

**West Virginia First Foundation
Board of Directors
Minutes of June 18, 2026 Quarterly Board Meeting**

Member Attendees:	Staff/Counsel Attendees:
1. Dr. Steven Corder (Region 1) 2. Jon Dower (Region 4) 3. Greg Duckworth (Appointee) 4. Dora Stutler (Appointee) 5. Dr. Matthew Christiansen (Region 5) 6. Alys Smith (Appointee) 7. Jeff Sandy (Appointee) Virtual: 8. Tom Joyce (Region 3) Absent with proxy: 10. Dr. Tony Kelly (Region 6)	1. Jonathan Board, WVFF Executive Director 2. Jessica Cross, WVFF Staff 3. Rachel Thaxton, WVFF Staff 4. Danin Cather, WVFF Staff 5. Anthony Woods, WVFF Staff 6. Romeo Tan, WVFF Staff 7. Luella Gunter, WVFF Staff 8. Paulina Nottingham, WVFF Staff 9. John Bsharah, Lewis Gianola PLLC

I. CALL TO ORDER / OPENING REMARKS

Meeting called to order by Chairman Gregory Duckworth.

II. ESTABLISH A QUORUM

Quorum was established with 8 members present and accounted for by Chairman Duckworth.

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Alys Smith made a motion to approve the minutes from the March 19, 2026 meeting and a second was made by Dr. Steven Corder. The minutes were approved by unanimous consent.

IV. FINANCIAL REPORT

CFO Anthony Woods provided a financial update that had been reviewed and approved by Jeff Sandy, Board Treasurer. As of May 31, 2026, the Foundation had \$1,139,040 in liquid cash and \$377,429,855 in investments for total liquidity of \$378,568,895. As of May 31, the Foundation's balance of non-current and capital assets was \$310,304.

The Foundation has paid \$26,563,039 of grants to date with an additional \$7,778,185 pending. Together, the total grants paid or awarded by the Foundation since its inception totals \$34,341,224.

The Foundation's investment earnings this fiscal year to date are \$9,172,701.

A motion to approve the financial report was made by Dr. Steven Corder and was seconded by Jeff Sandy. The motion was approved unanimously.

VI. Local Government Expenditure Report & Best Practices

CFO Anthony Woods provided an update to the Board on local government expenditure reporting. He reported that more than 65 percent of eligible local governments have submitted annual expenditure reports through the WV Summit portal, as required under the Foundation's Memorandum of Understanding. Staff are currently reviewing submissions and compiling the statewide report, which remains on track for release in mid-July.

CFO Woods also outlined new resources in development to help local governments identify and learn from promising practices being implemented across West Virginia. He noted that while the Foundation does not direct how local governments spend their allocated opioid settlement funds, it can provide education, share examples, and highlight approaches that align with allowable uses under the settlement agreements.

He additionally reported that the Foundation is planning a series of regional learning sessions in the coming months. These sessions will bring local government representatives together to share experiences, discuss challenges, and learn from one another as they work to maximize the impact of opioid settlement investments in their communities.

CFO Woods indicated the Board would receive further updates on both the statewide report and the new resources in the weeks ahead.

V. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR REPORT

The Executive Director Board provided an update to the Board, opening with recognition of the Chairman, Board of Directors, and Committees for their continued engagement between quarterly meetings. He noted that while the meeting agenda reflects important decisions, much of the Foundation's work occurs through ongoing work sessions, committee meetings, and regular discussions throughout the year.

Executive Director Board reported that the Community Catalyst Grant application period opened on June 1 and will remain open through Noon on June 30. He noted strong early interest and engagement, and highlighted a comprehensive online resource hub available at wvfirst.org/CCG to support applicants through the process.

He also updated the Board on the West Virginia Wayfinder, the Foundation's statewide needs assessment initiative developed in partnership with WVU. The initiative is designed to identify gaps, opportunities, and emerging needs across the state to ensure future investments are grounded in both data and community input.

Finally, Executive Director Board reported that the Foundation continues to collect and compile local government expenditure reports submitted through the WV Summit portal, consistent with its commitment to transparency and accountability.

VII. Expert Panel Appointments

Several Expert Panelists' terms have expired, creating vacancies and the nominees presented reflect the recommended candidates for those positions.

Chairman Duckworth entertained a motion to approve the Expert Panel nominations as presented. A motion was made by Dr. Steven Corder and seconded by Alys Smith.

VIII. *OLD BUSINESS*

No old business.

IX. *NEW BUSINESS*

Chairman Duckworth introduced the RNI Opportunity Consideration that was submitted through the Direct Funding Model. Executive Director Board added that the \$4 million request from the RNI at WVU has undergone rigorous review over the last year, similar to the process that Jacob's Ladder went through. The RNI team presented an opportunity to fund a project that will build technology, training, and support systems needed to expand access to an innovative addiction treatment approach.

Motion was made to approve the opportunity consideration and request for direct funding submitted by the RNI, subject to the negotiation of final terms and execution of a final funding agreement by the Executive Director. The motion was made by Tom Joyce, seconded by Jeff Sandy. The motion was approved with Chairman Duckworth, Steven Corder, Jeff Sandy, Dora Stutler, John Dower, and Dr. Matthew Christiansen voting in the affirmative. Tim Czaja abstained from the vote and Alys Smith recused herself from the vote due to a personal conflict.

Chairman Duckworth added that consistent with the Foundation's commitment to transparency, additional details regarding the project will be released in the coming weeks following the completion of final documentation.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

No public comments.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion to adjourn was made by Dr. Matthew Christiansen and seconded by Chairman Duckworth and was so moved.

The next quarterly meeting of the Board of Directors is scheduled for September 17, 2026 (subject to change).