

Legislative Branch of Tribal Government

## **RESOLUTION 19-01-101-20**

A RESOLUTION APPROVING THE AVAILABILITY OF LONG-TERM SAVING INTEREST EARNING FUNDS FOR THE STATE OF EMERGENCY IN RESPONSE TO THE CORONAVIRUS DISEASE "COVID-19" PANDEMIC

- 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, a priority of the Band Assembly is to provide for the financial well being and welfare of the Band; and
- WHEREAS, the World Health Organization has declared the worldwide outbreak of Coronavirus Disease ("COVID-19") a pandemic; and
- WHEREAS, on March 13, 2020, the President of the United States declared the COVID-19 pandemic of sufficient severity and magnitude to warrant an emergency declaration for all states, tribes, territories, and the District of Columbia; and
- WHEREAS, on March 13, 2020, the Governor of Minnesota declared Minnesota to be in a "peace-time State of Emergency" and the number of confirmed cases of COVID-19 in Minnesota are rising daily; and
- WHEREAS, the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention has advised that older adults and people with certain underlying health conditions such as diabetes, lung disease, heart disease or other chronic diseases are at increased risk of fighting COVID-19; and
- WHEREAS, research has proven the prevalence of these conditions among tribal communities, including the Non-removable Mille Lacs Band of Chippewa Indians, is much higher than in non-Indian communities, meaning that our Band communities are at an increased vulnerability level if COVID-19 were to spread through the Band; and
- WHEREAS, Ordinance 27-20, an act to provide for the emergency management of the Non-Removable Mille Lacs Band of Chippewa Indians, was passed and signed March 15, 2020; and

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- WHEREAS, on March 15, 2020, through Executive Order 2020-03, the Chief Executive declared a State of Emergency for the Non-removable Mille Lacs Band of Chippewa Indians in response to the spread of COVID-19 throughout the State of Minnesota and United States; and
- WHEREAS, Grand Casino Hinckley and Grand Casino Mille Lacs were closed effective Four O' Clock p.m. March 16, 2020 which will result in zero dollars being distributed to the Band from those operations during the month of March 2020, and expected that there will be none in April 2020; and
- WHEREAS, the Band Assembly now approves the availability of Twenty-five million dollars and no cents \$25,000,000.00 from the Band's Long-Term Savings; and
- WHEREAS, the Long-Term Savings funds will be transferred to the Bands Woodlands
  National Bank Main Operating Account to cover expenditures during the closure
  as needed.
- NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the Band Assembly approves the availability of Twenty-five million dollars and no cents (\$25,000,000.00) to the Bands Woodlands National Bank Main Operating Account (1201859) with funds held in the Band's long-term savings funds at Merrill Lynch/Bank of America; and
- BE IT FURTHER AND FINALLY RESOLVED, said funds will be transferred in accordance with approved Depository Resolutions, on an as needed basis with the first transfer being Ten million dollars and no cents (\$10,000,000.00) due to no distribution during the closure of the casinos in March 2020.
- 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 19<sup>th</sup> day of March, 2020 at Nayahshing, Minnesota by a vote of 3 FOR, AGAINST, SILENT.
- IN WITNESS WHEREOF, we, the Band Assembly hereunto cause to have set the signature of the Speaker of the Assembly.

Sheldon Boyd, Speaker of Assembly

OFFICIAL SEAL OF THE BAND