



Mille Lacs Band of Ojibwe Indians
Legislative Branch of Tribal Government

Band Assembly Weekly Update: Week of June 7-11, 2021

Tuesday, June 8, 2021: Legislative hosted a Pre-Band Assembly meeting to discuss the agenda items. Approval of Minutes: June 2, 2021. Reports and Presentations: Commissioner confirmation hearings (DNR, Edu). Unfinished Business: Commissioner Nominations (Admin, Asst Admin, HHS). New Business: Band Assembly Bill 19-03-45-21 APB appropriations 5.27.21, Band Assembly Bill 19-03-46-21 Legislative (Executive Session), Commissioner Nominations (DNR, Edu), and Contracts (HHS, Admin, CMDx2). There was discussion, comments and questions on each item. Work Session schedule. Representatives lastly held open discussion of their legislative agendas, ideas and requests.

Wednesday, June 9, 2021: Band Assembly occurred 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 excused and arrived following recess at 11 a.m.
District II Representative, Marvin Bruneau
District III Representative, Wallace St. John Sr.
- **Approval of Agenda:** Agenda was approved.
- **Approval of Minutes:**
 - a) **Band Assembly Record:** June 2, 2021. Record was approved.
- **Reports and Presentations:**

10:15 a.m. Susan Klapel, Nominee
Re: Confirmation hearing for Commissioner of Natural Resources nomination. Confirmation hearing was completed with a summary and opening statement of the Nominee followed by questions and comments.

10:45 a.m. Melissa “Baabiitaw” Boyd, Nominee
Re: Confirmation hearing for Commissioner of Education nomination. Confirmation hearing was completed with a summary and opening statement of the Nominee followed by questions and comments.
- **Unfinished Business:**
 - a) **Nomination:** A letter dated April 26, 2021 from Chief Executive Benjamin nominating Peter Nayquonabe for the position of Commissioner of Administration. The 4-year term end date is June 30, 2025. **Tabled 6/2/2021.** Nomination was taken from the table with a request for a roll call vote and the nomination passed.

- b) **Nomination:** A letter dated April 26, 2021 from Chief Executive Benjamin nominating Maria Costello for the position of Assistant Commissioner of Administration. The 4-year term end date is June 30, 2025. **Tabled 6/2/2021.** Nomination was taken from the table with a request for a roll call vote and the nomination passed.
- c) **Nomination:** A letter dated May 18, 2021 from Chief Executive Benjamin nominating Nicole Anderson for the position of Commissioner of Health and Human Services. The 4-year term end date is June 30, 2025. **Tabled 6/2/2021.** Nomination was taken from the table with a request for a roll call vote. District I representative recused himself with a memorandum. Roll call vote was completed without District I vote and the nomination passed.
- **New Business:**
 - a) **Band Assembly Bill 19-03-45-21:** 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 Administrative Policy Board on May 27, 2021.
Sponsor: District II Representative. Bill was introduced, read and approved.
 - b) **Band Assembly Bill 19-03-46-21:** A Bill of Supplemental Appropriation for the purpose of authorizing an expenditure and budget transfer for the Legislative Branch for the Fiscal Year ending September 30, 2021. This bill has been drafted based on formal documents submitted by the Office of Management and Budget on June 2, 2021. **(Executive Session)**
Sponsor: District III Representative. Bill was introduced, read, and amendments were read with an approval of the amendments. Bill was approved with amendments.
 - c) **Nomination:** A letter dated May 6, 2021 from Chief Executive Benjamin nominating Susan Klapel for the position of Commissioner of Natural Resources. The 4-year term end date is June 30, 2025. Nomination was tabled.
 - d) **Nomination:** A letter dated May 7, 2021 from Chief Executive Benjamin nominating Melissa “Baabiitaw” Boyd for the position of Commissioner of Education. The 4-year term end date is June 30, 2025. Nomination was tabled.
 - e) **Contract (HHS):** A contract for Nor-Son Construction to provide renovation of the Red Brick Outpatient building through the CTAS Renovation Federal Grant. Contract end date is September 30, 2021. Contract was approved.
 - f) **Contract (Admin):** A contract for Wenji-Bimaadizing Media to provide creation of four (4) videos to align with the four seasons and traditional Ojibwe teachings; all rights are reserved by the Band and Aanjibimaadizing. Contract end date is September 30, 2021. Contract was approved.
 - g) **Contract (CMD):** A contract for SCR, Inc. to provide equipment, materials, and labor to replace and update the camera system at the East Lake Community Center. Contract end date is September 30, 2021. Contract was approved.

- h) **Contract (CMD):** A contract for KLM Engineering, Inc. to provide and install 2-Gridbee GS-9 mixers and 2 SCADA boxes for the Vineland and Bugg Hill water towers. Contract end date is September 30, 2021. Contract was approved.
- **Other Business: None.**
 - **Messages from the Chief Executive-** Madam Chief not present at the time, no messages.
 - **Messages from the Representatives-**District I Representative-Thankful and gratitude for flexible schedule for graduation attendance. District II Representative-Request for work session to start late due to graduation. Community get together clean up in July for DII & DIIA. District III Representative-To my fellow constituents check our DIII Facebook page on updates and events coming up. DIII Valley Fair-if you don't understand call Shelly Pomerleau. Graduation starts at 2:45 p.m. tomorrow. Any band members if you have anything that you see, you all have the power to sponsor a bill via your District Representative. We're all willing to work and continue to work hard to improve the statutes. The ones we work on are from a different era in time and we continue to work. Thanks for listening. Thanks for your support.
 - **Messages from the Secretary-Treasurer-**Focus on content being pushed out, good response on statutes printed via Revisors Office. Official Acts printed soon. Congratulate Hanna Valento on work and volume of work put into have acts for year to year available. Thanks to all staff and all legal staff that follow the law.

Thursday, June 10, 2021:

Legislative held a work session for the Band Assembly members, Legal Counsel, Revisor of Statutes, Staff Attorney, Legislative Staff, Assistant Commissioner of Administration, Community Development Staff, and Band Member Legal Aid Staff.

Workshop: Bill – Workshop: Bill – Title 21 & Steve's Law – Hanna Valento & Joe Jensen &
Workshop: Bill – Band Member Legal Services – Hanna Valento & Joe Jensen

Legislative Staff Attorney presented on Title 21 & Steve's Law. Title 21 was presented with no public comments which closed June 8, 2021, there was discussion and comments. Steve's Law was presented through a power point presentation with discussion, questions and comments during each slide. The legislative branch hosted representatives from Housing to discuss Title 21 and Steve's Law to discuss challenges and possible legislative solutions. The legislative branch hosted representatives from Band Member Legal Aid to continue to discuss challenges and possible legislative solutions. The District Representatives reviewed portions of a draft bill to discuss the proposed legislation in more detail.