

CHAPTER 24

PUBLIC DOMAIN AND THE TRUST FUNDS

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SUBCHAPTER I

PUBLIC LANDS ADMINISTRATION

24.01 Definitions and classification.

Terms used in chs. 23 to 29 are defined as follows, unless the context requires otherwise:

(1) "Public lands" embraces all lands and all interests in lands owned by the state either as proprietor or as trustee which constitute any part of the lands defined or specified in any of the following subsections.

(2) "School lands" embraces all lands made a part of "the school fund" by section 2 of article X of the constitution.

(3) "University lands" embraces all lands the proceeds of which are denominated "the university fund" by section 6 of article X of the constitution.

(4) "Swamp lands" embraces all lands which have been or may be transferred to the state pursuant to an act of congress entitled "An act to enable the state of Arkansas and other states to reclaim the swamp lands within their limits," approved September 28, 1850, or pursuant to an act of congress entitled "An act for the relief of purchasers and locators of swamp and overflowed lands," approved March 2, 1855.

(5) "Normal school lands" embraces all parcels of said "swamp lands" which the legislature has declared or otherwise decided, or may hereafter declare or otherwise decide, were not or are not needed for the drainage or reclamation of the same or other lands.

(6) "Agricultural college lands" embraces all lands granted to the state by an act of congress entitled "An act donating public lands to the several states and territories which may

provide colleges for the benefit of agriculture and the mechanic arts," approved July 2, 1862.

(7) "Department" means department of natural resources.

(8) "Secretary" means secretary of natural resources.

(9) "Marathon county lands" embraces all lands acquired by the state pursuant to chapter 22 of the general laws of 1867.

(10) "Board" means the board of commissioners of public lands.

(11) "Warden" means conservation warden, and includes county, special and deputy conservation wardens.

History: 1977 c. 9; 1981 c. 390

24.02 Addition to the public lands. Addition to any class of lands specified in s. 24.01, except lands purchased for forest reserve and Marathon county lands, may be effected by grant, conveyance or devise made as a donation to the state for the purpose of the fund to which such class belongs. But no such proffered donation shall be accepted until the title of the donor has been examined and approved by the attorney general.

24.03 Escheats. The board of commissioners of public lands shall, whenever it shall have reason to believe that any lands have escheated to the state for defect of heirs, cause due inquiry to be made to ascertain the rights of the state, and the attorney general shall bring any suit or action or take any requisite proceeding necessary to protect and secure the rights of the state. The board may either take possession of, or cause to be sued for and recovered as aforesaid when necessary, any real estate believed to have escheated to the state, or may proceed directly to sell all the right, title and interest of the state therein, without first obtaining possession thereof and without establishing title thereto by action.

24.04 Administrative receipts and disbursements. (1) RECEIPTS. The board shall collect from purchasers of land a fee of \$5 for every certificate and \$5 for every patent issued by it and pay the moneys collected, together with all moneys for expenses of advertising, damages and costs received either by redemption or resale of any public lands forfeited after having been sold by the state, into the state treasury to the credit of the general fund. The chief clerk may take the acknowledgments of the board to all certificates and patents, and no fees may be charged therefor.

(2) **DISBURSEMENTS.** All expenses necessarily incurred in caring for and selling public lands

shall be deducted from the gross receipts of the fund to which the proceeds of the sale of the land will be added.

History: 1975 c. 39 s. 734; 1977 c. 418; 1979 c. 34.

24.05 Survey of lands. Whenever it shall appear to the board necessary that surveys should be made in order to ascertain the true boundaries of any tract or portion of the public lands, or to enable it to describe and dispose of the same in suitable and convenient lots, it may cause all such necessary surveys to be made.

24.06 Plat of lands. The board may subdivide any parcel of public lands into smaller parcels or village lots, with streets and alleys if necessary, whenever it believes a larger net price can be obtained by selling the land in such smaller parcels or lots. A survey and plat of such subdivision, verified by its maker as true and correct, shall be returned and recorded in the office of the board, and the parcels or lots designated thereon shall be appraised before they are offered for sale. Such subdivision shall be ordered, the proceedings therefor governed and such appraisal made in substantial accord with s. 24.08.

24.07 Sale of land with water power. Whenever a water power exists upon any public lands offered for sale the board may sell together all the tracts or lots upon which such water power is situated and such other tracts or lots as are necessary for the use and enjoyment of the same, not exceeding 160 acres, or it may sell each tract or lot separately, as in its opinion the larger proceeds may be derived from such sale.

24.08 Minimum price. (1) LANDS APPRAISED. Every parcel of public land, from whatever source derived, that has never been appraised, every parcel thereof forfeited to the state under s. 24.28, and every parcel of land mortgaged to secure any loan of trust funds and bid in by the state at a sale thereof under the mortgage, shall be appraised pursuant to this section before it is offered or reoffered for sale at public auction or at private sale. All such lands may be reappraised whenever necessity therefor arises.

(2) **APPRAISER.** The board shall as often as it deems it necessary, make and enter in its minutes an order that any parcel or parcels of the public lands be appraised, describing the lands, appointing an appraiser and stating the reasons why the appraisal is deemed necessary. So far as practical such appraiser shall be a person already in the employ of the department of natural resources, of good character, approved integrity, sound judgment, and well acquainted with the

public lands; but when a competent person cannot be selected from a list of such employes any competent appraiser may be employed under contract by the board of commissioners of public lands.

(3) APPRAISAL. The appraisalment shall be made from actual view and at cash value, the land and the timber thereon, if any, to be appraised separately. It shall be in writing and be verified by the affidavit of the appraiser who shall testify that the same is just and was made as required by law. Such appraisalment shall then be filed with the chief clerk and recorded.

(4) APPRAISED VALUE, MINIMUM PRICE, GOVERNMENT MINIMUM. Such appraised value shall be the minimum price of the land until sold or reappraised. Until an appraisal under this section, the appraisal last heretofore made of any parcel of public land, if any has been made, shall fix the minimum price thereof. Notwithstanding this section no parcel of public land having a minimum price for the sale thereof fixed by the act of congress granting the same to the state, shall be sold for a lesser price than that so fixed.

History: 1973 c. 90.

24.085 Sale of state-owned lands under the jurisdiction of the department of natural resources.

(1) The natural resources board may sell, at public or private sale, lands and structures owned by the state under the jurisdiction of the department of natural resources when the natural resources board determines that said lands are no longer necessary for the state's use for conservation purposes.

(2) Said natural resources board shall present to the governor a full and complete report of the lands to be sold, the reason for the sale, the price for which said lands should be sold together with an application for the sale of the same. The governor shall thereupon make such investigation as he deems necessary respecting said lands to be sold and approve or disapprove such application. If he shall approve the same, a permit shall be issued by him for such sale on the terms set forth in the application.

(3) Upon completion of such sale, the chairman and secretary of the natural resources board, or the secretary of natural resources, if he is duly authorized by the natural resources board, shall execute such instruments as are necessary to transfer title and the natural resources board or its duly authorized agents shall deliver the same to the purchaser upon payment of the amount set forth in the application.

(4) Said natural resources board effecting the sale of any such lands and structures shall, upon receiving payment therefor, deposit the

funds in the conservation fund to be used exclusively for the purpose of purchasing other areas of land for the creating and establishing of public hunting and fishing grounds, wildlife and fish refuges and state parks.

24.09 Procedure before sale; withdrawal; resale.

(1) All public lands that have been heretofore appraised or appraised pursuant to s. 24.08, shall, in the discretion of the board, be offered for sale at public auction, except that lands required for state or county use may be sold to counties or other state departments, boards or commissions at the appraised value and except that lands located within the exterior boundaries of Indian reservations may be sold to the Indian tribe or tribes located on such reservations or to the United States for the benefit and use of such tribe or tribes upon prices, terms and conditions agreeable to the board and without being subject to the restrictions and procedure otherwise provided by law for the sale of public lands. All sales other than to counties, state agencies or to the United States or an Indian tribe, as hereinbefore provided, shall be made at such times and public places as the board designates; and it shall, previous to any such sale, publish a class 3 notice, under ch. 985, specifying the time and place and describing the lands to be sold in a newspaper published in the county where such lands are situated.

(2) The board may, whenever it believes the public interest will be served thereby, withdraw and withhold from sale all or such portions of the public lands as in its opinion it may not be advantageous to sell, for so long a time as in its opinion will be most beneficial to the state; but when reoffered the lands so withdrawn shall first be offered at public sale in the manner prescribed by law.

24.10 Procedure at sale. At the time and place specified in such notice the board shall commence the sale and thereafter continue the same from day to day (Sundays excepted) between 9 a.m. and the setting of the sun, until all lands described in said notice have been offered. The order of such sale shall be to begin at the lowest number of the sections, townships and ranges in each county and proceed regularly to the highest, until all then to be sold are offered for sale. Each lot or tract of such lands shall, except such as may be withheld as provided in s. 24.09, be offered separately at the minimum price fixed by law, and shall be cried at public auction long enough to enable every one present to bid; and if the minimum price or more be bid, such lot or tract shall be struck off to the highest

bidder; but if such price be not bid the tract shall be set down unsold.

24.11 Terms of sales. (1) FOR CASH OR INSTALMENTS. Except as provided otherwise in sub. (4) public lands may be sold for cash, to be paid at the time of the sale, or on the following terms: The first payment shall be not less than 15% of the purchase price, and shall be made at the time of the sale together with interest on the deferred payments in advance to February first of the following year. In no case, however, shall the first payment be less than the value of the timber, if any, on the lands sold. The deferred payments may be made at any time within 20 years after the date of the sale at the option of the purchaser, with interest thereon at the rate of 7% per year, payable annually in advance on February first of each year.

(2) PURCHASER TO PAY TAXES. The board shall insert in every contract or certificate of sale of public land a clause providing that the vendee, his heirs, administrators or assigns shall pay or cause to be paid all taxes that are or that may be assessed against the land from and after the date of the said contract.

(3) RESERVATION. Every contract, certificate of sale, or grant hereunder of public lands shall reserve to the people the right of access to such lands and to any meandered or nonmeandered stream, river, pond or lake navigable in fact for any purpose whatsoever, bordered by such lands and all rights necessary to the full enjoyment of such waters, and of all minerals in said lands, and all mining rights therein, and shall also be subject to continued ownership by the state of all waterpower rights on such lands or in any manner appurtenant thereto. Such conveyance shall also be subject to a continuing easement in the state and its assigns to enter and occupy such lands in any manner necessary and convenient to the removal of such mineral from such lands and to the proper exercise of such mineral rights, and shall be further subject to the continuing easement in the state and its assigns to enter and occupy such lands in any manner necessary and convenient to the development, maintenance and use of any such water rights. Nothing contained in this section shall be construed to provide for the continued ownership in the state of any stone used for building purposes nor of any sand or gravel.

(4) SPECIAL TERMS FOR ESCHEATED LANDS. Upon the sale of any escheated lands the entire purchase price shall be paid at the time of the sale; whereupon the board shall execute and deliver to the purchaser a quitclaim deed of conveyance which shall vest in the grantee all

the right, title and interest of the state in or to the land, and every right of action which the state has respecting the same; but no covenant or warranty of title, or of continued enjoyment, or against incumbrances, shall be expressed in or implied from such deed or any words therein. If by virtue of a better title a recovery of such land be had by any other person or party within 20 years after such purchase, the state shall refund to the purchaser or his assigns or legal representatives the amount paid by him for the land together with interest thereon at the rate of 6% per year from the date of the purchase until the date of recovery and also the amount of all taxes on the land actually paid by him with like interest on each payment from the time of payment to the date of the recovery.

History: 1979 c. 110 s. 60 (13).
State reservation of land and interests in lands under ch. 452, laws of 1911, 24.11 (3) and Art. X, sec. 8 discussed. 65 Atty. Gen. 207.

24.12 Forfeit for failure to pay. Every purchaser of any lot or tract at any sale as aforesaid shall pay the amount of the purchase money required by the terms of sale to be paid in hand immediately after having bid off the same; and if he shall refuse or neglect to so pay, the lot or tract so bid off by him shall again be offered for sale; and the purchaser shall, for such refusal or neglect to pay, forfeit \$25 for each lot or tract so bid off by him, which the board shall, in the name of the state, cause to be immediately sued for and collected, and when collected paid into the school fund.

24.14 Rights of swamp-land purchasers. Any person who has purchased from the United States or entered any of the lands patented to this state as swamp and overflowed lands, or lands patented in lieu of such lands, prior to the execution of such patents to this state, may whenever such entries have been canceled by the United States on account of conflict with the right and title of this state to such lands, purchase from this state, prior to the date fixed for the public sale thereof, such lands so purchased or entered from the United States, upon making satisfactory proof to the board that such person is the identical person, or the heir, legal representative or assign of the person, who purchased or entered such lands as aforesaid, and upon paying to this state for such lands the same price at which such purchase or entries were made from the United States; but nothing contained in this chapter shall impair the rights acquired by any person who has preempted any such lands under the laws of this state.

24.145 State-owned swamp lands; proceeds; disposition. It is declared that none of

the swamp and overflowed lands heretofore granted to this state pursuant to an act of congress entitled "An Act to enable the state of Arkansas and other states to reclaim the swamp lands within their limits", approved September 28, 1850, and the proceeds derived from the sale thereof, which have not heretofore been actually applied for reclamation of such lands, are necessary for the purpose of reclaiming any such swamp and overflowed lands by construction of levees and drains or otherwise. All such swamp and overflowed lands and the proceeds derived from the sale thereof including those placed and being in the drainage fund pursuant to chapter 537, laws of 1865, which have not been actually applied for the purpose of reclaiming such lands, shall be and they are made a part of the normal school fund. This section shall be controlling over any inconsistent act or statute.

24.15 Private sale. All public lands, including forfeited lands and mortgaged lands bid in by the state, which shall have once been offered or reoffered at public sale and remain unsold, shall be subject to private sale at the minimum price fixed therefor by law to the person first making application therefor, if he forthwith complies with the term of sale; but if 2 or more persons shall apply at the same time to purchase any of such lands the same shall be offered to the highest bidder, and the applicant who will pay the highest price shall be the purchaser.

24.16 Applications for private sale. Every person making application for the purchase at private sale of any such lands shall file in the office of the board an application in writing, describing the lot or tract which he proposes to purchase by the proper number of the section, township and range, and the subdivision of the section, with his name subscribed thereto. The board shall, if the land applied for may then be sold, enter on books kept for that purpose a note of such application, specifying the day when made, the name of the applicant, and the description of the land applied for, and shall also give to such applicant a memorandum, stating such application and describing the lot or tract applied for, and stating the price at which the same may be sold and the amount to be paid at the time of the sale, which memorandum shall be signed by the chief clerk.

24.17 Receipt and certificate. (1) When the purchaser of any such lands shall make payment to the treasurer of the amount required to be paid on such sale, and, in case of a private sale, shall also produce the memorandum mentioned in s. 24.16, he shall give a receipt therefor

to such purchaser, and unless such sale be made wholly for cash the board shall execute and deliver to such person a duplicate certificate of sale, in which it shall certify:

- (a) The description of the land sold;
- (b) The sum paid and the amount remaining due thereon;
- (c) The times, place and terms of payments;
- (d) That if such payments shall be duly made the purchaser or his assigns or other legal representatives shall be entitled to a patent for such land;
- (e) And that in case of the nonpayment into the state treasury of the purchase money as it shall become due, or of the interest thereon by the first day of February in each year or on or before the June 30th thereafter, or of any taxes lawfully assessed thereon and then remaining unpaid by the purchaser or purchasers or by any person claiming under him or them, then that the said certificate from the time of such failure shall be utterly void and of no effect, and that the board may take possession of the land described in such certificate and resell the same.

(2) When the sale is wholly for cash, upon payment as above provided, the treasurer shall thereupon give to such purchaser a receipt stating the amount paid and giving a description of the lot or tract of land sold and that such purchaser is entitled to receive a patent according to law.

24.18 Entry of sale and patent. When any sale is made the board shall make a note thereof in the book of entries, and shall enter therein the day of sale, the name of the purchaser, the number of the certificate or patent, the sum paid, the amount of purchase money unpaid, if any, and a description of the lot or tract sold. If such sale be made wholly for cash it shall thereupon execute and deliver to the purchaser a patent for such lot or tract of land so sold. If sold at public auction it shall note that fact.

24.19 Certificate of sale. All original and duplicate certificates shall be properly numbered, and the original shall be filed in the office of the board, and as many distinct lots or tracts of land hereafter purchased by one person in one section at the same time as he shall request shall be included in one certificate or one patent, as the case may be. All certificates may be acknowledged and recorded in the same manner that deeds may be. They may also be assigned in writing, which assignment may be acknowledged and recorded in like manner, and the person to whom the same shall be legally assigned shall have the same rights and remedies

thereupon as the original purchaser would have had.

24.20 Payments and accounts. All money paid on account of sales of public lands shall be paid to the state treasurer who shall credit the proper fund therewith, crediting the general fund with the proceeds of sales of Marathon county lands, and the secretary of administration or his designee, upon countersigning the receipt given therefor, shall charge the treasurer therewith, and shall also enter the name of the person paying the same, the number of the certificate, if any, upon which the amount shall be paid and the time of the payment.

24.21 Accounts with purchasers. The board shall open and keep an account with each purchaser for every lot or tract of land that shall be sold, either at public or private sale, in books kept for that purpose, in which it shall charge the purchaser with the whole purchase money and give him credit for all his payments, making proper charges for interest as the same shall become due, and for all taxes returned to it as unpaid by the proper officer; and upon all payments being completed and the patent issued the account shall be balanced.

24.22 Excessive payments to be refunded. Whenever full payment of the principal due upon any certificate of sale by the state shall be made subsequent to the payment of the annual interest thereon, the excess of the interest so paid shall be refunded to the person entitled thereto from the proper fund, on the warrant of the department of administration; and in case of the double or erroneous payment of interest, charges or taxes on any certificate of sale or loan by the state the amount so erroneously paid shall be in like manner refunded.

24.23 Title; patents. The title and fee of all public lands shall remain in the state until patents shall issue for the same; and no such patent shall issue except upon full payment of the purchase money and interest and all taxes returned and lawful charges thereon.

24.24 Effect of certificate. (1) The certificate of sale, issued pursuant to s. 24.17, until the same becomes void by forfeiture under s. 24.28, shall entitle the purchaser, his heirs or assigns, to all the rents, benefits and provisions of any lease existing thereon at the time of such purchase and thereafter accruing, and shall be sufficient evidence of title, and shall vest in him, his heirs and assigns, the same rights of posses-

sion, enjoyment, descent, transmission and alienation of the lands therein described, and the same remedies for the protection of said rights, as against all persons except the state, that he would possess if he were the owner thereof in fee.

(2) No such certificate shall confer the right to cut down, destroy or dig up or carry off any standing wood or timber, or any mineral, without the written consent of said board, except that such wood or timber may be cut when to be used, and it shall be exclusively used, in the erection of fences or buildings on such lands, or for necessary firewood for the household use of the persons actually occupying the same, or when done in good faith for the actual and fair improvement of such land for cultivation.

(3) But no such cutting shall be deemed to have been done for the purposes of cultivation unless the entire surface from which such wood and timber is cut shall have been at the time further prepared therefor by thoroughly clearing it of all brush and growing wood of every kind thereon, except that shade or ornamental trees on not more than 10 adjoining acres selected for building purposes, and trees valuable for saw or rail timber, not to exceed 20 upon each acre, may be left standing. Any wood, timber or mineral otherwise cut, dug out or removed from any such land shall be and remain the property of the state.

24.25 Patent and record thereof. Whenever full payment shall have been made for any such lands as required by law, and the purchaser or his legal representatives shall produce to the board the duplicate certificate of sale, with the receipt of the state treasurer indorsed thereon, showing that the whole amount of the principal and interest due thereon has been paid and that the holder of such certificate is entitled to a patent for the lands described therein, the original and duplicate certificates shall be canceled, and the board shall thereupon execute and deliver a patent to the person entitled thereto for the land described in such certificate. All patents issued by the board shall be recorded in its office; and the record of patents heretofore issued by it is hereby declared a legal record. Purchasers may, at any time before due, pay any part or the whole of such purchase money and the interest thereon. In all cases where patents have been or may hereafter be issued to a person who may have died or who shall die before the date thereof, the title to the land described therein shall inure to and become vested in the heirs, devisees or assignees of such person to the same extent as if the patent had issued to him during his lifetime.

24.251 Patents, issuance; county may record. Whenever it shall appear to the board of commissioners of public lands that all the conditions relating to the issuance of patents have been complied with, the board may issue patents, and the county board of any county may cause such patents to be recorded in the county and pay the cost of such recording.

24.26 Patentee's rights. Except as provided otherwise by s. 24.11 any person, his heirs or assigns, who shall receive a patent pursuant to law for any public lands shall thereby acquire the right to all timber, lumber, trees, wood, bark, stone, earth, and other materials cut, dug, taken or removed therefrom before the issue of such patent, unless the same shall have been cut, dug, taken or removed by the assent of said board or sold by the state, and may maintain any proper action for the recovery thereof, or for any injury done to or trespass committed upon said lands before such patent shall have been issued, in the same manner and with the like effect, and he shall be entitled to like damages as if such injury or trespass had been committed after the patent had issued.

24.27 Purchase money a loan. The purchaser of any such land, when the balance of the purchase money therefor shall become due, may retain the same as a loan from year to year on payment annually in advance, or on or before May 31, of the interest on the sum due, at the rate of interest specified in the certificate of sale, and the taxes annually assessed on the land described in such certificate, until required to pay the whole or part by the board, as provided in subch. II, or until the legislature shall otherwise direct.

History: 1981 c. 169.

24.28 Forfeiture. In the case of the nonpayment of interest when due according to the terms of the certificate of sale, or of any taxes which before said annual interest is paid shall have been returned to the the board of commissioners of public lands by the county treasurer as due and unpaid upon such land, or of the principal when required by the board, such certificate shall become void from the time of such failure, and the purchaser, his heirs and assigns, shall forfeit all right and interest in the lands described in such certificate; and the board may take immediate possession thereof and may resell the same as hereinafter provided.

24.29 Redemption. At any time before the 5 days next preceding the reoffering of such land at public sale, the former purchaser or his assigns or legal representatives may, by the pay-

ment of the sum due with interest, and all taxes returned thereon to the state treasurer which are still unpaid, and all costs occasioned by the delay, together with 3% damages on the whole sum owing for such land, prevent such resale and revive the original contract.

24.30 Liability of former purchaser. In case of such forfeiture the former purchaser of such land shall be liable for any waste or unnecessary injury which he may have done to the same, or to the timber or mineral thereon; and any action therefor may be prosecuted by the board in the name of the state.

24.31 Advertisement and resale of forfeited lands. Whenever any public lands have been forfeited for the nonpayment of either principal, interest or taxes, and have remained forfeited for 3 months, the board shall first cause such lands to be appraised as provided by s. 24.08 and shall thereupon advertise such land for sale as provided by s. 24.09, and shall further state in the notice that the lands have been forfeited and give the names of the former purchasers. Such sale shall be made either in the county where the lands lie or at the capitol on a day not less than 3 months nor more than 6 months after the first insertion of the notice. The board shall publish a class 3 notice, under ch. 985, of the sale giving the time and place where such sale will be held and the county in which such lands are situated, but omitting any description of such lands; the last insertion of the notice shall be at least one week previous to the time of commencing such sale.

24.32 Resale and redemption. (1) Unless such resale be prevented by payment as hereinbefore provided by s. 24.29, such lands shall be offered for sale at public auction to the highest bidder, in the manner and upon the terms provided, for original sales, and if not then sold shall be subject to private entry thereafter.

(2) Every such tract may be redeemed by the former purchaser thereof, his assigns or legal representatives at any time before the June 30th next following the date of such resale, upon presenting to the board satisfactory proof, which shall be filed and preserved by it, that such tract was, at the time of resale, in whole or in part under cultivation or adjoining a tract partly cultivated, belonging to such former purchaser, his assigns or legal representatives and used in connection therewith, and upon depositing with the state treasurer, for the use of the purchaser at such resale the amount paid by him for such land, together with 25% of the amount of such taxes, interest and costs in addition thereto; and

every certificate issued upon any such resale shall be subject to the right of redemption whether it be expressed in such certificate or not. And no patent shall be issued on any such resale until the expiration of such redemption period.

(3) Upon such redemption the board shall cancel such certificate, and shall make and deliver to the party so redeeming a certificate thereof, and shall also record the same in a book to be kept in its office for that purpose.

24.33 Resale may be canceled. Whenever any land has been so forfeited and resold, within 3 months thereafter, upon proof that there are valuable improvements thereon and that such forfeiture was occasioned by the death of the holder of the first certificate, or the neglect of his executor or administrator, and payment to the treasurer of the amount actually due on such first certificate at the time of such resale, with interest, costs and charges, with interest on the amount for which such land was sold at the rate of 10% per year, the board, by its order in writing, duly recorded, of which a copy shall be forthwith served on the last purchaser, may avoid and cancel such resale and restore and revive such first certificate. Thereafter there shall be paid out of the state treasury to the last purchaser the amount paid by him and the said interest thereon collected of such person so redeeming, on surrender of the certificate, receipt or patent given him at such resale.

History: 1979 c. 110 s. 60 (13).

24.34 Void sales. In case of the sale of any public lands made by mistake, or not in accordance with law, or obtained by fraud, and in cases where the state had no title to such lands, or its title has failed, such sale shall be void and no contract, certificate of purchase or patent issued thereon shall be of any effect, but the person named as vendee, or his successor in interest, as the case may be, may furnish to the board such proof as shall satisfy it of the facts. Thereupon it shall order all amounts, either of principal or interest, paid for the lands described in the contract, certificate or patent, together with the interest thereon from the time of each such payment, at the rate of 6% per year, simple interest, to be refunded and paid out of the state treasury, from the fund to which it has been credited, to the person entitled thereto; provided that no money shall be paid to any person participating in any such fraud.

History: 1979 c. 110 s. 60 (13).

24.341 Offset to refund on void sales. Whenever any claim shall be made under s. 24.34, the board of commissioners of public lands shall make an investigation and determi-

nation, and offset the value of the use of said land, property removed therefrom and the damage or injury thereto by such claimant, together with interest thereon, against the amounts actually paid to the state and to any other persons on account of the purchase, possession, use, damage or injury to such lands by said claimants. The refund or payment to be made under s. 24.34 shall in no case be more than the excess, if any, of the amounts paid out by such claimant with interest over such offset.

24.35 Annulment of certificates and patents. Whenever the board shall have erroneously or improperly issued any certificate or patent for any public lands, whereby wrong or injustice has been or may be done, including cases where the state had no title to the lands, or its title has failed, it may, upon the written application of such purchaser, or his successor in interest revoke and annul such certificate or patent by its order, which with such application, shall be filed and recorded in its office. A certified copy of such order may be recorded in the office of the register of deeds for the county where such lands lie, and thereupon such certificate or patent shall be absolutely null and void. When such order is so recorded there shall be paid out of the state treasury, from the fund to which it has been credited, to such purchaser, or his successor in interest the amounts in the manner and as provided in s. 24.34.

24.355 Limitation of actions. All claims under s. 24.34 or 24.35 shall become barred, unless application therefor be made within 5 years from the time of such payment, or, in cases where the state never had title, from the time when the invalidity of the title of the state was established.

24.36 Lost certificates and patents. Whenever any duplicate certificate of sale shall have been lost or destroyed before the patent shall issue, or whenever any patent shall have been lost or destroyed the board, upon satisfactory proof of the fact by affidavit to be filed with it, may issue a certified copy of the original certificate of sale or of the record in its office of such patent, or a quitclaim deed in place of such patent, to the person entitled thereto, which shall have the same force and effect as the original duplicate certificate or patent. Its certificate to such copy and quitclaim deed shall recite the loss or destruction of the original.

24.37 Ejectment. If any person shall hold or continue in possession of any public lands without written permission from the board, or con-

trary to the conditions or covenants of any lease or written agreement, or after such lands have been forfeited to the state, he shall be liable to an action by the state or any purchaser from the state for an unlawful detainer or other proper action to recover possession of such lands with damages for the detention of the same.

24.38 Boundaries. The lines, boundaries and descriptions of the swamp lands as exhibited by the plats and field notes of the United States survey are adopted and shall be deemed conclusively to be the true lines, boundaries and descriptions thereof.

24.39 Leases, etc. (1) The board of commissioners of public lands may grant leases of parts or parcels of any public lands except state park lands and state forest lands; grant easements, leases to enter upon any of said lands to flow the same or to prospect for and to dig and remove therefrom ore, minerals and other deposits, and sell therefrom such timber as the board shall find necessary to prevent future loss or damage. All sales of standing live timber shall be on a selective cutting basis in line with federal forest practices. Such easements, leases, licenses and sales shall be made only for a full and fair consideration paid or to be paid to the state, the amount and terms whereof shall be fixed by said board, and such easements, leases, licenses and sales shall conform to the requirements, so far as applicable, prescribed by ch. 26 for the exercise by the department of natural resources of similar powers affecting state park lands and state forest lands.

(2) In negotiating for such leases, licenses or sales, and in exercising the other powers conferred by this section the board of commissioners of public lands shall, so far as it finds it desirable and practicable, request and make proper use of such services and information as the department of natural resources may be able to furnish.

(3) All moneys received by the board from the leasing of land under the U.S. flood control act of 1954 and subsequent amendments thereto, shall be paid into the general fund of the state within one week and are appropriated therefrom to the board to be paid to the county clerk of the county in which the leased land is located for the benefit of the general fund of such county within 30 days of its receipt by the board.

(4) (a) Subject to pars. (c) and (d) the board of commissioners of public lands may: 1. Lease to riparian owners rights to the beds of lakes and rights to fill in beds of lakes or navigable streams, held by the state in trust for

the public, when the purpose of the lease is for the improvement of navigation or for the improvement or construction of harbor facilities as defined in s. 30.01; and 2. Lease such rights to municipalities as defined in s. 30.01 and in locations where the municipality is the riparian owner, when the purpose of the lease is for the improvement or provision of recreational facilities related to navigation for public use.

(b) All revenues from such leases shall be paid into the general fund.

(c) No leases under par. (a) may be executed without a prior finding of the department of natural resources under s. 30.11 (5) that any proposed physical change in the area contemplated as the result of the execution of any term lease is consistent with the public interest in the navigable waters involved.

(d) This subsection applies only to Lake Michigan and Lake Superior, the Mississippi and St. Croix rivers, the Fox river from Green Bay upstream to the point where it meets the Wolf river, and to the segments of all other bodies of water in which the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers provides and maintains commercial navigation channels.

(e) Such lease shall be for a term not to exceed 50 years, and shall include therein any and all conditions and terms the board of commissioners of public lands believes to be necessary in the public interest. A lessee or his heirs, successors or assigns of a lease which has reached the end of its term shall have first opportunity to contract with the board of commissioners of public lands for a new lease.

(f) A municipality may sublease rights leased to it under par. (a) 1 or 2 to corporations or private persons. A municipality may also make physical improvements on and above the bottoms to which rights were leased from the board of commissioners of public lands and may sublease these improvements to corporations or private persons. Any subleases under this paragraph shall be consistent with this subsection and with whatever standards or restrictions the department of natural resources, acting under s. 30.11 (5), may have found at the time of execution of the original lease by the board of commissioners of public lands to the municipality.

(g) The lease may be terminated for nonuse or for a nonconforming use any time after 5 years from date of issue, or such shorter period of time as may be specified in the lease. It may also be terminated for any other ground recognized at law for termination of a lease.

(h) All rights to submerged lands and rights above submerged lands ceded, granted or leased to municipalities, or other persons by prior acts

of the state [1961] shall not be affected by this subsection or by s. 30.11 (5).

(i) All leases entered into by the board of commissioners of public lands under this subsection and s. 30.11 shall be deemed to be subject to this section and any other applicable laws of this state or of the United States.

History: 1981 c. 390.

24.40 Easements; annexation. (1) Every board, commission, department and agency of the state having real estate belonging to the state under its control may grant easements in said property for public utility service through, over, along or to said property, including without limitation by enumeration the necessary poles, wires, structures, lines, conduits, pipes or pipe lines for heat, light, water, gas, sewer, power, telephone, telegraph and transmission of messages.

(2) Every such board, commission, department and agency may petition or join in a petition for and on behalf of the state as the owner of such property to annex or detach the same or any part or parts thereof to or from an adjoining municipality.

24.51 Constitutional board. The board created by section 7 of article X of the Wisconsin constitution may be styled in any law or any action or proceeding in court as "The Board of Commissioners of Public Lands".

History: 1979 c. 34 s. 699g.

24.52 Jurisdiction. Together with the power and duty of selling the school and university lands and investing the funds arising therefrom, prescribed for the board by the aforesaid section of the constitution, it is invested with power to dispose of all other public lands and all interests in lands held by the state for sale, and with such further powers as may be necessary or convenient to enable it to exercise the functions and perform the duties imposed upon it by law.

History: 1979 c. 34 s. 699g.

24.53 Investigate land claims; deduct expenses. The board of commissioners of public lands shall investigate the rights of the state to school lands, normal school lands, university lands and agricultural college lands. The expenses incurred in making these investigations and taking necessary steps to protect common school lands, normal school lands, university lands and agricultural college lands and timber on those lands, as well as the expense of necessary surveys, records, appraisals and sales, upon the approval of the board, shall be deducted from the gross receipts of the fund to which the

proceeds from the sale of the land or timber will be added.

History: 1979 c. 34 s. 699g.

24.54 Office in capitol; records; copies as evidence. (1) The board shall keep its office in the capitol. It shall conveniently arrange and preserve therein all records, books, reports, surveys, maps, field notes, plats and other papers pertaining to the public lands heretofore, now, or hereafter owned by the state, including all such as have been or shall be received from the United States or any officer thereof. It may perfect such records, books, reports, surveys, maps, field notes, plats and other papers when incomplete, and cause fair copies thereof to be made when from injury, loss, use or accident it shall become necessary; and any such copy when certified by the chief clerk of the land office under the chief clerk's signature and the official seal of said office to have been made for any of the causes herein specified, and to be a correct copy thereof, shall have the same force and effect in all courts and places as the original; and any copy from said original records, books, reports, surveys, maps, field notes, plats or other papers, or from any record or paper required by law to be kept in its office, or any copy from said certified copy thereof, when certified by the chief clerk of the state land office or any one of the board of commissioners of public lands under the official seal of the board, shall be received in evidence with the same effect as the original.

(2) All records, books and files kept by the board shall at all business hours be open, under proper regulations made by it, to the inspection of any person, free of charge. The board also may in like manner make, perfect, and complete proper records, books, reports and other papers pertaining to the lands of which the state has been or is trustee for the United States.

History: 1979 c. 34 s. 699g; 1979 c. 176.

24.55 Chief clerk; clerks; appointments; duties; oath. The board shall appoint under the classified service a chief clerk and an assistant chief clerk who shall, during the absence of the chief clerk, have all the authority given by law to the chief clerk, and such other clerks as provided in s. 20.922. Such appointments shall be filed in the office of the secretary of state. Every such clerk shall take and file the official oath.

History: 1979 c. 34 s. 699g.

24.56 Not to buy lands. The board, and all clerks and other persons employed by it or about any of its respective offices, are prohibited from purchasing any of the public lands, directly or indirectly, either in their own name or in the

name of any other person in trust for them or either of them; and for every tract or parcel of land purchased in violation hereof each such person offending shall forfeit not more than \$250.

History: 1975 c. 365; 1979 c. 34 s. 699g.

24.57 Report of board. The board shall include, in its report under s. 15.07 (6) a report of its official proceedings, showing the quantity of land sold or leased and the amount received therefor, the amount of interest moneys accrued or received and a specific account of the several investments made by them, stating in all cases of loans, the name of each borrower, the sum borrowed and a description of the property mortgaged¹. The report also shall include such other matters as it thinks proper to communicate or as the legislature requires.

History: 1979 c. 34 s. 699g.

24.58 Appraisers. The board may select employes of the department to appraise lands or perform other services in field and forest.

History: 1975 c. 94; 1979 c. 34 s. 699g.

SUBCHAPTER II

TRUST FUNDS

24.60 Definitions. In this subchapter, unless the context indicates otherwise:

(1) "Joint city school district" means a school district reorganized under s. 117.02 or 117.03 with the district continuing as a city school district but with the fiscal control of the school district exercised by a fiscal control board constituted under s. 120.50 (2).

(2) "Municipality" means a town, village, city, county, school district or vocational, technical and adult education district.

(3) "School district" has the meaning designated under s. 115.01 (3).

(4) "State trust fund loan" means a loan authorized under s. 24.61 (3).

(5) "Trust funds" means the common school fund, the normal school fund, the university fund and the agricultural college fund.

History: 1979 c. 221; 1981 c. 169.

24.61 Authorized investments and loans.

(1) **INVESTMENTS AND LOANS; SEPARATE ACCOUNTS.** The board shall loan or invest moneys belonging to the trust funds as those moneys accumulate in the treasury. The board shall keep a separate account of all investments and loans from each fund.

(2) **INVESTMENTS.** (a) *Authorized investments.* The board may invest moneys belonging to the trust funds in the purchase of:

1. Bonds or notes of the United States;
2. Securities issued under the provisions of the federal farm loan act of July 17, 1916, (12 USC 641, et seq.) or the farm credit act of 1971 (P.L. 92-181);
3. Bonds of this state; or
4. Bonds issued pursuant to law by any town, village, city, county or school district of this state.

(b) *Deposited with state treasurer.* All bonds, notes and other securities so purchased shall be deposited with the state treasurer.

(3) **LOANS.** (a) *Authorized loans.* The board may loan moneys under its control or belonging to the trust funds to:

1. A school district by whatever name designated, to be used for the operation and maintenance of schools, in erecting and remodeling school buildings, teacherages, in the purchase of teacherages, teacherage sites, schoolhouse sites, bus garage sites, transportation vehicles, bus garages, school equipment, or school playgrounds, or in refunding any indebtedness incurred for a lawful purpose and within the constitutional limitations, and for the purposes enumerated in s. 67.04 (6) or otherwise authorized by law;

2. A town, village, city or county as provided under s. 67.04 (1) to (6) or otherwise authorized by law; or

3. A vocational, technical and adult education district as provided under s. 67.04 (6) or otherwise authorized by law.

(b) *Terms; conditions.* A municipality may borrow from the board or from moneys belonging to the trust funds the sum of money, for the time and upon the conditions as may be agreed upon between the board and the borrower subject to the limitations, restrictions and conditions set forth in this subchapter.

(4) **STUDENT LOANS.** The board of commissioners of public lands may invest moneys belonging to the trust funds in loans to students under s. 39.32 through assignment, sale or conveyance of those loans to the board of commissioners of public lands by the higher educational aids board. These investments shall be guaranteed under rules established under s. 39.33. The responsibility and right to authorize these loans and for collection of interest and principal on these loans assigned, sold or conveyed to the board of commissioners of public lands rests with the higher educational aids board. Interest and principal payments from these loans shall be received from the appropriations under s. 20.235 (1) (g) and (2) (bb), (gb) and (mb), interest

to be computed on the unpaid principal balance of the loans at the interest rate stated on the loan notes assigned, sold or conveyed, computed as of January 1 and July 1 of each year and payable within 90 days thereafter. All notes assigned, sold or conveyed shall be held for the board of commissioners of public lands by the higher educational aids board.

(5) PREFERENCES. So far as practicable investments in student loans through assignment, sale or conveyance of such loans by the higher educational aids board shall be supplied before any other loan or investment authorized by this section is made.

(6) REFUNDING LOANS. Any school district may borrow from any funds described in this section to refund any indebtedness incurred for a lawful purpose and within the constitutional limitations.

History: 1971 c. 154; 1973 c. 114; 1975 c. 224; 1979 c. 34 s. 2102 (22) (a); 1979 c. 221; 1981 c. 169.

24.62 Deduction of expenses. The expenses incurred by the board of commissioners of public lands in administering investments and loans shall be deducted from the gross receipts of the fund to which the interest and income of the investment or loan will be added.

History: 1979 c. 34; 1981 c. 169.

24.63 Term, amount, interest rate. (1) MUNICIPAL LOANS OTHER THAN TO SCHOOL DISTRICTS. State trust fund loans, other than those to school districts, may be made for any term not exceeding 20 years, may be made payable in instalments and shall be in an amount which does not, in connection with all other indebtedness of the municipality applying for the loan, exceed 5% of the valuation of the taxable property within the municipality as equalized for state purposes, except that for any city which is authorized to issue bonds for school purposes the debt limitation shall not exceed an additional 10% of the average of the value of the property in that city and in the territory attached to the city for school purposes as equalized for state purposes. If a state trust fund loan is made to pay off existing indebtedness, it may be advanced to the borrower in instalments as fast as the indebtedness or the evidence of indebtedness is canceled.

(2) SCHOOL DISTRICT LOANS. A state trust fund loan to a school district may be made for any time, not exceeding 20 years, as is agreed upon between the school district and the board, and for an amount which, together with all other indebtedness of that district, does not exceed its allowable indebtedness as determined under s. 67.03 (1), except that in determining this debt limit the valuation of all taxable personal prop-

erty in excess of 50% of the valuation of the real estate shall be disregarded. The principal shall be payable in approximately equal annual instalments.

(3) INTEREST RATES. All state trust fund loans shall bear and draw interest at a rate not less than 2% payable annually, except that investments in student loans made under s. 24.61 (4) shall bear and draw interest at an annual rate not less than 7%.

(4) REPAYMENT BEFORE DUE DATE PERMITTED. Any municipality after March 15 and prior to August 1 of any year may repay one or more instalments in advance of the due date, and all interest upon such advance payment shall thereupon terminate.

History: 1975 c. 224, 422; 1979 c. 221; 1981 c. 169.

24.64 Joint municipal loans. The board may invest the said trust funds in loans to any 2 towns, to any town and village or to any town and city jointly; and all provisions of law relative to loans of such trust funds to a single town shall also be applicable to such joint loan to such 2 towns or to such town and village. Every payment of interest or principal upon said loan shall be paid by the 2 towns, by the town and the village or by the town and city proportionally according to the last equalized assessed value thereof.

History: 1979 c. 110 s. 60 (12); 1981 c. 169.

24.65 Date when interest and principal become due. The annual interest and instalments of principal of all state trust fund loans, excluding interest and instalments of principal from investments in student loans made under s. 24.61 (4), are payable into the state treasury on or before the date specified in s. 24.70 (4) or (5) or 24.71 (4).

History: 1975 c. 224; 1979 c. 221; 1981 c. 169.

24.66 The application. (1) FOR ALL MUNICIPALITIES. No trust fund loan may be made unless an application is made to the board under this section. The application shall state the amount of money required, the purpose to which it is to be applied, and the times and terms of repayment. The application shall be accompanied by satisfactory proof:

(a) Of the valuation of all the taxable property within the municipality as equalized for state purposes;

(b) Of all the existing indebtedness of the municipality; and

(c) Of the approval of the application as required by subs. (2) to (4).

(2) FOR MUNICIPALITIES OTHER THAN SCHOOL DISTRICTS. Every application shall be approved and authorized for a town, by the

signatures of all of its supervisors acknowledged as conveyances of land are acknowledged; for a village, by a vote of not less than three-fourths of its trustees; for a city, by a vote of not less than two-thirds of the members of its common council; and for a county, by a vote of not less than two-thirds of all the members of its board of supervisors at some regular or special session thereof. Every vote so required shall be by ayes and noes duly recorded.

(3) FOR SCHOOL DISTRICTS. (a) *For common and union high school districts.* Every application shall be approved and authorized for a common or union high school district by a vote of a majority of its legal voters voting on this question. If the vote is taken at a special meeting the objects thereof shall be clearly stated in the notice of the meeting. The application shall state the facts in detail respecting the holding of the meeting, and the taking and the result of the vote required. The application shall be signed by each member of the district board and verified by the clerk. The statement accompanying the application shall contain a correct map or plat of the district. If the district is a joint district, the statement accompanying the application shall show the assessed valuation in its several parts separately, so that the valuation of each part of the district which lies in each town or municipality may be readily shown.

(b) *For city and joint city school districts.* Every application shall be approved and authorized for a city school district, other than a joint city school district, by a vote of not less than two-thirds of the members of the school board at a regular or special meeting of the school board and by a vote of not less than two-thirds of the members of the common council of the city; and for a joint city school district by a vote of not less than two-thirds of the members of the school board at a regular or special meeting of the school board and by a vote of not less than two-thirds of the fiscal board of the joint city school district. Every vote so required shall be by ayes and noes duly recorded.

(c) *For unified school districts.* Every application shall be approved and authorized for a unified school district by a vote of not less than two-thirds of the members of the school board at a regular or special meeting of the school board. Every vote so required shall be by ayes and noes duly recorded. In addition, the application shall be approved for a unified school district by a majority vote of the electors of the school district at a special election as provided under sub. (4).

(4) POPULAR VOTE, WHEN REQUIRED. If any municipality is not empowered by law to incur indebtedness for a particular purpose without first submitting the question to its electors, the application for a state trust fund loan for that

purpose must be approved and authorized by a majority vote of the electors at a special election called, noticed and held in the manner provided for other special elections. The notice of the election shall state the amount of the proposed loan and the purpose for which it will be used. This subsection does not apply to loans made to a city or joint city school district applying as provided in sub. (3) (b).

(5) IRREPEALABLE TAX LEVY. Such application shall be accompanied also by a certified copy under the hand of the proper clerk of a recorded resolution adopted by the municipality applying for or approving the loan, levying upon all the taxable property of the municipality a direct annual tax for the purpose of paying and sufficient to pay the interest on such proposed loan as it falls due, and also to pay and discharge the principal thereof within 20 years from the making of such loan. Such a levy shall become void and of no effect if the board declines to make the loan; otherwise it shall remain valid and irrevocable until the loan and all interest thereon shall be fully paid.

(6) PROCEEDINGS TO BE RECORDED AND BECOME CONCLUSIVE EVIDENCE. The aforesaid application, statement and all accompanying exhibits and documents shall be recorded in the office of the board and thereupon be filed in the office of the secretary of state, and shall, together with the record thereof, be conclusive evidence of the facts therein stated.

History: 1979 c. 221, 355; 1981 c. 169.

24.67 Certificates of indebtedness. If the board approves the application, it shall cause certificates of indebtedness to be prepared in proper form and transmitted to the municipality submitting the application. The certificate of indebtedness shall be executed and signed for a school district by its president, for a town by its chairman, for a village by its president, for a city by its mayor, for a vocational, technical and adult education district by its district board chairman and for a county by the chairman of its board. The certificate of indebtedness shall be countersigned by the clerk of the municipality or, in the case of a vocational, technical and adult education district, by the district board secretary and returned to and deposited with the board which shall certify that fact to the department of administration. The department of administration shall then draw a warrant upon the state treasurer for the amount of the loan, payable to the treasurer of the municipality making the loan or as he or she directs. The certificate of indebtedness shall then be conclusive evidence of the validity of the indebtedness and that all the requirements of law concerning

the application for the making and acceptance of the loan have been complied with.

History: 1971 c. 154; 1979 c. 221; 1981 c. 169.

24.68 Payment of state trust fund loans.

All the taxable property in any municipality which obtains a trust fund loan shall stand charged for the payment of the principal and interest on that loan. The annual tax levied under s. 24.66 (5) shall be paid next after the state tax out of any moneys collected as taxes within the municipality.

History: 1979 c. 221; 1981 c. 169.

24.69 Liquidation and payment of taxes not yet due.

An owner of lands situated within a town, village, city, county or school district subject to an irrevocable tax levy under s. 24.66 (5) who intends to convey the lands to the federal government or to any other tax-exempt body may apply to the department of revenue to have the amount of the loan which is a lien on his or her property on account of the irrevocable tax levy ascertained. The department of revenue shall ascertain this amount by determining the proportion which the assessed valuation of the owner's property according to last assessment bears to the assessed valuation of the whole property of the town, village, city or school district and multiplying this proportion by the total amount of the loan. Upon payment of the sum ascertained to the board, the board shall issue to the owner a certificate showing that the lands conveyed are free and clear of any lien on account of this tax levy, and upon receipt of the payment the amount of the payment shall be credited as a partial repayment of the loan. The application to the department of revenue shall be accompanied by a copy of the contract to convey the lands to a tax-exempt body. After the filing of the application and proof of recording of a deed of conveyance of the lands to the tax-exempt body the lands shall not be subject to any tax.

History: 1979 c. 221 s. 252; 1981 c. 169.

24.70 Collection from municipalities other than school districts. (1) APPLICABILITY. This section applies to all outstanding state trust fund loans to municipalities other than school districts.

(2) CERTIFIED STATEMENT. If a municipality other than a school district has a state trust fund loan, the board shall transmit to the municipal clerk a certified statement of the amount due on or before August 1 of each year until the loan is paid. The board shall submit a copy of each certified statement to the state treasurer.

(3) AMOUNT ADDED TO MUNICIPAL LEVY. The municipal clerk shall then cause the amount

to be added to the municipal levy and collected in the same manner as the municipal tax except the amount for the state trust fund loan shall be separately designated.

(4) PAYMENT TO STATE TREASURER. The municipal treasurer shall transmit to the state treasurer on his or her order the full amount levied for state trust fund loans within 15 days after March 15. The state treasurer shall notify the board when he or she receives payment. Any payment not made by March 30 is delinquent and is subject to a penalty of one percent per month to be paid to the state treasurer with the delinquent payment.

(5) PAYMENT TO STATE TREASURER; DELAYED PAYMENT DATE. If a municipality collects taxes under s. 74.03, if the governing body of the municipality extends the time for payment up to August 15 and if the governing body files a copy of the resolution with the board, then the municipal treasurer shall transmit to the state treasurer on his or her order the full amount levied on or before the extension date. The state treasurer shall notify the board when he or she receives payment. The payment due on state trust fund loans shall bear interest from March 15 to August 15 at the rate currently received on state trust fund loans. Any payment not made by August 15 is delinquent and is subject to a penalty of one percent per month to be paid to the state treasurer with the delinquent payment.

(6) FAILURE TO MAKE PAYMENTS. If the municipal treasurer fails to remit the amount due by the date specified under sub. (4) or (5), the board may file a certified statement of the amount delinquent with the department of administration. The department of administration shall collect the amount due, including any penalty, by deducting that amount from any state payments due the municipality, shall remit that amount to the state treasurer and shall notify the treasurer and the board of that action.

History: 1979 c. 221; 1981 c. 169.

24.71 Collections from school districts.

(1) APPLICABILITY. This section applies to all outstanding trust fund loans to school districts.

(2) CERTIFIED STATEMENT. If a school district has a state trust fund loan, the board shall transmit to the school district clerk a certified statement of the amount due on or before August 1 of each year until the loan is paid. The board shall furnish a copy of each certified statement to the state treasurer and the department of public instruction.

(3) ADDED TO SCHOOL DISTRICT LEVY. The school district clerk shall then cause the amount due to be added to the school district levy and

collected in the same manner as the school district tax except the amount for state trust fund loans shall be separately designated.

(4) PAYMENT TO STATE TREASURER. The school district treasurer shall transmit to the state treasurer on his or her own order the full amount levied for state trust fund loans within 15 days after March 15. The state treasurer shall notify the board when he or she receives payment. Any payment not made by March 30 is delinquent and is subject to a penalty of one percent per month or fraction thereof, to be paid to the state treasurer with the delinquent payment.

(5) FAILURE TO MAKE PAYMENT. If the school district treasurer fails to remit the amounts due under sub. (4), the state superintendent, upon certification of delinquency by the board, shall deduct the amount due including any penalty from any school aid payments due the school district, shall remit such amount to the state treasurer and, no later than June 15, shall notify the school district treasurer and the board to that effect.

History: 1971 c. 262; 1973 c. 90; 1979 c. 221; 1981 c. 169.

24.72 Use of funds. No money obtained by a municipality from a state trust fund loan may be applied to or paid out for any purpose except that specified in the application for the loan without the consent of the board.

History: 1971 c. 154; 1979 c. 221; 1981 c. 169.

24.73 Extension of loan. All loans made or which may be made from any of such funds to any municipality may be extended for such time and upon such terms as may be agreed upon by and between the board and such borrower; provided, however, that no loan shall be extended upon which there is any default in the payment of interest at the time of making application therefor, nor to any period beyond 20 years from its inception, nor at any rate of interest less than the minimum established by law.

History: 1981 c. 169.

24.74 Duty of attorney general and revenue department. If any officer neglects or refuses to perform any duty required of him by law in relation to the levy or collection of any tax required to be raised to make any payment of principal or interest on any loan from the state, the attorney general shall apply to the supreme court for a mandamus to compel the performance of such duty; and the department of revenue may do or cause to be done the duty required of such officer with the same effect as if done by him.

History: 1981 c. 169.

24.75 Interest, how accounted for. All money collected as interest upon any state trust fund loan shall be paid into the state treasury. All moneys collected as interest upon any trust fund loan are considered gross receipts and shall be credited to the income of the fund from which the loan was made except that expenses may be deducted as provided under s. 24.62.

History: 1979 c. 221; 1981 c. 169.

24.76 Common school fund. All moneys accruing to the state by virtue of section 2 of article X of the constitution, and all other moneys paid into the state treasury on account of the capital of the school fund, constitute the school fund. All of said fund, except that portion set apart for state universities by s. 24.80, having been found necessary for the support and maintenance of common schools in each school district, and the purchase of suitable libraries and apparatus therefor, is set apart for those objects and denominated the "Common School Fund" which is a separate and perpetual fund.

History: 1981 c. 169.

24.77 Common school fund income. The common school fund income is constituted of the interest derived from the common school fund and from unpaid balances of purchase money on sales of common school lands; and all other revenues derived from the common school lands; but the common school fund income and interest and revenues derived from the common school fund and from common school lands do not include expenses deducted from gross receipts permitted under ss. 24.04 (2), 24.53 and 24.62.

History: 1979 c. 34; 1981 c. 169.

24.78 Distribution of the common school fund income. Pursuant to section 5 of article X of the constitution, the common school fund income shall be distributed to the school districts among the several towns, villages and cities of the state for the support of common schools therein, as provided in s. 43.70.

History: 1971 c. 152 s. 38; 1981 c. 169.

24.79 Swamp land grants. All swamp and overflowed lands and moneys in lieu thereof received from the United States by virtue of the act of congress approved September 28, 1850, entitled "an act to enable the state of Arkansas and other states to reclaim the swamp lands within their limits;" and all moneys received as purchase money for such lands, including loans and investments and moneys due upon certificates of sale thereof; and all swamp lands and moneys in lieu thereof received subsequent to the enactment of chapter 537, laws of 1865, or which are hereafter received, from the United

States; and the proceeds of the sale of all lands conveyed to this state pursuant to the act of congress approved March 2, 1865, entitled "an act for the relief of purchasers and locators of swamp and overflowed lands," are trust lands and moneys, to be applied, exclusively, as provided in s. 24.80.

History: 1981 c. 169.

24.80 Normal school fund. The lands and moneys described in s. 24.79, not being granted for any other specified purpose, accrue to the school fund by virtue of section 2 of article X of the constitution; and having been found unnecessary for the support and maintenance of common schools, are appropriated to the support and maintenance of state universities and suitable libraries and apparatus therefor, and to that end are set apart and denominated the "Normal School Fund". All lands, moneys, loans, investments and securities set apart to the normal school fund and all swamp lands and income and interest received on account of the capital of that fund constitute a separate and perpetual fund. All income and interest from the normal school fund shall be paid into the general fund as general purpose revenue. Normal school fund income, interest and revenues do not include expenses deducted from gross receipts permitted under ss. 24.04 (2), 24.53 and 24.62.

History: 1979 c. 34; 1981 c. 169; 1981 c. 391 s. 210.

24.81 University fund. All moneys accruing to the state under section 6 of article X of the constitution, and all other moneys paid into the state treasury on account of the capital of the university fund, constitute the university fund, which is a separate and perpetual fund. University fund income, interest and revenues do not include expenses deducted from gross receipts permitted under ss. 24.04 (2), 24.53 and 24.62.

History: 1979 c. 34; 1981 c. 169.

24.82 Agricultural college fund. All moneys derived from the sale of the lands and land scrip accruing to the state by virtue of the act of congress approved July 2, 1862, entitled "an act donating public lands to the several states and territories which may provide colleges for the benefit of agricultural and the mechanic arts," and income and interest received on account of the capital of the agricultural college fund, constitute the agricultural college fund, which is a separate and perpetual fund and shall remain forever undiminished. Agricultural college fund income, interest and revenues do not include expenses deducted from gross receipts permitted under ss. 24.04 (2), 24.53 and 24.62. If this fund is by any action or contingency impaired, a state tax is hereby levied sufficient to replace the same, to be collected with the state taxes for the next ensuing year and paid into this fund.

History: 1979 c. 34; 1981 c. 169.