

MIKE PELLICCIOTTI, Chair
State Treasurer

JAY R. INSLEE
Governor

DENNY HECK
Lieutenant Governor

STATE FINANCE COMMITTEE MINUTES

June 8, 2023, at 3:00 PM Via Zoom

With public participation via Zoom, telephonically, and in-person at the Office of the State Treasurer, Legislative Building, Second Floor, Room 230, Olympia, WA

The State Finance Committee met virtually via Zoom in a special meeting after notice was duly given to the public.

Present: State Treasurer Mike Pellicciotti, Chair

Governor Jay Inslee, Member

Lieutenant Governor Denny Heck, Member

Also Present Virtually: Jason Richter, Office of the State Treasurer, Secretary

Nona Snell, Office of Financial Management

Dallas Roberts, Office of the Lieutenant Governor Sharon James, Office of the Attorney General Scott Forbes, Office of the Attorney General Tammie Nuber, Office of the State Treasurer Anna Borris, Office of the State Treasurer Svein Braseth, Office of the State Treasurer Austin Goble, Office of the State Treasurer Aaron Sherman, Office of the State Treasurer Danni Colo, Office of the State Treasurer

Molly Johannessen, Office of the State Treasurer

Chair Pellicciotti called the meeting to order at 3:01 PM. Chair Pellicciotti stated for the record that all three members of the State Finance Committee were present, and a quorum was established. Chair Pellicciotti stated this meeting was being streamed by TVW.

Item 1: Approval of Minutes

Chair Pellicciotti introduced the draft minutes from the November 29, 2022, State Finance Committee meeting for approval. No corrections or amendments were requested. Motion – Governor Inslee; Second – Lieutenant Governor Heck; the minutes were approved unanimously.

Item 2: Resolution No. 1271

Chair Pellicciotti introduced Jason Richter, State Finance Committee Secretary and Deputy Treasurer of Debt Management for the Office of the State Treasurer, to provide a summary of Resolution No. 1271.

Resolution No. 1271 authorizes the issuance of State of Washington General Obligation Bonds in a principal amount not to exceed \$5,355,900,000 for the purpose of providing funds to pay and reimburse state expenditures for various state projects identified in the Bond Act; providing for certain terms and covenants of the bonds; providing for certain other provisions safeguarding the payment of the principal thereof and interest thereon; and authorizing and directing the sale of said bonds in one or more sales. Resolution No. 1271 also authorizes the Deputy State Treasurer to establish the method of sale of the bonds and the State Treasurer to adopt bond sale resolutions.

Chair Pellicciotti asked if there were any questions regarding Resolution No. 1271.

Hearing no questions, the Chair asked for a motion to approve Resolution No. 1271.

Motion – Governor Inslee; Second – Lieutenant Governor Heck; Resolution No. 1271 was adopted unanimously.

Item 3: Resolution No. 1272

Chair Pellicciotti asked Deputy Treasurer Richter to provide a summary of Resolution No. 1272.

Resolution No. 1272 authorizes the issuance of Motor Vehicle Fuel Tax and Vehicle Related Fees General Obligation Bonds of the State in a principal amount not to exceed \$1,905,620,000 for the purpose of providing funds to pay and reimburse State expenditures for various transportation projects identified in the Bond Acts; providing for certain terms and covenants of the bonds; providing for certain other provisions safeguarding the payment of the principal thereof and interest thereon; and authorizing and directing the sale of said bonds in one or more sales. Resolution No. 1272 also authorizes the Deputy State Treasurer to establish the method of sale of the bonds and the State Treasurer to adopt bond sale resolutions.

Chair Pellicciotti asked if there were any questions regarding Resolution No. 1272.

Hearing no questions, the Chair asked for a motion to approve Resolution No. 1272.

Motion – Governor Inslee; Second – Lieutenant Governor Heck; Resolution No. 1272 was adopted unanimously.

Item 4: Resolution No. 1273

Chair Pellicciotti asked Deputy Treasurer Richter to provide a summary of Resolution No. 1273.

Resolution No. 1273 authorizes the issuance of Various Purpose General Obligation Refunding Bonds of the State in a principal amount not to exceed \$4,577,460,000 and Motor Vehicle Fuel Tax and Vehicle Related Fees General Obligation Refunding Bonds of the State in a principal amount not to exceed \$2,947,310,000 for the purpose of refunding certain outstanding Various Purpose General Obligation Bonds, Various Purpose General

Obligation Refunding Bonds, Motor Vehicle Fuel Tax General Obligation Bonds, and Motor Vehicle Fuel Tax General Obligation Refunding Bonds; making certain other provisions with respect to the payment of the principal of and interest on the bonds; approving the form of a refunding escrow agreement with respect to the bonds to be refunded; and providing for other matters properly related thereto. Resolution No. 1273 also authorizes the Deputy State Treasurer to establish the method of sale of the bonds and the State Treasurer to adopt bond sale resolutions.

Proposed Resolution No. 1273 is an omnibus refunding resolution that updates the State Finance Committee's authority to refund outstanding refundable bonds. As of June 8, 2023, there are a total of \$4,577,460,000 of Various Purpose General Obligation Bonds and Various Purpose General Obligation Refunding Bonds, and a total of \$2,947,310,000 of Motor Vehicle Fuel Tax General Obligation Bonds, and Motor Vehicle Fuel Tax General Obligation Refunding Bonds that are callable over the next four fiscal years (through the end of FY 2027). Refundings are executed in accordance with the State Finance Committee's Debt Issuance Policy which establishes refunding savings thresholds.

Chair Pellicciotti asked if there were any questions regarding Resolution No. 1273.

Lieutenant Governor Heck asked if there was significance to focusing on bonds that are callable in the next four fiscal years. Why not three years or six years?

Deputy Treasurer Richter explained that the proposed four-year range provides a significant amount of flexibility to consider standard refinancings as well as taxable refinancings, while also preparing the state to act quickly in the event that the ability to issue tax exempt advance refunding bonds is re-instated. Mr. Richter went on to state that prior to the 2018 tax reform, municipalities were able to issue tax exempt advanced refundings, which allowed an issuer to refinance bonds that had call dates that were more than 90 days from the closing date. The tax reform eliminated the ability to do this, meaning we could only issue tax exempt refundings to refinance bonds that were callable within 90 days of the closing date.

Chair Pellicciotti asked if there were any additional questions.

Hearing no further questions, the Chair asked for a motion to approve Resolution No. 1273.

Motion – Governor Inslee; Second – Lieutenant Governor Heck; Resolution No. 1273 was adopted unanimously.

Item 5: Resolution No. 1274

Chair Pellicciotti asked Deputy Treasurer Richter to provide a summary of Resolution No. 1274.

Proposed Resolution No. 1274 approves and establishes the maximum aggregate principal amount of financing contracts and certificates of participation of the state to be outstanding in the 2023-25 Biennium at \$1,623,833,000. This total includes (as of June 8, 2023):

\$858,210,000 in currently outstanding financing contracts (Certificates of Participation);

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- \$220,735,000 in currently outstanding 63-20 financing contracts; and
- an estimated \$544,888,000 in new financing contracts to be entered into and certificates of participation and/or lease revenue bonds to be issued during the 2023-25 Biennium.

Of the financing contracts expected to be entered into over the 2023-25 Biennium, \$294,888,000 represent real estate financing contracts authorized by the Legislature for state agencies (shown in Exhibit 1), and \$250,000,000 represents the estimated state and local agency equipment and local agency real estate financing contracts for the Biennium.

Proposed Resolution No. 1274 also approves any refinancing contract (including issuance of refunding certificates of participation) to be entered into for the purpose of achieving interest cost savings in accordance with the Committee's Debt Issuance Policy savings threshold.

Chair Pellicciotti asked if there were any questions regarding Resolution No. 1274.

Hearing no questions, the Chair asked for a motion to approve Resolution No. 1274.

Motion – Governor Inslee; Second – Lieutenant Governor Heck; Resolution No. 1274 was adopted unanimously.

Item 6: Informational Item - Bond Sales Update

Chair Pellicciotti asked Deputy Treasurer Richter to provide an update on bond and certificate of participation sales since the last State Finance Committee meeting.

Sales Update

Since the last State Finance Committee meeting on November 29, 2022, the state sold four series of bonds and one series of certificates of participation (COPs), totaling over \$2 billion.

Refunding Savings

Of the four series of bonds sold since the last meeting, two series were refundings, which are bonds issued to refinance existing debt. The April 26, 2023, refunding resulted in around \$199.9 million in total debt service savings, or around \$160.7 million of savings on a present value basis.

Future New Money Issuances

The state plans to sell new money bonds in July 2023 and anticipates an additional new money issuance in the beginning of 2024 to finance Capital Budget and Transportation Budget projects. The size and timing of these issuances will be primarily dependent upon the state's capital budget and transportation budget cash-flow needs.

Future Refinancings

In addition to new money financings, the Office of the State Treasurer actively monitors the state's debt portfolio for refinancing opportunities.

Market Update

The current Bond Buyer 20-Bond Index (BBI) now stands at 3.67% (as of June 1, 2023), which is close to where the BBI was at during the last meeting (3.65% as of December 1, 2022). Over the last three years the BBI has been as high as 4.16% and as low as 2.02%.

Item 7: Public Comment

Chair Pellicciotti opened the meeting up for public comment. There was no public comment provided.

Having no further business before the State Finance Committee, Chair Pellicciotti adjourned the meeting at 3:21 PM.

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STATE FINANCE COMMITTEE STATE OF WASHINGTON

Michae & Leeuce

Mike Pellicciotti

State Treasurer and Chair

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Jay Inslee

Governor and Member

By = E9733D41364B4A

Denny Heck

Lieutenant Governor and Member

ATTEST:

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Jason P. Richter,
Deputy State Treasurer and Secretary