



Mille Lacs Band of Ojibwe Indians  
*Legislative Branch of Tribal Government*

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## Weekly Review: October 9-13, 2023

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### **Workshop**

**October 10, 2023**

Legal staff facilitated a workshop for the elected officials and staff regarding a draft bill to enact a cannabis code.

### **Weekly Sync Meeting**

**October 10, 2023**

Legislative staff facilitated a Weekly Sync Meeting with elected officials to review the upcoming Band Assembly agenda items. The meeting included discussion on the workshop schedule; workshop projects; and District Representative initiatives.

### **Band Assembly Meeting**

**October 11, 2023**

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 Record: October 4, 2023.

Band Assembly conducted a confirmation hearing for Le Ann Benjamin, nominee for the Corporate Board of Directors – District I.

Band Assembly conducted a confirmation hearing for Bernida Humetawa, nominee for the District III Appellate Judge.

Band Assembly received a presentation on NTIA – Broadband Grant Project from Brittany Wind, Grants Director.

Band Assembly conducted a confirmation hearing for Vanessa Gibbs, nominee for the District 3 Housing Board.

The District Representatives amended and approved Band Assembly Bill 20-04-67-23 (A Bill Authorizing a Supplemental Appropriation for the purpose of authorizing expenditures and budget transfer(s)/revision(s) for the Executive Branch for the Fiscal Years ending September 30, 2023, and September 30, 2024).

The District Representatives approved Band Assembly Bill 20-04-68-23 (A Bill Repealing and Replacing Act 61-23 correcting the amount for the District III Legislative request. Act 61-23 authorized budget transfer(s)/revision(s) for the Legislative and Executive Branches for the Fiscal Year ending September 30, 2023).

The District Representatives approved Nomination (A nomination from Chief Benjamin, nominating Bradley E. Harrington to serve on the Corporate Board, At-Large position. Current term ends March 31, 2027).

The District Representatives approved Nomination (A nomination from Chief Benjamin, nominating Jennifer Gahbow to serve on the Corporate Board, District II position. Current term ends March 31, 2026).

The District Representatives denied Nomination (A nomination from Chief Benjamin, nominating Percy Benjamin to serve as the Commissioner of Community Development. Current term ends June 30, 2027).

The District Representatives approved Nomination (A nomination from Chief Benjamin, nominating Beverly Knowlen to serve on the Corporate Board, District III position. Current term ends March 31, 2024).

The District Representatives tabled Nomination (A nomination from Chief Benjamin, nominating Le Ann Benjamin to serve on the Corporate Board, District I position. Current term ends March 31, 2024).

The District Representatives tabled Nomination (A nomination from Chief Benjamin, nominating Bernida Humetewa for the District III Appellate Judge position. Current term ends August 15, 2024).

The District Representatives tabled Nomination (Pursuant to 12 MLBS § 306(a)(9) on August 22, 2023, the District 3 Representative submitted two names to the Chief Executive to serve on the Housing Board – District 3 Position, Vanessa Gibbs and Katie Draper. On September 13, 2023, Chief Benjamin nominated Vanessa Gibbs for confirmation. Current term ends June 30, 2026).

The District Representatives approved contract with Guardian Fleet to provide all police vehicle equipment installation, maintenance and repair services.

The District Representatives approved contract with Deerwood Technologies to provide services to maintain the police department server, work stations, equipment installation and repair services of an I.T. related items. Deerwood Technologies is the only I.T. company vetted by the BCA.

The District Representatives approved contract with Garrison Disposal to provide solid waste disposal and for weekly roll-offs, commercial dumpsters, recycling pickup at the MLB transfer station and provide service for D1 & D2 community clean-up.

The District Representatives approved contract with Garrison Disposal to provide supply, delivery, and pick-up dumpsters for D2 Warehouse and various Community Development project sites in D1, D2, D2a, and surrounding areas.

The District Representatives approved contract with Hartl Enterprises, LLC dba Ron's Roll-Offs to deliver and pick up dumpsters for residential sites, District 3 housing warehouse and surrounding areas.

The District Representatives approved contract with Rogers Plumbing, Heating, & Electrical to provide plumbing services for projects for residential sites in Districts 1, 2, 2a, and 3.

The District Representatives approved contract with Rogers Plumbing, Heating, & Electrical to provide HVAC services for projects for residential sites in Districts 1, 2, 2a, and 3.

The District Representatives approved contract with Many Rivers West, L.P. to lease 8 apartments to the Mille Lacs Band and its members in the Urban area.

The District Representatives approved contract with Leach Electric, Inc. to provide electrical services for small projects at residential sites in Districts 1, 2, 2a, and 3.

The District Representatives approved contract with American Indian Development Corp C/o Perennial Management to provide annual lease agreement for Urban area offices.

The District Representatives approved contract with TethRippon Consulting, LLC. to provide strategic government affairs counsel and direct lobbying services for the Band.

The District Representatives approved ScriptPro USA Inc. to provide pharmacy processing equipment, software and support services for processing prescriptions.

The District Representatives approved Foster Care License: District 1: New: FFH2310001.

The District Representatives approved Hardship Request: District I: D1-01-10-23.

The District Representatives approved Hardship Request: District II: D2-01-10-23.

The District Representatives denied Resolution 20-04-42-23 (A Resolution Approving the Joint Powers Contract between the State of Minnesota and the Mille Lacs Band of Ojibwe for the Data Recovery and Monitoring Trunk Highway 169 for the 169 Rehabilitation Project Phase Three MnDOT contract number 1054733).

In the “Messages from the Representatives” portion of the agenda, District I Representative Virgil Wind opened with thanking those that reached out with input, questions, and concerns regarding the nomination process, it’s a tough determination to make, but the input of the community helps solidify those decisions. Representative Wind shared in place of District I community meeting we will have our 3<sup>rd</sup> Spooktacular Halloween Party on October 31, 2023 from 4-7 p.m. at the new District I community center there will be a costume contest, haunted walk through, photo op, games and prizes with a light meal. Please make sure for everyone’s safety and the safety of all kids they are supervised. Representative Wind closed his comments with a save the date in partnership with the Maadaonidiwag grant that has been a huge asset to the Band in teaching people in all districts moccasins, ribbon skirts, and cultural activities. In partnership with that grant we are partnering for a Native American Heritage Month Celebration Powwow on Friday, November 10, 2023 from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. at the New DI Community Center. A lot more details to come any questions reach out to the DI office or him directly.

### **Workshop**

**October 12, 2023**

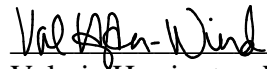
Legal staff facilitated a workshop for the elected officials and staff regarding a draft bill to enact a cannabis code.

### **Workshop**

**October 13, 2023**

The elected officials and staff hosted a budget discussion meeting with the Commissioner of Finance, Assistant to Commissioner of Finance, Commissioner of Administration, Assistant Commissioner of Administration, Commissioner of Education, and Commissioner of Health & Human Services regarding fiscal year 24-25 budget.

*The next Band Assembly meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, October 18, 2023 at 10:00 a.m.*



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Valerie Harrington-Wind  
Chief Communications Officer