

Ordinance 49-20

An Ordinance for Disbursement of Coronavirus Relief Fund (“CARES Act”) Funds for an Adult Band Member Economic Support Payment for the Month of August 2020 in the Fiscal Year ending September 30, 2020.

The District I Representative introduced the following Bill on the 22nd day of July, 2020.

Preamble

It is enacted by the Band Assembly of the Mille Lacs Band of Ojibwe for the purpose of authorizing an Adult Band Member Economic Support Payment for the month of August 2020 of Fiscal Year ending September 30, 2020. The Coronavirus (“COVID-19”) disease has infected more than 14.8 million people worldwide, to include more than 3.9 million people in the United States and more than 48,100 in Minnesota, resulting in widespread layoffs and economic hardship directly stemming from this pandemic public health emergency that has closed down or restricted businesses in order to increase physical distancing and contain the virus. On March 15, 2020, the Chief Executive of the Mille Lacs Band of Ojibwe (“Band”) issued an executive order declaring a state of emergency pursuant to Title 27 of Mille Lacs Band Statutes (“MLBSA”). That state of emergency resulted in Grand Casino Hinckley and Grand Casino Mille Lacs being closed effective 4 pm March 16, 2020, as a proactive measure to slow the spread of COVID-19, and reopened at a limited basis June 1, 2020. As a result of the closure of Grand Casino Hinckley and Grand Casino Mille Lacs, and subsequent partial opening at limited capacity, there has been diminished net revenues coming from the casinos to the Band, to fund an August 2020 per capita economic support payment. Meanwhile, many Band members remain in economic distress due to conditions directly stemming from the COVID-19 public health emergency, with many elders and children depending for survival on adult Band members who are under-employed or unemployed and facing increased expenditures required to mitigate or respond to the COVID-19 pandemic.

The Band Assembly has recognized that taking no action would create additional financial hardship and increased stress for many Band member families. Any reduction or suspension of the regular monthly Adult Band Member Economic Support Payments would have catastrophic consequences for many Band households. During these unprecedented times and circumstances, Band Assembly chooses to maintain without disruption the monthly Adult Band Member Economic Support Payments in the exercise its authority under 3 MLBSA sec. 2(b) to appropriate all Band revenue regardless of source; and 2(d) to promote the general welfare of the people of the Band as Band members respond to and attempt to mitigate the effects of, the COVID-19 public health emergency and pandemic.

Title I

Section 1: CARES Act Funds: Adult Band Member Economic Support Payments. The Band Assembly hereby appropriates and authorizes expenditures for Adult Band Member Economic Support Payments from Coronavirus Relief Fund (“CARES Act”) funds for the month of August 2020 of the Fiscal Year ending September 30, 2020.

Section 1.01: The Band Assembly hereby appropriates and authorizes the expenditure of: Six million, six hundred ninety-two thousand dollars and no cents (\$6,692,000.00) of Coronavirus Relief Fund (“CARES Act”) funds for Adult Band Members. The Adult Band member payment is set at Two thousand dollars and no cents (**\$2,000.00**) each (18 years and older, on August 6, 2020); a maximum of Four hundred sixty-six dollars and fifty cents (\$466.50) may be intercepted for Child Support purposes; and Child Support notice requirements are waived for this financial support payment, which amends the **Total Fiscal Year 2020 Mille Lacs Band Tribal Operations** to read: Two hundred twenty-four million, eight hundred forty-three thousand, four hundred seventy dollars and twenty-one cents (\$224,843,470.21).

Section 1.02: The Band Assembly hereby appropriates and authorizes the expenditure of Coronavirus Relief Fund (CARES Act) funds for the following:

<u>Fiscal Year 2020</u>	<u>Supplemental</u>	<u>Total Amended Amount</u>
Economic Support Payments of FY2020 Miscellaneous Revenue Funds for Adults at \$2,000 each (18 years and older, effective August 6, 2020)	\$6,692,000.00	\$9,964,362.07
Total Fiscal Year 2020 Miscellaneous Revenue Funds		\$9,964,362.07
Total Fiscal Year 2020 Mille Lacs Band Tribal Operations		\$224,843,470.21

Section 1.03: All funds appropriated are maximum fund amounts and shall not be exceeded.

Ordinance 49-20
(Band Assembly Bill 19-02-49-20)

Introduced to the Band Assembly on this
Twenty-second day of July in the year
Two thousand twenty.

Passed by the Band Assembly on this
Twenty-second day of July in the year
Two thousand twenty.



Sheldon Boyd, Speaker of the Assembly

APPROVED
Date: July 22, 2020



Melanie Benjamin, Chief Executive

OFFICIAL SEAL OF THE BAND