



THE MILLE LACS BAND OF
OJIBWE INDIANS

Legislative Branch of Tribal Government

RESOLUTION 20-03-06-22

A RESOLUTION EXPRESSING SUPPORT FOR THE HOUSING DEPARTMENT'S COMMITMENT OF NAHASDA FUNDS TO SUBSIDIZE RENT FOR BAND MEMBER OR OTHER NATIVE AMERICAN FAMILIES WHO WILL BE RESIDING WITHIN VENTURA PROJECT HOUSING UNITS

- 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, the Band's Housing Department is an agency of Band government, established under 12 MLBS § 303(a) to "administer the Mille Lacs Band of Ojibwe Indians housing programs and services[;]" and
- WHEREAS, pursuant to 12 MLBS § 304, the Housing Director is "responsible for the daily administration of housing programs and services to Band members[;]" and
- WHEREAS, the Native American Housing Assistance and Self Determination Act of 1996 ("NAHASDA") authorizes the U.S. Secretary of Housing and Urban Development ("Secretary") to distribute Indian Housing Block Grant ("IHBG") funds to Native American tribes to "carry out affordable housing activities under part A of subchapter II" and to "carry out self-determined housing activities for tribal communities under part B of that subchapter[;]" and
- WHEREAS, pursuant to 24 C.F.R. § 1000.1003, "IHBG funds may be used for project-based or tenant-based rental assistance[;]" and
- WHEREAS, to access IHBG funds, Native American tribes must submit an Indian Housing Plan ("IHP") to the Secretary in full compliance with 25 U.S.C. § 4112; and
- WHEREAS, pursuant to 25 U.S.C. § 4131(b)(6), the "Indian housing plan for an Indian tribe may require preference, for housing or housing assistance provided through affordable housing activities assisted with grant amounts provided under this chapter on behalf of such tribe, to be given (to the extent practicable) to Indian families who are members of such tribe, or to other Indian families[;]" and

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WHEREAS, the Band utilizes its allocated IHBG funds to service Band members in need of housing assistance to the utmost degree; and

WHEREAS, on December 9, 2022, the Chief Executive signed into law Act 95-22, which authorized funding for Mille Lacs Corporate Ventures' development of an affordable housing project ("Ventura Project") located at 2224 Bloomington Ave., Minneapolis, MN 55404; and

WHEREAS, on January 24, 2023, the Band' Housing Director signed a letter stating that the Housing Department is "in support of the *Ventura Project* to increase available and affordable rental units within our Urban Services area. To meet the needs of our Urban tribal population, we will commit to offering subsidized rent to tenants within the *Ventura Project* once construction is complete and tenants are able to move into units."

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Band Assembly fully supports the Ventura Project and Mille Lacs Corporate Ventures' efforts to apply preference for Band member or other Native American families who will be residing within the Ventura Project's NAHASDA-assisted housing units.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Band Assembly expresses its support for the Housing Department's commitment of NAHASDA funds to subsidize rent for Band member or other Native American families who will be residing within Ventura Project housing units.

WE DO HEREBY CERTIFY that the foregoing resolution was duly concurred with and adopted at a regular session of the Band Assembly, in Legislative Council assembled, a quorum of legislators being present, held on the 8th day of February, 2023, 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