



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

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**Weekly Review: July 21-25, 2025**

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**Workshop**

**July 22, 2025**

Legal counsel facilitated a workshop with the Band Assembly regarding nominations for the executive officers, nomination for the Housing Board, Title 16 bill, and Title 3 bill.

**Weekly Sync Meeting**

**July 22, 2025**

Legal counsel 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**

**July 23, 2025**

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

Band Assembly conducted a confirmation hearing for Michele Palomaki, Nominee for Commissioner of Administration nomination.

Band Assembly tabled a confirmation hearing for Ronda Weizenegger, Nominee for Commissioner of Corporate Affairs nomination.

Band Assembly conducted a confirmation hearing for Julie Dunkley-Ziegler, Nominee for D3 Corporate Board of Directors nomination.

Band Assembly conducted a confirmation hearing for Kelly Miller, Nominee for At-Large Housing Board nomination.

Band Assembly conducted a confirmation hearing for Keith Modglin, Nominee for At-Large Housing Board nomination.

The District Representatives approved Legislative Order 39-25: A Legislative Order repealing Legislative Order 005.

The District Representatives approved Band Assembly Bill 21-04-33-25 (A Bill Authorizing a Supplemental Appropriation for the purpose of authorizing expenditures and budget/payroll revision(s)/transfer(s) for the Executive branch for the Fiscal Year ending September 30, 2025).

The District Representatives approved Band Assembly Bill 21-04-34-25 (A Bill Repealing and Replacing Act 32-25 to correct the first amount listed under Natural Resources in Section 1.01. Act 32-25 authorized a supplemental appropriation for the purpose of authorizing expenditures and budget/payroll revision(s)/transfer(s) for the Executive branch for the Fiscal Year ending September 30, 2025).

The District Representatives approved Resolution 21-04-42-25 (A Resolution supporting the Band's participation in the 2025 Mutual Aide/Cooperative agreement between the Mille Lacs Band Tribal Police Chief and the Mille Lacs County Sheriff).

The District Representatives approved Resolution 21-04-43-25 (A Resolution supporting the Band entering into a contract with the U.S. Department of Agriculture and Natural Resources Conservation service for the MLBO DNR to perform obstruction removal services).

The District Representatives approved Resolution 21-04-44-25 (A Resolution amending the Mille Lacs Band Tribal transportation improvement program inventory).

The District Representatives approved Resolution 21-04-45-25 (A Resolution amending the Mille Lacs Band long range transportation plan).

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

Chief Executive Virgil Wind shared "First off I'm not trying to pick a fight at all, right? But, notice from the Assembly on when somebody's going to be confirmed, just that notice, right? We got somebody waiting, we didn't receive any confirmation on when or if that confirmation hearing is going to happen; just a matter of respect for people that are out there waiting for those would be nice. Also, a note that and a thank you, right? For repealing Legislative Order 005, but also mention that we have a number of things, so I believe the new Legislative Order 39-25 dealt specifically with grant appropriations, there are a number of things that are relaying out there that need appropriation on all different branches of the Band that aren't grant, so I do appreciate the change to that, but also there's a number of things that we don't know what to do with right now and in the interim and without a Corporate Commissioner what do we do with that stuff, right? Financial needs things like that, that need to be done, so really work together at what we can do to bring forth those appropriations, as we all know I think there's some appropriation requests and some letters that have come over to the Assembly now, right? Some SlotCo requests, some other appropriations requests to help support our hotel properties or whatever and we just have to figure out the way the mechanism to work on those in the interim here without a Corporate Commissioner, Commissioner of Administration, and Assistant Commissioner of Administration just very timely stuff that's going to start to happen and figuring that stuff out, so and then again jumping into a more positive note here thank you so much for the confirmation hearings today as you guys are very well aware very important roles with lots to consider I think the one thing that just starting you know really rooted in our values and care you know encompassing you know empathy and understanding of where our band members lives are and the strength that we need to have as Elected Officials in providing all of these services for our band members is an important role, another one is skills sets, right? Unique to the different positions, very hard to find, you know that experience that's out there you know and do appreciate your willingness to hear a few of those confirmation hearings, but it's really hard, right? Really hard to find, and I don't mean that they're not everywhere, right? But it's really hard to find somebody that's rooted in that love for our membership and has a true care and the heart to provide for some of our members that unfortunately can't provide for themselves, right? So, whether it be housing, whether it be DNR, whether it be HHS these are critical services that we need to provide for our membership and working together is going to be the way forward, so Miigwech, Mi'iw."

### **Messages from the Representatives:**

District I Representative Carolyn Beaulieu shared she wanted to thank all of the nominees that came forward today and got through your confirmation hearings. She appreciates everyone wanting to step up into these different roles.

District II Representative Wendy Merrill shared tonight Wednesday, July 23, 2025 is Family Fun Night in Isle and tomorrow Thursday, July 24, 2025 is the ground blessing and Family Fun Night at the East Lake Pow Wow grounds. Tonight, will be inside due to rain, tomorrow if it does rain in East Lake, it's still going to happen outside, we will keep an eye if it's severe weather or not. She shared this weekend is the Gii-Ishkonigewag Pow Wow the East Lake Pow Wow this weekend.

District III Representative Harry Davis shared we're working on getting our communities and neighborhoods back to a safe place for our children to play and our elders will be safe, we're going to have a meeting tomorrow at the Meshakwad community center 12:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m. we will have hotdogs and brats for the members hope to see you all there. Employees are encouraged to attend and there will be a sign in provided with Human Resources.

**Messages from the Secretary-Treasurer:**

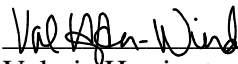
Secretary-Treasurer Sheldon Boyd shared a message as Speaker of the Assembly he would like to thank the staff for keeping the meeting live streamed today, unbeknownst to a lot of folks we had some hardware failure within the main chambers and would like to thank the Legislative staff, everyone here for keeping this live stream going and this practice and tradition of our legislative branch making sure that membership is able to see this government and what it takes to make it operate on your behalf. Case in point was the Legislative Order and with a lot of governments we are starting to get a history of law on the books and looking back forty years we have the staff here. Similar to the State of Minnesota they have a lot of historic laws that are out of date antiquating and it's kind of like weeding your garden and that's what the proof of the Legislative Branch as a whole; they care for the law and these are the people's laws the purpose and intent years ago, but things have moved on and it's just like caring for a garden and that's what we're doing here with these statutes on behalf of the people, again all the items on the payroll budgets, this is accountability and this points to the audit that was live streamed for the first time awhile back, listen to the staff that come online, the strength of the government middle management and those clean audits point to those middle managers and he as an elected official is very proud to show that those folks are efficient and do a good job financially and he thanks them overall.

**Workshop July 24, 2025**

Legal counsel facilitated a workshop with the Band Assembly regarding nominees for Corporate Commissioner, Commissioner of Administration, Housing Board, and the Corporate Commission.

**Noon Closing for East Lake Pow Wow July 25, 2025**

*The next Regular Band Assembly meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, July 30, 2025 at 10:00 a.m.*

  
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Valerie Harrington-Wind  
Chief Communications Officer