



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

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**Weekly Review: April 14-18, 2025**

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**Workshop**

**April 15, 2025**

Legal staff facilitated a workshop for the elected officials and staff regarding the Resolution 21-03-22-25, authorizing construction easements, legislative face book comment, Mille Lacs Corporate Ventures (MLCV) Board term dates and board nominee, MLCV projects greater than \$250,000, MLCV projects less than \$250,000, Band Member Legal Services (BMLS) nomination, cannabis permanent Retail, federal meeting preparation, Representative Harry Davis resolution DII and DI, reservation of rights rule, update on Ventura, and Title 16 discussion.

**Weekly Sync Meeting**

**April 15, 2025**

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

**Band Assembly Meeting**

**April 16, 2025**

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 11.20.24. Amended and approved Band Assembly Record 12.04.24. Amended and approved Band Assembly Record 12.11.24.

Band Assembly received a presentation from Darcie Big Bear, Interim Commissioner of Corporate Affairs regarding Grand Casino FY2025 Capital Requests Q1 and Q2 - Under \$250,000.

Band Assembly received a presentation from Jamie Edwards, Governmental Affairs & Lobbyists regarding State & Local Governmental Updates.

The District Representatives approved Band Assembly Bill 21-03-20-25 (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, 2025).

The District Representatives approved Resolution 21-03-19-25 (A Resolution approving the appointment of Monte Fronk and Derrick Naumann to the Northeast Minnesota Emergency Communications Board, Regional Advisory Committee).

The District Representatives approved Resolution 21-03-20-25 (A Resolution approving the appointment of Carla Big Bear and Derrick Naumann to the Northeast Minnesota Emergency Communications Board, NE 911 PSAP Committee).

The District Representatives approved Resolution 21-03-21-25 (A Resolution approving the appointment of Monte Fronk and Derrick Naumann to the Northeast Minnesota Emergency Communications Board, Owners & Operators Committee).

The District Representatives approved Resolution 21-03-22-25 (A Resolution approving the appointment of James West and Derrick Naumann to the Northeast Minnesota Emergency Communication Board).

The District Representatives approved Resolution 21-03-23-25 (A Resolution authorizing a construction easement for roads construction adjacent to the Mille Lacs Band District I Reservation roads).

The District Representatives amended and approved Resolution 21-03-24-25 (A Resolution approving an adjustment to the 2024-2025 Nay-Ah-Shing school calendar).

The District Representatives approved Resolution 21-03-25-25 (A Resolution petitioning the Minnesota Boxing Hall of Fame to grant membership to Harry Davis, the District III Representative of the Non-Removable Mille Lacs Band of Ojibwe Assembly, In recognition of his exceptional contributions to Amateur and Professional Boxing in Minnesota).

The District Representatives approved Hardship DI-01-04-25.

#### **Messages from the Chief Executive:**

Chief Executive Virgil Wind shared “I have a couple things here, first off I want to thank Jamie Edwards and Governmental Affairs team for all their hard work and dedication in the things they’re doing, they’re down there constantly just churning and working and doing things; having that presence down there, it’s very important to the Band. To the Band members out there our relationships are strong, both federally and on the state level as well as the local level those relationships that have been being built over the years are in wonderful shape and evidence by that. Yesterday we had a very wonderful Pine County meeting. Pine County is probably one of the best counties that we have to deal with and thanks to prior leadership and everybody for fostering that relationship that we’re able to carry on. Spring fishing is upon us, I’m pretty tired today, out fishing late last night, I got to say that I am the self-proclaimed best walleye filleter in Mille Lacs Band; that’s how you become Chief. Shout out to Kelly Applegate and Chief West for; I was down at the landing last night and something notable, so the DNR conservation officers typically had a boat on the back of their truck, right? And due to Chief West and conversations that we were able to have Chief West made it mandatory that those boats be in the water ready. Man, last night was the first time the Conservation Officer had, not the first time in history of the Band, but first time under this new rule that the boat be on the water ready, which I think will save a lot of time in the event something should happen, so special shout out to Kelly and James West for that. Also, one of the things that we’ve been lacking in the Chief’s office is a real good community output, right? Just community togetherness and bringing people together within our branch or within our office. So, we do have a couple roundys planned, one for May 4, 2025 here at Grand Casino Mille Lacs and another one on Mother’s Day May 11, 2025 at Grand Casino Hinckley there’s flyers out, notifications out all the details are out there, but please reach out to my office if you have any questions. As you guys may have seen here in District I the temporary retail facility is onsite and it’s here, right? Reach out conversations, there will be signs, signage going up and hopefully we’re able to get that thing up and running here, believe the goal is to have all the worksite work, everything done within thirty days is kind of what I heard. So, reminder for the elected officials and a thanks to Raina for pulling together a dish setting for tomorrow at 3:00 p.m. from 3:00 p.m.-4:00 p.m. at the district 3 head start, we

wanted to make sure that before we got occupancy, before we got kids, before we got that building up and running that we were doing it in a right way so she pulled that together so again that's tomorrow afternoon. And then also I want to give a shout out to all three representatives for their willingness and gracious invitations to their community meetings, coming up this week I will be at Harry's community meeting following that dish setting in District III that's on Thursday at 5:30 p.m. Hinckley ballroom and then also District I community meeting next Wednesday at the Miskwaanakwadookwe community center here in Mille Lacs. In other news I was able to attend a site visit in the new Sugar Maple crossing facility there in Hinckley, both Representatives Merrill and Davis were there, beautiful facility, very well thought out. I think the most notable thing there is that it's the Band's first market rate property, so forty units should be coming online in June I think they're going to have like a phased approach of twenty-five percent, but leasing up is happening very soon. And then also a shout out to Harry Davis for his work in the boxing realm and everything that he's done here for us at the Mille Lacs Band, I believe we also did some letters of support for your stuff, two letters we did. Thank you so much and that's all I got. Miigwech.

**Messages from the Representatives:**

District I Representative Carolyn Beaulieu shared congratulations to Harry on his accomplishments through boxing and thank you Chief Wind for announcing the community meeting which is on April 23, 2025 Chief Wind and Cabinet will be there.

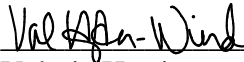
District II Representative Wendy Merrill shared congratulations to Brooke Houle for the Band Member Legal Services Board with the changes in legislation we put in there; stipend and opening up to two paralegals, hopefully that gets the door open for more members to join the board as we know BMLS is one of the boards band members utilize and need. She shared congratulations to Harry, she has always known him as the District III Representative and the boxing guy. She shared she has a community meeting coming up next Tuesday, April 22, 2025 in East Lake Kristian Thiesz on the agenda for Aanji, Holland Tutor coming for Big Sandy for junior ambassadors, and Phillip Sam promoting Hinckley housing, Chiminising will be the following day on Wednesday, April 23, 2025. She shared Chiminising pow wow is on Sunday, April 27, 2025 miigwech to District I Representative for contributing and Chief Wind will come with the sound as he does every year.

District III Representative Harry Davis shared District III community meeting is tomorrow at Grand Casino Hinckley 5:30 p.m. as Virgil stated he will be there and his cabinet. He thanked the Band Assembly and Chief Executive Virgil Wind for his letter of support also.

**Messages from the Secretary-Treasurer:**

Secretary-Treasurer Sheldon Boyd had no message.

***The next Regular Band Assembly meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, April 23, 2025 at 10:00 a.m.***

  
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Valerie Harrington-Wind  
Chief Communications Officer