



Mille Lacs Band of Ojibwe Indians
Legislative Branch of Tribal Government

Band Assembly Weekly Update: Week of March 21-25, 2022

Monday, March 21, 2022: Legislative held a work session for the Band Assembly Members, and Legislative Staff.

Work Session Agenda: Bill: Title 25 – Clean-up bill, Bill: Title 11 – Animal Protection, and Bill: Title 6 – Government Employees & Ethics Code (review comments)

Legal Staff presented on Title 25 – Clean up draft bill blue line version with review of changes with discussion, questions, and comments. The other agenda items will be discussed at an upcoming work session.

Tuesday, March 22, 2022: Legislative held a work session for the Band Assembly Members, and Legislative Staff.

Work Session Agenda: Bill: Title 25 – Clean-up bill, Bill: Title 11 – Animal Protection, and Bill: Title 6 – Government Employees & Ethics Code (review comments)

Legal Staff presented on Title 25 – Clean up draft bill blue line version with review of changes with discussion, questions, and comments. The other agenda items will be discussed at an upcoming work session.

Legislative hosted a Pre-Band Assembly meeting to discuss the agenda items. **Approval of Minutes:** March 16, 2022. **Reports and Presentations:** Marc Slonim and Beth Baldwin Re: Litigation Update (Executive Session) and Annulment Hearing Re: Department of Administration Commissioner's Order 2022-01. **Unfinished Business:** Bill 20-01-30-22: Amending Title 5 – Healing to Wellness Tabled and Nomination: Anthony Pike – CMD Commissioner Tabled. **New Business:** Bill 20-01-36-22: Per Commissioner's Order 2022-01 apb March 10, 2022, Contract (Legislative): Foxtrot Marketing Group – Printing of 2021 actions, Contract (CMD): Degerstrom & Sons Construction for complete fire restoration in Wahkon, Contract (CMD): W. Gohman Construction for renovation of Aanjibimaadizing, and Hardship Request: D3-01-03-22. **Other:** None. 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, March 23, 2022: Band Assembly occurred in Band Assembly Chambers and 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:** March 16, 2022. Record was approved.

- **Reports and Presentations:**

- a) 10:30 a.m. Marc Slonim and Beth Baldwin, Ziontz Chestnut

Re: Update (**Executive Session**). Update was completed in Executive Session.

- b) 11:15 a.m. Annulment Hearing

Re: Department of Administration Commissioner's Order 2022-01. Annulment Hearing was completed with rescinding Commissioner's Order and replacing with Commissioner's Order 2022-02.

- **Unfinished Business:**

- a) **Band Assembly Bill 20-01-30-22:** A Bill amending Title 5 of the Mille Lacs Band Statutes ("MLBS") to establish a Healing to Wellness Court to provide intensive services and more frequent court intervention to facilitate the reunification of Band families and to prevent the breakup of such families; improve the safety and well-being of children whose families are affected by substance abuse, trauma, and mental health conditions; prevent the prenatal exposure of infants to alcohol and controlled substances; expedite family reunification and reduce the lengths of children's out-of-home placements; strengthen families' indigenous cultural, traditional, and community ties; reduce recidivism rates of substance abuse and promote recovery; and develop future healthy generations of Band members by promoting health and wellness for participants, their families, and Band communities.

Sponsor: District III Representative Tabled 3/9/22. Bill was taken from the table, amended, and re-tabled.

- b) **Nomination:** A letter dated March 7, 2022 from Chief Executive Benjamin nominating Anthony Pike for the position of Commissioner of Community Development. The current 4-year term end date is June 30, 2023. **Tabled 3/17/22.**

- **New Business:**

- a) **Band Assembly Bill 20-01-36-22:** A Bill of Supplemental Appropriation for the purpose of authorizing expenditures for the Executive Branch for the Fiscal Year ending September 30, 2022. This bill has been drafted based on formal documents submitted by the Administration Policy Board per Commissioner's Order 2022-01 on March 16, 2022.

Sponsor: District II Representative. Bill was introduced, read, amended, and approved.

- b) **Contract (Legislative):** A contract for Foxtrot Marketing Group for the printing of the 2021 laws, rules and official acts of the Band. Contract end date is September 30, 2022. Contract was approved.

- c) **Contract (CMD):** A contract for Degerstrom & Sons Construction to provide labor and materials for a complete fire restoration project at 40135 Beach Road in Wahkon. Contract end date is September 30, 2022. Contract was approved.
- d) **Contract (CMD):** A contract for W. Gohman Construction to provide labor and materials for renovation work to be completed at the Aanjibimaadizing site in District 1. This work includes selective demolition and reconfiguration of work spaces. Contract end date is July 31, 2023. Contract was approved.
- e) **Hardship Request:** D3-01-03-22. Hardship was approved.

- **Other Business: None.**

- **Messages from the Chief Executive-** Not present.
- **Messages from the Representatives-District I Representative-** Representative Wind offered congratulations to Rich Hill for appointment to Housing Board. District I Community had two awesome events the last couple weekends. Sledding event a couple weeks ago 250 people showed up and last weekend 150 people came out to the New District I Community Center for various sports and served grilled food. Visit our page we have information on there. Announced District I Community Meeting will be next Wednesday, March 30, 2022 at 5:30 p.m. at the Old District I Community Center on the agenda is Travis Zimmerman Minnesota Historical Society will provide update we also have Commissioner Nayquonabe for MLCV update and Representative Wind will provide a Legislative Update about legislation. **District II Representative-** Representative Bruneau stated Community Meetings tomorrow night at Chiminising at 5:30 p.m. East Lake Minisinaakwang next week March 31, 2022 at 5:30 p.m. Commissioner Anderson from Health & Human Services will be there to speak. Dinner is provided. Work continues on Animal Protection code. Miigwech. **District III Representative-** Representative St. John reiterated again even after a couple weeks ago the saturation of picking up dogs there is still the same people with a large amount of dogs in yards and on the highway. He also stated the concern posing a health danger to the people and the animals of cars having to brake and swerve concern of people walking on roads. Also stated concern of new puppies on the highway. Say for the record in case they reach out to you, I notified you at community meetings, here on the livestream, and in person if you get ticketed and lose your dog it's out of my hands and will uphold the law and justice. Tribal Police have to do what they have to do. I will say this, every week, every month until you guys get it. Next week forums I'll be down in the Urban area Monday for our Candidate Forum and also Wednesday at the Aazhoomog community center everybody show up and need to send a notice put it on social media the more the merrier. Mi'iw.
- **Messages from the Secretary-Treasurer-** Secretary Treasurer Boyd stated he wanted to reflect for today's session, he mentioned to some staff during the discussion of Healing-to-Wellness bill there was a lot going on and this is where we strive for this Legislation to be and that's law making and this is where the Government stuff happens, really important stuff should be happening. Seeing all the interaction by all the people involved certainly have to commend the staff who make this possible that's Darcie, Val, Joe, Adam, Hanna, Kianna, Semira, and Brianna all these folks who in the background make all this stuff happen and engaging people and the participation folks calling in talking and weighing in from all different sides. This is the law making process, there's frustrations and people on different time tables. These guys are

working together trying to get it across and not everybody gets what they want and it's a good thing. This is what I wish it to be and it was pretty cool seeing this.

Thursday, March 24, 2022: Legislative held a work session for the Band Assembly Members, and Legislative Staff.

Work Session Agenda: Bill: Title 25 – Clean-up bill, Bill: Title 11 – Animal Protection, and Bill: Title 6 – Government Employees & Ethics Code (review comments)

Legal Staff presented on Title 25 – Clean up draft bill blue line version with review of changes with discussion, questions, and comments. Moving forward with Public Comment and Public Hearing letter.

Legal Staff presented on Title 11 – Animal Protection draft red/blue line version with discussion, questions, and comments. The other agenda items will be discussed at an upcoming work session.