

Board Meeting Minutes  
January 6, 2015

**ITEM 1. CALL TO ORDER**

Board Chair La Follette called the meeting of the Board of Commissioners of Public Lands to order at 2:03 p.m.

He welcomed the new Commissioners (Matt Adamczyk, State Treasurer and Brad Schimel, Attorney General) to the Board. He said he considered it a privilege and an obligation to serve on the Board, to protect the Trust Funds, and provide school children with money for their public school libraries. He said Wisconsin’s loan program is unique when compared to other land commissions. The Board lends money to school districts and municipalities and the interest earned on the loans is distributed to public school libraries. He recalled Commissioner J.V. Van Hollen expressing great satisfaction in giving Wisconsin’s public school children over \$30 million each year for their libraries.

He said that this Board was a great example of elected officials from both parties working together for the common good.

He said that board meetings are held the first and third Tuesday of each month. Staff will reschedule a meeting if they know in advance that there will not be a quorum (i.e. at least two commissioners in attendance). Commissioners are free to speak and ask questions. Since two commissioners are considered a quorum, they are not allowed to discuss board matters outside of board meetings as that would violate Wisconsin’s open meetings law. If a Commissioner has a topic they would like to discuss, he should contact Executive Secretary Nelson so that it can be added to an upcoming board meeting agenda.

Present were:

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|---------------------------------|--|
| Doug La Follette, Board Chair   | Secretary of State                     |
| Matt Adamczyk, Commissioner     | State Treasurer                        |
| Brad Schimel, Commissioner      | Attorney General                       |
| Tia Nelson, Executive Secretary | Board of Commissioners of Public Lands |
| Tom German, Deputy Secretary    | Board of Commissioners of Public Lands |
| Richard Sneider, Loan Analyst   | Board of Commissioners of Public Lands |

**ITEM 2. APPROVE MINUTES – DECEMBER 16, 2014**

Board Chair La Follette asked if the other Commissioners had an opportunity to read the minutes; they replied yes. Commissioner Adamczyk said he didn’t care to approve minutes for a meeting he didn’t participate in.

**MOTION:** Commissioner Schimel moved to approve the minutes; Board Chair La Follette seconded the motion. The motion passed 2-0; Commissioner Adamczyk abstained.

**ITEM 3. APPROVE LOANS**

Executive Secretary said that the loans had received legal review.

<u>Municipality</u>	<u>Municipal Type</u>	<u>Loan Type</u>	<u>Loan Amount</u>
1. Cambridge Dane and Jefferson Counties Application #: 02015073 Purpose: Finance industrial site redevelopment	Village Rate: 3.50% Term: 10 years	General Obligation	\$460,000.00

2.	Kohler Sheboygan County Application #: 02015075 Purpose: Purchase vehicles and finance legal expenses	Village Rate: 3.50% Term: 9 years	General Obligation	\$335,000.00
3.	Tomahawk Lincoln County Application #: 02015076 Purpose: Upgrade wastewater treatment plant	City Rate: 4.00% Term: 10 years	Utility Revenue	\$900,000.00
4.	Windsor Sanitary District #1 Dane County Application #: 02015074 Purpose: Construct water booster station	Sanitary District Rate: 4.25% Term: 20 years	General Obligation	\$1,100,000.00
<b>TOTAL</b>				<b>\$2,795,000.00</b>

**MOTION:** Commissioner Adamczyk moved to approve the loans; Commissioner Schimel seconded the motion. The motion passed 3-0.

#### **ITEM 4. DISCUSS LETTERHEAD**

Board Chair La Follette asked Commissioner Adamczyk to explain his concerns regarding the agency's letterhead.

Commissioner Adamczyk said he felt his constitutional authority was being "thwarted" because the current agenda did not include any of the agenda items he had given staff on Friday, January 2. He said he understood that the Commissioners cannot discuss a topic unless it has been properly noticed on the agenda and posted [per Wisconsin's open meetings law].

Board Chair La Follette replied that the letterhead topic was included on the agenda.

Commissioner Adamczyk then asked if he and Executive Secretary Nelson were in Phoenix attending a conference [Western States Land Commissioners winter conference].

Board Chair La Follette replied that they were at the conference.

Commissioner Adamczyk asked why he was not invited and, even though he probably would not have attended, he felt he should have been invited. He said he didn't know whether the Attorney General [Commissioner Schimel] was invited and then expressed his concern that one Commissioner is invited [Board Chair La Follette], the Executive Secretary is allowed to attend but not a sitting Commissioner.

Board Chair La Follette said that the agenda item being discussed was the agency's letterhead.

Commissioner Adamczyk said he did not feel it was appropriate to have the statewide constitutional officers [Secretary of State, State Treasurer and Attorney General] listed and the Executive Secretary's name directly below. He said he asked Executive Secretary Nelson to remove her name and she said she would not. She said a board vote would be needed to do that.

Board Chair La Follette asked if Commissioner Adamczyk had a motion he wanted to make.

Commissioner Adamczyk said he felt “passionately that the name Tia Nelson should not be listed.” He again stated his concern about her name being listed directly below the Commissioners’ names.

**MOTION:** Commissioner Adamczyk moved that the Executive Secretary’s name be removed from the letterhead. A second to the motion was not made.

Board Chair La Follette said it seemed logical to have all four names listed. He said that if an individual wanted to reach the board, they would not contact the Commissioners directly but that they would contact the agency and talk to the Executive Secretary. He asked Commissioner Schimel if he had a comment.

Commissioner Schimel asked if the letterhead sample that was included in the Board’s packet was the current letterhead or a proposed change.

Board Chair La Follette replied that, in an effort to accommodate Commissioner Adamczyk’s original concern about the way the names were listed, Executive Secretary Nelson modified the stationery and separated her name from the Commissioners’ names.

Commissioner Adamczyk said that the proposed letterhead that was included in the packet was not what he had requested. He wanted the board packet to include a sample of the letterhead without her name listed.

Board Chair La Follette reiterated that Executive Secretary Nelson had tried to accommodate his request and separated her name.

Commissioner Adamczyk said the agenda item could just be tabled and discussed at a later date. Board Chair La Follette said it could not be tabled because the motion was not seconded so there was nothing to table.

**MOTION:** Commissioner Schimel moved to modify the Board’s letterhead in the way that it was proposed in the Board packet, which includes Ms. Nelson’s name and title, Executive Secretary; Board Chair La Follette seconded the motion. The motion passed 3-0.

## **ITEM 5. EXECUTIVE SECRETARY’S REPORT**

Executive Secretary Nelson welcomed the new Commissioners.

Commissioner Adamczyk asked Executive Secretary Nelson why he was not invited to the conference. She replied that it was her understanding from a previous discussion that he did not support the agency’s participation in the Western States Land Commissioners conference and would not be traveling out of state on BCPL business.

**ITEM 6. ADJOURN**

**MOTION:** Commissioner Adamczyk moved to adjourn the meeting; Commissioner Schimel seconded the motion. The motion passed 3-0.



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Tia Nelson, Executive Secretary

These minutes have been prepared from a tape recording of the meeting. The summaries have not been transcribed verbatim. Anyone wishing to listen to the recording may do so at the Board of Commissioners of Public Lands, 101 E. Wilson Street, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor, Madison, Wisconsin.