



Mille Lacs Band of Ojibwe Indians
Legislative Branch of Tribal Government

Weekly Review: November 18-22, 2024

Workshop

November 19, 2024

Legal staff facilitated a workshop for the elected officials and staff regarding Tribal Advisory Council on Energy – Chief’s Letter and Proposed Resolution, Miigwech Day Letter, Cannabis Department Executive Director Job Description Draft, HEARTH Act – Chief’s Letter, Silencer Bill, Child Protection Review Hearing Bill, and Tribal Employments Rights Office (TERO) bill.

Weekly Sync Meeting

November 19, 2024

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

Band Assembly Meeting

November 20, 2024

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

Band Assembly received a presentation from Joseph Nayquonabe, Commissioner of Corporate Affairs regarding Cannabis Retail and Outdoor Grow Business Project 2025.

The District Representatives tabled Band Assembly Bill 21-02-63-24 (A Bill for an act amending Title 11, chapters 3 and 5 to clarify the definition of a firearm and a silencer and to modify existing firearms restrictions by authorizing the use of silencers for deer hunting and repealing language for revocation or suspension of hunting, fishing, and gathering privileges).

The District Representatives approved Band Assembly Bill 21-02-64-24 (A Bill of Supplemental Appropriation for the Legislative Branch for the Fiscal Year ending September 30, 2025).

The District Representatives approved Band Assembly Bill 21-02-65-24 (A Bill of Supplemental Appropriation for the December 2024, January, February and March 2025 Tribal Per Capita Distribution for the Fiscal Year ending September 30, 2025).

The District Representatives approved Band Assembly Bill 21-02-66-24 (A Bill of Supplemental Appropriation for the December 2024, January, February and March 2025 Tribal General Welfare Exclusion Act (“TGWEA”) Assistance Payment Programs for the Fiscal Year ending September 30, 2025).

The District Representatives amended and approved Band Assembly Bill 21-02-67-24 (A Bill Authorizing a Supplemental Appropriation for the purpose of authorizing expenditures and budget revision(s)/transfer(s) for the Executive and Legislative Branches for the Fiscal Years ending September 30, 2024 and September 30, 2025).

The District Representatives approved Band Assembly Bill 21-02-68-24 (A Bill authorizing a supplemental appropriation for the purpose of authorizing expenditures for Mille Lacs Corporate Ventures for the Fiscal Year Ending September 30, 2025).

The District Representatives approved Resolution 21-02-41-24 (A Resolution Ratifying the Partnership Agreement Between the Mille Lacs Band of Ojibwe and the Minnesota Center for Environmental Advocacy in Connection with a Grant Application for the Environmental and Climate Justice Community Change Grant Program).

The District Representatives approved Resolution 21-02-42-24 (A Resolution Supporting Membership in the Tribal Advisory Council on Energy and Appointment of Band Representatives).

Messages from the Chief Executive:

Chief Executive Virgil Wind shared “First off I want to thank Band Assembly for all the work that you guys are doing and everything that you are doing; from per cap payments being set out four months out and having that understanding also increasing that amount for the December payment for our members to hopefully give them a happier holiday or give them more resources during that holiday so again thank you guys for that. Also I want to make sure to thank you guys again for the Holiday Miiigwech payment that’s going to be going to employees here, do appreciate that and want them employee that work hard everyday to know that we as Elected Officials really do appreciate that and I think that’s a small sentiment for them, so really do appreciate that. In regards to Tracy and Kelly’s appointment there thank you for that resolution as well, that was actually a recommendation from MIAC where I am attending today, they really think that there’s some value and some strength to having both Kelly and Tracy on that board and they really think that with that the Band will have a really strong voice in doing that so I really do appreciate your support on that as well. And then also to the Band employees out there we’re really looking forward, we really put together a fun day for the 26th really want to come together as a family that we are providing these services for our members, really want it to be a fun day so we’re really looking forward to seeing you all there”.

Messages from the Representatives:

District I Representative Carolyn Beaulieu shared our team is starting to work on Christmas celebrations both for the urban area and District I. December 18, 2024 District I Christmas party at Grand Casino Mille Lacs and the Urban Holiday party will be December 21, 2024 location to be announced. She shared an apology to the urban membership, our team is new and when we were doing the turkey distribution, although there is a hand full of band members that vote for the outer districts, the majority are under the consistency of the District I Representative, she will start making plans to make sure to serve as many urban members as possible moving forward, there hasn’t been a lot of participation from urban members when she has attended urban meetings, she will be at the urban holiday party this year to get increased participation in community events and other urban events. At the feast tomorrow if District I members head of household have not gotten their card they can come see her staff between 4:30-5:30 p.m. and urban members head of household can also stop by and grab a gift card, if urban members cannot make the feast tomorrow night she will provide cards to Waubon at the urban office where they can see her to pick up their thanksgivings gift card.

District II Representative Wendy Merrill shared our Chiminising community meeting is tonight. She shared our Turkey giveaway is this Friday. She shared congratulations to the Cannabis board members that were sworn in this morning.

District III Representative Harry Davis shared our community meeting is tomorrow Thursday at Grand Casino Hinckley and will distribute any remaining gift cards for thanksgiving. He shared we

will be having our 3rd boxing match event in Cass Lake this Saturday we have 3 boxers scheduled and Friday, November 29, 2024 we will have the round dance at Grand Casino Hinckley.

Messages from the Secretary-Treasurer:

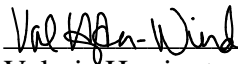
Secretary-Treasurer Sheldon Boyd thanked now Commissioner of Administration Darcie Big Bear she's continuing to make this transition, the very pivotal position of Parliamentarian and Clerk of the Assembly Danielle Smith there's a lot of things going on appreciate you being here keeping things moving with the group here. He shared there's a lot of collaboration that goes on here and buy in from everyone here about these rules and procedures and how all this money flows through here and it's being recorded and people buying in and following those rules and during this time your government as a whole; talking about everybody here are leaving a really good record of what's happened to the money and where things are going; he appreciates everyone.

Workshop

November 21, 2024

Legal staff facilitated a workshop for the elected officials and staff regarding Cannabis Regulation Department executive director job description, Silencer bill, Band Member Legal Services (BMLS) board bill, and Three-branch meeting brainstorming session.

The next Special Band Assembly meeting is not scheduled at this time.



Valerie Harrington-Wind
Chief Communications Officer