



THE MILLE LACS BAND OF OJIBWE INDIANS

Legislative Branch of Tribal Government

JOINT RESOLUTION 11-03-86-05

A RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF A MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING WITH THE BUREAU OF INDIAN AFFAIRS MIDWEST REGIONAL OFFICE (BIA MRO) TO REPROGRAM TRIBAL PRIORITY ALLOCATION (TPA) FUNDS FOR FEE-TO-TRUST CONSORTIUM PROGRAM

- WHEREAS, the Mille Lacs Band Assembly is the duly elected governing body of the Mille Lacs Band of Ojibwe, a federally recognized Indian Tribe; and
- WHEREAS, the Chief Executive and the Band Assembly of the Mille Lacs Band of Ojibwe have consistently recognized that the greatest single obstacle to the full function and exercise of tribal sovereignty is the continuing inability of the Band to put land into trust; and
- WHEREAS, a continuing source of this difficulty is the under-financing and staffing of Realty operations, specifically concerning fee-to-trust applications at the BIA MRO as reflected by the current backlog of pending fee-to-trust applications in addition to applications continually being added; and
- WHEREAS, the BIA has a responsibility to the Band to assist in the fee-to-trust process, as delineated in 25 CFR 151, including performance of inherently federal functions that cannot be transferred to the Band under P.L. 93-638 Titles I and IV; and
- WHEREAS, the Band wishes to promote the acquisition of certain tribal fee lands into trust status with the United States of America; and
- WHEREAS, the Band has approached the BIA MRO to discuss options available to the Band in processing the fee-to-trust acquisition more efficiently; and
- WHEREAS, the Band acknowledges that the MRO is establishing the Midwest Fee-to-Trust consortium (Consortium) for tribes who wish to participate; and
- WHEREAS, the Consortium is designed to assist participating tribes in processing fee-to-trust acquisitions in a more timely fashion; and
- WHEREAS, the Band wishes to participate in the Consortium and assist the BIA MRO by entering into a Memorandum of Understanding, attached hereto as Exhibit A; and

DISTRICT I

43408 Oodena Drive • Onamia, MN 56359

DISTRICT II

36666 State Hwy 65 • McGregor MN 55760

DISTRICT III

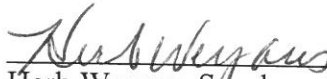
Route 2 • Box 233-N • Sandstone, MN 55072

WHEREAS, the Band understands that reallocation of TPA funds will be needed for participation in the Consortium.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Mille Lacs Band Assembly hereby supports and directs that a Memorandum of Understanding between the Band and the BIA MRO be established for the purpose of the Midwest Region Fee-to-Trust Consortium and to commit from its allocated Tribal Priority Allocation (TPA) funds, the requisite amount of funds, as stated in the MOU, necessary to be a full participant in the Consortium.

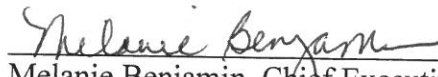
WE DO HEREBY CERTIFY, that the foregoing resolution was duly concurred with and adopted at a regular session of the Band Assembly in Legislative Council assembled, a quorum of legislators being present held on the 12th day of July 2005 at Lake Lena, Minnesota by a vote of 3 FOR, 0 AGAINST, 0 SILENT.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, we, the Band Assembly hereunto cause to have set the signature of the Speaker of the Assembly to be affixed to this resolution and forwarded to the Chief Executive for Concurrence.



Herb Weyaus, Speaker of the Assembly

IN CONCURRENCE, with the action of the Speaker of the Assembly, I, set my hand to this resolution.



Melanie Benjamin, Chief Executive

OFFICIAL SEAL OF THE BAND