



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

**Band Assembly Weekly Update: Week of July 4-9, 2022**

**Monday, July 4, 2022:** Holiday

**Tuesday, July 5, 2022:** Legislative hosted a weekly sync meeting to discuss the agenda items.

**Approval of Minutes:** June 29, 2022 and June 30, 2022. **Reports and Presentations:** Commissioner Nayquonabe, MLCV Members Meeting. **Unfinished Business:** None. **New Business:** Proposed Amendments to the Rules of Procedures of Band Assembly, Band Assembly Bill 20-01-57-22: Appropriation bill for APB June 29, 2022 meeting, Band Assembly Bill 20-01-58-22: Amending Chapter 3 (Institutional Investment Committee) of Title 17 (Banks and Banking) of Mille Lacs Band Statutes, Band Assembly Bill 20-01-59-22: FY22-23 Biennium Bill, Contract (CMD): Degerstrom & Sons Construction, LLC, Contract (CEO): Thomson Reuters (Westlaw), Nomination: Brenda Moose, D2 Associate Justice, and Nomination: Trisha Moose, Commissioner of Community Development. **Other:** None. There was discussion, comments and questions on each item. Discussed various items. Work Session schedule. Legislative Priorities review. Representatives lastly held open discussion of their legislative agendas, ideas and requests.

**Wednesday, July 6, 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 with 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 approved.
- **Approval of Minutes:**
  - a) **Band Assembly Record:** June 29, 2022. Record was amended and approved.
  - b) **Band Assembly Record:** June 30, 2022. Record was approved.
- **Reports and Presentations:**
  - a) 11:00 a.m. Joseph Nayquonabe, Commissioner of Corporate Affairs  
Re: Mille Lacs Corporate Ventures Members Meeting (**Executive Session**). Members meeting was removed from the agenda.
- **Unfinished Business: None.**

- **New Business:**

- a) **Proposed Amendments to the Rules of Procedures of Band Assembly.** Rules were amended.
- b) **Band Assembly Bill 20-01-57-22:** 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 June 29, 2022.  
**Sponsor: District I Representative.** Bill was introduced, read, and approved.
- c) **Band Assembly Bill 20-01-58-22:** A Bill amending Sections 203, 204, and 206 of Chapter 3 of Title 17 of the Mille Lacs Band Statutes to clarify the Chief Investment Officer's role in the development of agenda packets for meetings of the Institutional Investment Committee.  
**Sponsor: District II Representative.** Bill was introduced, read, and approved.
- d) **Band Assembly Bill 20-01-59-22:** A Bill of Appropriation for Governmental Operations of the Executive, Legislative, and Judicial Branches; Circle of Health; Gaming Regulatory Authority; Department of Athletic Regulation; Supplemental Income Program for Elders; Tribal Employment Rights Office; and Band Member Legal Services of the Mille Lacs Band Tribal Government for fiscal years ending September 30, 2022, and September 30, 2023. This bill has been drafted based on formal documents submitted by the Office of Management and Budget and the Commissioner of Administration.  
**Sponsor: District II Representative.** Bill was introduced, read, and approved.
- e) **Contract (CMD):** A contract for Degerstrom & Sons Construction, LLC to provide materials and labor for renovation of two four (4) bedroom rental units in District I. Contract end date is June 30, 2023. Contract was approved.
- f) **Contract (Chief Executive Office):** A contract for Thomson Reuters (Westlaw) to provide subscription for West Proflex software, a legal software tool used world-wide to support legal counsel for a 36-month term. Contract end date April 30, 2025. Contract was approved.
- g) **Nomination:** A letter from the Chief Executive, dated June 8, 2022, nominating Band Member Brenda Moose for a subsequent term as the District II Associate Justice. Term will expire August 30, 2028. Nomination was approved with a roll call vote and the nomination passed.
- h) **Nomination:** A letter from the Chief Executive, dated June 16, 2022, nominating Band Member Trisha Moose to fill the vacant Commissioner of Community Development position. The current term will expire June 30, 2023. Nomination was tabled.

- **Other Business: None.**

- **Messages from the Chief Executive-** Madam Chief Benjamin was not present at time of messages.

- Messages from the Representatives-District I Representative-** Representative Wind thanked Representative St. John and Representative Bruneau for all the help as he got acquainted with his new position. He stated you guys are awesome, we didn't always agree, but he appreciated all the perspective and leadership and willingness to take him under the wing and guide him along. Thanks a lot. He stated you win some you lose some, the budget has been an ongoing process and he stated his opinion, we did the Band a disservice today by cutting child care and cutting our Tribal PD in those areas we should be focusing on. He stated he will continue to fight for those things but he believes we did a huge disservice to our Band membership and our single mothers out there that need child care. He stated in his opinion we should've been considering a way to adjust the compendium and adjust rates of pay for these particular things and not cutting the positions out of the budget totally. He stated a lot of people, a lot of mothers, and a lot of families need that resource from the Band and we are here to assist them in their shortfalls and the things that they need to be successful and child care is a huge one. He stated imagine being a single mother with three kids, imagine being a lonely carpenter to a stay at home mom. Huge disservice to not have those things in the budget. He stated this Sunday District I is planning a midsummer Sunday fun day we're planning to have it at Shaw bosh kung park right here on the corner of Virgo road. Food and fun for the whole family. We will have a slip and slide into the lake. A tent for shade hopefully weather holds out and we don't have to worry about that. There is a small volley ball tournament, small basketball tournament, small hand drum contest. There will be accommodations made for elders who want to attend the event. We will have some awesome food Dawn is making fry bread for us, we will have Indian tacos, burgers, and brats. There will be plenty of food in the afternoon. More details to come for timing and scheduling, but we are having a cooking contest as a part of this, trying to acquire the best potato salad and best mac salad also. If you have any questions reach out to the District I Office (320)532-7423 or reach out to me directly at (320)630-1428. Thanks a lot.

**District II Representative-** Representative Bruneau shared a direct message to Representative Wind that he believes that the Administration and the Band will address the concerns of those young people out there with their trials and tribulations, I have been there and I know how tough it is to obtain child care and find a job for that matter. I'm hoping that Mr. Wind will lead that charge for you, as I said before I share his concerns also. This will probably be my last Band Assembly meeting barring any unforeseen circumstances, I wish to bid you adieu. It has been a pleasure and honor to serve as the District II Representative. For all those who have supported me over the years and even those who have not supported me taught me valuable lessons in life. I appreciate that. With that Miigwech, see you later.

**District III Representative-** Representative St. John stated it's been an honor to serve the last four years. Hopefully it's not a one term wonder boy, but I am very happy and very fortunate to serve not only District III but all members of Mille Lacs Band. We got a lot done, we accomplished a lot. The Band evolved with this administration, helped us move forward from where we were in the beginning. He stated he has no remorse for anything. Getting to reiterate what Representative Wind was saying about budget, he thinks he's 100% correct on his take on the budget, but in the words of my we-eh Mr. Spock "The needs of the many outweigh the needs of few or the one" We have to think about the people as a whole, sure you know the Government people must have a tough time and some of the people that are less fortunate. But one thing about the human condition humans are best when they're at their worst. We evolve also and in that aspect to overcome any adversity. He stated he talked with Secretary Treasurer Sheldon Boyd in the beginning we have to make or create our people, sometimes we make decisions that are favorable and sometimes we will make some that are not favorable, but either way we survive and make it today. We're still here today. We're still doing alright and doing things to find a way. So I don't think this is a setback I think this is a learning curve. Mille Lacs will be fine,

Band Government will be fine, people will be fine. We just have to help those in financial situations. Give people their raise it's going to be wonderful. Those who are listening in District III Harry Davis has represented well, 16 years he was in office, you have to be willing to work with him now, it's a different system, so much has evolved. He will have some challenges, don't ask too much of him in the beginning. It's like learning to walk again. This administration has created so much legislation. May take a moment to advance. I love the Legislative Branch, the crew, we make a hell of a team. I still plan on doing another term, hopefully I am on this side of the grass. I wish you well Marvin I'll come throw a bobber in the water with you, Virgil keep up the good work and fight for the people. Sheldon you will do well I have no doubt. Chief Executive still has two more years. Community Development thank you for all the work and dealing with the complaining. Miigwech for everything. Mi'iw.

- **Messages from the Secretary-Treasurer-** Secretary Treasurer Boyd shared a brief message this marks the last session of Band Assembly for this term. It's been an honor and an even greater honor to be given more time and I think that membership has to recognize the work of the staff here in the Legislative Branch made tremendous changes in the last four years and to looking forward to make more changes. In the duties of the Speaker of the Assembly and the Secretary Treasurer we have a lot of work to do in the new field of Investments. With that Miigwech.

**Thursday, July 7, 2022:** Legislative held a work session for the Band Assembly Members and Legislative Staff.

**Work Session Agenda:** PowerPoint: Orientation for Newly Elected Officials

Legal Staff presented on Orientation for Newly Elected Officials.

**Saturday, July 9, 2022: Joint Session of the 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 with four Elected Officials 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.-not present
- **Approval of Agenda:** Agenda was approved.
- **Minutes:**
  - a) **Joint Session Record:** June 8, 2022. Record was tabled.
- **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**
- **New Business:**
- a) **Joint Session of the Band Assembly Resolution 20-01-21-22:** A Resolution Approving the Enrollments into the Non-Removable Mille Lacs Band of Ojibwe for Those Who Meet the 1/4 Degree Requirement of the Minnesota Chippewa Tribe. Resolution was approved with a waiver of the formal reading.
- b) **Joint Session of the Band Assembly Resolution 20-01-22-22:** A Resolution Denying the Enrollments into the Non-Removable Mille Lacs Band of Ojibwe for Those Who Do Not Meet the 1/4 Degree Requirement of the Minnesota Chippewa Tribe. Resolution was approved with a waiver of the formal reading.
- c) **Joint Session of the Band Assembly Resolution 20-01-23-22:** A Resolution Denying the Enrollment into the Non-Removable Mille Lacs Band of Ojibwe for Applicants Who Were Not Born to an Enrolled Mille Lacs Band Member. Resolution was approved with a waiver of the formal reading.
- **Other: None.**