

WV STATE FIRE COMMISSION MEETING
December 4th, 2025
Morgantown Marriot Waterfront, Morgantown WV.

The official business meeting was called to order at 9:02am by Chairman Grant Gunnoe

ROLL CALL: by Kathryn L Burns

Commissioners Present

Steven Byers, Carl Eastham, Doug Estep, Grant Gunnoe, Phil Hart, Tom Keefer, Brian Jones, Doug Mongold, Jim Oldaker, Ted Shriver and Virgil White.

It is noted that Counsel Brandolyn Felton-Earnest is in attendance as well.

Commissioners Absent

Edward George

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Commissioner Mongold made a motion to accept and approve the minutes of the October 10th, 2025 meeting, seconded by Commissioner Eastham. With the ayes and nays having been taken on a voice vote, the motion passed.

RECOGNITION

None

SFMO & DIVISIONAL REPORT:

Marshal Tyree gave the Inspections, Plan Review, Services, Investigations Reports, and his Operations report to the Commission containing staffing, legislative, updates, and fire department funding loss updates. He included information on the AFFF disposal. Currently he is awaiting quotes from 3 vendors, for the cost of disposal.

Entertained Questions

Commissioner White inquired about the continued use of FDID numbers on Fire Department applications as the new NERIS system will use its own unique identifier. Marshal Tyree will confer with Ms. Morrison in Fire Department Services for clarity on the question.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Recruitment and Retention did not meet.

Fire Department Services Committee Meeting Report

Meeting Minutes

December 3rd, 2025

Prior to the meeting being Called to Order, Chairman Gunnoe asked the Division of Forestry attendees to give their presentation.

John W Bird with the Division of Forestry gave a voice and PowerPoint presentation on the cooperative workings and opportunities between the Division of Forestry, the Fire Commission and Fire Departments. The first item he reviewed was *WV §20-3-4 Authority and duties of director of the division of forestry and others as to forest fires; expenditures for forest fire control; limited liability of certain persons fighting forest fires.*

He then spoke on a variety of things the Division of Forestry takes part in, including fire department training, wildland fire investigations, response to illegal burns, and fire department grant opportunities. During the presentation he noted the recent purchase of much needed equipment, such as response trucks and dozers that have been a great asset in fighting wildland fires. The PowerPoint presentation also gave insight into the workings of their website and how to navigate it. He suggested all in attendance should go to their website wvforestry.com and there they can find a tab for fire reports that directs you to a map noting the wildland fires this fire season.

Michael Boyce also with the Division of Forestry went into further detail on how to apply for available grant opportunities and provided information on the requirements and how it is dispersed.

Both gentlemen entertained and answered questions for all in attendance.

Call to Order

Commissioner Byers, called to order the regular meeting of the Fire Department Services Committee at 10:22am on December 3rd, 2025 at the Morgantown Marriot Waterfront, Morgantown WV.

Roll Call

The following commissioners were present:

Steven Byers
Jim Oldaker
Brian Jones
Phil Hart
Doug Mongold
Grant Gunnoe

The following commissioners were absent:

None

Unfinished Business

1. Consideration of AFFF Disposal.

Marshal Tyree noted that he is still waiting for quotes from vendors regarding the associated costs and he has no additional information at this time.

No Action taken.

New Business

1. Consideration/Report on Temporary Fire Officer Certifications.

- a) Gerald Crowe – Certification Complete

No Action Needed

2. Consideration of Fire Chief Applications

Assistant State Fire Marshal Bradley Scott presented the following applications for approval.

- a) Rusty Andrews (Smoot)
- b) Christopher Keyes (Keyser)
- c) Lucas Morford (Grantsville)
- d) Gary D Austin (Roncerverte)
- e) Harold Brown (Cowen)
- f) Gregory Pigg (Bridgeport)
- g) John Lyons (Jefferson County)
- h) Patrick McGuire (Rainelle)
- i) Charles Adkins (Tyler Mountain)
- j) Lenny Jarrett (Smithers)

Commission Mongold made a motion to recommend to the Full Fire Commission to approve the applications as listed with Lenny Jarrett being subject to the outcome of today's hearing, seconded by Commissioner Jones. With all the ayes and nays having been taken on a voice vote, the motion passed.

3. Report on Fire Department Receiving 180 Days to Achieve Compliance.

ASFM Scott briefed the Committee on the Departments receiving 180 days.

- a) Roderfield VFD
- b) Welch VFD
- c) Davy VFD

No Action Needed.

4. Consideration of Fire Department Recertification

Assistant State Fire Marshal Bradley Scott presented the following departments for Recertification.

- a) Smoot VFD
- b) Davis VFD

- c) Thomas VFD
- d) Middlebourne-Tyler VFD
- e) Raysal VFD
- f) Coalwood VFD
- g) Gary VFD
- h) Antawalt VFD
- i) Northfork VFD

Commissioner Jones made a motion to recommend to the Full Fire Commission the recertification of the listed departments, seconded by Commissioner Hart. With the ayes and nays having been taken on a voice vote, the motion passed.

5. Consideration of Fire Department with Perfect Evaluations Recertification.

ASFM Bradley Scott presented the following Departments with Perfect Evaluations for Recertification.

- a) Duval District VFD
- b) Dunbar FD

Commissioner Jones made a motion to recommend to the Full Fire Commission the recertification of the listed departments, noting their perfect evaluations, seconded by Commissioner Hart. With the ayes and nays having been taken on a voice vote, the motion passed.

6. Consideration of Municipal Fire Marshal Approval.

- a) Andrew White
- b) Isaac Brunetti

Commissioner Mongold made a motion to recommend to the Full Fire Commission to approve the submissions, seconded by Commissioner Gunnoe. With the ayes and nays having been taken on a voice vote, the motion passed.

7. Presentation, Discussion and Consideration of Wildland Fire Interface with the Division of Forestry.

Presentation was presented prior to the meeting. No Action Taken.

Adjournment

Having no additional business, Commissioner Gunnoe moved to adjourn the meeting at 10:32am without objection. Meeting adjourned.

Commissioner Mongold made a motion to accept the report as written, seconded by Commissioner Eastham. With the ayes and nays having been taken on a voice vote the motion passed

Disciplinary Committee Meeting Report

Meeting Minutes

December 3rd, 2025

Call to Order

Commissioner Eastham called to order the regular meeting of the Disciplinary Committee at 10:54am on December 3rd, 2025 at the Morgantown Marriot Waterfront, Morgantown WV.

Roll Call

The following commissioners were present:

Carl Eastham
Ted Shriver (via phone)
Doug Mongold
Steven Byers
Grant Gunnoe

The following commissioners were absent:

Edward George

Unfinished Business

None

New Business

1) Consideration of FDC 2025-030.

Commissioner Gunnoe made a motion to enter executive session, seconded by Commissioner Mongold. With the ayes and nays having been taken on a voice vote, the motion passed.

Commissioner Gunnoe made a motion to leave executive session, seconded by Commissioner Byers. With the ayes and nays having been taken on a voice vote, the motion passed.

Commissioner Gunnoe made a motion to recommend to the Full Fire Commission that no Fire Commission action is needed on FDC2025-030 and that the Fire Marshal's Office will handle the complaint, seconded by Commissioner Mongold. With the ayes and nays having been taken on a voice vote, the motion passed.

Adjournment

Having no additional business, Commissioner Eastham moved to adjourn the meeting at 11:00am without objection. Meeting adjourned.

Commissioner White made a motion to accept the report as written, seconded by Commissioner Eastham. With the ayes and nays having been taken on a voice vote the motion passed.

Legislative Codes Committee Meeting Report

Meeting Minutes

December 3rd, 2025

Call to Order

Commissioner Mongold called to order the regular meeting of the Legislative and Codes Committee meeting at 11:01am on December 3rd, 2025 at the Morgantown Marriot Waterfront, Morgantown WV.

Roll Call

The following commissioners were present:

Jim Oldaker
Brian Jones
Tom Keefer
Ted Shriver (via phone)
Doug Mongold
Grant Gunnoe

The following commissioners were absent:

Edward George

Unfinished Business

None

New Business

Commissioner Mongold noted that the Committee will be reversing items 1 and 2 to accommodate the flow of the meeting.

2) Discussion on §21-6-2 Re: Junior Firefighters.

Marshal Tyree addressed the Committee regarding an inquiry to the agency for clarification on WV §21-6-2 and Junior Firefighters allowances. Marshal Tyree contacted Commissioner Mitchell Woodrum, with the WV Division of Labor for clarity on the allowances for Junior Firefighters per WV §21-6-2. Commissioner Woodrum did agree, that per the code, under the direction of a Line Officer, Junior Firefighters may participate in a fire scene and that the language was 100% accurate.

Marshal Tyree doesn't believe that anything changes with the revelation of this information as it is not a new addition to the Statute.

Commissioner Oldaker noted that the Junior Firefighter Rule was based on the Department of Labor Rule not the Statute.

Chairman Gunnoe told the Committee if they would like to look over the information and recommend changes,

that can be looked at in a future meeting.

Marshal Tyree reminded everyone of the process to be followed, for any suggested Legislative proposals.

1) Discussion/Consideration of WV Fire Prevention and Control Plan

Commissioner Gunnoe made motion to move into executive session, seconded by Commissioner Oldaker. With the ayes and nays having been taken on a voice vote, the motion passed.

Commissioner Gunnoe made a motion to leave executive session, seconded by Commissioner Keefer. With the ayes and nays having been taken on a voice vote, the motion passed.

No action taken.

Adjournment

Having no additional business, Commissioner Keefer moved to adjourn the meeting at 12:30pm. Without objection meeting adjourned.

Commissioner Eastham made a motion to accept the report as written, seconded by Commissioner White. With the ayes and nays having been taken on a voice vote the motion passed.

OSHA Emergency Response Standard Committee Meeting Report

Meeting Minutes

December 3rd, 2025

Call to order

Commissioner Keefer called to order the meeting of the OSHA Emergency Response Standard Committee Meeting at 10:34am on December 3rd, 2025 at the Morgantown Marriot Waterfront, Morgantown WV.

Roll call

The following commissioners were present:

Tom Keefer
Virgil White
Doug Mongold
Grant Gunnoe

The following commissioners were absent:

Edward George

Unfinished business

1) Update on OSHA Emergency Response Standard.

Chairman Keefer gave a brief update on a recent meeting by OSHA's Blue Ribbon Committee in October. At the meeting OSHA stated they were going to ignore all of the comments they received. With that occurring Industry took their petitions to the Congressional Delegates. Those Delegates went to OSHA and in turn OSHA has stated they will make revisions that will lean more towards current industry standards. OSHA still plans on having the plan out in the spring, effective around June 1st, 2026.

New business

None

Adjournment

Commissioner Oldaker moved to adjourn the meeting at 10:36am without objection. Meeting adjourned.

Commissioner Eastham made a motion to accept the report as written, seconded by Commissioner Mongold. With the ayes and nays having been taken on a voice vote the motion passed.

Training Committee Meeting Report

Meeting Minutes

December 3rd, 2025

Call to Order

Commissioner White called to order the regular meeting of the Training Committee at 10:37am on December 3rd, 2025 at the Morgantown Marriot Waterfront, Morgantown WV.

The following commissioners were present:

Virgil White
Jim Oldaker
Doug Estep
Tom Keefer
Doug Mongold
Grant Gunnoe

The following commissioners were absent:

None

Unfinished Business

None

New Business

1. Discussion/Consideration of NFPA 1010 Support Personnel Standard and Commission Approval.

Mark Lambert of WVU FSE inquired of the Committee if someone has the NFPA 1010 Support Personnel but not Module 1, will they be allowed on the fire ground.

A discussion was held on the differences/requirements between the NFPA 1010 Support Personnel and Module 1.

Chairman Gunnoe asked if it would create a problem to lay the item over to the next meeting. He wants to make sure there is no confusion that additional time is being added to the requirements.

Mr. Lambert will work with the Fire Marshal's Office and compare the 2 side by side.

Commissioner Mongold made a motion to table the item, seconded by Commissioner Estep. With the ayes and nays having been taken on a voice vote, the motion passed.

2. WVU-Fire Service Extension Report.

Mr. Lambert reported that State Fire School is being moved back to the summer, July 29th through August 2nd, 2026. The US Fire Administration did not hold their Annual Fire Summit. WVU Cancer Advocacy approached him about putting some people on an advisory committee regarding Firefighter cancer in WV and Both Cathy McCray and Randy James said they would participate.

3. Public Service Training Report.

Robert Bailey of Public Service Training reported that they had been very busy. They are getting ready for their Asset Conference and have a very large number registered. The Escape Conference is still being organized for February 25th through March 1st, 2026. There will be a round table at both Conferences.

He also stated that regarding the item tabled (number 1 in New Business) that PST is there for discussion and would be willing to team with WVU FSE on the item.

Adjournment

Having no additional business, Commissioner Estep moved to adjourn the meeting at 10:53am without objection. Meeting adjourned.

Commissioner Mongold made a motion to accept the report as written, seconded by Commissioner Eastham. With the ayes and nays having been taken on a voice vote the motion passed.

FULL COMMISSION MEETING

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

1) Consideration of AFFF Disposal.

See FDS Report.

No Action Taken.

NEW BUSINESS:

1) Consideration/Report on Temporary Fire Officer Certification.

See FDS Report

- a) Gerald Crowe – Certification Complete

No Action Needed.

2) Consideration of Fire Chief Applications.

See FDS Report.

- a) Rusty Andrews (Smoot)
- b) Christopher Keyes (Keyser)
- c) Lucas Morford (Grantsville)
- d) Gary D Austin (Roncerverte)
- e) Harold Brown (Cowen)
- f) Gregory Pigg (Bridgeport)
- g) John Lyons (Jefferson County)
- h) Patrick McGuire (Rainelle)
- i) Charles Adkins (Tyler Mountain)
- j) Lenny Jarrett (Smithers VFD)

Commissioner White made a motion to approve applications a through i - Andrews, Keyes, Morford, Austin, Brown, Pigg, Lyons, McGuire and Adkins, seconded by Commissioner Mongold. With the ayes and nays having been taken on a voice vote, the motion passed.

Commissioner Mongold made a motion to reject application j - Lenny Jarrett, seconded by Commissioner Eastham. With the ayes and nays having been taken on a voice vote, the motion passed.

3) Report on Fire Departments Receiving 180 Days to Achieve Compliance.

See FDS Report.

- a) Roderfield VFD
- b) Welch VFD
- c) Davy VFD

No Action Taken

4) Consideration of Recertification of Fire Departments.

See FDS Report.

- a) Smoot VFD
- b) Davis VFD
- c) Thomas VFD
- d) Middlebourne-Tyler VFD
- e) Raysal VFD
- f) Berwind VFD
- g) Coalwood VFD
- h) Gary VFD
- i) Antawalt VFD
- j) Northfork VFD

Commissioner White made a motion to recertify the listed departments, seconded by Commissioner Eastham. With the ayes and nays having been taken on a voice vote, the motion passed.

5) Consideration of Perfect Evaluation Recertification of Fire Departments.

See FDS Report.

- a) Duval District VFD
- b) Dunbar FD

Commissioner Mongold made a motion to recertify the departments noting their perfect evaluations, seconded by Commissioner Eastham. With the ayes and nays having been taken on a voice vote, the motion passed.

6) Consideration of Municipal Fire Marshal Approval.

See FDS Report.

- a) Andrew White
- b) Issac Brunetti

Commissioner White made a motion to approve both applicants , seconded by Commissioner Eastham. With the ayes and nays having been taken on a voice vote, the motion passed.

Commissioner Oldaker took a moment to recognize the exemplary work and accomplishments of Lieutenant Issac Brunetti.

Captain Andrew White of Charleston FD introduced their new member **Pancake** who is an ATF Accelerant Detection Canine. He is certified in over 375 mixtures of accelerants in arson fires. There are only 68 in the country. If anyone needs the assistance of the dog, they can contact the City of Charleston (Metro) for information on how to request it. They are available for demonstrations.

7) Consideration of FDC 2025-030

See Disciplinary Report.

Commissioner Eastham made a motion that no further Fire Commission action is needed and that the Fire Marshal’s Office will handle the complaint, seconded by Commissioner Mongold. With the ayes and nays having been taken on a voice vote, the motion passed.

8) Presentation, Discussion and Consideration of Wildland Fire Interface with the Division of Forestry.

See FDS Report.

No Action Taken.

9) Discussion/Consideration of WV Fire Prevention and Control Plan.

No Action Taken.

10) Consideration of Discussion/Consideration of MFPA 1010 Support Personnel Standard and Commission Approval.

See Training Report.

Item was tabled in the Training Committee.

11) Election of Officers for 2026.

Commissioner Chairman Gunnoe called for nominations for the Election of New Fire Commissioner Officers for 2024.

Commissioner Mongold made a motion to nominate Grant Gunnoe for the office of Chairman, seconded by Commissioner Eastham. No other nominations were made, and nominations closed. With the ayes and nays having been taken on a voice vote, the motion passed.

Commissioner White made a motion to nominate Doug Mongold for the office of Vice Chairman, seconded by Commissioner Eastham. No other nominations were made, and nominations closed. With the ayes and nays having been taken on a voice vote, the motion passed.

Commissioner Mongold made a motion to nominate Ted Shriver for the office of Secretary, seconded by Commissioner Eastham. No other nominations were made, and nominations closed. With the ayes and nays having been taken on a voice vote, the motion passed.

SPEAKERS:

None

CORRESPONDENCE:

None

GOOD OF THE ORDER:

Potential April Meeting Locations

TIME AND PLACE OF NEXT MEETING(S):

Committee Meetings - 10:00am Thursday, February 5th, 2026, and Commission Meeting 9:00am Friday, February 6th, 2026, location TC Entergy Building (tentative).

ADJOURN:

Commissioner White made a motion to adjourn at 9:42, seconded by Commissioner Eastham, without objection. Meeting adjourned.
