



THE MILLE LACS BAND OF OJIBWE INDIANS

Legislative Branch of Tribal Government

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

- WHEREAS, the Mille Lacs Band Assembly ("Band Assembly") is the duly elected legislative body of the Non-Removable Mille Lacs Band of Ojibwe ("Band"), a federally recognized Indian tribe; and
- WHEREAS, pursuant to 3 MLBS § 3(d), the Band Assembly is empowered to adopt resolutions; and
- WHEREAS, pursuant to 3 MLBS § 1(m), a "resolution" is defined as "a formal expression of the opinion, will, or intention" of the Band Assembly; and
- WHEREAS, pursuant to 4 MLBS § 2, the Band's Chief Executive is the leader of the Executive Branch of government, which possesses "[a]ll executive political authority" of the Band; and
- WHEREAS, pursuant to 12 MLBS § 301(a), the Band's Housing Department is "administered under the direction of the Commissioner of Community Development[;]" and
- WHEREAS, pursuant to 12 MLBS § 305(b)(8), the Band's Housing Board is responsible for "approv[ing] new Housing programs and Housing Policies developed by the Housing Department with ratification by the Band Assembly[;]" and
- WHEREAS, the Band's Rental Admission Policy has not undergone any significant amendments since December 4, 2009; the Band's Occupancy Policy has not been amended since June 25, 2010; the Band's Transitional Housing Policy has not been amended since July 28, 2016; the Band's Elder Housing Policy has not been amended since October 28, 2020; and the Band's Housing Department Drug Policy has not been amended since January 12, 2021; and
- WHEREAS, the Band Assembly consistently receives calls from constituents regarding (a) the numerous unoccupied homes existing within the Band's territorial jurisdiction and (b) the strict eligibility requirements which prevent Band members from participating in the Band's regular, low-rent, and restorative housing programs; and

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WHEREAS, “emergency housing” may be defined as temporary indoor accommodations for individuals, or families who are homeless or at imminent risk of becoming homeless, that is intended to address the basic health, food, clothing, and personal hygiene needs of individuals or families; and

WHEREAS, the Band Assembly believes that the Band’s housing deficiencies, including a shortage of single-adult and emergency housing units, have persisted for far too long and have negatively impacted the mental, physical, and emotional well-being of Band members who are either homeless or closely related to one or more homeless Band members.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Band Assembly expresses its support for comprehensive revisions to the Band’s housing programs in order to address homelessness and the Band’s broader housing deficiencies.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Band Assembly requests that the Chief Executive support the initiation of revisions to the Band’s Rental Admission Policy, Occupancy Policy, Transitional Housing Policy, Elder Housing Policy, and Housing Department Drug Policy and route them to the Housing Board for review in accordance with 12 MLBS § 305(b)(8).

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Band Assembly is willing to partner with the Executive Branch to develop proposed revisions to the Housing Department policies referenced herein and Chapter 4 (Housing) of Title 12 (Community Development).

BE IT FURTHER AND FINALLY RESOLVED, that the Band Assembly is willing, if needed, to appropriate additional funds in order to address homelessness and the Band’s broader housing deficiencies.

WE DO HEREBY CERTIFY that the foregoing resolution was duly concurred with and adopted at a special session of the Band Assembly, in Legislative Council assembled, a quorum of legislators being present, held on the 2nd day of November, 2022, at Nayahshing, Minnesota, by a vote of 3 FOR, 0 AGAINST, 0 SILENT.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, we, the Band Assembly, hereunto cause to have set the signature of the Speaker of the Assembly.

OFFICIAL SEAL OF THE BAND




Sheldon Boyd, Speaker of Assembly

Sponsors: District I, II, and III Representatives