



*Mille Lacs Band of Ojibwe Indians*  
*Legislative Branch of Tribal Government*

**Band Assembly Weekly Update: Week of September 13-17, 2021**

**Tuesday, September 14, 2021:** Legislative hosted a Pre-Band Assembly meeting to discuss the agenda items. **Approval of Minutes:** September 9, 2021. **Reports and Presentations:** None. **Unfinished Business:** Resolution 19-04-80-21 Resolution terminating 08-04-104-99 Land Lease (D2), Resolution 19-04-81-21 Resolution authorizing a land lease (D2), Contract (Admin) Blue Stone Strategy Group, LLC, Foster Care License: D1 FFH21100011, and Formal Notification – Scoping for Grand Casino Mille Lacs Hotel. **New Business:** Nomination: Brenda Moose D2 Associate Justice and Nomination: Housing Board: Kat Garbow, Percy Benjamin, Kelly Miller, Tony Pike. **Other:** Joint Session of the Band Assembly NCAI and NIGA Resolutions. There was discussion, comments and questions on each item. Discussed various items. Work Session schedule. Master Projects List review. Representatives lastly held open discussion of their legislative agendas, ideas and requests.

**Wednesday, September 15, 2021: Band Assembly occurred through conference call and zoom.**

- **Call to Order:** Meeting was called to order.
  
- **Roll Call:** Roll call was completed all Representatives present.  
District I Representative, Virgil Wind  
District II Representative, Marvin Bruneau  
District III Representative, Wallace St. John Sr.
  
- **Approval of Agenda:** Agenda was approved.
  
- **Approval of Minutes:**
  - a) **Band Assembly Record:** September 9, 2021. Record was approved.
  
- **Reports and Presentations:** None.
  
- **Unfinished Business:**
  - a) **Resolution 19-04-80-21:** A Resolution to Terminate a Residential Lease Authorized by Resolution 08-04-104-99 **Tabled 09/09/21.** Resolution was taken from the table, amended, and approved.
  
  - b) **Resolution 19-04-81-21:** A Resolution Authorizing a Land Lease for Residential Purposes to Mille Lacs Band Member 410B037854 **Tabled 09/09/21.** Resolution was taken from the table, amended, and approved.
  
  - c) **Contract (ADMIN):** A contract for Blue Stone Strategy Group, LLC. to provide consulting services to include a comprehensive assessment of current operations, processes and staffing analysis of departments within Mille Lacs Band, create actionable plans to support the strategic alignment of creating better services and programs for the Band’s membership. Contract end date is September 30, 2022. **Tabled 09/09/21.** Contract was taken from the table and approved.

- d) **Foster Care License:** New: District I FFH21100011 **Tabled 09/09/21.** License was taken from the table and approved.
- e) **Formal Request** dated September 1, 2021 (Received September 3, 2021) from Joseph S. Nayquonabe, Commissioner of Corporate Affairs to open a FY2021 capital project for Grand Casino Mille Lacs Scoping Services for the Grand Casino Mille Lacs Hotel project. **Tabled 09/09/21**
- **New Business:**
    - a) **Nomination:** A nomination dated August 16, 2021, from Chief Executive Benjamin, for Brenda Moose to serve as the District II Associate Justice position pursuant to 5 MLBSA § 5.b. Current term expires August 15, 2026. Roll call vote was requested and nomination passed.
    - b) **Nomination:** Per MLBS 12 Chapter 4 § 306 (a) (10) “The Chief Executive and the Speaker of the Assembly shall each select two (2) persons from the at Large area and the Band Assembly shall confirm two (2) of the four (4) for appointment to the Housing Board.” The Chief Executive has nominated Kat Garbow and Percy Benjamin. The Speaker of the Assembly has nominated Kelly Miller and Tony Pike. Nomination was tabled.
  - **Other Business:** None.
  - **Messages from the Chief Executive-**Good morning band members online. Biggest message about COVID confusing information coming out and is changing on a weekly basis. Things change quickly hard to keep abreast. If you need information, please call Public Health to all be on the same page she shares numbers two to three times per week. Numbers are rising. Mask is best defense. Dilemma about vaccine, it is a personal choice, lot of good and bad information. Listen to most medical informed information out there. Concern going forward with government, one tribe went back to virtual, indication for others to follow. Important to keep services for our band members. Thank you for Band Assembly approving Bluestone, lots of changes and best practices. Lots for employees to learn and make changes for the best possible service. Important to love to come to work. Thank you to everyone who attended ARPA moving forward with a good plan and recommendations. Miigwech have a good day.
  - **Messages from the Representatives-District I Representative-** In no particular order. Excited about the bluestone collaboration, happy to help, happy with the relationship and momentum. Thank you to the entire Executive Branch employees, Commissioners, and Madam Chief. Welcome Brenda Moose excited she has a very impressive resume. Lots of loss and trauma in DI. Grief is heavy and hard, the Band has a number of services to help support families during their loss, including mental health. DI office can help connect, whatever we can do to help. Loss affects us all as a community. Heartfelt sympathy to all involved. DI Office planning event to take place of community meeting September 29<sup>th</sup> 4-8pm at the New District Community Center, look for mailer to be coming this week or early next week. **District II Representative-**Everyone be aware of COVID, take care of yourself and your family. Condolences to all the loss, offer heartfelt sympathy. Take care. Miigwech. **District III Representative-**Apologize for being late. About Bluestone not 100% with it, I am for it, just not 100% happy, was procurement followed? Bids per statute. Things we’re going to do we

could've negotiated. Didn't want to approve as is, could've spent our dollars better. Things could've been done through our own employees. Training of same old' same old' as past. Not the only game in town. Moot as already approved. Community meeting tonight 5:30 p.m. good supper. Travis Zimmerman update from museum and HHS staff updates. Be aware the dog ordinance will be enforced. Also unregistered, uninsured, and unlicensed will push to enforce through OSG & Tribal PD. With that-that's all I have to say. Miigwech.

- **Messages from the Secretary-Treasurer-Brief-to membership** there is a draft legislation that now has a sponsor of Representative Bruneau. Investment board will keep discussing. Draft law gives Secretary Treasurer mandates. Certain entities in place by law so Secretary Treasurer is more accountable to manage investments for the Band. Currently nothing in place and draft will fix that. That's all for now. Miigwech.

### **Joint Session of the Band Assembly Meeting occurred through Band Assembly Chambers**

- **Roll Call:** All Elected officials were present.  
Chief Executive, Melanie Benjamin  
Secretary-Treasurer, Sheldon Boyd  
District I Representative, Virgil Wind  
District II Representative, Marvin Bruneau  
District III Representative, Wallace St. John Sr.
- **Approval of Agenda:** Joint Session agenda was approved.
- **Minutes:**
  - a) **Joint Session Record:** July 9, 2021. Record was approved.
- **New Business:**
  - a) **Joint Session of the Band Assembly Resolution 19-04-13-21:** A Resolution Approving the 2022 Membership into the National Congress of American Indians. Joint session resolution was amended and approved.
  - b) **Joint Session of the Band Assembly Resolution 19-04-14-21:** A Resolution Approving the 2022 Membership into the National Indian Gaming Association. Joint session resolution was amended and approved.
- **Other:**
  - a) **MLBO Advisory Committee meeting date discussion.** The item was discussed and a meeting date was scheduled.