



Mille Lacs Band of Ojibwe Indians
Legislative Branch of Tribal Government

Band Assembly Weekly Update: Week of February 7-11, 2022

Monday, February 7, 2022: Legislative held a work session for the Band Assembly Members, and Legislative Staff.

Work Session Agenda: Workshop: Healing-to-Wellness Draft Bill – Adam Candler

Legal Counsel presented a review of the Healing-to-Wellness red line draft version definitions and comments with acceptance or denial of revisions.

Tuesday, February 8, 2022: Legislative held a work session for the Band Assembly Members, and Legislative Staff.

Work Session Agenda: Workshop: Healing-to-Wellness Draft Bill – Adam Candler

Legal Counsel presented a second review of the Healing-to-Wellness red line draft version definitions and comments with acceptance or denial of revisions. Will move forward with second public comment notice.

Legislative hosted a Pre-Band Assembly meeting to discuss the agenda items. **Approval of Minutes:**

February 2, 2022. **Reports and Presentations:** Katherine Davis Re: Confirmation Hearing “I.I.C.” nomination and MLA Re: Report/Update/Donation Request. **Unfinished Business:** None.

New Business: BAB 20-01-26-22: MLCV Red Willow Estates – ARPA Request

BAB 20-01-27-22: Bill for apb minutes 01.27.22, Contract (HHS): Pine County Public Health, Contract (HHS): Mille Lacs County Public Health, Contract (CMD): Hy-Tec Construction – Tribal Court Renovation/Remodel Project, Contract (CMD): Negen & Associates – BIA Salt sheds in D2 and Hinckley, Nomination: Rhonda Sam – DI Associate Justice position, Nomination: Katherine Davis – IIC nominee, and Nomination: Bobby Anderson and Richard Hill – Housing Board Elder Position.

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, February 9, 2022: 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:** February 2, 2022. Record was amended and approved.

- **Reports and Presentations:**

- a) 10:15 a.m. Katherine Davis, Nominee
Re: Institutional Investment Committee - Confirmation Hearing. Confirmation hearing was completed with a summary and opening statement of the Nominee followed by questions and comments.
- b) 10:45 a.m. Minisinaakwaang Leadership Academy
Re: Report/Update/Donation Request. Michaa Aubid presented an explanation of culture of Minisinaakwaang and an update of the report with questions and comments.

- **Unfinished Business: None.**

- **New Business:**

- a) **Band Assembly Bill 20-01-26-22:** A Bill of Supplemental Appropriation for Mille Lacs Corporate Ventures for the Red Willow Estates Project for the Fiscal Year ending September 30, 2022. This bill has been drafted based on formal documents submitted by the Commissioner of Corporate Affairs on January 21, 2022.
Sponsor: District I Representative. Bill was introduced, read, and approved.
- b) **Band Assembly Bill 20-01-27-22:** A Bill of Supplemental Appropriation for the purpose of authorizing expenditures and budget revisions/transfers for the Executive Branch for the Fiscal Years ending September 30, 2021 and September 30, 2022. This bill has been drafted based on formal documents submitted by the Administration Policy Board on January 31, 2022.
Sponsor: District II Representative. Bill was introduced, read, amended, and approved.
- c) **Contract (HHS):** A contract for Pine County Public Health to provide partnering with county for home visiting referral services with the Band serving as partnering fiscal host, entering into the third year through Minnesota Department of Health Grant for Family Home Visiting Services. Contract end date is September 30, 2022. Contract was approved.
- d) **Contract (HHS):** A contract for Mille Lacs County Public Health to provide partnering with county for home visiting referral services with the Band serving as partnering fiscal host, entering into the third year through Minnesota Department of Health Grant for Family Home Visiting Services. Contract end date is September 30, 2022. Contract was approved.
- e) **Contract (CMD):** A contract for Hy-Tec Construction to provide materials and labor including some selective demolition of the spaces and reconfiguration to meet the needs of the Tribal Courts renovation in the lower level of the Government Center in the former Department of Labor workspace and existing courtroom space to meet the needs of the grant funded remodel project. Contract end date is December 31, 2022. Contract was approved.
- f) **Contract (CMD):** A contract for Negen & Associates to provide architectural and engineering services for the construction of two new BIA salt sheds project at the East Lake Maintenance

Building and Earthworks Building in Hinckley. Contract end date is December 31, 2023. Contract was approved.

- g) **Nomination:** A nomination letter dated February 3, 2022, from Chief Executive Benjamin, nominating Rhonda Sam to fill the current vacant District I Associate Justice position pursuant to 5 MLBS § 5(b). Current term expires August 15, 2026. Nomination was tabled.
- h) **Nomination:** A nomination letter dated February 3, 2022, from Secretary-Treasurer Boyd, nominating Katherine Davis to serve as the inaugural Band Member Representative on the newly created Institutional Investment Committee pursuant to 17 MLBS § 204 (f)(1). Term will expire December 31, 2025. Nomination was tabled.
- i) **Nomination:** A nomination letter dated February 4, 2022, from the Secretary-Treasurer and Chief Executive, nominating Bobby Anderson and Richard Hill to fill the current vacant Housing Board Elder position. Current term expires June 30, 2022. Nomination was tabled.
- j) **Hardship Request: D1-01-01-22.** Hardship was approved.
- k) **Hardship Request: D1-01-12-21.** Hardship was approved.
- l) **Hardship Request: D3-01-01-22.** Hardship was approved.
- m) **Resolution 20-01-12-22:** A Resolution Requesting an Opinion of the Solicitor General Analyzing Executive Orders 2022-03 and 2022-04. Resolution was approved.

- **Other Business: None.**

- **Messages from the Chief Executive-** Not present.

- **Messages from the Representatives-District I Representative-** Just like the District I Community meeting to know that tonight Onamia Schools is holding their annual public hearing regarding the vote of concurrence and non-concurrence. This annual public hearing will be held via zoom, the link will be shared here this afternoon on the District I Legislative page we are going to try to get it shared on the Band's website, it is on the Community Issues and Solutions page I believe already so just call in for parents within the District I community with students that attend Onamia Schools to please log on to this very important zoom meeting. And I would also like to take the time say you know it's very hard times in our community we had another community member here pass away this morning prayers and condolences to the families out there you know call out to the community to be as supportive as we possibly can. Also a very huge thank you to the DNR & Community Development Department for always you know helping these families and our families in these times of need thank you guys with that if anybody needs any assistance through these things please reach out to our office at any time you can reach me direct at (320)630-1428. Very exciting you know Red Willow Estates coming on line here very, very, exciting news you know 30 units to help support workforce housing within District I area here, as Commissioner Nayquonabe stated it's over a 14-million-dollar project that has zero band dollars in it. Huge shout out to MLCV for securing those and working through that project and also a huge thank you to the other Representatives for

approving the use of ARPA funding to help subsidize that, so again 14 million dollars that's going to help our communities that doesn't cost us a dime so thank you very huge. That's all I got. **District II Representative**- I just want to let everyone know that the community meetings will occur in Chiminising in Isle on February 17, 2022 at 5:30 p.m. and Minisinaakwaang in East Lake February 24, 2022 5:30 p.m. Speakers to be determined. Miigwech. **District III Representative**- Just a refresher Community Meeting next week not tonight. Also those of you who signed up for the Mending Broken Hearts with Briana Matrious that starts soon keep that date in mind. We will have Adam Candler at our community meeting to do a power point of his choosing I'm sure he will surprise us, also somebody from the HHS departments to give updates within the District III area. One thing I wanted to touch on and people have brought this up to me and it's been awhile since they have but I just want to give an explanation of the things I say here they're meant for jovial and have good feeling and laughter humor is good, but when I say wax on/wax off like I have done in the past there is a purpose why I say that. If you look at the movie where it comes from. You know that the elder is teaching the youngster about discipline and a better life. You know and that's what, that about growing up and the human nature to look to the elder and look to the wise people for your discipline and a better life because we lived it and we went through it, of course you know today's youth they like to go to school of hard knocks they want to experience it, well you know by all means go ahead but make sure you get an avenue out so that's what I mean when I say that. Build yourself some discipline build yourself a better life the only one stopping you is you. Mi'iw

- **Messages from the Secretary-Treasurer-** No message.

Joint Session of the 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 Elected Officials present.
Chief Executive, Melanie Benjamin
Secretary-Treasurer, Sheldon Boyd
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.
- **Minutes:**
 - a) **Joint Session Record:** February 2, 2022. Record was amended
- **Unfinished Business:**
 - a) **Joint Session of the Band Assembly Resolution 19-04-16-21:** A Resolution Adopting Rules of Procedure for the Joint Session of the Band Assembly **Tabled 9/30/2021**
- **New Business:**

- a) **Certification of Candidates: Positions:** Secretary-Treasurer, District II Representative and District III Representative. Candidates were certified individually for each position.
 - b) **Certification of Election Board:** All Districts including Urban. Election board members were approved individually for each area. Areas having more than 6 applicants were selected based on submission of interest.
 - c) **Joint Session of the Band Assembly Resolution 20-01-09-22:** A Resolution Approving the Use of an Automated Ballot Tabulation System for the 2022 Minnesota Chippewa Tribe Election on the Mille Lacs Reservation. Resolution was approved with a waiver of the formal reading.
 - d) **Joint Session of the Band Assembly Resolution 20-01-10-22:** A Resolution Designating the Community Room at the Old District I Community Center as the Mille Lacs Band of Ojibwe Election Office. Resolution was tabled.
 - e) **Joint Session of the Band Assembly Resolution 20-01-11-22:** A Resolution Defining the Mille Lacs Band Reservation to Establish Voting Districts and Designate Polling Places. Resolution was tabled.
 - f) **Joint Session of the Band Assembly Resolution 20-01-12-22:** A Resolution Certifying Eligible Candidates for the 2022 Minnesota Chippewa Tribe Election on the Mille Lacs Reservation. Resolution was introduced, read, amended and approved.
 - g) **Joint Session of the Band Assembly Resolution 20-01-13-22:** A Resolution Appointing Reservation Election Board Members for the 2022 Minnesota Chippewa Tribe Election on the Mille Lacs Reservation. Resolution was introduced, read, amended, and approved.
- **Other:** None.

Thursday, February 10, 2022: Legislative held a work session for the Band Assembly Members, and Legislative Staff.

Work Session Agenda: Presentation: Review Public Comments for Title 2 – Exclusion and Removal Bill Joe Jensen, Bill: Title 6 – Ethics Code and Government Employees Joe Jensen, and Bill: Title 5 – Judicial Branch Joe Jensen

Staff Attorney presented a power point presentation on Exclusion and Removal Public comments and proposed fixes from second Public Comment Period with discussion, questions, and comments.

Staff Attorney presented on Title 6 – Ethics Code and Government Employees with a review of section by section substantive changes with discussion, questions, and comments.

Title 5 – Judicial Branch will be discussed at an upcoming work session.