



Mille Lacs Band of Ojibwe Indians
Legislative Branch of Tribal Government

Weekly Review: April 28-May 2, 2025

Workshop

April 29, 2025

Legal staff facilitated a workshop for the elected officials and staff regarding the Holland & Knight meeting, Resolution Asserting the Band's Aquatic Rights, Resolution Authorizing Police to Acquire Department of Defense (DOD) Surplus Equipment, and community center policies.

Weekly Sync Meeting

April 29, 2025

Legislative staff facilitated a weekly sync meeting with elected officials and staff to review the upcoming Band Assembly agenda. The meeting included discussion on bills to work on, the workshop schedule, workshop projects, and District Representative initiatives.

Band Assembly Meeting

April 30, 2025

The Speaker of the Assembly convened a meeting of the Band Assembly. The District Representatives amended and approved the agenda.

The District Representatives approved Band Assembly Bill 21-03-22-25 (A Bill Authorizing a Supplemental Appropriation for the purpose of authorizing expenditures and budget/payroll revision(s)/transfer(s) for the Executive and Legislative branches for the Fiscal Year ending September 30, 2024 and September 30, 2025).

The District Representatives approved Resolution 21-03-27-25 (A Resolution approving the continuance of Mille Lacs Corporate Ventures, Non-Gaming, and Gaming Fiscal operations until May 31, 2025).

The District Representatives approved Resolution 21-03-28-25 (A Resolution approving a Joint Powers agreement between the Mille Lacs Band Tribal Police and the State of Minnesota for overtime reimbursement for illicit activities relating to distribution of methamphetamine and methamphetamine-related overdose fatalities).

The District Representatives approved Resolution 21-03-29-25 (A Resolution approving the Lakes Area Drug Investigation Division Joint Powers agreement on behalf of the Band's Police Department).

The District Representatives approved Resolution 21-03-30-25 (A Resolution concurring with the Chief Executive asserting the Band's reserved rights to aquatic and aquatic-dependent resources in Wisconsin).

The District Representatives approved Resolution 21-03-31-25 (A Resolution authorizing the Mille Lacs Tribal Police Department to obtain Department of Defense surplus equipment.

The District Representatives approved Hardship D2-01-04-25.

The District Representatives approved Hardship D2-02-04-25.

The District Representatives approved Hardship D3-01-04-25.

The District Representatives approved Hardship D3-02-04-25.

The District Representatives approved Hardship D3-03-04-25.

Messages from the Chief Executive:

Chief Executive Virgil Wind was not present.

Messages from the Representatives:

District I Representative Carolyn Beaulieu shared reminder for craft and bake sale over at the senior living here in District I on Friday, May 2, 2025; also have crafts and lunch if you have time stop on over there. She shared there is a fundraiser starting at 3:00 p.m. today over at the Grand Market this is for a good cause for one of our band members fighting cancer; if you are available in District I to go over and support that fundraiser please do so.

District II Representative Wendy Merrill shared Miigwech to everybody that came out to the Chiminising Youth pow wow on Sunday, at the beginning of the day we had 140 dancers with a little more after. She shared it was a great turn out; moving forward we'll have the location at the Isle School from now on. Miigwech.

District III Representative Harry Davis had no message.

Messages from the Secretary-Treasurer:

Secretary-Treasurer Sheldon Boyd shared that he would like to explain that this is the last meeting in the session of Band Assembly. He shared there are four sessions for every two years and those sessions begin every year on the second Tuesday of the calendar year and end April 30th; that's the first session, the second session begins the second Tuesday of July and now ends September 30th of that year. Those are the two sessions that's the structure per the stature of the legislature here and a number of years ago by legislative order; previous when we would come in the agendas would have old business that would continue and the agendas would have old business that spanned a calendar year and the sessions changed in name only, so with the staff getting together we gave it structure and that in the last day of the session all the old business would automatically fall off; and so while we're out of session we will hold Band Assembly as needed and there's no old business and that way we accommodate the needs of the Executive Branch. And it serves two other purposes; first is to give the Representatives time to be Representatives between those sessions and engage in their communities, and the second piece is in a roundabout way is to account for a change in power in other words if the position changes for the Representatives then potentially old business from a previous Representative couldn't follow the agenda for the new Representative, so that would encourage individual Representatives to notify the Representatives that they have two sessions within each year to get business done; bills etcetera. And then that time falls off on April 30th and if there is a new Representative then that person doesn't inherit that old business and has the option on taking it up again or starting their new agenda. Changes in power; the agenda and keeping old business off the agenda kind of a simple reason and giving the reps time between April 30th and the second Tuesday in July. One more comment previously the second session went from the second Tuesday in July to

October 30th, but the staff on hand decided to change that to September 30th to stay with the accounting year, the physical year of the band and so that's why they shortened that up another month and so we're closing the third session today, this is the last meeting of the third session, we will be out of session until the second Tuesday of July. But as the needs of the Executive Branch; as they provide material to the Clerk of the Assembly the Assembly will certainly accommodate those needs in the Executive Branch throughout these next couple months.

Joint Session of the Band Assembly Meeting

April 30, 2025

The Speaker of the Joint Session of the Assembly convened a meeting of the Band Assembly. The Joint Session of the Assembly approved the agenda.

Joint Session of the Assembly approved Resolution 21-03-04-25 (A Resolution approving the enrollments into the Non-Removable Mille Lacs Band of Ojibwe for those who meet the ¼ degree requirement of the Minnesota Chippewa Tribe).

Joint Session of the Assembly tabled Resolution 21-03-05-25 (A Resolution denying the enrollments into the Non-Removable Mille Lacs Band of Ojibwe for those who do not meet the ¼ degree requirement of the Minnesota Chippewa Tribe).

Joint Session of the Assembly approved Resolution 21-03-06-25 (A Resolution denying the enrollments into the Non-Removable Mille Lacs Band of Ojibwe for applicants who were not born to an enrolled Mille Lacs Band Member).

In other business - Mille Lacs Band Delegates-Update to the Joint Session prior to TEC meeting.

Joint Session of the Band Assembly Meeting

May 2, 2025

The Speaker of the Joint Session of the Assembly convened a meeting of the Band Assembly. The Joint Session of the Assembly approved the agenda.

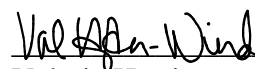
Joint Session of the Assembly took from the table and approved Resolution 21-03-05-25 (A Resolution denying the enrollments into the Non-Removable Mille Lacs Band of Ojibwe for those who do not meet the ¼ degree requirement of the Minnesota Chippewa Tribe).

Elected Officials Meeting

May 2, 2025

The Elected Officials, legislative staff, Solicitor General, Hanna Valento Legal and Policy Council, and Kiana Morrison, Research and Policy Analyst held a first meeting to be held bi-weekly to discuss various topics needed for the legislative and executive branch.

The next Special Band Assembly meeting is not scheduled at this time. Regular Session ended April 30, 2025.



Valerie Harrington-Wind
Chief Communications Officer