



Mille Lacs Band of Ojibwe Indians
Legislative Branch of Tribal Government

Band Assembly Weekly Update: Week of October 4-8, 2021

Tuesday, October 5, 2021: Legislative hosted a Pre-Band Assembly meeting to discuss the agenda items. **Approval of Minutes:** September 29, 2021. **Reports and Presentations:** Formal Public Hearing – Title 3 Legislation. **Unfinished Business:** Nomination: Housing Board: Percy Benjamin, Kelly Miller, Tony Pike (pick 2 names), Band Assembly Bills for MLCV, Non-Gaming, and Gaming FY2022 Budget, and Resolutions for D3 Land Leases. **New Business:** Band Assembly Bill 19-04-01-22 (D1): Appropriation bill stemming from two sets of apb mtgs, Contracts (HHS): Todd Smith, Service Master, and St. Cloud Refrigeration, Contracts (CMD): Rogers Plumbing (x2), Degerstrom & Sons, R&R Landscaping, Wex Companies dba Septic Check, Many Rivers West, and Leach Electric, Inc., Contracts (DOJ): Holland & Knight (x3), Contract (CEO): Joshua Kanassataga, Contracts (Admin): Holland & Knight, The Rotunda Group, Lockridge, Grindal, Nauen (x2), Red Circle, DeLaForest Consulting, KAGR, and Tribal Consulting Services, Provider Agreement (HHS): Peggy Frisch, NP-C, and Contract (OMB): Brady, Martz and Associates for FY2021 Audit. **Other:** None. There was discussion, comments and questions on each item. Discussed various items. Work Session schedule. Master Projects List review. Representatives lastly held open discussion of their legislative agendas, ideas and requests.

Wednesday, October 6, 2021: Band Assembly occurred in Band Assembly Chambers and through conference call and zoom.

- **Call to Order:** Meeting was called to order.
- **Roll Call:** Roll call was completed all Representatives present.
District I Representative, Virgil Wind
District II Representative, Marvin Bruneau
District III Representative, Wallace St. John Sr.
- **Approval of Agenda:** Agenda was amended and approved.
- **Approval of Minutes:**
- a) **Band Assembly Record:** September 29, 2021. Record was approved.
- **Reports and Presentations:**

10:30 a.m. Formal Public Hearing
Re: Title 3 Legislation
- **Unfinished Business:**
- a) **Nomination:** Per MLBS 12 Chapter 4 § 306 (a) (10) “The Chief Executive and the Speaker of the Assembly shall each select two (2) persons from the at Large area and the Band Assembly shall confirm two (2) of the four (4) for appointment to the Housing Board.” The Chief Executive has nominated _____ and Percy Benjamin. The Speaker of the Assembly has nominated Kelly Miller and Tony Pike. **Tabled 09/29/21**

- b) **Band Assembly Bill 19-04-71-21:** A Bill for Mille Lacs Corporate Ventures (“Corporate Ventures”), a corporate body politic of the Mille Lacs Band of Ojibwe (“Band”), for the purpose of appropriating funds and authorizing expenditures to Corporate Ventures for its operations, and capital and economic development projects for the period beginning October 1, 2021 and ending September 30, 2022. **Tabled 09/29/21**
Sponsor: District I Representative

- c) **Band Assembly Bill 19-04-72-21:** A Bill for Mille Lacs Corporate Ventures (“Corporate Ventures”), a corporate body politic of the Mille Lacs Band of Ojibwe (“Band”), for the purpose of appropriating funds and authorizing expenditures to Corporate Ventures for the operations, and capital and economic development projects of any current or future non-gaming business managed or operated directly or indirectly by Corporate Ventures (“Non-Gaming Businesses”) for the period beginning October 1, 2021 and ending September 30, 2022. **Tabled 09/29/21**
Sponsor: District I Representative

- d) **Band Assembly Bill 19-04-73-21:** A Bill for Mille Lacs Corporate Ventures (“Corporate Ventures”), a corporate body politic of the Mille Lacs Band (“Band”), for the purpose of appropriating funds and authorizing expenditures to Corporate Ventures for the operations, and capital and economic development projects of Grand Casino Hinckley and Grand Casino Mille Lacs (“Casinos”) for the period beginning October 1, 2021 and ending September 30, 2022. **Tabled 09/29/21**
Sponsor: District II Representative

- e) **Resolution 19-04-85-21:** A Resolution Authorizing a Land Lease, in District 3, for Residential Purposes to the Mille Lacs Band Housing Department Tract 410T000222 **Tabled 09/29/21.** Resolution was taken from the table, amended, and approved with a waiver of the formal reading.

- f) **Resolution 19-04-86-21:** A Resolution Authorizing a Land Lease, in District 3, for Residential Purposes to the Mille Lacs Band Housing Department Tract 410TF000115 **Tabled 09/29/21.** Resolution was taken from the table and approved with a waiver of the formal reading.

- **New Business:**
 - a) **Band Assembly Bill 19-04-01-22:** A Bill of Supplemental Appropriation for the purpose of authorizing expenditures and budget revisions/transfers for the Executive Branch for the Fiscal Year ending September 30, 2021. This bill has been drafted based on formal documents submitted by the Administration Policy Board on September 24th and September 27th, 2021. **Sponsor: District I Representative.** Bill was introduced, read, and approved.

 - b) ~~**Contract (HHS):** A contract for Todd L. Smith to provide traditional medicine services to Mille Lacs Band members two days per week, twice a month. The contract includes mileage and lodging. Contract end date is September 30, 2022. Contract was removed from agenda.~~

- c) **Contract (HHS):** A contract for ServiceMaster to provide cleaning of the Health & Human Services building. Contract end date is September 30, 2022. Contract was approved.
- d) **Contract (HHS):** A contract for St. Cloud Refrigeration to provide seasonal preventative maintenance, HVAC, equipment repairs and emergency demand service calls. Contract end date is September 30, 2022. Contract was approved.
- e) **Contract (CMD):** A contract for Rogers Plumbing, Heating & Electrical to provide HVAC services for projects for residential sites in D1, D2, D2a, and D3. Contract end date is September 30, 2022. Contract was approved.
- f) **Contract (CMD):** A contract for Rogers Plumbing, Heating & Electrical to provide plumbing services for projects for residential sites in D1, D2, D2a, and D3. Contract end date is September 30, 2022. Contract was approved.
- g) **Contract (CMD):** A contract for Degerstrom & Sons Construction, LLC to provide materials and labor for various residential roofing project sites in D3 and the Urban and surrounding areas. Contract end date is September 30, 2022. Contract was approved.
- h) **Contract (CMD):** A contract for R & R Landscaping and Construction to provide materials and labor for various residential roofing project sites in D1, D2, D2a and surrounding areas. Contract end date is September 30, 2022. Contract was approved.
- i) **Contract (CMD):** A contract for Wex Companies, Inc. dba Septic Check to provide septic pumping and jetting for residential sites in D1 and D2a. Contract end date is September 30, 2022. Contract was approved.
- j) **Contract (CMD):** A contract for Many Rivers West, L.P. to lease 8 apartments to the Mille Lacs Band and its members in the Urban area. Contract end date is September 30, 2022. Contract was approved.
- k) **Contract (CMD):** A contract for Leach Electric, Inc. to provide electrical services for small projects at residential sites in D1, D2, D2a, and D3. Contract end date is September 30, 2022. Contract was approved.
- l) **Contract (DOJ):** A contract for Holland & Knight, LLP to provide legal support, counsel and representation at the direction of the Commissioner of Finance on measures taken to comply with the implementation, reporting and audit requirement under the Federal CARES Act and ARPA. Contract end date is September 30, 2022. Contract was approved.
- m) **Contract (DOJ):** A contract for Holland & Knight, LLP to provide legal support, counsel and representation at the direction of the Commissioner of Finance on issues related to the revenue allocation plan, minor's trust and general welfare exclusion ordinance. Contract end date is September 30, 2022. Contract was approved.

- n) **Contract (DOJ):** A contract for Holland & Knight, LLP to provide legal support and counsel at the direction of the Solicitor General on service and program issues that arise from time to time specifically Housing Rent-to-Own and 477 Language Instruction. Contract end date is September 30, 2022. Contract was approved.
- o) **Contract (Executive):** A contract for Joshua J Kanassatega dba Institute for Development of Culturally Focused Governance Policies for Indigenous Peoples to provide professional consulting, educational and other related services via video conferences or in-person as requested by the Chief Executive. Contract end date is March 31, 2022. Contract was approved.
- p) **Contract (Admin):** A contract for Holland & Knight, LLP to provide professional services requiring a high level of expertise to address a range of sensitive issues at the Federal Government level for the Band. Contract end date is September 30, 2022. Contract was approved.
- q) ~~**Contract (Admin):** A contract for The Rotunda Group to provide professional services including strategic government affairs counsel and direct lobbying services at the State Government level for the Band. Contract end date is September 30, 2022. Contract was removed from the agenda.~~
- r) **Contract (Admin):** A contract for Lockridge, Grindal, Nauen to provide professional lobbying services requiring a high level of expertise to address a range of sensitive issues at the State Government level for the Band. Contract end date is September 30, 2022. Contract was approved.
- s) **Contract (Admin):** A contract for Lockridge, Grindal, Nauen to provide professional services managing Political Action Committee (“PAC”) for the Band. Contract end date is September 30, 2022. Contract was approved.
- t) **Contract (Admin):** A contract for Red Circle Agency to provide internal communications documents development, website design and maintenance and other public relations services. Contract end date is September 30, 2022. Contract was approved.
- u) **Contract (Admin):** A contract for DeLaForest Consulting, LLC to provide professional services including strategic government affairs counsel and direct lobbying services for the Band. Contract end date is September 30, 2022. Contract was approved.
- v) ~~**Contract (Admin):** A contract for KAGR Jensen, Inc. to provide public relations and crisis media management to the Band. Contract end date is September 30, 2022. Contract was removed from the agenda.~~
- w) **Contract (Admin):** A contract for Tribal Consulting Services, LLC, to provide operational support for the Tribal Child Support Enforcement Office. Contract end date is December 31, 2021. Contract was approved.

- x) **Provider Agreement (HHS):** An agreement between the Band's Health & Human Services and Peggy Frisch, NP-C to provide family nurse practitioner services for Band, at the Ne Ia Shing Clinic, as determined by the Commissioner of Health & Human Services. Agreement was approved.
- y) **Contract (OMB):** A contract for Brady, Martz & Associates to provide professional audits of the basic financial statements for the Band for FY2021. Contract end date is June 30, 2022. Contract was approved.
- **Other Business: None.**
- **Messages from the Chief Executive-** Not present
- **Messages from the Representatives-District I Representative-** Thank You Administration and everybody all the volunteers we had roughly with community members and everybody last week at our event on Wednesday that took place of a community meeting, we had 35+ volunteers that came out and we had over 350 people that attended at some point of the event. We had a lot of happy kids and a lot of happy constituents out there so thank you to the community for coming out, thank you to the volunteers, and the vendors that helped out. Very awesome night a lot of fun. District I office is currently doing a drawing for fantasy bingo tickets the drawing will close tomorrow at 3:00 p.m. Nick Cash can be reached at (218)537-6025 to enter your name in that drawing. **II Representative**- Nothing new at this time. Miigwech. **District III Representative**- It was brought to my attention that there is some activity out in Lake Lena area, I don't know what branch of police force is there whether it's State Patrol or County or other, but it's an ongoing investigation. Sure it stems from something last week that was happening out there, can't comment on it as everybody should know that any ongoing investigations can't be commented on due to the lack of facts. Please try to refrain from drawing your own conclusion or throwing rumors out there until we find out in its finality what's happening out there. I am sure there is cause for alarm, this is not something we see every year, it's something that's rare, nonetheless it's happening. Back off and give it some room let it transpire, let them get their job done and we will find out in the end what's really going on, just be aware, keep aware where your family is at, your children are at. Where they're performing their duties is kind of close to dangerous areas. Beware as all. Constituents that are not on here (will not hear) this message, those of you that are kind of just want to go on social media to say something on the same lines of what I'm saying is don't draw conclusions, don't put rumors. I heard lots of things in the past week, some are preposterous, some are close to the truth but still can't comment. With that be careful. Mi'iw.
- **Messages from the Secretary-Treasurer-** Recognize again to work off Title 3 public hearing process that finished here and the work of the staff overall here they're giving structure to this Three Branch form of Government our Legislature a lot of those things were concepts long time ago and through the years and as I mentioned before they're best practices. But this group of people that we have together have given it structure from everything from the bills with the numbered lines on there that wasn't there before, to the format for the bills for the actual appropriation bills they streamlined that, to now going sessions of the assembly structure where the numbering system will have more structure to them, this 1 – 4 sessions during the assemblies. I would like to congratulate the staff, a lot of work done in these last three years. Thanks again.

Thursday, October 7, 2021:

Legislative held a work session for the Band Assembly members, Legal Counsel, Revisor of Statutes, Staff Attorney, and Legislative Staff.

Work Session Agenda: Workshop: Bill — Title 2 – Removal and Exclusion ([review public comments](#))
Joe Jensen and Workshop: Bill – Revenue Ordinance Adam Candler

Staff Attorney presented on Removal and Exclusion with a review of the public comments. There was discussion, questions, and comments on each comment.

Legal Counsel presented on Revenue Ordinance draft bill. Review of the draft bill comments on each section. There was discussion, questions, and comments.