

1st Quarter Whitewater Commission Meeting Minutes

March 17, 2026

Location: WV DNR Headquarters – 112 California Ave., Charleston, WV 25305

Chaired: Lt. Col. Trader

In Attendance:

Commissioners: Rick Johnson (River Expeditions via Google Meet); Chris Ellis (private river user via Google Meet); Don Beyer (private river user via Google Meet); Dave Holloway (Alpine Ministries via Google Meet); Corey VanBibber for Chelsea Ruby (Tourism via Google Meet)

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

Call to Order

The Whitewater Commission meeting of March 17, 2026, was called to order at 1:02 p.m. by Lt. Col. Trader. Introductions were made.

Budget

No 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

- 2025 annual river usage report was made available at the 1st quarter meeting in March 2026. No discussion was made.
- Whitewater website update by Brian Bolyard – WV DNR is still waiting on two reports on the site to be finalized and he will present the estimate when available. As of today, the estimate is around \$22k.

Next Meeting Date and Place

The 2026 2nd Quarter Whitewater Commission meeting will be held in-person at the Appalachian Bible College located at 161 College Drive, Mount Hope, WV on Tuesday, June 2, 2026, at 1:00pm. Motion was made by Rick Johnson and seconded by Chris Ellis. Motion carried to have the next meeting in-person.

Adjournment

Motion made by Rick Johnson to adjourn the 1st Quarter Whitewater Commission meeting at 1:13pm. Dave Holloway seconded this motion. Motion was carried.