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Managing Wisconsin's trust assets for public education.

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**BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF PUBLIC LANDS APPROVES
\$11 MILLION IN LOANS AND THE SALE OF 400 ACRES OF TRUST LANDS**

MADISON – The Board of Commissioners of Public Lands approved 19 loans totaling a little more than \$11 million to benefit school districts and municipalities across Wisconsin to fund their public purpose projects. Also approved were upcoming sales of nearly 400 acres of Trust Lands to the public.

Loans approved at today's board meeting include:

- Village of Adell – Sheboygan County / Purchase fire engine-pumper truck / \$77,500
- Village of Baldwin – St. Croix County / Finance wastewater treatment plant improvements / \$450,000
- Village of Biron – Wood County / Finance TIF #2 project / \$1,225,100
- Town of Boulder Junction – Vilas County / Refinance outstanding debt for John Deere track tractor / \$59,686.52
- Crystal Lake District – Trempealeau County / Refinance outstanding lake dredging debt / \$286,266.57
- Town of Gardner – Door County / Purchase new tanker truck and outfit brush truck / \$173,759
- Village of Hobart – Brown County / Finance TIF #1 improvement project / \$1,450,000
- Town of Jefferson – Jefferson County / Purchase fire pumper truck / \$122,165
- Town of Merton – Waukesha County / Purchase new truck / \$196,000
- Oak Creek-Franklin School District – Milwaukee County / Refinance outstanding land purchase debt / \$1,000,000
- City of Onalaska – La Crosse County / Finance storm water quality mgmt. project / \$151,500
- City of Oshkosh – Winnebago County / Finance TIF #20 project / \$1,049,000
- City of Ripon – Fond du Lac County / Finance TIF 4, 6, 9 & 10 improvements / \$1,150,000
- Village of Sharon – Walworth County / Fund street improvements / \$700,000
- Town of Sheboygan – Sheboygan County / Finance new fire truck / \$500,000
- Town of Springfield – Jackson County / Purchase end loader / \$35,000
- Village of Strum – Trempealeau County / Refinance outstanding village library debt / \$221,110.59
- Village of Taylor – Jackson County / Purchase end loader / \$35,275
- Village of Union Grove – Racine County / Finance street projects and related utility work / \$2,300,000

In the last 12 months, including actions approved today, the Board of Commissioners of Public Lands has approved 265 loan applications totaling \$261.2 million. The loans can be made to municipalities and school districts for any public purpose.

The Board also approved the sale of eight parcels of Trust Lands totaling almost 400 acres. These parcels are located in Taylor, Washburn, Rusk and Chippewa counties and will be offered for sale to the public by sealed bid process. Legal notices of the sales will be published in local newspapers.

The agency has sold nearly 6,500 acres of land poorly suited for timber production or otherwise located within the boundaries of another government agency. As directed by the legislature, proceeds from the sale of those Trust Lands can be reinvested in other property which helps the agency meet its goal of consolidating its Trust Lands. This consolidation will improve land management efficiency for the agency. The agency's land bank authority, granted unanimously during the 2006 legislative session, enhances BCPL's ability to support sustainable forestry, reduce forest fragmentation, permanently protect unique natural areas and improve public access.

Created in 1848 by the Wisconsin Constitution, the Board of Commissioners of Public Lands was established to accept federal land grants and to manage trust funds for the benefit of public education in Wisconsin. The Board consists of Secretary of State Doug La Follette, Attorney General J.B. Van Hollen and State Treasurer Dawn Marie Sass. The majority of Trust Fund assets are held in the Common School Fund, from which the majority of State Trust Fund loans are issued. Earnings from this fund are distributed to K-12 school libraries annually.

A complete list of Wisconsin municipal and school projects funded by today's Board action can be found here: (<http://bcpl.wisconsin.gov/docview.asp?docid=17909&locid=145>).

A list of loans approved in the last twelve months can be found here: (<http://bcpl.wisconsin.gov/docview.asp?docid=17922&locid=145>).

The agency's biennial report can be found here: (<http://bcpl.wisconsin.gov/docview.asp?docid=15317&locid=145>).

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