



WEST VIRGINIA

Infrastructure & Jobs Development Council

APPROVED

A meeting of the West Virginia Infrastructure and Jobs Development Council (Council) was held **Wednesday, August 5th, 2026, beginning at 9:30 a.m.** in the Infrastructure & Jobs Development Council Public Hearing Room at 1009 Bullitt Street, Charleston, West Virginia.

Voting Members that were present:

Quorum A quorum was constituted of the following members present:

Chair Todd Johnston, Deputy Chief of Staff and Governor's Designee

Voting Members in person:

Kristin Shaffer, WV Housing Development Fund
Meredith Vance, WV Bureau for Public Health
Kathy Emery, WV Department of Environmental Protection
Brandon Crace, WV Public Service Commission
Scott Menefee, WV Water Development Authority
Joseph Brouse, WV Economic Development Authority
Matt McComas, Public Member
Virginia King, Public Member

Voting Members not present:

Don Rigby, Public Member

Invitees present or via phone/WebEx:

Steve Collins, USDA
Ellen Heinz, USED
Todd Hooker, WVDEP
Roger Earle, WV DEP AML
Patrick Murphy, WV BPH
Thomas Cazad, DEP
Delegate Erica Moore

Others in attendance:

Wayne Morgan, WV Infrastructure & Jobs Development Council
April Evers, WV Infrastructure & Jobs Development Council
Mike Duminiak, WV Infrastructure & Jobs Development Council
Samme Gee, Jackson Kelly
Julie Merrow, Jackson Kelly
Carin Angelle, WV DEP
John Mitchell, Extreme Endeavors
Joe Pingley, MOVRC
Kai Williams, WV DEP
Austin Gillenwater, Griffith & Associates

Matt Tanner, Chapman Technical Group
Bruce Mullins, RIC

Others in attendance by phone/WebEx:

Ben Erste, Region 11 PDC
Melissa Cross, DEP
Kevin Watkins, Thrasher Engineering
Tiffany Sentman, Region 8 PDC
Jennings Berry, Region 6 PDC
Paige Parrish, DEP
Cary Smith, Region 7 PDC
A.B. Bird, DEP
Steve Buchanan, CEC
Rachel Houston, DEP
Angie Laferte, MOVRC
Brandy McKnight, Steptoe & Johnson
Steve Haynes, Thrasher Engineering
Jonathan Carpenter, Thrasher
Sorelle Mbakop, DEP
Rob Bolyard, Region 6 PDC
David Klar, Weirton Citizen

Call to Order Chair Todd Johnston called the meeting to order and noted a quorum was present.

Approval of Minutes Chair Todd Johnston asked for approval of the draft minutes of **July 8th, 2026**. Virginia King moved for approval and Matt McComas seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Projects Technically Feasible and Permitted to Pursue Infrastructure Fund Assistance¹ –
Cowen PSD-Line repl (New application) 2026W-2805
Meredith Vance described the request and it is technically feasible.

The Technical Review and Funding Committee recommends that the Cowen PSD be eligible to pursue a \$1,500,000 DWTRF PF, a \$2,000,000 AMLER grant, and a \$1,000,000 IJDC grant for an estimated project cost of \$4,500,000.

Scott Menefee moved that the recommendation be approved, Virginia King seconded the motion. The Motion passed.

Cowen PSD-WWTP imprvs (New application) 2026S-2806
Kathy Emery described the request and it is technically feasible.

The Technical Review and Funding Committee recommends the Cowen PSD be eligible to pursue a \$2,000,000 CWSRF PF loan, \$1,200,000 CDBG, and a \$1,000,000 IJDC grant for an estimated project cost of \$4,200,000.

¹ This action item is to certify that certain requirements have been met which makes the project eligible for funding. Meeting this criteria is a necessary step for obtaining a binding commitment from the Council, but it does not guarantee one will be granted.

Scott Menefee moved that the recommendation be approved, Virginia King seconded the motion. The Motion passed.

Grant Town, Town of-Line repl (New application)

2025W-2741

Meredith Vance described the request and it is technically feasible.

The Technical Review and Funding Committee recommends the Town of Grant Town be eligible to pursue a \$500,000 DWTRF PF loan and a \$500,000 IJDC grant for an estimated project cost of \$1,000,000.

Scott Menefee moved that the recommendation be approved, Virginia King seconded the motion. The Motion passed.

Greenbrier PSD 2-Alt source & pre-treatment imprvs (New application)

2026W-2791

Meredith Vance described the request and it is technically feasible.

The Technical Review and Funding Committee recommends the Greenbrier PSD 2 be eligible to pursue a \$1,500,000 DWTRF PF loan, a \$1,500,000 DWTRF loan (0%, 40 yrs, 0.25% AF), a \$1,420,000 AMLER grant, and a \$1,000,000 IJDC grant for an estimated project cost of \$5,420,000.

Scott Menefee moved that the recommendation be approved, Virginia King seconded the motion. The Motion passed.

Mullens, City of-Sys imprvs 2 (New application)

2025S-2737

Kathy Emery described the request and it is technically feasible.

The Technical Review and Funding Committee recommends the City of Mullens be eligible to pursue a \$1,500,000 CWSRF PF loan, a \$1,325,000 CWSRF loan (1.75%, 30 yrs, 0.25% AF), and a \$500,000 IJDC grant for an estimated project cost of \$3,325,000.

Scott Menefee moved that the recommendation be approved, Virginia King seconded the motion. The Motion passed.

Richwood, City of-Water tank imprvs (New application)

2026W-2796

Meredith Vance described the request and it is technically feasible.

The Technical Review and Funding Committee recommends the City of Richwood be eligible to pursue \$1,500,000 DWTRF PF loan and a \$1,000,000 IJDC grant for an estimated project cost of \$2,500,000.

Scott Menefee moved that the recommendation be approved, Virginia King seconded the motion. The Motion passed.

St Albans, City of-Sys imprvs 1 (New application)

2026W-2759

Meredith Vance described the request and it is technically feasible.

The Technical Review and Funding Committee recommends the City of St Albans be eligible to pursue a \$1,000,000 DWTRF PF loan, a \$10,968,000 DWTRF loan (0.75%, 30 yrs, 0.25%), and a \$1,000,000 IJDC Grant for an estimated project cost of \$12,968,000.

Scott Menefee moved that the recommendation be approved, Virginia King seconded the motion. The Motion passed.

Weirton, City of-Line repl (New application)

2026W-2800

Meredith Vance described the request and it is technically feasible.

The Technical Review and Funding Committee recommends the City of Weirton application be tabled until the September 2, 2026 meeting.

Scott Menefee moved that the recommendation be approved, Matt McComas seconded the motion. The Motion passed.

Projects Technically Feasible and Recommended to Pursue Funding Sources Other Than Infrastructure Fund Assistance -

Mannington, City of-MH rehab & ext, 40 cust (New application)

2026S-2790

Kathy Emery described the request and it is technically feasible.

The Technical Review and Funding Committee recommends the City of Mannington be eligible to pursue a \$1,500,000 CWSRF PF loan and a \$1,500,000 CWSRF loan (2.75%, 20 yrs, 0.25% AF) for an estimated project cost of \$3,000,000.

Scott Menefee moved that the recommendation be approved, Virginia King seconded the motion. The Motion passed.

Vienna, City of-Pond Run storm sewer repl (New application)

2026S-2747

Kathy Emery described the request and it is technically feasible.

The Technical Review and Funding recommends the City of Vienna be eligible to pursue a \$1,293,600 Vienna contribution and a \$500,000 CWSRF PF (green) loan for an estimated project cost of \$1,793,600.

Scott Menefee moved that the recommendation be approved, Virginia King seconded the motion. The Motion passed.

**Projects Requesting Infrastructure Fund Binding Commitments and/or Extensions –
Extensions**

Boone Co PSD-Rock Ck Dev Park ext (Binding Commitment extension)

2023W-2491

Wayne Morgan described the request.

The Technical Review and Funding Committee recommends the Boone Co PSD receive a binding commitment extension until March 15, 2027.

Scott Menefee moved that the recommendation be approved, Virginia King seconded the motion. The Motion passed.

Phillipi, City of-Little Laurel Run Reservoir (Binding Commitment extension) 2019W-1855

Wayne Morgan described the request.

The Technical Review and Funding Committee recommends the City of Phillippi binding commitment be extended until January 15, 2027.

Scott Menefee moved that the recommendation be approved, Virginia King seconded the motion. The Motion passed.

Ancillary Project Expenditure -

Brooke Co PSD-Phase IIC (Ancillary project expenditure)

2021S-1945

Kathy Emery described the request.

The Technical Review and Funding Committee recommends the \$193,176.18 IJDC loan ancillary project expenditure by Brooke Co PSD to extend service to the Animal Shelter and Recycle Center be approved.

Scott Menefee moved that the recommendation be approved, Virginia King seconded the motion. The Motion passed.

Central Hampshire PSD-Harvest Hills WWTP imprvs (Scope change & use of cont.) 2023S-2340

Kathy Emery described the request.

The Technical Review and Funding Committee recommends the Central Hampshire PSD scope change be approved and (if approved) the \$382,586.93 (includes \$101,982 IJDC grant & \$165,000 IJDC bid overrun grant) use of contingency for the post aeration basin and other required improvements be approved.

Scott Menefee moved that the recommendation be approved, Virginia King seconded the motion. The Motion passed.

Business Items –

Critical Needs Policies - Exhibit A to Resolution

Wayne Morgan introduced the resolution.

Brandon Crace moved that the recommendation be approved, Kathy Emery seconded the motion. The Motion passed.

Executive Director Comments -

Returned Funds

Funding program updates

Projects Requiring Additional Information -

Clarksburg, City of-Lumberport conn (New application)	2026W-2788
Green Valley Glenwood PSD-Hurricane Rdg ext, 19 cust (New application)	2026W-2810
Mason Co PSD-Ashton WTP imprvs (New application)	2024W-2644
Mason Co PSD-Lakin WTP imprvs (New application)	2024W-2626
Mason Co PSD-S County sys imprvs (New application)	2023W-2482
Midland PSD-Chenoweth Ck ext, 45 cust (New application)	2026S-2765
Summersville, City of-Line & jhigh tank repl (Upd application)	2026W-2756

Requests Received (Applications and requests to date) -

Sewer

Boone Co PSD-Rock Ck Devl Park package plt (New application)	2026E-2813
Preston Co PSD- Valley Pt imprvs & Rt 26 N ext, 1 cust (New application)	2026S-2786

Water

Clay Co PSD-Bob Reedy Rd ext, 8 cust (New application)	2026W-2769
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Committee Reports

Consolidation	Nate Testman
Technical Review & Funding	Scott Menefee
Infrastructure & Jobs Development Council	Wayne Morgan
Sewer Technical Review	Kathy Emery

Water Technical Review

Kathy Emery

Other Reports

US Army Corps of Engineers
US Department of Agriculture
Abandoned Mine Lands
Division of Highways
Funding Program Reports (projects bidding and closing)

Klancey Burford
Steve Collins
Roger Earle
Perry Keller
Kathy Emery

Public Comment

Public comment by David Scott Klar to the August 5, 2026 IJDC meeting regarding 2026W-2800 - "During the winter of 2024-25 the city of Weirton experienced a water crisis and thousands of our citizens were without water, some for weeks and some for months. As Charlotte Lane of the PSC described us we were instantly thrown into living like a third world nation. Our local delegate Pat McGeehan stepped in to help. He initiated a PSC investigation to find out why this happened and how it could be prevented in the future. After weeks of investigating the causes of the crisis it was concluded by the PSC that deferred maintenance and the neglect of a 100 year old leaking and shallow distribution system caused the catastrophe. The aged and shallow cast iron and galvanized water lines in the downtown and in other areas of the city began breaking in such high numbers city crews couldn't keep up and tanks went empty. We had weeks long boil water and conservation orders, chronic brown water which all rendered the water to be useful to only piss in and flush down the toilet. With an annual unaccounted for line loss of greater than 50% the city gave precedence to doubling the water and sewer plant capacities focusing on speculative growth in a brown field industrial park owned by wealthy landowners rather than a line replacement program that would benefit all citizens. On July 25 2025 the PSC gave the city an order to replace all the aged and shallow cast iron and galvanized water lines within the next 5 years. Our citizens thought something positive was going to happen; they still think that something positive is going to happen because they've been uninformed by local leaders about this major change in the PSC order that has taken place. And now the IJDC steps in and approves a plan that allows our city to only change less than half of the downtown cast and galvanized water lines in the North downtown when it was all the shallow 100 year old water lines in the entire downtown that were failing in crippling numbers that sent Weirton into an crisis situation. Why would the PSC and the IJDC now allow the City of Weirton to only change half the downtown water lines in the next 4 years? The city is targeting speculative growth in the north end downtown region; an EPA brownfield left to us by the defunct Weirton steel company. Targeting only this area of Weirton still leaves Weirton vulnerable to another crisis and forces Weirton citizens to pay 60% more for their water that will be spent to subsidize and increase the property values of wealthy landowners in the North Downtown who are hell bent on trying to sell these brownfield properties to the highest bidders while the citizens pay for their water infrastructure improvements at the cost of neglecting half the lines in the downtown and all the cast iron lines around the city that are still breaking regularly causing chronic no water, dirty water, boil water orders. This current plan will only add to the frustration of thousands of Weirton citizens. Now the IJDC and the PSC have become part of our problem rather than part of our solution by allowing the city to minimize the PSC commission order which leaves the City feeling justified to be able to only replace all the lines for the wealthy landowners enhancing the value of their properties that will probably get sold for top dollar to a data center or some other industry while the citizens go from a 5 year plan to replace an aged broken down water system to a 30 year plan that overlaps many winters of vulnerability to have another water crisis. Local government and state agencies have failed the common citizen in Weirton; the citizens I thought their mission was to serve. The truth will be revealed to the citizens of Weirton that the state agencies have double crossed them and that they care more for the wealthy landowners than Weirton citizens. Many of these wealthy landowners don't even live in West Virginia and don't even pay West Virginia Taxes. When local government fails the people the citizenry turns to the state government for help. This is an instance of the people of Weirton turning to the PSC, the Bureau for Public Health, and now the JDC looking for help to improve our dire situation. Seems to be a City hell bent on keeping the citizens of Weirton living conditions at

the level of a third world nation.”

Adjournment

With no further business before the Committee, the Chair entertained a motion to adjourn, Matt McComas moved to adjourn; Virginia King seconded the motion. The motion passed. The meeting was adjourned at 10:05 a.m.

Wayne D Morgan Digitally signed by Wayne D Morgan
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Wayne D. Morgan
Secretary & Executive Director