

Board Meeting  
Minutes  
February 16, 2021

Present were:

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| Sarah Godlewski, Board Chair              | State Treasurer                        |
| Josh Kaul, Commissioner                   | Attorney General                       |
| Doug LaFollette, Commissioner             | Secretary of State                     |
| Tom German, Executive Secretary           | Board of Commissioners of Public Lands |
| Jim DiUlio, Deputy Secretary              | Board of Commissioners of Public Lands |
| Richard Sneider, Chief Investment Officer | Board of Commissioners of Public Lands |
| Mike Krueger, IT Manager                  | Board of Commissioners of Public Lands |
| Denise Nechvatal, Senior Accountant       | Board of Commissioners of Public Lands |
| Thuy Nguyen, Office Manager               | Board of Commissioners of Public Lands |
| Julie Benkoske, Chief of Staff            | State Treasurer                        |

**ITEM 1. CALL TO ORDER**

Board Chair Godlewski called the meeting to order at 2:03 p.m.

**ITEM 2. APPROVE MINUTES** – February 2, 2021

Board Chair Godlewski thanked Thuy for taking feedback from the commissioners, as the minutes captured what was said with more detail. She commented that there is one small correction. WEMTA is spelled incorrectly at the end of the minutes.

**MOTION:** Commissioner LaFollette moved to approve the minutes; Commissioner Kaul seconded the motion.

**VOTE:** The motion passed 3-0.

**DISCUSSION:** No comments other than correcting WEMTA on the last page of the minutes from last meeting.

**ITEM 3. APPROVE LOANS**

**MOTION:** Commissioner LaFollette moved to approve the loans; Commissioner Kaul seconded the motion.

**DISCUSSION:** Mr. Sneider commented that the loans are routine, however there are two he would like to highlight. First, the Town of Pensaukee is borrowing a good amount of money for a long term to finance a new Fire Department building. Second, loan #4 to Village of Orfordville is an interesting loan. The village is assisting a developer with a residential subdivision by borrowing enough to subsidize the costs of infrastructure for that development. The village is withholding payment to the developer until the infrastructure is complete and the developer has received five building permits for single family homes. He commented that this is an interesting way to promote residential development within a small village.

Board Chair Godlewski thanked Mr. Sneider for the information. She noted that there were two refinance loans on the agenda and asked what the rates were for the two Marinette County loans prior to being refinanced.

Mr. Sneider replied that he did not have that information available in front of him, but he would email Board Chair Godlewski that information.

**VOTE:** The motion passed 3-0.

The Board of Commissioners of Public Lands (BCPL) unanimously approved **\$2,589,686.12** in State Trust Fund Loans to support **8** community projects in Wisconsin.

1. Town of Pensaukee / Oconto County / Finance Fire Department Building / \$1,500,000.00
2. Town of Delafield / Waukesha County / Finance Capital Purchases / \$150,000.00
3. Town of Delafield / Waukesha County / Finance roadwork / \$250,000.00
4. Village of Orfordville / Rock County / Finance subdivision infrastructure project / \$250,000
5. Village of Lac La Belle / Waukesha County / Finance capital expenditures / \$66,000.00
6. Town of Lake / Marinette County / Refinance BCPL Loan #2019047 / \$33,322.99
7. Town of Lake / Marinette County / Refinance BCPL Loan #2017154 / \$255,363.13
8. Town of Center / Outagamie County / Finance purchase of fire department equipment / \$85,000.00

**ITEM 4. OLD BUSINESS - Approval of changes to Paragraph 33 of minutes of January 5, 2021 meeting**

Board Chair Godlewski commented that at the last meeting the Board talked about double checking the accuracy of changes to the fourth paragraph of the minutes from the bottom on page 20 of the Board Packet. Staff was asked to go back and make sure the changes requested were accurate. She asked Executive Secretary German if the highlighted paragraph is an accurate reflection of what was said.

Executive Secretary German replies yes. He shared that he did go back to the recording and check that it is accurate.

Commissioner LaFollette asked if it was necessary to make a motion or if knowledge of the change was sufficient.

Board Chair Godlewski asked Executive Secretary German about parliamentary procedures.

Executive Secretary German suggested that a motion be made, as there is no downside to it.

Commissioner LaFollette thanked Executive Secretary German for his answer.

**MOTION:** Commissioner LaFollette moved to approve the minutes; Board Chair Godlewski seconded the motion.

Commissioner Kaul clarified that the motion pertains to minutes that were considered at the last meeting, which would be the minutes from two meetings prior to this one (specifically minutes of 01/05/21 meeting).

Board Chair Godlewski agreed with Commissioner Kaul and further clarified that motion pertains to the specific changes she had proposed to the sentence that is fourth from the bottom on page 20 of the Board Packet.

**VOTE:** The motion passed 3-0.

**ITEM 5. NEW BUSINESS**

None

## **ITEM 6. CHIEF INVESTMENT OFFICER'S REPORT**

Mr. Sneider shared that the Investment Committee voted to increase the allocation to the Common School Fund Corporate Bond Portfolio by an amount of \$50 million in response to cash coming in through loan prepayments, annual loan principal payments, and bond redemptions. This will increase the allocation to about 13.5% of the Common School Fund, which is above the target of 10% that was approved within the Investment Policy. The target range for corporate bonds is up to 30% of the Common School Fund, so we are remaining well within the range approved within the Investment Policy. It is possible additional allocations to the sector will be recommended over the next month or two, as discussed at the last meeting. The Common School Fund currently has excess cash reserves that will benefit from reinvestment due to short term interest rates remaining extremely low.

## **ITEM 7. EXECUTIVE SECRETARY'S REPORT**

None

## **ITEM 8. BOARD CHAIR'S REPORT**

Board Chair Godlewski shared two things: 1.) She has been working with the BCPL and DPI on surveying our beneficiaries on what, if any, additional support they might need as they're figuring out what that could be. WEMTA recently completed their survey with the libraries, librarians, and media specialists. She hopes to share the survey results with everybody in the next few weeks; and 2.) Announcement of the record breaking distribution. Julie from her team who does the communications is working with BCPL and will be reaching out to the Commissioners on a strategy to make sure that people know about the record breaking distribution and what it's doing to help our public schools. She hopes to include some stories at the local level as well.

## **ITEM 9. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS**

None

## **ITEM 10. ADJOURN**

Commissioner LaFollette moved to adjourn the meeting; Board Chair Godlewski seconded the motion. The motion passed 3-0; the meeting adjourned at 2:14 p.m.



Thomas P. German, Executive Secretary

Link to audio recording:

<https://bcpl.wisconsin.gov/Shared Documents/Board Meeting Docs/2021/2021-02-16-BoardMtgRecording.mp3>