



Mille Lacs Band of Ojibwe Indians
Legislative Branch of Tribal Government

Weekly Review: August 21-25, 2023

Band Assembly Meeting

August 23, 2023

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: August 4, 2023, Band Assembly Record: August 9, 2023, and Band Assembly Record: August 14, 2023.

Compromise hearings were scheduled for Act 50-23 (enacting a new chapter in Title 17, titled Minors' Trust) and Act 51-23 (amending Title 6 to update the HR Personnel Policy), but were not able to be held due to the Chief Executive not being in attendance.

The District Representatives received Aanjibimaadizing FY2023 Quarter 1-3 Budget Review from Samuel Moose, Commissioner of Administration.

The District Representatives received Education FY2023 Quarter 1-3 Budget Review from Brooke "Niiyo" Gonzalez, Commissioner of Education.

Band Assembly received a comprehensive performance report from Verus in executive session. The District Representatives accepted the report.

The District Representatives amended and approved Band Assembly Bill 20-04-54-23 (A Bill of Supplemental appropriation and authorization of Long-Term Savings Funds for the Grand Casino Mille Lacs & Hinckley Hotel Refresh Project – Loan Funding ("the Project") Request for the Fiscal Year Ending September 30, 2023). Partial discussion in executive session.

The District Representatives approved a Loan Agreement between the Band and Mille Lacs Corporate Ventures.

The District Representatives approved Band Assembly Bill 20-04-55-23 (A Bill Authorizing a Supplemental Appropriation for the purpose of authorizing expenditures and budget transfer(s)/revision(s) for the Legislative Branch and the Gaming Regulatory Authority for the Fiscal Year ending September 30, 2023).

The District Representatives approved Band Assembly Bill 20-04-56-23 (A Bill Authorizing a Supplemental Appropriation for the purpose of authorizing expenditures and budget transfer(s)/revision(s) for the Executive Branch for the Fiscal Year ending September 30, 2023).

The District Representatives approved a contract with Busch Architects Inc. to provide architectural services for the renovation of the Mille Lacs Band District 2a Child Advocacy Center.

The District Representatives approved a contract addendum with Guardian Fleet Safety to increase the contract amount to cover the cost of installation for police equipment in vehicles purchased for this year.

The District Representatives approved a contract addendum with Deerwood Technologies to increase the contract amount to cover exceeded anticipated costs due to the purchase of additional computers.

The District Representatives approved a contract with Heritage Exteriors & Restoration, Inc. to provide labor and materials for the re-roofing work to be completed at the old District 1 Community Center.

The District Representatives approved a contract with Busch Architects, Inc. to provide complete architectural, surveying, civil, structural, mechanical, and electrical engineering, from project planning, construction and project closeout for the District 2 and District 3 Housing Warehouse Remodels.

The District Representatives tabled Foster Care License: District I: New: FFH 15100014.

The District Representatives approved Foster Care License: District I: New: FFH2310001.

The District Representatives approved Foster Care License: District 3: New-Relative Care: FFH2330002.

In the “Messages from the Representatives” portion of the agenda, District I Representative Virgil Wind opened with the scheduled compromise hearing didn’t happen today, hopefully we can get them figured out and get them back on the schedule along with the proposed language from the Chief Executive. Representative Wind shared over the weekend we had our 57th Iskigamizigan pow wow here in District I, shout out to the entire pow wow committee. He also thanked the over 40 people that gave ribbon skirts for a gift away. Thank you to everyone that contributes to the pow wow. Representative Wind closed his comments with in regards today and the conversations, we are putting in hard work and sometimes it takes a lot of conversations and he appreciates the other Representatives, Speaker of the Assembly, Parliamentarian, and everybody that had to bare with us today, thank you for your patience.

District II Representative Wendy Merrill opened with our community meeting that’s happening tonight Commissioner for Corporate Affairs, Joseph Nayquonabe Jr. will be on the agenda, tomorrow in Minisinaakwaang will also be Joseph Nayquonabe Jr. and Mike Moilanen to provide updates to the pedestrian study about a trail from the convenience store to the ALU, unfortunately she will not be there tomorrow Cheryl Miller and Taria Aubid will there and possibly District I Representative on her behalf to share updates. Representative Merrill shared they are looking for cooks for District II & IIA for the next fiscal year, you must be serve safe certified and the deadline is September 15, 2023. Representative Merrill shared next week we will have a back to school bash in East Lake on Tuesday, August 29, 2023 and Chiminising Thursday, August 31, 2023 from 6-8:00 p.m. both communities will have the same prizes, bingo, limited school supplies, backpacks, hand drum contest, bingo, inflatables, and dinner. Some community resources provided by HHS and volunteers from the Gi-Niigaanizijig, and Tribal Police. Representative Merrill closed her comments with starting in September East Lake community meetings will move to Tuesdays to support other community meetings.

District III Representative Harry Davis opened and closed with an announcement of Midewin concluded their Aazhoomog ceremonies last night and will be getting ready for big drum ceremonies.

In the “Messages from the Secretary-Treasurer” portion of the agenda, Secretary-Treasurer Sheldon Boyd opened and closed with today we had our investment advisor report to the Band Assembly and the day before we had the same advisor Verus do a report to the Institutional Investment Committee and that has been a long, it’s been about four years of kind of conception and it’s come to reality right now, and he to let membership know we have greatly increased the management and over sight of the investments per band statute by a group of volunteer investment professionals and Amy Jensen, Andy Christensen, and Carol Peterfeso they were there yesterday and long discussions about the investments of the Band and they’re all working on people’s behalf along with Anne Westreich and Zeca Cardoso and he appreciates all the work and that is the first cycle and we have the meetings scheduled out through next year and we’ll try to get on schedule to be accountable to the Representatives by statute and to the investment committee.

Workshop **August 24, 2023**

Legal staff facilitated a workshop for the elected officials, staff, and Commissioner of Finance regarding the Mille Lacs Corporate Ventures budget and draft bill to enact a cannabis code.

Workshop **August 25, 2023**

Legal staff facilitated a workshop for the elected officials, staff, Commissioner of Finance, and Commissioner for Corporate Affairs regarding the Mille Lacs Corporate Ventures Maadaadizi Investments.

The next Band Assembly meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, August 29, 2023 at 10:00 a.m.



Valerie Harrington-Wind
Chief Communications Officer