

Legislative Branch of Tribal Government

JOINT RESOLUTION 19-01-77-20

A JOINT RESOLUTION APPROVING THE USE OF AN AUTOMATED BALLOT TABULATION SYSTEM FOR THE 2020 MINNESOTA CHIPPEWA TRIBE ELECTION ON THE MILLE LACS RESERVATION

- 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, the Mille Lacs Band of Ojibwe is one (1) of the six (6) Ojibwe Bands forming the Minnesota Chippewa Tribe ("MCT"); and
- WHEREAS, Article IV of the Minnesota Chippewa Tribe Revised Constitution mandates that all tribal elections on the six (6) reservations shall be in accordance with a uniform election ordinance adopted by the Tribal Executive Committee ("TEC"), the entity recognized as the MCT governing body; and
- WHEREAS, the Secretary-Treasurer and the Chief Executive are voting members of the TEC;
- WHEREAS, the MCT Election Ordinance (Revised 12/09/19) has been adopted by the TEC as the official Election Ordinance for the 2018 MCT Election to be held on the Mille Lacs Reservation; and
- WHEREAS, Chapter II of the MCT Election Ordinance (Revised 12/09/19), titled <u>Conduct of Elections</u> authorizes the General Reservation Election Board of each Band to be responsible for the overall conduct of the election and to perform all duties assigned to it according to the MCT Election Ordinance; and
- WHEREAS, Chapter II, Section 2.1(A)(1) of the MCT Election Ordinance (Revised 12/09/19), requires the Tribal Executive Committee (TEC) prepare all ballots for all MCT elections "when a Band governing body has decided to not use an automated ballot tabulation system"; and

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- WHEREAS, Chapter II, Section 2.1(A)(1) of the MCT Election Ordinance (Revised 12/09/19) further requires that the TEC ensure the secure storage of all ballots prior to and during delivery to the General Reservation Election Boards, except when an automated ballot tabulation system is used, "the supplier shall also be responsible for ballot security and other measures related to the integrity of the election process;" and
- WHEREAS, Chapter II, Section 2.2 of the MCT Election Ordinance (Revised 12/09/19) titled Voting Procedures exempt the General Reservation Election Board from some of the procedural requirements of this section if the Band governing body chooses to use an automated ballot tabulation system and requires the Election Board to "apply the controls and procedures prescribed by the vendor to ensure the integrity of the process of casting and counting all valid ballots"; and
- WHEREAS, Chapter II, Section 2.3 of the MCT Election Ordinance (Revised 12/09/19) titled Counting of Votes requires the District Election Board to unlock the ballot box(es), remove the regular ballots, and tabulate the votes according to the MCT Election Ordinance "or such other process as may be required by an automated ballot tabulation system;" and
- WHEREAS, the Band Assembly and Chief Executive believe that it is in the best interest of the Band to institute the use of an automated ballot tabulation system to ensure the integrity of the election process on the Mille Lacs Band Reservation for the 2020 MCT Election cycle.
- NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the Band Assembly and Chief Executive do hereby approve of the use of an automated ballot tabulation system and have formalized an agreement with Automated Election Services to assist the General Reservation Election Board with its duties under the MCT Election Ordinance.
- 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 6th day of February, 2020 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.

Sheldon Boyd, Speaker of Assembly

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

OFFICIAL SEAL OF THE BAND

Melanie Benjamin, Chief Executive

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