

Board Meeting Minutes
June 16, 2015

Present were:

Doug La Follette, Commissioner
Matt Adamczyk, Commissioner
Brad Schimel, Board Chair
Tia Nelson, Executive Secretary
Tom German, Deputy Secretary
Richard Sneider, Loan Analyst
Vicki Halverson, Office Manager
Randy Bixby, Land Records Archivist
John Schwarzmann, Forestry Supervisor

Secretary of State
State Treasurer
Attorney General
Board of Commissioners of Public Lands
Board of Commissioners of Public Lands

ITEM 1. CALL TO ORDER

Board Chair Schimel called the meeting to order at 2:00 p.m.

ITEM 2. APPROVE MINUTES – JUNE 2, 2015

MOTION: Commissioner La Follette moved to approve the minutes; Board Chair Schimel seconded the motion.

VOTE: The motion passed 2-0. Commissioner Adamczyk abstained from the vote.

ITEM 3. APPROVE LOANS

Board Chair Schimel asked if the loans had been reviewed for public purpose. Executive Secretary Nelson confirmed they had.

<u>Municipality</u>	<u>Municipal Type</u>	<u>Loan Type</u>	<u>Loan Amount</u>
1. Bloomfield Walworth County Application #: 02015154 Purpose: Purchase police vehicles	Village Rate: 3.00% Term: 5 years	General Obligation	\$60,831.00
2. Bloomfield Walworth County Application #: 02015155 Purpose: Purchase highway truck	Village Rate: 3.25% Term: 8 years	General Obligation	\$150,000.00
3. Buchanan Outagamie County Application #: 02015111 Purpose: Finance road projects	Town Rate: 3.25% Term: 10 years	General Obligation	\$2,000,000.00

4.	Elkhorn Area Walworth County Application #: 02015153 Purpose: Finance school building improvements	School Rate: 3.00% Term: 3 years	General Obligation	\$420,000.00
5.	Mercer Iron County Application #: 02015156 Purpose: Finance new roof	School Rate: 3.75% Term: 20 years	General Obligation	\$300,000.00
6.	Waterloo Jefferson County Application #: 02015152 Purpose: Finance road construction and maintenance	Town Rate: 2.50% Term: 2 years	General Obligation	\$50,000.00
TOTAL				\$2,980,831.00

MOTION AND VOTE: Commissioner La Follette moved to approve the loans; Board Chair Schimel seconded the motion. The motion passed 3-0.

ITEM 4. DISCUSS IN-PERSON ATTENDANCE AT BOARD MEETING WHEN AGENDA INCLUDES NON-ROUTINE BUSINESS ITEMS

Board Chair Schimel discussed the audio challenges at past teleconference board meetings. He was considering calling for in-person attendance at meetings when the agenda includes non-standard business. Commissioner La Follette endorsed the idea. The Board discussed whether the Commissioners could send a “surrogate” on their behalf to the meetings. Board Chair Schimel said he would have that researched.

ITEM 5. DISCUSS MUD LAKE HISTORY AND TIMBER HARVESTING SCHEDULE

Board Chair Schimel described his visit to the Board’s Mud Lake site and explained that a timber harvest scheduled in two years would be moved to this fall. He said he was pleased with the responsiveness he received from the Board’s forestry staff and Executive Secretary Nelson and the plan that was developed for the site.

ITEM 6. DISCUSS DATE AND TIME FOR EXECUTIVE SECRETARY NELSON’S PERFORMANCE EVALUATION

The Board agreed to meet on Tuesday, June 30, at 2:00 PM to conduct an in-person performance evaluation of Executive Secretary Nelson.

ITEM 7. DISCUSS AND VOTE TO MODIFY BOARD POLICY ON GLOBAL WARMING/CLIMATE CHANGE ADOPTED AT APRIL 7, 2015, BOARD MEETING.

MOTION: Commissioner La Follette moved that the Board policy prohibiting staff from engaging in global warming/climate change activity while on BCPL time be modified to read that BCPL staff members are only prohibited from engaging in global warming/climate change policy advocacy during BCPL time; Board Chair Schimel seconded the motion.

DISCUSSION: Commissioner La Follette said staff should be allowed to discuss climate change when talking about forestry matters but not advocating on the issue. He said that should a similar matter [Governor Doyle’s appointment of the BCPL Executive Secretary to his Global Warming Task Force] present itself in the future, the Board could take a position at that time.

Board Chair Schimel said his primary goal at the April 7 meeting was not to restrict staff from discussing “climate change” during work hours but, rather, to resolve the question of whether or not the Executive Secretary had violated any rules or did anything improper. It was determined that she had not because the Board was aware of her involvement and did not object.

Commissioner Adamczyk questioned what was considered policy advocacy. He also questioned the wording of the motion and asked if the motion would allow staff to serve on a similar committee in the future. Board Chair Schimel replied that if such a situation arose, the Board would discuss and vote on it at that time.

VOTE: Board Chair Schimel and Commissioner La Follette voted aye; Commissioner Adamczyk voted no. The motion passed 2-1.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Commissioners of Public Lands modifies the climate change policy adopted at the April 7, 2015, Board meeting to read: BCPL staff members are only prohibited from engaging in global warming/climate change policy advocacy during BCPL time.

ITEM 8. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

No future agenda items at this time.

ITEM 9. EXECUTIVE SECRETARY’S REPORT

Executive Secretary Nelson said the Milwaukee Bucks arena proposal continues to be debated by the Legislature.

ITEM 10. ADJOURN

MOTION: Commissioner La Follette moved to adjourn; Board Chair Schimel seconded the motion. The motion passed 3-0. The meeting adjourned at 2:25 PM.



Tia Nelson, Executive Secretary

These minutes have been prepared from a recording of the meeting. The summaries have not been transcribed verbatim.
Link to audio recording: ftp://doaftp1380.wi.gov/doadocs/BCPL/2015-06-16_BCPL-BoardMtgRecording.mp3