

2nd Quarter Whitewater Commission Meeting Minutes

June 9, 2026

Location: Appalachian Bible College – 161 College Drive, Mount Hope, WV 25880

Chaired: 1st Sgt. CJ Whittington

In Attendance:

Commissioners: Rick Johnson (River Expeditions); Don Beyer (private river user); Dave Holloway (Alpine Ministries); Stan Wilson (NPS via Google Meet); Nate Freier (NPS via Google Meet); George Heffner (Harpers Ferry Adventure Center via Google Meet); Ed Wooton (private river user via Google Meet)

Others: First Sgt. CJ Whittington (WV DNR); Lt. Col. Trader (WV DNR via Google Meet); Amy Hudnall (WV DNR via Google Meet)

Call to Order

The Whitewater Commission meeting of June 9, 2026, was called to order at 1:20 p.m. by First Sgt. Whittington. Introductions were made.

Minutes

Motion was made to approve the March 17, 2026, meeting minutes by Dave Holloway and seconded by Rick Johnson. Motion carried.

Budget

Motion was made to approve the budget by Rick Johnson and was seconded by Dave Holloway. Motion carried. No other discussion was made.

Old Business

- Recommendations updates for two commercial seats and one private river user seat – still waiting on Governor's response. No discussion was made.

New Business

- An update was provided regarding the whitewater emergency radios which are funded by a three-way split between the NPS, DNR and Whitewater Commission. Each have agreed to pay 1/3 which is billed through Direct Communications.
- Rick Johnson's term is expiring June 30, 2026 (commercial outfitter/multiple licenses). Motion was made by Rick Johnson to recommend Sue Gilkerson of River Expeditions to fill his seat. Motion was seconded by Dave Holloway. Motion carried. Amy Hudnall will send this name to the Director's Office to be forwarded to the Governor's Office after resume is received.
- Shannon Highlander's seat still needs to be filled (commercial outfitter/multiple licenses). Motion was made by Rick Johnson to recommend Len Hanger of AOTG to fill this empty seat. Motion was seconded by Dave Holloway. Motion carried. Amy Hudnall will send this name to the Director's Office to be forwarded to the Governor's Office after resume is received.

Next Meeting Date and Place

The 2026 3rd Quarter Whitewater Commission meeting will be held virtually on Tuesday, September 1, 2026, at 1:00pm. Motion was made by George Heffner and seconded by Dave Holloway. Motion carried to have the next meeting virtually.

Adjournment

Motion made by Rick Johnson to adjourn the 2nd Quarter Whitewater Commission meeting at 1:31pm. Don Beyer seconded this motion. Motion was carried.