



THE MILLE LACS BAND OF
OJIBWE INDIANS
Legislative Branch of Tribal Government

JOINT RESOLUTION 17-01-36-16

**A JOINT RESOLUTION APPROVING THE SUBMISSION OF A 2016
GREAT LAKES TRIBAL INITIATIVE PROJECT GRANT
APPLICATION.**

- WHEREAS, the Mille Lacs Band Assembly ("Band Assembly") is the duly-elected governing body of the Mille Lacs Band of Ojibwe ("Band"), a federally-recognized Indian Tribe; and
- WHEREAS, pursuant to 3 MLBSA § 2 (d), the Band Assembly has the power to adopt resolutions to promote the general welfare of the people of the Band; and
- WHEREAS, pursuant to 4 MLBSA § 2, the Chief Executive of the Band is empowered to exercise the Executive Branch powers of the Band; and
- WHEREAS, According to the Anishinaabeg world view, Lake Superior and its connected lakes, rivers and streams are not simply the sum total of their constituent parts, or the property of a state, nation or person, but are integral parts of the web of life that support the continuation of Anishinaabeg life-ways and provide life-giving benefits to all who now call the Great Lakes region home; and
- WHEREAS, Tribes have struggled to communicate our concerns for the degradation that has already occurred within the headwaters of the St. Louis River and along the Mesabi Widjiu, which is manifest in diminished ecological, functional, and cultural condition; and
- WHEREAS, Tribes need a common understanding of the extent to which the surface and groundwater systems have been impacted by historic land uses, including mining and extensive draining of forested wetlands and peat bogs for agriculture and other development; and
- WHEREAS, Despite requests from Tribes, state and federal agencies have failed to quantify this degradation; and
- WHEREAS, This basic understanding and framework is necessary for being able to predict environmental impacts of future activities, and to target restoration activities where they would be most beneficial.

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URBAN OFFICE

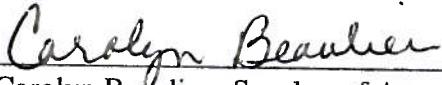
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WHEREAS, Mille Lacs Band wishes to partner with Fond du Lac, Minnesota Chippewa Tribe, Bois Forte, and Leech Lake in cooperation with the U.S. Geological Survey to study how water resources have changed and may potentially change because of land use, particularly mining in, and near, the St. Louis River Basin, which will produce tools to evaluate the effect of future mining projects on waters the Tribes depend upon.

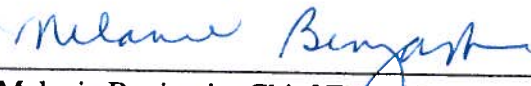
NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Mille Lacs Band Assembly and Chief Executive do hereby authorize and approve the submission of a proposal to the Environmental Protection Agency for the 2016 Great Lakes Tribal Initiative Project Grant seeking a total grant amount of \$100,000.

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 28th day of January, 2016 at Hinckley, Minnesota by a vote of 2 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.


Carolyn Beaulieu, Speaker of Assembly

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


Melanie Benjamin, Chief Executive

OFFICIAL SEAL OF THE BAND