



Louisiana Uniform Local Sales Tax Board

**Minutes of the Regular Meeting
Thursday, January 14, 2021 ~ 1:30 PM
Zoom Conference Call / LMA Building, 700 N. 10th St. Baton Rouge, LA**

MEMBERS & PROXIES PRESENT (P) / ABSENT (A):

Members:

Dr. Janet Pope, LA School Board Executive Director	__A__
Mike Ranatza, LA Sheriff's Association Executive Director	__A__
John Gallagher, LA Municipal Association Executive Director	__P__
Guy Cormier, Police Jury Association of Louisiana Executive Director	__A__
Amanda Granier, LA School Board Association Appointee	__P__
Shawn McManus, LA Sheriff's Association Appointee	__P__
Kressy Krennerich, LA Municipal Association Appointee - Vice Chairman	__P__
Jeffery LaGrange, Police Jury Association of Louisiana Appointee	__P__

Proxies:

Neshelle S. Nogess, LA School Board Association - Secretary	__P__
Gregory Ruppert, LA Sheriff's Association - Chairman	__P__
Karen Day White, LA Municipal Association (Attendance Only)	__P__
_____, Police Jury Association of Louisiana (Vacant)	

STAFF PRESENT:

J. Roger Bergeron, Executive Director
J.A. Cline

OTHERS PRESENT:

Rick Mekdessie
Andrew Kolb
Renee Roberie
Darlene Allen
Administrators participating via the Zoom Web Conferencing platform.

Each member of the Board received the following documents prior to the meeting:

1. 1/14/2021 Meeting Agenda
2. 12/17/2020 Meeting Minutes
3. 12/31/2020 Financial Statements
4. FY 2021 YTD Budget through 12/31/2020
5. Bill Payments Month Ending 12/31/2020
6. Notice of Intent Audit Protocols for Local Sales & Use Taxes
7. LULSTB Annual Ethics Report 2020
8. LULSTB Sexual Harassment Report 2020

Minutes of the Regular Meeting
Thursday, January 14, 2021 ~ 1:30 PM
Page 2

Roll Call

Chairman Gregory Ruppert called the meeting to order at 1:37PM. The secretary called the roll and a quorum (5 members / proxies or more) was established.

Adoption of the Agenda

ON MOTION OF Shawn McManus, SECONDED BY Gregory Ruppert, AND CARRIED, the Board voted to adopt the agenda of the meeting of the LA Uniform Local Sales Tax Board held Thursday, January 14, 2021.

Agenda was further amended to include the discussion / action on the funding of the Board of Tax Appeals Management Portal. ON MOTION OF Kressy Krennerich, SECONDED BY Gregory Ruppert, AND CARRIED, the Board voted unanimously to amend the agenda.

Approval of the Minutes of the LA Uniform Local Sales Tax Board

ON MOTION OF Amanda Granier, SECONDED BY Neshelle Nogess, AND CARRIED, the Board voted to approve the minutes of the meeting of the LA Uniform Local Sales Tax Board held Thursday, December 17, 2020.

Remote Seller Commission Update (Information Only)

Rene Roberie, Executive Director of the LA Remote Seller's Commission provided an update on the monthly distributions.

Board Member Requests (LULSTB Funding Subcommittee)

ON MOTION OF Amanda Granier, SECONDED BY Kressy Krennerich, AND CARRIED, the Board voted to create a working group to address possible fee structures for Parishes without a funding agreement with the Board.

Technology Report (Information Only)

Rick Mekdessie gave the technology report. The Lookup Tool search numbers were down for the month. A setting for reducing backend usage on the API connection was added to the portal. The address verifying service from Smarty Streets will begin on February 1, 2021. The Issue Tracker software is expected to go live on February 1, 2021.

Executive Director's Report

Roger Bergeron gave the Executive Director's Report.

ON MOTION OF Amanda Granier, SECONDED BY Kressy Krennerich, AND CARRIED, the Board voted to defer the discussion on proposed regulation for audit protocols.

ON MOTION OF Kressy Krennerich, SECONDED BY Gregory Ruppert, AND CARRIED, the Board voted to revise the Ethics policy to require a report at the end of each calendar year instead of each fiscal year.

Office space at the Municipal Police Employees Retirement building is being secured. The anticipated move-in date is April 1, 2021.

Legislative measures will be needed to authorize the Board to charge API fees to private companies.

Financial Reports

ON MOTION OF Gregory Ruppert, SECONDED BY Jeff LeGrange, AND CARRIED, the Board voted to accept the mid-year budget adjustments as presented.

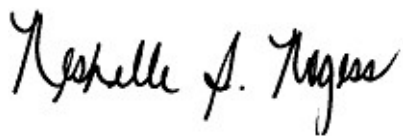
Other Business (Board of Tax Appeals Management Portal)

Vice Chairman Kressy Krennerich presented to the results of the Louisiana Association of Tax Administrators survey. Local Administrators responded favorably that the funding should be an expense of the LULSTB. It was also reported that the Louisiana Department of Revenue would pay its 40% directly to the Board of Tax Appeals.

ON MOTION OF Gregory Ruppert, SECONDED BY Shawn McManus, AND CARRIED, the Board voted to defer any action on the BTA's request for funding assistance on an electronic filing and case management portal.

Adjournment

ON MOTION OF Amanda Granier, SECONDED BY Gregory Ruppert, AND CARRIED, the Board voted to adjourn at 3:38 PM.



Recording Secretary