bill and responded to questions. The question on agreeing to the committee substitute, was put, and adopted. On motion of Senator Woodrum, S.B. 947 was reported to the full Senate with the recommendation that it do pass.

Com. Sub. For SB 970- Exempting volunteer fire departments from raffle regulations

Carl Fletcher, Committee Counsel, explained the purpose of the bill and responded to questions. The question on agreeing to the committee substitute, was put, and adopted. On motion of Senator Woodrum, S.B. 970 was reported to the full Senate with the recommendation that it do pass.

Com. Sub. For SB 486- Adding definition of “master aesthetician” to persons licensed under WV Board of Barbers and Cosmetologists.

Carl Fletcher, Committee Counsel, explained the purpose of the bill and responded to questions. The question on agreeing to the committee substitute, was put, and adopted. On motion of Senator Woodrum, S.B. 486 was reported to the full Senate with the recommendation that it do pass.

Com. Sub. For SB 852- Increasing fees for execution of service of process by certified mail

Carl Fletcher, Committee Counsel, explained the purpose of the bill and responded to questions. The question on agreeing to the committee substitute, was put, and adopted. On motion of Senator Woodrum, S.B. 852 was reported to the full Senate with the recommendation that it do pass.

Com. Sub. For SB 1011- Allowing volunteer fire departments to submit audit paperwork electronically.

Carl Fletcher, Committee Counsel, explained the purpose of the bill and responded to questions. The question on agreeing to the committee substitute, was put, and adopted. On motion of Senator Woodrum, S.B. 1011 was reported to the full Senate with the recommendation that it do pass.

SB 1033- Clarifying powers and duties of Commissioner of Agriculture over state-owned land.

Carl Fletcher, Committee Counsel, explained the purpose of the bill and responded to questions. On motion of Senator Woodrum, S.B. 1033 was reported to the full Senate with the recommendation that it do pass.

Com. Sub. For SB 981- Imposing one-year moratorium on approval of certain public utility rate increases

Carl Fletcher, Committee Counsel, explained the purpose of the bill and responded to questions. The question on agreeing to the committee substitute, was put, and adopted. On motion of Senator Woodrum, S.B. 981 was reported to the full Senate with the recommendation that it do pass.

Com. Sub. For SB 894- Reforming certain boards and commissions

Carl Fletcher, Committee Counsel, explained the purpose of the bill and responded to questions. With leave of the committee, Diane Cromley, Member, Records Management and Preservation Board, addressed the committee, and responded to questions (see attached oath). With leave of the committee, Sean Whalen, General Counsel, Governor's Office, addressed the committee, and responded to questions (see attached oath). With leave of the committee, Rick Johnson, Member, Whitewater Commission, addressed the committee, and responded to questions (see attached oath). The bill was laid over.

On Motion of Senator Woodrum the committee adjourned.



Robert L. Morris, Jr., Chair



Sierra Williams, Clerk

The Senate of West Virginia



Testimony taken this 26 day of February, 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."

Diana Cromley

Print Witness Name

Diana Cromley

Sign Witness Name

Oath was administered by:

Robert L. Morris, Jr.

Print Member Name

Robert L. Morris, Jr.

Sign Member Name

The Senate of West Virginia



Testimony taken this 26 day of February, 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."

Sean Whelan
Print Witness Name

[Signature]
Sign Witness Name

Oath was administered by:

Robert L. Morris, Jr.
Print Member Name

[Signature]
Sign Member Name

The Senate of West Virginia



Testimony taken this 26 day of February, 2026, in
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"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."

Rick Johnson

Print Witness Name

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Rick Johnson', written over a horizontal line.

Sign Witness Name

Oath was administered by:

Robert L. Morris, Jr.

Print Member Name

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Robert L. Morris, Jr.', written over a horizontal line.

Sign Member Name