



Mille Lacs Band of Ojibwe Indians
Legislative Branch of Tribal Government

Band Assembly Weekly Update: Week of February 21-25, 2022

Monday, February 21, 2022: Chief's Day

Tuesday, February 22, 2022: Government Center Closed due to weather

Legislative held a work session for the Band Assembly Members, and Legislative Staff.

Work Session Agenda: Bill: Title 6 – Government Employees & Ethics and Bill: Title 5 –Healing-to Wellness Court

Legal Staff facilitated a brief discussion on Pre-Band Assembly items.

Legal staff presented second public comments received regarding Healing-to-Wellness with discussion, questions, and comments.

Legal staff presented on Bill: Title 5 – Structure of Court Appeals and Panel of Elders with discussion, questions, and comments.

Bill: Title 6 – Government Employees & Ethics Legal Staff will be presented at upcoming work session.

Wednesday, February 23, 2022: Band Assembly occurred in Band Assembly Chambers and 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 amended and approved.
- **Approval of Minutes:**
 - a) **Band Assembly Record:** February 16, 2022. Record was approved.
- **Reports and Presentations:**
 - a) 11:30 a.m. LawVisory
Re: Update (**Executive Session**). LawVisory presentation was completed in Executive Session.
- **Unfinished Business:**
 - a) **Nomination:** A nomination letter dated January 27, 2022 (Received February 3, 2022), from Chief Executive Benjamin, nominating Rhonda Sam to fill the current vacant District I Associate Justice position pursuant to 5 MLBS § 5(b). Current term expires August 15, 2026. **Tabled 2/9/22.** Nomination was taken from the table with a roll call vote requested and the nomination passed.

- b) **Nomination:** A nomination letter dated February 4, 2022, from the Secretary-Treasurer and Chief Executive, nominating Bobby Anderson and Richard Hill to fill the current vacant Housing Board Elder position. Current term expires June 30, 2022. **Tabled 2/9/22**
- c) **Band Assembly Bill 20-01-28-22:** A Bill of Supplemental Appropriation for Mille Lacs Corporate Ventures for Maadaadizi Inc., Mille Lacs Wastewater Inc., Grand Makwa-Wewinabi Inc., Grindstone Laundry, and Foxtrot Marketing for the Fiscal Year ending September 30, 2022. This bill has been drafted based on formal documents submitted by the Commissioner of Corporate Affairs on January 21, 2022. **Tabled 2/16/22**
Sponsor: District III Representative. Bill was taken from the table and approved.

- **New Business:**

- a) **Band Assembly Bill 20-01-29-22:** A Bill of Supplemental Appropriation for the purpose of authorizing expenditures for the Executive Branch for the Fiscal Year ending September 30, 2022. This bill has been drafted based on formal documents submitted by the Administration Policy Board on February 14, 2022.
Sponsor: District I Representative. Bill was introduced, read, and tabled.
- b) **Contract (HHS):** A contract for Citon Computer Corporation to provide continued work with Health & Human Services Information Technology to meet regulatory and industry standards for security and system stability in all three districts. Contract end date is September 30, 2022. Contract was approved.
- c) **Contract (DOJ):** A contract for LawVisory to provide continued legal services for financial matters for the Band. Contract end date is September 30, 2022. Contract was approved.
- d) **Contract (Judicial):** A contract addendum for the Justice System Service Agreement for the Tribal Court's FullCourt Case Management System, to increase the contract amount and extend the contract date to December 31, 2022. Contract was approved.
- e) **Resolution 20-01-13-22:** A Resolution Approving the Continuance of the Mille Lacs Band Government, Circle of Health, Gaming Regulatory Authority, Department of Athletic Regulation, Supplemental Income Program for Elders, Tribal Employment Rights Office, Housing Initiative, and Band Member Legal Services Fiscal Operations Until April 30, 2022. Resolution was approved with a waiver of the formal reading.
- f) **Resolution 20-01-14-22:** A Resolution Approving the Continuance of Mille Lacs Corporate Ventures, Non-Gaming, Gaming Fiscal Operations Until April 30, 2022. Resolution was approved with a waiver of the formal reading.

- **Other Business: None.**

- **Messages from the Chief Executive-** Not present.

- **Messages from the Representatives-District I Representative-** Briefly here just a message to Mille Lacs Band Constituents the continuing resolutions on the agenda today aren't because of lack of effort, we are currently working through and working very hard and diligently to get these budgets passed there was a continuing resolution for the continuance of the Mille Lacs Band budget along with one for the continuance of Mille Lacs Corporate Ventures, we are working very hard to get those done and figure it out one-hundred percent we just wanted you guys to know that it's not from lack of effort and then just a message for the District I members online today as we have our monthly community meeting tonight at the old community center starts at 5:30 p.m. we have Aanjibimaadizing there with a program update so looking forward to seeing you all there. Thank you. **District II Representative-** Just want to remind everyone the community meeting at 5:30 p.m. at Minisinaakwang East Lake Center, see you there. Miigwech. **District III Representative-** No message.
- **Messages from the Secretary-Treasurer-** No message.

Joint Session of Band Assembly occurred in Band Assembly Chambers and through conference call and zoom.

- **Call to Order:** Meeting was called to order.
- **Roll Call:** Four of the Elected Officials were present.
Chief Executive, Melanie Benjamin
Secretary-Treasurer, Sheldon Boyd
District I Representative, Virgil Wind
District II Representative, Marvin Bruneau
District III Representative, Wallace St. John Sr. Excused
- **Approval of Agenda:** Agenda was approved.
- **Minutes:**
 - a) **Joint Session Record:** February 9, 2022. Record was approved.
 - b) **Joint Session Record:** February 15, 2022. Record was approved.
- **Unfinished Business:**
 - a) **Joint Session of the Band Assembly Resolution 19-04-16-21:** A Resolution Adopting Rules of Procedure for the Joint Session of the Band Assembly **Tabled 9/30/2021**
 - b) **Joint Session of the Band Assembly Resolution 20-01-10-22:** A Resolution Designating the Community Room at the Old District I Community Center as the Mille Lacs Band of Ojibwe Election Office **Tabled 2/9/2022.** Resolution was taken from the table and approved with a waiver of the formal reading.
- **New Business:**

- a) **Joint Session of the Band Assembly Resolution 20-01-16-22:** A Resolution Designating Polling Places for the 2022 Minnesota Chippewa Tribe Election on the Mille Lacs Band Reservation. Resolution was amended and approved with a waiver of the formal reading.

- **Other:** None.

District I Representative hosted a community meeting for District I Community.

District II Representative hosted a community meeting for District II Community.

Thursday, February 24, 2022: Legislative held a work session for the Band Assembly Members, and Legislative Staff.

Work Session Agenda: Bill: Title 5 – Healing to Wellness, Discussion: Opinion of the Solicitor Regarding the Vaccine Mandate, Bill: Title 6 – Ethics Code and Government Employees, and Bill: Title 5 – Structure of the Court of Appeals and Elder Panel

Legal staff presented second public comments received regarding Healing-to-Wellness with discussion, questions, comments and moving forward with letter and submit for Band Assembly agenda. Opinion of the Solicitor regarding the Vaccine Mandate, Title 6 – Ethics Code and Government Employees, and Title 5 – Structure of the Court of Appeals and Elder Panel will be presented at upcoming work session.