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Sarah Godlewski State Treasurer

## Godlewski New Chair of the Board of Commissioners of Public Lands

**MADISON**—On Tuesday, during the first meeting of the three new commissioners on the Board of Commissioners of Public Lands (BCPL), Treasurer Sarah Godlewski was unanimously voted Chair. The BCPL oversees four trust funds worth almost \$1.2 billion that benefit K12 public school libraries and technology, and the 2018 distributions from the Common School fund were \$35.7 million. As Chair, Treasurer Godlewski outlined how she will play an active role in the short- and long- term investment strategies.

"I am looking forward to using my investment expertise to identify new opportunities that will benefit Wisconsinites while ensuring sound financial returns for our state's public schools," Godlewski said.

One of the BCPL investment programs is the State Trust Fund Loan Program, which lends to municipalities and school districts for community projects such as economic development, infrastructure improvement, and unfunded pension liabilities. In the past biennium, the fund has invested more than \$340 million in Wisconsin communities.

"The State Trust Fund Loan Program helps communities across Wisconsin, and I'm excited to explore ways we can further help local governments through lending opportunities for renewable energy and addressing climate change," said Godlewski.

The BCPL operates entirely on program revenue, without taxpayer money, and distributes 96 cents to the dollar.

Established in 1848 by the State Constitution, the BCPL consists of three commissioners which are the State Treasurer Sarah Godlewski, Secretary of State Doug La Follette, and Attorney General Josh Kaul. The BCPL manages the <u>Common School Fund</u>, which was created in Article X of Wisconsin's Constitution, as a permanent endowment to benefit public education. A list of 2018 library aid received by each public school district is available

at: https://bcpl.wisconsin.gov/Shared%20Documents/Agency%20Info/Library%20Aid%20Distribution%202018.pdf

To learn more about the agency, visit <u>bcpl.wisconsin.gov</u>. To learn more about the Office of the State Treasurer visit <u>statetreasury.wisconsin.gov</u> or follow Treasurer Godlewski on Facebook at <u>Facebook.com/WITreasurer</u> and on Twitter with the handle <u>@WITreasurer</u>.