

WEST VIRGINIA MUNICIPAL HOME RULE BOARD

MEETING MINUTES

WEDNESDAY, JULY 17, 2024

A meeting of the West Virginia Municipal Home Rule Board was held at 10:30 a.m. on Wednesday, July 17, 2024, at the Department of Revenue, State Capitol Complex in Charleston, West Virginia.

The following members were present:

Dr. Peter Shirley (designee for the Honorable Jim Justice)  
Mark Polen, Member  
James Bailey, Member  
Brian Jones, Member

The following members were absent:

Dan Vriendt  
Honorable Chris Phillips, West Virginia House of Delegates  
Honorable Jack Woodrum, West Virginia Senate

Others present:

Anoop Bhasin, Deputy General Counsel, WV Dept. of Revenue  
Sam Felton, Mayor, Town of Marlinton

Others present via Google Meet:

Mary Clendenen, Recorder, Town of Marlinton  
Beverly Renner, Recorder, City of Saint Marys  
Lisa Taylor, Police Clerk, City of Saint Marys  
Olivia Taylor, City of Saint Marys

The meeting was called to order by Chair Shirley at 10:30 a.m. It was reported that the notice of the meeting was lawfully given, a quorum was present, and the meeting was convened. A motion to approve the minutes of the January 17, 2024, meeting was made by James Bailey and seconded by Mark Polen. The motion was approved with a voice vote.

## Chair's Report

None.

## Old Business

None.

## New Business

Town of **Marlinton**:

Dr. Shirley confirmed that the Town of Marlinton complied with all legal requirements as provided in WV Code § 8-1-5a in order to submit their proposed plan application to the Home Rule Board. The Town of Marlinton proposes to implement the 1% sales and use tax.

Dr. Shirley asked for a motion to accept the Town of Marlinton into the Home Rule Program. A motion was made by Mr. Bailey and was seconded by Mr. Jones. The motion passed with a voice vote.

- Mayor Sam Felton presented the proposed plan application for the Town of Marlinton. A brief discussion regarding the proposal of the 1% municipal sales and use tax was held, and a motion was made to approve the plan application by Mr. Polen, with a second by Mr. Jones. The motion passed with a voice vote.

Town of Farmington:

The Town of Farmington withdrew their proposed plan application prior to today's meeting.

City of Saint Marys:

Dr. Shirley confirmed that the City of Saint Marys complied with all legal requirements as provided in WV Code § 8-1-5a in order to submit their proposed plan application to the Home Rule Board. The City of Saint Marys proposes to implement the following: 1) implement a 1% municipal sales, service, and use tax; 2) elimination of party membership requirements for election boards; and 3) on-the-spot citations for code violations.

Dr. Shirley asked for a motion to accept the City of Saint Marys into the Home Rule Program. A

motion was made by Mr. Bailey and was seconded by Mr. Polen. The motion passed with a voice vote.

- Beverly Renner, City Recorder, Olivia Taylor, Grant Writer, and Lisa Taylor, Clerk of the Police Department presented the proposed plan application for the City of Saint Marys. A brief discussion was held regarding each proposed initiative. A motion was made to approve the plan application as a whole by Mr. Polen, with a second by Mr. Jones. The motion was carried with a voice vote.

Other Business

Resolutions Whether to allow Class IV municipality applications to be held in reserve until 2025/2026 or indicate to cities to apply for 2025 in December of 2024.

- A brief discussion was held and a decision was made to place an advisory notice on the Home Rule Board website to notify the public that four Class IV municipalities have been admitted into the Home Rule Program this year, that no more may be permitted in 2024, and that the application submittal process for 2025 will be conducted through a review and ranking process to determine which application submissions will be placed on agendas.

Next Meeting Date - October 9, 2024, at 10:30 a.m.

Adjournment

A motion to adjourn was made by Mr. Polen with a second by Mr. Bailey. The meeting concluded at 11:09 a.m.