



## *Mille Lacs Band of Ojibwe Indians*

*Executive Branch of Tribal Government  
Office of the Chief Executive*

*Hand-delivered and via email*

April 17, 2026

Sheldon Boyd, Speaker of the Assembly  
Carolyn Beaulieu, District I Representative  
Wendy Merrill, District II Representative  
Harry Davis, District III Representative

Re: Corporate Board Nominations

Dear Honorable Members of the Band Assembly:

Aaniin. As Chief Executive, I am responsible to “appoint wherever authorized by Band Statute, executive officers, judges, heads of commissions, boards or authorities, legal and financial counsel and to make appointments to fill any vacancy in any office as authorized by Band Statute and subject to confirmation by the Band Assembly.” 4 MLBS § 6. These positions include the five members of the Corporate Board who “shall be nominated by the Chief Executive and ratified by the Band Assembly.” 16 MLBS § 103.

I am aware that the Band Assembly is currently pursuing comprehensive amendments to Title 16 (Corporations). But that effort does not erase my obligation to continue nominating members to the Corporate Board. To that end, enclosed are nomination letters for three Band members to fill the Board’s vacant positions. These nominees are Paul Sam as the District I nominee, Adrienne Benjamin as the District II nominee, and Daniel Boyd as the At-Large nominee.

In the spirit of cooperation, I hope that the Band Assembly will consider these nominations even while working toward change at Mille Lacs Corporate Ventures. Since I share the Band Assembly’s desire for a new system of corporate governance, I am willing to attend any workshops the Band Assembly schedules related to Title 16 revisions.

Miigwech,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Virgil Wind", is written over a horizontal line.

Virgil Wind  
Chief Executive

**Letter from Chief Executive Virgil Wind to Band Assembly**

**Re: Corporate Board Nominations**

**April 17, 2026**

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CC:

Caleb Dogeagle, Solicitor General

Jared Miller, Legislative Counsel

Erin Anderson, Legislative Staff Attorney

Reen Reinhardt, Revisor of Statutes

Danielle Smith, Parliamentarian / Clerk of the Assembly

Mel Towle, Commissioner of Finance

Enclosures:

1. Adrienne Benjamin Nomination Packet
2. Daniel Boyd Nomination Packet
3. Paul Sam Nomination Packet