

# **WEST VIRGINIA MUNICIPAL HOME RULE BOARD**

## **MEETING MINUTES**

**THURSDAY, JANUARY 9, 2014**

A meeting of the West Virginia Municipal Home Rule Board was held at 10:30 a.m. on Thursday, January 9, 2014, at City Hall in Bridgeport, West Virginia.

The following members were present:

Chris Fletcher, Member  
Joshua Jarrell (designee for Development Office Executive Director Keith Burdette)  
Brian Jones, Member  
Floyd (Kin) McKinley Sayre III, Member  
Patsy Trecoast II (designee for the Honorable Earl Ray Tomblin)

The following members were absent:

Jim Morgan, Member  
Herb Snyder, Member

Others present:

Anthony Bellotte, City of Clarksburg  
Jim Davie, The Exponent Telegram  
Lisa Dooley, West Virginia Municipal League  
Catherine Goings, City of Clarksburg  
Kim Haws, City of Bridgeport  
Jay Rogers, City of Fairmont  
Al Romagnoli, City of Salem  
John Seamones, City of Salem  
Annette Wright, City of Clarksburg

The meeting was called to order by Chair Trecoast. It was reported that notice of the meeting was lawfully given, a quorum was present, and the meeting was convened.

A motion was made by Chris Fletcher to approve the minutes of the Wednesday, December 4, 2013, meeting/teleconference. The motion was seconded by Joshua Jarrell and unanimously approved.

### Chair's Report

Chair Trecoast did not furnish a report.

### Old Business

During review of the Home Rule Phase II Procedural Rules, a motion was made by Kin Sayre to seek a formal written advisory opinion from either the Attorney General's Office or the West Virginia Ethics Commission concerning guidance as to whether Board members are required to recuse themselves from reviewing, evaluating, and/or voting on applications submitted from certain municipalities. The motion was seconded by Joshua Jarrell and unanimously carried.

Further, the Board asks that applicant cities be most agile in reading the state statute, as well as consulting with their legal counsel and financial advisors.

After careful consideration, the membership reviewed and recommended a few additional changes to the draft Internal Application Review/Procedures Checklist document. Subsequently, a motion was made by Kin Sayre to tentatively adopt the developed criteria (draft document) as amended for the application review process. Lisa Dooley was asked to disseminate the draft document to the membership of the West Virginia Municipal League for comments to be received by February 12. It was duly noted that the document was subject to change upon any related legislation being passed during the current session. The motion was seconded by Joshua Jarrell and unanimously carried.

### New Business

Bridgeport's City Manager, Kim Haws, informed the membership that Bridgeport would likely submit an amendment to their home rule application sometime before July 1, 2014.

Recognizing the need for basic funding for meeting space, membership mileage expenses, etc., the Board will reach out to the ex-officio members for their support with this budgetary problem.

It was reiterated that correspondence, petitions, etc. received by the membership and related to the Home Rule Board should be shared with the entire group so it is part of the official record.

Adjournment

Members agreed that the next regularly scheduled meeting would be held on February 24 via teleconference. With no further business, a motion was made to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded and the meeting was adjourned at 12:00 noon.