

Township Trustees of Schools

TOWNSHIP 38 NORTH, RANGE 12 EAST

www.lyonstto.net

BOARD OF SCHOOL TRUSTEES
Michael S. Thiessen, President
Michael Dickman, Trustee
Nicholas A. Kantas, Trustee

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Minutes of the Special Meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Lyons Township School Treasurer's Office March 31, 2021 – 5:30 P.M.

The Board of Township Trustees of Schools, Range 38 North, Range 12 East, Illinois (Lyons Township) have called a special meeting on March 31, 2021 at 5:30 P.M.

Pursuant to Governor Pritzker's Executive Order 2020-73, the special meeting will be a virtual meeting.

Microsoft Teams Virtual Meeting Information

[Click Here to Join Meeting](#)

To Join Meeting via Phone, Dial +1-872-810-3297,
and enter Conference ID: 655 379 199#

Mr. Michael Thiessen	<u>X</u>	_____
Mr. Michael Dickman	<u>X</u>	_____
Mr. Nicholas Kantas	<u>X</u>	_____

Staff Virtually Present

Mr. Kenneth T. Getty, Treasurer
Ms. Brigid Murphy, Director of Finance and Operations

Others Virtually Present

Mr. Ed Wong, TTO Attorney
Ms. Shakana Kirksey-Miller
Ms. Cynthia Schilski, League of Women Voters
Ms. Kathleen Graffam, League of Women Voters
Two Anonymous Virtual Guests

Call to Order

President Thiessen called the meeting to order at 5:35 P.M.

Public Comments – None

Review/Approval of Minutes

The following Open and Closed session meeting minutes were approved as presented:

Meeting Minute Date	Motion made by:	Motion 2nd By:	Ayes	Nays	Abstain
January 25, 2021 – TTO Open Meeting	Trustee Dickman	President Thiessen	Thiessen Dickman	None	Kantas
January 25, 2021 – TTO Closed Meeting	Trustee Dickman	President Thiessen	Thiessen Dickman	None	Kantas
February 22, 2021 – TTO Open Meeting	Trustee Kantas	President Thiessen	Thiessen Kantas	None	Dickman
February 22, 2021 – TTO Closed Meeting	Trustee Kantas	President Thiessen	Thiessen Kantas	None	Dickman

Treasurer’s Report

Treasurer Getty reported that TTO staff and their families remain healthy and vigilant during the ongoing pandemic, that they continue to meet the needs of member districts and are preparing fiscal year end. He also reported that the federal and state income tax deadlines have been extended to May 17, 2021. Treasurer Getty discussed the status of Cook County’s current tax collection and distribution cycle. The LTTO has received approximately \$13,500,000 less in property taxes as compared to last year, which is likely due to the COVID-19 Tax Relief Ordinance that pushed back the deadline for paying the first installment of 2020 Tax Year property taxes to May 3, 2021. Trustees were also briefed on the status of the ongoing bank account optimization project.

Review the Lyons Township Treasurer’s Financial Reports

Treasurer Getty and the Trustees reviewed the Lyons Township School Treasurer’s financial statements for February 2021.

March 31, 2021 Payables

Motion by Trustee Dickman to approve the March 31, 2021, payables in the amount \$25,377.85 as presented. **Seconded by Trustee Kantas.**

Roll Call: Ayes: Thiessen, Dickman, Kantas
Nays: None
Absent: None

Motion carried.

Review School Districts Official Records

Board of School Trustees discussion and review of the LTTO member district financial records for February 2021. It was noted that overall year-over-year fund balances have increased due to higher beginning fund balances, and that revenues and expenses have decreased.

NEW BUSINESS:

Approval of Surety Bond on behalf of LaGrange Highlands School District 106 (effective date: 02/13/2021)

Motion by Trustee Dickman to approve the LaGrange Highlands School District 106 Surety Bond in the amount of \$921,250.00 School District 106 is responsible for the cost of the Surety Bond. **Seconded by Trustee Kantas.**

Roll Call: Ayes: Thiessen, Dickman & Kantas,
Nays: None
Absent: None

Motion carried.

Review/Approval of Authorized Depositories

Motion by Trustee Dickman to approve adding Evergreen Bank Group to the LTTO’s list of Authorized Depositories as presented. **Seconded by Trustee Kantas.**

Roll Call: Ayes: Theissen, Dickman & Kantas,
Nays: None
Absent: None

Motion carried.

Proposed FY2020 Pro-Rata Billing

Treasurer Getty presented the FY2020 pro-rata billing to the Trustees. It was noted that the revenue numbers used for these calculations were verified against the information filed with the Illinois State Board of Education. It was also stated that Pro-Rata is billed in arrears and was calculated based on the Illinois School Code. President Thiessen commented that from 2015-2020 LTTO operating costs have decreased by more than 10%. **A Motion was made by Trustee Dickman** to approve the FY2020 Pro-Rata billing in the amount of \$1,776,151.85. **Seconded by Trustee Kantas.**

Roll Call: Ayes: Theissen, Dickman & Kantas,
Nays: None
Absent: None

Motion carried.

Lyons Township Trustees of Schools Audio Recording Policy

During the January 25, 2021 Board Meeting a taxpayer asked the LTTO to consider posting the audio recordings of Board meetings, in addition to the written meeting minutes. President Thiessen commented that more transparency is always a good thing and asked Attorney Wong to provide guidance on what other school or municipal entities are doing regarding Board meeting audio recordings, if the LTTO should draft a written policy for posting the recordings and provide retention/destruction recommendations.

OLD BUSINESS:

Matters related to the possible withdrawal of Lyons Township High School District 204 from the Township Trustees of Schools, Township 38 North, Range 12 East, County of Cook, State of Illinois at the conclusion of FY2021

At the request of the Board of Trustees, Treasurer Getty performed an analysis of the 1995-2020 interest allocations that were made to all member districts during that time to determine if the amounts that were distributed appeared to be calculated in compliance with the Illinois School Code. Treasurer Getty’s analysis indicates that using the calculations dictated by the School Code it appears that several districts were under allocated interest distributions and others were over allocated interest during the period reviewed. It was also noted that districts that appear to be under allocated interest would also not have benefited from compounding interest on those funds. Treasurer Getty told the Trustees that he needs additional time before presenting the analysis in its final form.

District 204 Litigation Update

The trial concluded March 12, 2021 and a case management conference is scheduled for May 7, 2021 at 9:00 A.M. The LTTO Board reiterated that they stand ready and willing to engage in settlement discussions at any time.

Motion to suspend the Regular Meeting for the purpose of entering Closed Session

Motion at 6:28pm by Trustee Dickman to enter closed session under:

- **Illinois Open Meetings Act, (5 ILCS 120/2 (c)(11))**, “Litigation, when an action against, affecting or on behalf of the particular public body has been filed and is pending before a court or administrative tribunal, or when the public body finds that an action is probable or imminent, in which case the basis for the finding shall be recorded and entered into the minutes of the closed meeting.”
- **Illinois Open Meetings Act, (5 ILCS 120/2 (c)(1))**, “Discussion on the appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance or dismissal of specific employees of the public body.”

Seconded by Trustee Kantas

Roll Call: Ayes: Thiessen, Dickman & Kantas
Nays: None
Absent: None

Motion carried.

Special Meeting reconvened following Closed Session

Motion by Trustee Dickman to resume the Special Meeting of March 31, 2021. **Seconded by President Kantas.** Closed session was adjourned at 6:38 PM.

Roll Call: Ayes: Thiessen, Dickman & Kantas
Nays: None
Absent: None

Motion carried.

Adjournment

Motion by Trustee Dickman to adjourn the Special Meeting of the Board of Trustees at 6:39 P.M. **Seconded by Trustee Kantas.**

Roll Call: Ayes: Thiessen, Dickman & Kantas
Nays: None
Absent: None

Motion carried.

Minutes approved by:

***Minutes have been approved at the 04/29/2021 Meeting and will be signed when the current COVID-19 precautions allow

President, Michael Thiessen

Trustee, Michael Dickman

Trustee, Nicholas A. Kantas

Date: 04/29/2021