



Mille Lacs Band of Ojibwe Indians
Legislative Branch of Tribal Government

Band Assembly Weekly Update: Week of June 14-18, 2021

Tuesday, June 15, 2021: Legislative hosted a Pre-Band Assembly meeting to discuss the agenda items. Approval of Minutes: June 9, 2021. Unfinished Business: Commissioner Nominations (DNR Edu). New Business: Resolution 19-03-67-21: Approving extension of the maturity of a \$40m line of credit and Resolution 19-03-68-21: Approving submission of a grant application to Admin. 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 16, 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
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 9, 2021. Record was approved.
- **Reports and Presentations: None.**
- **Unfinished Business:**
 - a) **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. **Tabled 6/2/2021.**
Nomination was taken from the table with a request for a roll call vote and nomination failed.
 - b) **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. **Tabled 6/2/2021.**
Nomination was taken from the table with a request for a roll call vote and nomination failed.
- **New Business:**
 - a) **Resolution 19-03-67-21:** A Resolution approving an extension of the maturity of a \$40,554,630.15 line of credit from Bank of America, N.S. to fund a loan to Mille Lacs Corporate Ventures for St. Paul Hotels acquisition and improvement, and authorizing a continuing pledge of a limited portion of Band securities to secure a Band of America loan. Resolution was approved with a waiver of the formal reading.

- b) **Resolution 19-03-68-21:** A Resolution approving the submission of a grant application to the Administration for Children and Families - Administration for Native Americans for the American Rescue Plan Act - Emergency Native Language Funding Grant. Resolution was approved with a waiver of the formal reading.
- **Other Business: None.**
 - **Messages from the Chief Executive-** Very disappointed about nominations today, we had two educated band members for the positions. As of June 30, 2021 we won't have a quorum to conduct Administrative Policy Board. Business stops.
 - **Messages from the Representatives-**District I Representative-Thank the community members that have reached out. Voices are heard. Thank you all for the approval and disapproval and what their interests are for our community. Decisions not taken lightly. There is an ability to conduct business with a Commissioners Order. Let community know soft opening of the New District I Center, working with Administration for written standards through the DI Office. Still in works of requirements. Planning a grand opening with Administration once everything is procured. Administration working through staffing, bear with us. Note during COVID it was the most restricted building and we are establishing policy that meets the needs of the community. District II Representative-Echo words from District I Representative about decision of nomination. Tough job, been sitting here a long time. Much thought was put in the decision. Business will move on. Miigwech. DII Community Center opening in July. DIIA in September. Miigwech for your support. District III Representative-Regarding the nominations I will go on record for my own decision, was hard to make that decision. I respect whose commissioner now. Commissioner of Education was a hard decision, we talked about for hours. Difficult but we had to do it, that's what we sign on for sitting in the position we are. DIII community meeting tonight pop up pow wow. Getting large, planned for 200 with Famous Dave's catering. Will feed all elders first, then DIII constituents, then all others. Invited three drums Red Willow, Timber Trails, and Little Otter. Stipends for some. First 40 registered. Come enjoy time, converse, talk and dance. Miigwech.
 - **Messages from the Secretary-Treasurer-**3rd Session of live streaming. Things are coming along, working through new rules of Band Assembly. Staff showing growing numbers of attendees. Inner circle has had issues with log in. Issues being worked through with the log in process. Getting better and having more attendance. Will be at DIII meeting to give update. Miigwech.

District III Representative held a Pop up Pow Wow Community Event with 300-350 people. During the event Secretary-Treasurer gave an update on live-streaming.

Thursday, June 17, 2021:

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

Workshop: Bill – Band Member Legal Services – Hanna Valento & Joe Jensen

Legislative Staff Attorney & Revisor of Statutes presented on Title 24 Draft Band Member Legal Aid. The draft was reviewed section by section with discussion, comments and questions on each section.