

**STATE OF WEST VIRGINIA
FEDERAL BLOCK GRANT PUBLIC HEARING
JANUARY 14, 2015
3:50 PM
MINUTES**

**LOCATION: STATE CAPITOL BUILDING, 1900 KANAWHA
BOULEVARD, EAST, CHARLESTON, WEST VIRGINIA 25305**

Finance Committees of the West Virginia Senate and the House of Delegates

**PUBLIC HEARING OF PROPOSED USE OF FEDERAL BLOCK
GRANT FUNDS**

**JANUARY 14, 2015
MINUTES**

The members of the Finance Committees of the West Virginia Senate and the House of Delegates held a joint public hearing on the proposed use of federal block grant funds on Wednesday, January 14, 2015, beginning at 3:50 PM in the House Finance Committee Room, Main Capitol Building, 1900 Kanawha Boulevard East, Charleston, West Virginia, with House Finance Vice Chairman Eric Nelson presiding.

Members in attendance were Delegates Bob Ashley, William Anderson, Mick Bates, Brent Boggs, Jim Butler, Ray Canterbury, Paul Espinosa, Allen V. Evans, Cindy Frich, Marty Gearheart, Bill Hamilton, Linda Longstreth, Carol Miller, David Pethtel, Linda Goode Phillips, Erikka Storch, Ron Walters, Steve Westfall, Harry Keith White, and Larry A. Williams. Senators in attendance were Senators Mike Hall, Chris Walters, Dave Sypolt and Tom Takubo.

The opening statement was read by Delegate Ashley and is attached to and made a part of these minutes (see Attachment A).

The agenda is attached and is made part of these minutes (see Attachment B).

Further, copies of all statements on which presentations were based are attached to and made a part of these minutes.

The Community Development Block Grant was discussed next. Kelly Workman, of Project Development, Community Development, West Virginia Development Office was the presenter (see Attachment C).

Valerie Comer, Deputy Executive Director of the Governor's Workforce Investment Office spoke concerning the Workforce Investment Act (see Attachment D).

Information on the Community Services Block Grant was presented by Russell Terry of the Office of Economic Opportunity in the Department of Commerce (see Attachment E).

The Department of Health and Human Resources Maternal Health and Child Health block grant was discussed as the fourth block grant. Christina Mullins, Division of Research, Evaluation and Planning, of the Office of Maternal, Child and Family Health made the presentation (see Attachment F).

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The Community Mental Health Services block grant was addressed next. Joe Barker, of Adult Mental Health and Rehabilitation Services presented the Community Mental Health Services Block Grant (see Attachment G).

Substance Abuse Prevention and Treatment block grant was sixth on the agenda. Kathy Paxton of the Alcoholism and Substance Abuse Division, Office of Behavioral Health presented this block grant (see Attachment H).

Peg Moss, Division of Health Promotion and Chronic Disease, Office of Epidemiology and Health Promotion, Department of Health and Human Resources, spoke about plans for the Preventative Health and Health Services Block Grant (see Attachment I).

Jean Shepherd of the Office of Children and Family Policy, Bureau for Children and Families, Department of Health and Human Resources, presented information on four block grants. The block grants discussed were: Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF), Energy Assistance, Child Care and Development, and Social Services (see Attachments J, K, L, M). This completed the Department of Health and Human Resources block grants.

The final block grant discussed was the Juvenile Accountability Incentive. Leslie Boggess of the Division of Criminal Justice Services, Department of Military Affairs and Public Safety, presented this block grant. (see Attachment N).

Sam Morrison of the Williamsburg Colony Homeowners Association had one question for the committee to determine if his homeowners association qualified for a Block Grant. He was directed to the correct office.

The floor was opened for questions for the presenters, Delegates Cindy Frich and Ron Walters had questions for Kathy Paxton on populations identified by the Federal Government and Medicare and Medicaid coverage's. Delegate Carol Miller asked Joe Barker questions regarding sub grantees and other updates for next year. Delegate Eric Nelson had a question for Jean Shepherd regarding other funding. There were no additional questions from the members or the public.

The public hearing was concluded at 4:50 pm.

Note:

Minutes prepared by the Budget Division of the Legislative Auditor's Office. The hearing was audio recorded; and all records and materials are available for inspection in Room 314, West Wing, Capitol Building, 1900 Kanawha Blvd. Charleston, West Virginia 25305. Also, hearing was broadcast live from the WV Legislature's website: <http://www.legis.state.wv.us/>

STATE OF WEST VIRGINIA
FEDERAL BLOCK GRANT MEETING
JANUARY 14, 2015

ATTACHMENT A

**PUBLIC HEARING
ON PROPOSED USE OF
FEDERAL BLOCK GRANT FUNDS**

January 14, 2015

This meeting is required by Public Law 97-35, codified as 73 U.S.C. S7301 and block grant funds rules and regulations in chapter 47, sec. 29474 of the Federal Register which states in part:

“The act requires the states to submit the various plans and descriptions of intended uses of block grant funds for public comment. The manner in which a state obtains public comment is at the state’s discretion so long as statutory requirements are met. Opportunity for public comment must be offered before the plans or description will be considered complete.”

In addition to these general public participation requirements, the act also requires the state legislature to conduct public hearings on the proposed use and distribution of the funds under the Community Development and the Community Services block grants. The Low-Income Energy Assistance block grant hearing must be conducted by any unit of state government. The hearing for the Community Mental Health Services and the Workforce Investment Act block grants must be conducted by the executive branch. The plans and descriptions of intended uses of block grant funds for Child Care and Development, Maternal and Child Health, Preventive Health, Social Services, Substance Abuse Prevention and Treatment, Temporary Assistance for Needy Families and Abstinence Education are to be available statewide for public comment.

The Juvenile Accountability Incentive block grant requires the state recipient to consult with local units of government or organizations representing such units, rather than holding a public hearing or having a plan available for public comment. The Local Law Enforcement block grant has no public notification requirements for state-level recipient agencies.

The manner in which these hearings are conducted is in the state’s discretion.

**STATE OF WEST VIRGINIA
FEDERAL BLOCK GRANT MEETING
JANUARY 14, 2015**

ATTACHMENT B

Public Hearing on Proposed Use of
Federal Block Grant Funds

The following individuals will speak at the hearing scheduled for Wednesday, January 14, 2015,
at 2:00 pm in the House Finance Committee Room 460M.

West Virginia Development Office Community Development	Kelly Workman
Workforce West Virginia Workforce Investment Act	Russell Fry
Department of Commerce, Office of the Secretary – Office of Economic Opportunity Community Services	Shelly Woda
Division of Health Maternal and Child Health Preventive Health Substance Abuse Prevention and Treatment Community Mental Health Services	Christina Mullens Rachael Moss Kathy Paxton Joe Barker
Division of Human Services Energy Assistance Social Services Temporary Assistance for Needy Families Child Care and Development	Jean Shepard
Division of Justice and Community Services Juvenile Accountability Incentive	Leslie Boggess
Williamsburg Colony Homeowners Association	Sam Morrison