



Mille Lacs Band of Ojibwe Indians
Legislative Branch of Tribal Government

Weekly Review: April 24-28, 2023

Weekly Sync Meeting

April 26, 2023

Legislative staff facilitated a Weekly Sync Meeting with elected officials to review the upcoming Band Assembly agenda items. The review included discussion regarding the last regular meeting, Special Session starts April 27; burial insurance program; the workshop schedule; and District Representative initiatives.

Band Assembly Meeting

April 26, 2023

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

The District Representatives amended and approved the minutes from the Band Assembly meeting dated April 19, 2023.

Band Assembly conducted a confirmation hearing for Shane Dunn, nominee for the Corporate Board of Directors.

The District Representatives conducted a confirmation hearing for Caleb Dogeagle to serve a subsequent term as the Solicitor General for the next term ending April 30, 2027.

The District Representatives took from the table and approved nomination from Chief Executive Benjamin for Paul Sam to serve on the Corporate Board, District 1 Position. Term ends March 31, 2026.

The District Representatives took from the table and denied Special Revenue Resolution 20-03-02-23: A Special Revenue Resolution to Adopt a New Burial Assistance Program.

The District Representatives approved Band Assembly Bill 20-03-27-23 (A Bill amending Title 15, Chapter 4 of the Mille Lacs Band Statutes (“MLBS”), making comprehensive reforms to the Tribal Employment Rights Office statute).

The District Representatives tabled Band Assembly Bill 20-03-28-23 (A Bill repealing Title 15, Chapter 1 of the Mille Lacs Band Statutes (“MLBS”), making comprehensive reforms to the Gaming Regulatory Act).

The District Representatives amended and approved Band Assembly Bill 20-03-29-23 (A Bill Authorizing a Supplemental Appropriation for the purpose of authorizing expenditures for the Executive Branch for the Fiscal Year ending September 30, 2023).

The District Representatives approved Band Assembly Bill 20-03-30-23 (A Bill Authorizing a Supplemental Appropriation for the purpose of authorizing expenditures and budget transfer(s)/revision(s) for the Legislative Branch for the Fiscal Year ending September 30, 2023).

The District Representatives tabled, then took from the table and approved Resolution 20-03-21-23 (A Resolution Approving a Submission of a Lease Proposal Between Aanjibimaadizing as Lessor and the U.S. Government, Department of the Interior as Lessee Pursuant to Section 105(l) of Public Law 93-638).

The District Representatives approved a contract with R&R Landscaping and Construction to provide materials and labor for an emergency bathroom rehab at a private elder home in District I.

The District Representatives approved a contract with Huot Construction & Services, Inc. to provide materials and labor for a private elder renovation I District I.

The District Representatives approved a contract with Norstan Communications, Inc. to provide engineering, implementation, project management, training and installation of Wi-Fi points at Nay Ah Shing Schools to include Pine Grove.

The District Representatives tabled a contract addendum with Porteges Health to change the budget code only to not be in a negative while waiting for the Department of Health approval to approve the grant funding for contracting. Once approved, there will be a JV of any applicable expenses to the Mental Health Block Grant Supplemental budget line.

The District Representatives approved a contract addendum with Rainstorm for the removal of ice dams at the assisted living units. The increase due to roof conditions worse than originally anticipated.

The District Representatives approved a contract with Galliard Capital Management, LLC. to manage the Band's Long-Term Savings and Minor Trust Account.

The District Representatives tabled a nomination from Chief Executive Benjamin for Caleb Dogeagle to serve a subsequent term as the Solicitor General for the next term ending April 30, 2027.

The District Representatives approved Band Assembly Bill 20-03-31-23 (A Bill amending Chapter 2 of Title 22 to establish a burial assistance program that is to be administered by the Commissioner of Finance).

In the "Messages from the Representatives" portion of the agenda, District I Representative Virgil Wind opened with District I community spring clean-up is April 21st and ends Friday, April 28 at noon. Reminder to District I community that this is an opportunity to get rid of items in your yard or garage and utilize services, shout to community development for orchestrating. All items need to be brought to roll off dumpsters at the transfer station on timber trails road. There is a phone number for elders to call in and public works department is working through that. Representative Wind stated in fun news this year's spring fun run will take place tomorrow at Nay ah Shing Aabinoojiyag at 1:30 p.m. let's cheer our kids on. Representative Wind stated Office of Solicitor General (OSG) and Commissioner of Finance positions, he is looking for input from the community as input for or against, he would like to have conversations and when he casts the vote he's representing the community from which he is elected.

Representative Wind stated Tribal Employment Rights Office (TERO) an amendment to the statute was passed, this has been years in the making. Representative Wind stated there are good changes that will aid the TERO department in becoming a stronger resource to our band members ensuring they have better representation, better training to help develop them. Representative Wind stated a huge shout to the TERO staff, department, commission, and other representatives thank you, a big piece of legislation hope we can get it passed, really do appreciate the hard work going into that. Representative Wind stated yesterday we did have a search in the DI community and thanked Mille Lacs Tribal Police Department, Mille Lacs County Search & Rescue, Solicitor General Dogeagle for helping with that, Representative Merrill was there, Chief Executive Benjamin and Sam Moose for allowing Mille Lacs Band government employees to use community service hours, we had 80-85 people in different groups, there is a beauty and benefit of coming together as a family as the community we are. Condolences to the Sam family and prayers for them and the group that found our dear friend Dylan, within the Band hope we can find the support they need, whether its spiritual or mental health. Thank you DI office staff and Commissioner Anderson with staff there after we found him. He and Representative Merrill will be attending the Urban community meeting tomorrow Thursday, April 27, 2023 5:30 p.m. he has some time slots available to speak with him reach out to Darla Roache (320)362-0793 otherwise he will be at the meeting. Representative Wind stated we will be having our 3rd Annual Ziigwan round dance Sunday, April 30, 2023 2-7p.m. drum honorariums for first 20 registered singers, hang drum contest, vendors welcome, meal served, open to public, number of special and a lot of great invited MLB singers, have any questions reach out to him (320)630-1428 or vendors reach out to Nick Cash (320)630-33332. Representative Wind closed his comments with although it was unorthodox with the special revenue resolution and that conversation, a lot of that came from the community with: “What do we do?” “How do we support?” one of the things we have done is worked hand and hand with our families during that toughest time and this becomes that tool to offer more support for families, again thank you to the representatives, for your work Commissioner Towle, and everybody that made this a possibility hopefully we can put that into place and get that going, appreciate the disagreements along the way.

District II Representative Wendy Merrill opened with Miigwech to everybody that came out to our pow wow on Sunday, she stated it was a wonderful event with compliments for having it on a Sunday to not interfere with ceremonies. Representative Merrill stated we had 138 dancers and between 250-300 attendees and Miigwech to everyone involved. Representative Merrill closed her comments with tomorrow we have our Urban meeting she will be attending.

District III Representative Harry Davis opened with a comment on the search District I Representative Virgil Wind yesterday being persistent as he is a real asset to your district and he compliments Representative Wind on that and Representative Merrill for helping.

Representative Davis closed his comments with our District III community meeting will be tomorrow at Grand Casino Hinckley at 5:30 p.m. with Commissioner of Health & Human Services and one other.

Workshop

April 27, 2023

The elected officials and staff attended the Tribal Executive subcommittee meetings.

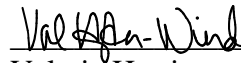
Legal staff facilitated a workshop for the elected officials, staff, Commissioner of Finance, and Commissioner of Corporate Ventures regarding Mille Lacs Corporate Ventures budgets review.

Workshop

April 28, 2023

Band Holiday and the elected officials and staff attended the Tribal Executive Regular meeting.

The next Band Assembly meeting is currently scheduled for Monday, May 1, 2023 at 10:00 a.m.



Valerie Harrington-Wind
Chief Communications Officer