

April 25, 2001

**AUTHORIZE CONTINUED RETENTION OF THE LAW FIRM  
EARL L. NEAL & ASSOCIATES, L.L.C.**

**THE GENERAL COUNSEL REPORTS THE FOLLOWING DECISION:**

Continued retention of the law firm Earl L. Neal & Associates, L.L.C..

**DESCRIPTION:** The law firm Earl L. Neal & Associates, L.L.C. has been engaged to provide varied legal services in support of the Capital Improvement Program. The firm provides assistance to the General Counsel and Chief Operating Officer in land acquisition matters and in obtaining various regulatory approvals required as part of the acquisition process. Currently, there are pending invoices from the firm in the amount of \$286,823.80. In addition, there are further anticipated fees and costs for the remainder of this fiscal year which are estimated at \$125,000. Additional authorization is requested in the amount of \$415,000 for these past and anticipated fees and costs. As future invoices are received, they will be reviewed by the General Counsel and, if satisfactory, processed for payment.

**LSC REVIEW:** LSC approval is not applicable to this report.

**AFFIRMATIVE ACTION STATUS:** The firm is an MBE.

**FINANCIAL:** Charge \$415,000.00 to  
Department of Operations - Professional Services:  
Budget Classification ..... 0944-477-7000-9316-5410

**GENERAL CONDITIONS:**

Inspector General - Each party to the agreement shall acknowledge that, in accordance with 105 ILCS 5/34-13.1, the Inspector General of the Chicago Board of Education has the authority to conduct certain investigations and that the Inspector General shall have access to all information and personnel necessary to conduct those investigations.

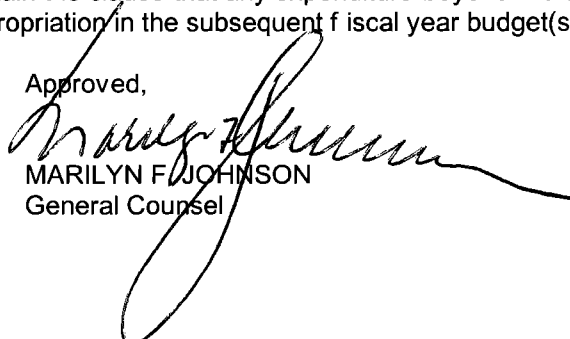
Conflicts - The agreement shall not be legally binding on the Board if entered into in violation of the provisions of 105 ILCS 5/34-21.3 which restricts the employment of, or the letting of contracts to, former Board Members during the one year period following expiration or other termination of their terms of office.

Indebtedness - The Board's Indebtedness Policy adopted July 26, 1995, (95-0726-EX3), as amended from time to time, is hereby incorporated into and made a part of the agreement.

Ethics - The Board's Ethics Code adopted September 27, 1995, (95-0927-RU3), as amended from time to time, is hereby incorporated into and made a part of the agreement.

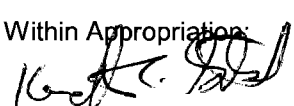
Contingent Liability - The agreement shall contain the clause that any expenditure beyond the current fiscal year is deemed a contingent liability, subject to appropriation in the subsequent fiscal year budget(s).

Approved,



MARILYN F. JOHNSON  
General Counsel

Within Appropriation:



KENNETH C. GOTSCH  
Chief Fiscal Officer