



NRGRDA – Legislative Committee Meeting Minutes  
Aug 28, 2025 at 9 a.m. – Virtual  
Beckley, WV

**Call to Order**

Jozy Moore called the meeting to order at 9:03 a.m.

**1. ATTENDANCE**

- **COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT:** Ted Kula, Anita Groves, Craig Chapman, Daniel Hall
- **STAFF PRESENT:** Jina Belcher, Jozy Moore

**2. REPORTS:**

- **Jozy Moore, Policy and Government Outreach Coordinator** reported she is monitoring developments from the Governor’s Office and Legislature regarding proposed changes to PEIA. Plans for a special session remain uncertain.
- Jozy also noted that the committee’s legislative priorities have been approved by the full NRGRDA Board, published publicly, and are receiving positive media coverage.

**3. NOVEMBER INTERIEMS UPDATE**

- NRGRDA will host a reception during the Legislature’s interim meetings in Pipestem on **Sunday, Nov. 2**.
- Daniel Hall noted House and Senate staff are planning tours in the area; NRGRDA will not lead tours to avoid favoritism but is prepared to provide suggestions if requested.
- Committee members were encouraged to attend the reception and engage legislators.

**4. POLICY DEEP DIVE**

**a. Industrial Access Road Fund** (Priority: Infrastructure)

- Committee reviewed a proposed initiative to amend the Industrial Access Road Fund statute to:
  1. Allow counties within a regional EDA to pool funds.
  2. Permit funds to roll over from year to year up to a capped amount.
  3. Allow funds to be used as local match for federal grants.
  4. Increase county allocations (unchanged since 1999) and require regular adjustment for inflation.

- Ranking of priorities (Jina Belcher):
  1. Pooling of funds
  2. Rollover authority with cap
  3. Use as federal match
  4. Increase allocations
- Committee members agreed with this ranking.
  
- b. Build WV Act** (Priority: Workforce and Attainable Housing)
  - Committee reviewed a proposed initiative to:
    1. Lower the current project threshold (\$3 million or six housing units) for rural communities.
    2. Revise the project approval cap to reflect the state’s annual financial obligation (payouts) rather than the total cost of approved projects.
  
- c. Employer-Provided Child Care Tax Credit** (Priority: Childcare Access & Affordability)
  - Committee reviewed a proposed initiative to advocate for rulemaking and clarifications under the 2022 employer childcare tax credit statute, including:
    1. Clearer definition of “sponsorship,” particularly for multiple businesses supporting one facility.
    2. Removal of restrictive proximity requirements and the 50% employee-use requirement.
    3. Extending credit carryforward to align more closely with the federal childcare tax credit.
  
- d. Safer Communities Act** (Priority: Reliable Local Revenue)
  - Committee discussed supporting the proposed Safer Communities Act, previously advanced by the WV County Commissioners Association, which would allow counties (subject to voter referendum) to implement up to a 1% public safety or amusement sales tax.
  
  - **Comments:**
    1. Daniel Hall emphasized the importance of adequate emergency response funding to support economic development.
    2. Ted Kula noted Summers County’s need for sustainable funding for school resource officers.

**ACTION ITEM:** Daniel Hall moved that the Legislative Committee recommend to the full NRGRDA Board support of the following legislative proposals:

1. Industrial Access Road Fund amendments
2. Build WV Act amendments
3. Employer-Provided Childcare Tax Credit amendments
4. Safer Communities Act support

**Second:** Ted Kula

**Vote:** Motion carried unanimously.

**5. NEXT STEPS**

- Jozy Moore will circulate a list of senators and delegates from NRGRDA's four-county region.
- Committee members are asked to consider which legislators may be best positioned to sponsor or support NRGRDA's policy initiatives.

**6. NEXT MEETING:**

- Sept. 25 at 9 a.m.

**7. ADJOURNMENT:**

- Meeting adjourned at 10:04 a.m.

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Larry Meador, Secretary

Accepted: \_\_\_\_\_

