

**West Virginia Board of Public Works
Thursday, July 31, 2025 – 11:00 a.m.
Governor's Cabinet and Conference Room
Minutes**

Attendees:

Members

Governor Patrick Morrisey
Secretary of State Kris Warner
State Superintendent of Schools Michele Blatt
State Auditor Mark Hunt
Attorney General J.B. McCuskey
Commissioner of Agriculture Kent Leonhardt
Lindsay Marchio for State Treasurer Larry Pack

Guests:

Cassandra Means-Moore, Attorney General's Office
John Willems, Attorney General's Office
Sarah Runyon, Division of Highways
Megan Richardson, Auditor's Office
Hayden Erwin, Auditor's Office
Dave Cole, Auditor's Office
Scott Caudill, Auditor's Office
Sean Whelan, Governor's Office
Steve Adams, Ogden Newspapers
Joseph Jenkins, Higher Education Policy Commission
Jim Rector, WVU, by teleconference line
Jennifer Caradine, Monongalia Co. Bd. of Education, by teleconference line
Dave Cook, Secretary of State's Office
Maureen Lewis, Secretary of State's Office

The West Virginia Board of Public Works met on Thursday, July 31, 2025 at 11:00 a.m. in the Governor's Cabinet and Conference Room, Building 1, Suite 10 of the State Capitol Complex. The meeting was called to order and chaired by Governor Morrisey. A quorum of members was established.

The first item on the agenda was the approval of minutes from the February 24, 2025 WV Board of Public Works meeting. Auditor Hunt made a motion to approve the minutes. Commissioner Leonhardt seconded the motion. The motion carried.

The second item on the agenda was consideration and vote on approval of the following deeds:

1. Between the City of Princeton and the West Virginia Department of Transportation, Division of Highways (Parcel 4-1), dated February 18, 2025, approved as to form by the Attorney General's office March 21, 2025.
2. Between the City of Princeton and the West Virginia Department of Transportation, Division of Highways (Parcel 4-2), dated February 18,

2025, approved as to form by the Attorney General's office March 21, 2025.

3. Between the City of Princeton and the West Virginia Department of Transportation, Division of Highways (Parcel 4-3), dated February 18, 2025, approved as to form by the Attorney General's office March 21, 2025.
4. Between the City of Princeton and the West Virginia Department of Transportation, Division of Highways (Parcel 4-4), dated February 18, 2025, approved as to form by the Attorney General's office March 21, 2025.
5. Between Mercer County Commission and the West Virginia Department of Transportation, Division of Highways, dated April 8, 2025, approved as to form by the Attorney General's office May 2, 2025.
6. Between the West Virginia Department of Transportation, Division of Highways and Union Williams Public Service Department, dated May 20, 2025, approved as to form by the Attorney General's office June 2, 2025.
7. 6 deeds between the West Virginia Department of Transportation, Division of Highways and the City of Huntington (Project U306-10-17.18 00 STBG-0010(301)D parcels 1-1, 1-2, 1-3, 3, 4, and 5), dated June 3, 2025, approved as to form by the Attorney General's office June 17, 2025.
8. Between West Virginia University Board of Governors, on behalf of West Virginia University and the Board of Education of the County of Monongalia, approved as to form prior to acknowledgment by the Attorney General's office April 25, 2025.
9. Between the State of West Virginia, by the West Virginia Department of Agriculture and the City of Ellenboro, West Virginia, dated May 7, 2025, approved as to form prior to acknowledgment by the Attorney General's office March 11, 2025.
10. Between the West Virginia Department of Agriculture, successor in interest to the West Virginia Farm Management Commission and the Village of Barboursville, dated May 7, 2025, approved as to form by the Attorney General's office May 12, 2025.
11. Between West Virginia Higher Education Policy Commission and New River Community and Technical College, dated July 28, 2025, approved as to form by the Attorney General's office July 29, 2025.

Sarah Runyon addressed the Board concerning deeds 1 - 7. She explained that the first four deeds involve the Mercer County Airport project between the Highways Department and the City of Princeton. It is part of the protection of their watershed program. Deed 5 is part of the Gardner Bridge project. The DOH needed a strip of land to build the new bridge to current standards and

meet safety specs. She continued that Deed 6 is a right of way sale to the Union Williams Public Service District for them to do a rehabilitation project on their facilities. The final transfer is a group of six deeds with the City of Huntington regarding the Hal Greer Boulevard project. It involves getting the correct sections of Hal Greer Boulevard in the City's name.

Auditor Hunt made a motion to approve the Highways deeds as one package and approve the transfers. Commissioner Leonhardt seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Jim Rector addressed the Board concerning deed 8. He explained that the conveyance involves the sale of about 16.92 acres located in Morgantown 5th ward to the Monongalia County Board of Education for the construction of a new school. Jennifer Caradine clarified that this is to construct Suncrest Middle School on the property. Governor Morrissey asked if money had already been allocated for the school. Ms. Caradine replied that money has been allocated from local share plus the SBA.

Auditor Hunt made a motion to approve the transfer. Secretary Warner seconded the motion. The motion carried.

The next two deeds involve the Department of Agriculture. Commissioner Leonhardt addressed the Board. He made a motion to bundle and approve them as two. Auditor Hunt seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Commissioner Leonhardt explained that the two properties have been in long term leases. The property in Barboursville has been a soccer field. The property in Ellenboro is a small building that the County has been using. They are part of the Department of Agriculture's effort to transfer excess properties out. They were given approval by the Legislature. This is the final step in transferring the properties to the long term lease holders. Auditor Hunt asked if the Commissioner was asking to purchase the properties. Commissioner Leonhardt responded no. He continued that the Department of Agriculture received payments from Barboursville many years ago, prior to his term. There will be no more funds transferred. Governor Morrissey asked if there was consideration that had been verified. AG McCuskey replied yes.

Auditor Hunt made a motion to approve the transfers. Superintendent Blatt seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Joseph Jenkins addressed the Board concerning deed 11. He explained that through the history of New River Community and Technical College's move to Beaver in the early 2000's, a new building was built. They received a grant of close to 4 million dollars from the Health Resources Services Administration to build an Allied Health wing that was connected to New River's building. A foundation had built the Emma Byrd Center located nearby. The foundation then dissolved and transferred the Emma Byrd Center to New River Community and Technical College. This transaction will transfer the Allied Health wing to them as well. They have been managing and maintaining the property.

Commissioner Leonhardt made a motion to approve the transfer. Auditor Hunt seconded the motion. The motion carried.

AG McCuskey made a motion that the Board go into executive session for the review of pending settlement proposals. Auditor Hunt seconded the motion. The motion carried. The Board went into executive session.

The Board came out of executive session after receiving legal advice from the Attorney General's office. Governor Morrissey stated that no action was taken during the executive session.

Auditor Hunt made a motion to approve and authorize the Governor to sign the settlement agreements for MCI Communications and for Sunshine Tours. Attorney General McCuskey seconded the motion. The motion carried.

The final item on the agenda was for adjournment. With no further business, Auditor Hunt made a motion to adjourn. Commissioner Leonhardt seconded the motion. The motion carried. The meeting was adjourned.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, reading "Kris Warner", is written over a horizontal line.

Kris Warner, Secretary of State and
Ex-Officio Secretary of the
Board of Public Works