

# Township Trustees of Schools

TOWNSHIP 38 NORTH, RANGE 12 EAST

www.lyonstto.net

BOARD OF SCHOOL TRUSTEES  
Michael S. Thiessen, President  
Nicholas A. Kantas, Trustee  
Shakana L. Kirksey-Miller, Trustee

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## *Minutes of the Special Meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Lyons Township School Treasurer's Office June 14, 2021 – 6:00 P.M.*

The Board of Township Trustees of Schools, Range 38 North, Range 12 East, Illinois (Lyons Township) have called a special meeting on June 14, 2021, at 6:00 P.M.

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

### **Microsoft Teams Virtual Meeting Information** To Join Meeting via Phone, Dial +1-872-810-3297, and enter Conference ID: 516 761 517#

Mr. Michael Thiessen	<u>X</u>	_____
Mr. Nicholas Kantas	<u>X</u>	_____
Ms. Shakana Kirksey-Miller	<u>X</u>	_____

#### **Staff Virtually Present**

Mr. Kenneth T. Getty, Treasurer

#### **Others Virtually Present**

Mr. Ed Wong, LTTO Attorney  
Mr. Dave Palzet, Superintendent, Pleasantdale School District #107  
Ms. Cynthia Schilsky, League of Women Voters  
Ms. Kathleen Graffam, League of Women Voters  
Mr. Jay Hoffman, Attorney  
Dr. Tim Kilrea, Superintendent, Lyons Township High School District #204  
Mr. Brian Stachacz, Business Manager, Lyons Township High School District #204  
Ms. Becky Walters  
Mr. Eric Stortz  
Anonymous Guest

#### **Call to Order**

President Thiessen called the meeting to order at 6:01 P.M.

#### **Pledge of Allegiance**

**Public Comments** - The following public comments were made:

1. Kathleen Graffam read a statement on behalf of the LaGrange Area League of Women voters: "The LaGrange Area League of Women Voters urge the Trustees of the Lyons Township School Treasurer's Office to accept the recent decision of the eight-year lawsuit with Lyons Township High School District #204 and not appeal. High School District #204

said it would not appeal. No more taxpayer dollars should be spent in this dispute. Thank you.”

2. Dr. Tim Kilrea, Superintendent, Lyons Township High School District #204: “Thank you very much Mr. Thiessen for the opportunity to address you this evening. My comments will be brief. My name is Tim Kilrea, I am the Superintendent of Lyons Township High School District #204, 100 S. Brainard, LaGrange, IL. As we all know, the judge has issued a ruling in the long-standing lawsuit that was initiated by the TTO against District 204. After receiving this ruling, you may be aware that I sent a widely distributed letter to your families, alumni and community members urging them to contact the Trustees and the Treasurer in efforts to help end this lawsuit and request that you not appeal this decision nor seek reconsideration. I am here to reaffirm this request to the Trustees. District 204 requests the following:
  - a. The TTO agrees to accept the judge’s decision without reconsideration or appeal.
  - b. The TTO retains and pays an independent audit firm acceptable to LT and a majority of the member districts to fully account for all unallocated investment income held at the TTO and the TTO claimed deficit.

We look forward to putting this lawsuit behind us and to work together on a fair and smooth separation from the TTO. Thank you for the opportunity to address you this evening.”

3. Eric Stortz, resident of LaGrange. “Thank you for the opportunity to address the Trustees. I am Eric Stortz, a resident of LaGrange for the past 20 years. Both of my kids went through District 105 and District 204. I also would call upon the TTO to not appeal the judge’s decision. As a taxpayer with kids and students in this community I don’t see value in government organizations conflicting with one another. So, I would call upon you as per my email last week, to not appeal this decision; let’s move forward and do what is in the best interest of our students rather than continuing to consume unnecessary legal fees. Thank you.”
4. Dr. Dave Palzet, Superintendent, Pleasantdale School District #107 stated that he had submitted questions to the Treasurer after the last board meeting and asked when he could expect answers to those questions. President Thiessen apologized for the delay and asked Dr. Palzet to resend his questions via email to all Trustees and the Treasurer.

President Thiessen thanked the public for their comments and for being involved in local government. He stated that as a resident and taxpayer of Lyons Township himself it is nice to see fellow interested parties.

### **Treasurer’s Report**

Treasurer Getty noted that June is a very busy month for the TTO will dozens of summer payrolls to be completed and processed. During a typical month the TTO averages between \$5 and \$10 million in transactions per week. However, due to summer payrolls during late May and June that amount can easily quadruple per week. He commended the staff for all that they have accomplished. In addition to payrolls processing, debt service payments for several districts are also due in June. The LTTO is also assisting member districts with rolling over general ledgers for FY22 and closing out the FY21. Treasurer Getty gave the Trustees and update on the health of LTTO staff and noted that the TTO staff is back into the office full time, with the exception of one Team member who is undergoing medical treatment.

**Review the Lyons Township Treasurer’s Financial Reports**

Treasurer Getty noted that the financial information contained in the Board packet was generated directly from the LTTO’s general ledger software. Board of School Trustees discussed and reviewed the May 2021 Lyons Township School Treasurer’s financial statements. Treasurer Getty stated that he anticipates the total FY21 LTTO expenses will be below budget, except for the litigation expenses.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

**Approval of Lyons Township School Treasurer’s Surety Bond - FY2022**

Treasurer Getty reviewed the Treasurer's surety bond for fiscal year 21-22 with the Board of Trustees. The bond is for \$15,000,000 and the annual premium is \$15,000. He also stated that if total fund balances decrease during FY22 the LTTO can request a reduction in the total amount of the bond and a pro-rata refund for the premium. **Motion by Trustee Kantas** to approve the renewal of the treasurer's bond for fiscal year 2021-22 in the amount of \$15,000. **Seconded by Trustee Kirksey-Miller.**

Roll Call: Ayes: Thiessen, Kantas & Kirksey-Miller  
Nays: None  
Absent: None

***Motion carried.***

**Approval of Cyber Liability Insurance Policy – FY2022**

The cyber liability insurance premium is \$2,580.00 premium for the FY2020-22. Treasurer Getty noted that the increase in premium is related to the significant increase in cyber-attacks in the past year. A motion to renew the cyber liability insurance policy and approve the premium amount was made by **Trustee Kirksey-Miller. Seconded by Trustee Kantas.**

Roll Call: Ayes: Thiessen, Kantas & Kirksey-Miller  
Nays: None  
Absent: None

***Motion carried.***

**Approval of LTTO Employee Compensation – FY2022**

**Motion by Trustee Kantas** to approve total FY22 compensation package of \$525,846.10 for TTO staff, excluding the Treasurer. **Seconded by Trustee Kirksey-Miller.**

Roll Call: Ayes: Thiessen, Kantas & Kirksey-Miller  
Nays: None  
Absent: None

***Motion Carried.***

**Review/Approval of Depositories**

**Motion by Trustee Kantas** to approve the Authorized Depositories as presented and adding Gold Cost Bank. **Seconded by President Thiessen.**

Roll Call: Ayes: Thiessen, Kantas, Kirksey-Miller  
Nays: None  
Absent: None

***Motion carried.***

**Approval of Payables List**

**Motion by Trustee Kirksey-Miller** to approve the April 29, 2021, payables in the amount of \$345,080.70 as presented. **Seconded by Trustee Kantas.**

Roll Call: Ayes: Thiessen, Kantas & Kirksey-Miller  
Nays: None  
Absent: None

*Motion carried.*

**OLD BUSINESS:**

**Pro-Rata Receivables - FY2020**

Treasurer Getty reported that FY2020 Pro-rata bills were sent to all member districts and Treasurer Getty noted that the LTTO has received payment in full from Districts 103, 104, West 40, 107, 108, and 109.

**Semi-Annual Review of Closed Session Minutes** – Deferred to the next TTO Board meeting.

**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**

It was confirmed that as of this meeting, the LTTO has not received formal notice from District #204 of its' intent to withdraw.

**Motion to suspend the Board Meeting for the purpose of entering Closed Session**

**Motion at 6:28 P.M. by Trustee Kirksey-Miller 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.”
- *Illinois Open Meetings Act, (5 ILCS 120/2(c)(21)*, “Discussion of minutes of meetings lawfully closed under this Act, whether for the purposes of approval by the body of the minutes or semi-annual review of the minutes as mandated by Section 2.06.”

**Seconded by Trustee Kantas**

Roll Call: Ayes: Theissen, Kantas & Kirksey-Miller  
Nays: None  
Absent: None

*Motion carried.*

**Special Meeting reconvened following Closed Session**

**Motion by Trustee Thiessen** to resume the Special Meeting of June 14, 2021. **Seconded by Trustee Kantas.** Closed session was adjourned at 7:45 PM.

Roll Call: Ayes: Thiessen, Kantas & Kirksey-Miller  
Nays: None  
Absent: None

*Motion carried.*

**Adjournment**

**Motion by Trustee Kirksey-Miller** to adjourn the Special Meeting of the Board of Trustees at 7:46 P.M. **Seconded by Trustee Kantas.**

Roll Call:       Ayes:           Thiessen, Kantas & Kirksey-Miller  
                  Nays:           None  
                  Absent:       None

*Motion carried.*

**Minutes approved by:**

\*\*\*Minutes have been approved at the 07/26/2021 Meeting and will be signed when the current COVID-19 precautions allow

\_\_\_\_\_  
**President, Michael Thiessen**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Trustee, Shakana Kirksey-Miller**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Trustee, Nicholas A. Kantas**

**Date:** 07/26/2021