



Mille Lacs Band of Ojibwe Indians
Legislative Branch of Tribal Government

Weekly Review: October 31-November 4, 2022

Workshop

November 1, 2022

Legal staff facilitated a workshop for the elected officials, legislative staff, Gaming Regulatory personnel, and Mille Lacs Corporate Ventures executives and staff regarding proposed revisions to Chapter 1 (Gaming Regulatory Authority) of Title 15 (Independent Agencies).

Legislative Branch Weekly Sync Meeting

November 1, 2022

Legislative staff facilitated a Weekly Sync Meeting with elected officials to review the upcoming Band Assembly agenda items. The review included discussion about a proposed foster care grievance letter, TERO Commission nominations, the workshop schedule, and District Representative initiatives.

Band Assembly Meeting

November 2, 2022

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

The District Representatives approved the minutes from the Band Assembly meeting dated October 19, 2022.

At 10:31 AM, Band Assembly convened a formal public hearing regarding Section 4 of Title 4 (Executive Branch) of Mille Lacs Band Statutes. Representative Wind opened the meeting by providing an opening statement and reading a letter regarding the proposed legislation. Representatives Merrill and Davis also provided an opening statements, followed by public testimony from several enrolled Band members, including Nicole Anderson, Percy Benjamin, Irene Benjamin, Melissa “Baabiitaw” Boyd, Christine Costello, Michael Davis, Syngen Kanassatega, Katie Draper, Joe Nayquonabe, Wallace St. John, Adrienne Benjamin and Speaker Boyd also read aloud a written statement prepared by John Mojica. Boyd closed the public hearing at 12:25 PM after receipt of all public testimony.

Band Assembly convened an Annulment Hearing regarding Opinion of the Solicitor General 47-22. Speaker Boyd opened the meeting at 12:40 p.m. and Solicitor General Caleb Dogeagle provided an opening statement and summary of his opinion. The Commissioner of Finance also provided a statement. The hearing continued with questions from the District Representatives and closed at 1:27 PM.

The District Representatives approved Band Assembly Bill 20-02-86-22 (A Bill Authorizing a Supplemental Appropriation for the purpose of authorizing expenditures for the Executive and Legislative Branches for the Fiscal Years ending September 30, 2022 and September 30, 2023. This bill has been drafted based on formal documents submitted by the Administration Policy

Board on October 20, 2022; D2 Legislative Aide on October 20, 2022; and Commissioner of Finance on October 27, 2022).

The District Representatives approved Band Assembly Bill 20-02-87-22 (A Bill amending Title 25 to allow the Secretary-Treasurer and Commissioner of Finance to redact documents published on the Tribal Register that contain financial and proprietary information about Mille Lacs Corporate Ventures and the Band. This bill also creates a public-facing Tribal Register and a private-facing Tribal Register in order to limit the documents available to the general public, with the intent that Band members, first-generation descendants of enrolled Band members, Band employees, and those who require access to the Tribal Register to fulfill their professional responsibilities to the Band or Band members, may request access to the private-facing webpage).

The District Representatives approved Resolution 20-02-42-22 (A Resolution Approving the Chestnut Health Systems – Gain License Agreement and Data Sovereignty Agreement).

The District Representatives amended and approved Resolution 20-02-43-22 (A Resolution Expressing Support for Comprehensive Revisions to the Band’s Housing Programs in Order to Address Homelessness and the Band’s Broader Housing Deficiencies).

The District Representatives approved contract addendum #1 for File & ServeXpress to extend the date and add yearly maintenance and support cost to the original agreement with the Band’s Judicial Branch. This addendum continues the File & ServeXpress Service Agreement from 2020 contract due to language stating that it is ongoing until someone terminates the agreement with a written six-month advance notice.

The District Representatives approved a contract with Bohn Properties to provide a 12-month commercial lease for Aanjibimaadizing office space to assist program in providing services to clients in the McGregor area.

The District Representatives approved a contract with Rogers Plumbing, Heating & Electrical to provide HVAC services for projects for residential sites in D1, D2, D2a, and D3.

The District Representatives approved a contract with Rogers Plumbing, Heating & Electrical to provide plumbing services for projects for residential sites in D1, D2, D2a, and D3.

The District Representatives approved a contract with Wex Companies, Inc. dba Septic Check to provide septic pumping and jetting for residential sites in D1 and D2a.

The District Representatives approved a contract with Leach Electric to provide electrical services for small projects at residential sites in D1, D2, D2a, and D3.

The District Representatives approved a contract with Garrison Disposal to provide supply, delivery and pick-up dumpsters for the D2 Warehouse and various Community Development project sites in D1, D2, D2a, and surrounding areas.

The District Representatives approved a contract with Diversified Enterprises Co. dba Vanderpoel Disposal to provide, deliver and pick up dumpsters at D1 Housing Warehouse, D2 Housing Warehouse and residential sites in the surrounding D1, D2, and D2a.

The District Representatives approved a contract with Garrison Disposal to provide solid waste disposal and for weekly roll-off, commercial dumpsters, recycling pickup at the Mille Lacs Band Transfer Station and provide service for D1 & D2 community clean-up.

The District Representatives approved a contract with Hartl Enterprises, LLC. Dba Ron's Roll-Offs to provide supply, delivery and pick-up dumpsters for the D3 Warehouse and various Community Development project sites in D3 Hinckley, Sandstone, Lake Lena and surrounding areas.

The District Representatives approved a contract with CW Glass, LLC to provide labor & materials for glass or window repairs, replacements for residential sites in D1, D2 and D2a.

The District Representatives approved a contract with Cobra Construction to provide labor and materials for the construction of a new conditioned storage building for the new HHS mobile clinic RV and additional storage space for clinic supplies in D1.

The District Representatives approved a contract with Many Rivers West to provide an annual lease of eight (8) apartments to the Band for client rentals in the urban area.

The District Representatives approved a contract with St. Cloud Refrigeration to provide HVAC seasonal preventative maintenance, HVAC equipment repairs and emergency demand service calls.

The District Representatives approved a contract with Todd L. Smith to provide traditional medicine services to Mille Lacs Band members, two days per week, twice per month, to include mileage and lodging.

The District Representatives approved service contract #001110 as presented by the Commissioner of Finance.

The District Representatives approved service contract #00575 as presented by the Commissioner of Finance.

The District Representatives tabled Foster Care License: District I: Renewal: FFH1810000010.

The District Representatives approved Foster Care License: District I: Renewal: FFH1310004

The District Representatives approved Foster Care License: District I: New: FFH2210007.

The District Representatives approved Foster Care License: District II: New: FFH2220001.

The District Representatives approved Foster Care License: District II: Renewal: FFH1320001.

The District Representatives approved Foster Care License: District III: New: FFH2230001.

The District Representatives approved Foster Care License: District III: New: FFH2230003.

The District Representatives approved Foster Care License: District III: New: FFH2230002.

The District Representatives approved Foster Care License: District III: New: FFH2210005.

The District Representatives annulled Opinion of the Solicitor General 47-22.

The District Representatives noted for the record: A contract for Read Sulik, Inc. was approved and included within the minutes for the October 13, 2022, Administration Policy Board. On October 26, 2022, a memo was received from Commissioner Anderson requesting that the contract for Read Sulik, Inc. not be placed on the agenda due to additional needs and reworking the scope of work.

In the “Messages from the Representatives” portion of the agenda, District I Representative Virgil Wind shared Representative Wind’s office is happy to announce a partnership with Grand Casino Mille Lacs Band member Recruitment for the Native American Heritage event on November 13, 2022 at Grand Casino Mille Lacs, which includes a hand drum contest, side step specials, and all vendors welcome showcasing Native American artists. Anyone who has any questions can call Lana Oswaldson at (363) 238-6629. Representative Wind shared that he was honored to attend Halloween events in District II and thanked Representative Merrill for having him. More than 500 people attended the event which included a scary walk-through, a costume contest, and pumpkin carving. Representative Wind announced a partnership with Representative Merrill, Isle Indian Education, and Onamia Indian Education to host a raider roundy November 18, 2022, at Chiminising Community Center. Representative Wind noted that, with respect to the Title 4 bill, very key and vital positions need to be filled and that he appreciates everybody that came out to provide commentary and everybody taking an active interest in the laws of the Non-Removable Mille Lacs Band. Representative Wind stated that, regarding the Chief’s letter that was published in the Inaajimowin, anyone with questions on his stance should reach out to him directly at (320) 630-1428. Representative Wind congratulated Speaker Boyd, Mel Towle, and the entire Band on the important work that was accomplished.

District II Representative Wendy Merrill stated that today’s feedback was important and hopefully people will review what transpired today on the live-stream archives or by reviewing the Band Assembly minutes. Representative Merrill shared that Wellbriety is rescheduled to next Wednesday at 5:30 p.m. in East Lake. Representative Merrill also stated that the community meeting would be pushed back to November 15, 2022, at Chiminising; November 16, 2022, at Minisinaakwaang; and November 17, 2022 will be the MLCV Fall Feast. Representative Merrill stated that the Adult Christmas Party is due to R.S.V.P. on November 9, 2022, and Band members interested in attending should submit their names so the District II Office knows how many people will be in attendance. Representative Merrill shared that a flyer just came out today for our youth Christmas party which will be December 14, 2022, in Isle and December 15, 2022, in East Lake.

District III Representative Harry Davis shared that boxing was cancelled today, but will be back on tomorrow at 5:30 p.m.

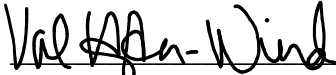
In the “Message from the Secretary-Treasurer” portion of the agenda, Secretary-Treasurer Sheldon Boyd shared that he would like to point out to those online and those who view the archives that there were a lot of things that happened today, a lot of very important issues, and there was a lot of participation that went on for six hours. Secretary-Treasurer Boyd stated that he thinks it’s important to recognize the work of the legislative staff in creating structure, procedures, and rules that made this possible. Secretary-Treasurer Boyd stated that we got through a lot of things and we had a lot of people with varying views and opinions and we managed them in a very orderly fashion. Secretary-Treasurer Boyd stated with membership and the infrastructure that we created here we had hearings today with 351 viewers and that this shows how far the core staff in the legislature has come

Workshop

November 3, 2022

Legal staff facilitated a workshop for the elected officials and staff regarding proposed revisions to Chapter 4 (Tribal Employment Rights Office) of Title 15 (Independent Agencies).

The next Band Assembly meeting is currently scheduled for Wednesday, November 9, at 10:00 AM.



Valerie Harrington-Wind
Chief Communications Officer