



Mille Lacs Band of Ojibwe Indians
Legislative Branch of Tribal Government

Weekly Review: September 16-20, 2024

Workshop

September 17, 2024

Legal staff facilitated a workshop for the elected officials and staff regarding TERO bill, Department of Motor Vehicles amending fees, and Helping Expedite and Advance Responsible Tribal Homeownership (“HEARTH”) power point presentation.

Weekly Sync Meeting

September 17, 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

September 18, 2024

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

The District Representatives approved Band Assembly Record: September 11, 2024.

Band Assembly received a presentation from Jamie Edwards, Government Affairs regarding Get-Out-The-Vote plan/strategy.

Band Assembly conducted a Confirmation Hearing for the Commissioner of Administration position Darcie Big Bear, Nominee.

The District Representatives approved Band Assembly Bill 21-02-52-24 (A Bill amending Title 15, chapter 5 to enact protocols for obtaining a provisional cannabis license, prohibit retail cannabis sales in establishments physically attached to casinos, and remove the prohibition on using animal likenesses in cannabis branding and logos).

The District Representatives approved Band Assembly Bill 21-02-53-24 (A Bill of Supplemental Appropriation for the October and November 2024 Tribal Per Capita Distribution for Adults for the Fiscal Year ending September 30, 2025).

The District Representatives approved Band Assembly Bill 21-02-54-24 (A Bill of Supplemental Appropriation for the October and November 2024 Tribal General Welfare Exclusion Act (“TGWEA”) Assistance Payment Programs for the Fiscal Year ending September 30, 2025).

The District Representatives approved Band Assembly Bill 21-02-55-24 (A Bill Authorizing a Supplemental Appropriation for the purpose of authorizing expenditures and budget revision(s)/transfer(s) for the Executive, Judicial, and Legislative Branches and Department of Athletic Regulation for the Fiscal Years ending September 30, 2024 and September 30, 2025).

The District Representatives amended and approved Resolution 21-02-35-24 (A Resolution Approving the 2025 membership into the National Congress of American Indians).

The District Representatives approved/denied Nomination (A nomination from Chief Executive, Virgil Wind, nominating Darcie Big Bear to serve as the Commissioner of Administration. Current term ends June 30, 2025).

Messages from the Chief Executive:

Chief Executive Virgil Wind shared “I want to start out by thanking the Band Assembly for taking action on this and also want to really say that being a part of a group of Elected Officials that really truly deeply cares about the Band overall is so amazing. I do appreciate that I know that easy decision as nominee but also know that there’s going to be some effects for the Legislative Branch and again want to reiterate that partnership moving forward whatever we can do to make sure that is in the best interest of the Band as a whole and really do appreciate that. Last thing I’ll say is that collaborative work that we’re going to do together is amazing and I do appreciate your guy’s leadership and to the almost Commissioner of Administration Big Bear I appreciate you applying and look forward to the work that we’re going to do together mi’iw Miigwech”.

Messages from the Representatives:

District I Representative Carolyn Beaulieu shared a reminder for the District I community that we are having a meet & greet with area educators next Wednesday evening in conjunction with her community meeting.

District II Representative Wendy Merrill shared our Chiminising community meeting is tonight. Kelly Applegate, Commissioner of Department of Natural Resources is on the agenda for Water over Nickel update. She shared we do have Chief Executive and SUDs program smudge walk that have been posted tomorrow. She lastly shared congratulations to Crystal Weckert on her GRA Board nomination and Darcie Big Bear for her confirmation as Commissioner of Administration.

District III Representative Harry Davis shared that the community meeting is tomorrow Thursday, September 19, 2024 at 5:30 p.m. at Grand Casino Hinckley. The agenda is Jamie Edwards and candidate for county board Terry Lovgren for get out the vote campaign. He lastly shared congratulations to Darcie Big Bear and Crystal Weckert.

Messages from the Secretary-Treasurer:

Secretary-Treasurer Sheldon Boyd shared his remarks center around the Parliamentarian Darcie Big Bear. He said “Sitting here listening it’s so obvious that as our generations come; the qualifications, they just get better”. He shared long ago everybody had the vision and the folks become so much better prepared today. He said “Some folks go out and are prepared and have all the proper qualities; and they are, just are ready to do things and some people kick the doors down, ok? And listening to Darcie; she’s one of those folks who just go in and kick the door down”. He shared that he heard Darcie speaking at the annual pow wow; and he could hear her voice and it was distinctive and she just had this quality. He shared “To us losing someone here you just move over and we re-tool alright; and folks got to get the work together”. He shared an analogy of Executive and Legislative Branch being manufacturing and shipping and he said “The Assembly is more like manufacturing; this is where real change starts, can’t start anywhere until it starts in the Legislative Branch and it’s the duty of, the function of the Executive Branch is to ship that out to make that happen that’s real change and that’s why we need to work together to make real change. And I think there are times when the shipping doesn’t work as well but that’s fine that’s kind of the nature of this separation of

powers ok? But there are times when we get to get along and that's when real change happens, it happens in spurts and that's normal for separation of powers, but I; just that in summarizing where we are, it's moments like these with the... Darcie stepping up and members of the Assembly agreeing that kind of our people are prepared, are just better prepared and so it's just so proud to see this way better prepared than I was and with that Congratulations to Darcie on where things are going and like everyone else knows that we have a lot of work ahead of us and we'll get a lot of things done".

Band Assembly Meeting

September 20, 2024

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

The District Representatives approved a contract addendum for ScriptPro USA Inc.to cover the annual fee, based on service. These services will allow the existing ScriptPro robot to interface with the new Epic pharmacy system. Current contract end date is September 30, 2024.

Messages from the Chief Executive:

Chief Executive Virgil Wind said thank you guys for meeting on a Friday, really do appreciate it and also want you guys to know that if there's every anything that we can do, we definitely want to help. He said we appreciate making time for this and understanding that changes happen and we're here to help as well. Miigwech

Messages from the Representatives:

District I Representative Carolyn Beaulieu shared FUN run at 1:30 p.m. today at Nay ah Shing school if anyone is available. She said my community meeting is going to be a meet & greet with area educators Wednesday next week 5:30 p.m. at the Aquatic center.

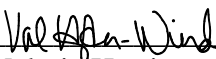
District II Representative Wendy Merrill had no message.

District III Representative Harry Davis had no message.

Messages from the Secretary-Treasurer:

Secretary-Treasurer Sheldon Boyd had no message.

***The next Regular Band Assembly meeting is scheduled for Friday, September 27, 2024 at 10:00 a.m.
Regular Session ends September 30, 2024.***



Valerie Harrington-Wind
Chief Communications Officer