

**MINUTES OF THE May 20, 2025
MEETING OF THE WEST VIRGINIA PUBLIC EMPLOYEES GRIEVANCE BOARD**

The May 20, 2025, meeting of the West Virginia Public Employees Grievance Board was called to order at the Grievance Board's office located at 1701 5th Avenue, Suite 142, Charleston, West Virginia, at 1:00 p.m. by Chairman John Myers. Chairman Myers requested a roll call to establish a quorum. A quorum was established. Board Member Maria Eshenaur, appeared via telephone. Chairman John Myers, Secretary William Burdette, PEGB Director Michelle L. Bradley, Chief Administrative Law Judge Billie Thacker Catlett, and Administrative Law Judge Kimberly D. Bentley were present in person. Also present via telephone was Dena Smith from the Finance Division and Ryan A. Lawler- Secretary II in the PEGB Westover office.

Chairman Myers sought approval of the November 14, 2024, Board Meeting minutes. Secretary William Burdette moved the minutes be approved the minutes as written. The motion was seconded by Board Member Maria Eshenaur and approved unanimously.

Dena Smith from Finance presented and reviewed the Financial Report. Ms. Smith stated the Board was under the current expenditure benchmark at 83%. Board Member Maria Eshenaur made a motion for the Financial Report to be approved as written. The motion was seconded by Secretary William Burdette and approved unanimously.

PEGB Director Michelle L. Bradley presented and reviewed the Administrative Reports. A question was posed about the number of closed matters being down. Director Bradley and Chief Judge Catlett answered that there were various explanations that led to this, including the new rule regarding leave and abeyances. Discussion took place about HB 2008, 2009 and 2013. It was stated that the bills are similar in their function, but apply to different departments and agencies. Starting July 1st, specific departments and agencies will be exempt from the grievance process. Current classified individuals in those departments and agencies will retain rights so long as they remain in their current position. Effective July 1, 2025, new employees and those transferred or promoted in the stated departments and agencies, will be exempt from the grievance process, unless given classified status and grievance rights due to federal requirements. Secretary William Burdette asked what we should report differently and track the difference after the bill is in place. Director Bradley suggested date of hire be added to the grievance form. Director Bradley stated she would be meeting with the DOP Director regarding notice of these bills to the agencies involved. Secretary William Burdette made a motion for the Administrative Reports to be approved as written. The motion was seconded by Board Member Maria Eshenaur and approved unanimously.

General discussion was held regarding the agenda format. Chairman John Myers brought up concerns with the executive session being listed on the agenda. Items on the agenda must be listed in detail, but observing privacy acts, giving examples of listed information. Chairman Myers stated executive session should be left off of the agenda unless it will be entered into during that meeting.

There were no comments during the Public Comments period.

No need for executive session.

Board Members unanimously agreed the next Board Meeting would take place on July 17, 2025, at 1:00p.m., at 1701 5th Avenue, Suite 142, Charleston, West Virginia.

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Motion for adjournment was made by Board Member Maria Eshenaur. The motion was seconded by Secretary William Burdette. The Board Meeting adjourned at 1:24 p.m.



William Burdette, Secretary
Public Employees Grievance Board

7-17-25
Date of Approval