



THE MILLE LACS BAND OF  
**OJIBWE INDIANS**

*Legislative Branch of Tribal Government*

**JOINT RESOLUTION 15-02-20-13**

**A JOINT 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 THE DIVISION OF FEE-TO-TRUST PROGRAM**

- WHEREAS, the Mille Lacs Band of Ojibwe 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 in addition to the current backlog of pending fee to trust applications with new 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 can not 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 is currently participating in the Division of Fee to Trust (Division) and has been able to process the Fee to Trust acquisitions more efficiently; and
- WHEREAS, the Band understands that the current Memorandum of Understanding between the Division and the Band will end on September 30, 2013; and
- WHEREAS, the Band wishes to enter into another Memorandum of Understanding with the Division starting on October 1, 2013 and ending September 30, 2017; and
- WHEREAS, the Band understands that reallocation of TPA funds will be needed for participation in the Division.

**DISTRICT I**

43408 Oodena Drive • Onamia, MN 56359  
(320) 532-4181 • Fax (320) 532-4209

**DISTRICT II**

36666 State Highway 65 • McGregor, MN 55760  
(218) 768-3311 • Fax (218) 768-3903

**DISTRICT IIA**

2605 Chiminising Drive • Isle, MN 56342  
(320) 676-1102 • Fax (320) 676-3432

**DISTRICT III**

45749 Grace Lake Road • Sandstone, MN 55072  
(320) 384-6240 • Fax (320) 384-6190

**URBAN OFFICE**

1404 E. Franklin Avenue • Minneapolis, MN 55404  
(612) 872-1424 • Fax (612) 872-1257

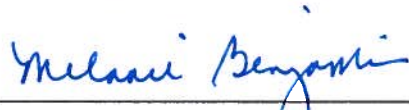
NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Mille Lacs Band Assembly hereby supports and directs that a Memorandum of Understanding between the Band and the BIA MRO be established for the purpose of the Midwest Region Division of Fee to Trust and to commit from its allocated Tribal Priority Allocation (TPA)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

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 of legislators being quorum present held on the 3rd of January, 2013, at Vineland, 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.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Curt Kalk, 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**