



Mille Lacs Band of Ojibwe Indians
Legislative Branch of Tribal Government

Weekly Review: December 12-16, 2022

Work Session

December 13, 2022

Legal staff facilitated a work session for the elected officials and staff regarding proposed revisions to Chapter 4 (Tribal Employment Rights Office) of Title 15 (Independent Agencies).

Legislative Branch Weekly Sync Meeting

December 13, 2022

Legislative staff facilitated a Weekly Sync Meeting with elected officials to review the upcoming Band Assembly agenda items. The review included discussion about request for legislative inquiry, budget/use of net revenues, community center policies, the workshop schedule and District Representative initiatives.

Band Assembly Meeting

December 14, 2022

The Speaker of the Assembly convened a meeting of the Band Assembly. The District Representatives amended the agenda to add Gaming Regulatory Authority contracts and then approved the amended agenda.

The District Representatives approved the minutes from the Band Assembly meeting dated December 7, 2022.

The District Representatives received a presentation from Mille Lacs Band Members Wanetta Thompson and Laikora Thompson regarding Maada'oonidiwag – Blandin Foundation Grant. The presentation was held with an opening, overview, and questions from the Representatives. Part of the presentation was discussed in Executive Session.

The District Representatives approved Band Assembly Bill 20-02-96-22 (A Bill of Supplemental Appropriation for Mille Lac Corporate Ventures for Wewinabi Inc. for the Fiscal Year ending September 30, 2023. This bill has been drafted based on formal documents submitted by the Commissioner of Corporate Affairs on December 2, 2022).

The District Representatives approved Resolution 20-02-46-22 (A Resolution Approving the Continuance of Mille Lacs Corporate Ventures, Non-Gaming, and Gaming Fiscal Operations Until February 28, 2023).

The District Representatives approved Resolution 20-02-47-22 (A Resolution Authorizing the Mille Lacs Corporate Ventures to Expend Funds from FY2023 Capital Budget for Grand Casino Hinckley Projects).

The District Representatives approved Resolution 20-02-48-22 (A Resolution Authorizing the Mille Lacs Corporate Ventures to Expend Funds from FY2023 Capital Budget for Grand Casino Mille Lacs Projects).

The District Representatives in other business held a discussion regarding GRA FY2023 annual, automatically renewable, contracts for MLCV – Grand Casino Information Technology and MLCV – Leasing.

The District Representatives approved a master service agreement between Grand Casinos and Gaming Regulatory authority for IT services described in the attached statement of work.

The District Representatives approved a lease agreement for office space in corporate office building between MLCV Leasing LLC and the GRA Office of Gaming Compliance and Regulation.

In the “Messages from the Representatives” portion of the agenda, District I Representative Virgil Wind promoted a gift card give back option within the District I office we are distributing \$25.00 gift cards to our constituents both here in the District I area and the Urban area, part of that was an idea that came and we started last year was a gift card give back option, my intent is to promote that, to some of us a \$25.00 Walmart gift card may not seem that significant but to members children in Mille Lacs Band foster care placement it could be the difference between receiving a gift and not receiving a gift. Representative Wind stated this original idea came from his office manager, Darla Roache, and we did it last year and it was a very successful program and which we raised over \$3,000.00 that we directly gave to the Family Services department to provide gifts for those Mille Lacs Band kids in placement. To enter this and if you’re willing to give your \$25.00 card to this donation all you have to do is email Darla.Roach2@millelacsband.com and state within the email you would like to give to the give back option, pleading for people to do that we have a reduced number this year compared to last year we have one more week that that’s going to be open. Representative Wind we are in the process of distributing gift cards we had two dates set one for Urban which was yesterday and another for December 18th at the Urban party we have a limited time there that we are going to be distributing. We also have within the District I community Thursday and Friday of this week 10am-5pm here at the old District I community center DI staff will be distributing those cards. (Update Thursday was rescheduled to Thursday, December 22, 2022) Representative Wind stated the District I Christmas party that will take place December 21, 2022, at Grand Casino Mille Lacs Ballroom seating will start at 5:00 p.m. we will start out with an invocation and we also have a wonderful meal provided there will be raffle or drawings for some prized for community members and a special gift for community members in attendance. I do invite other Elected officials to attend. Representative Wind thanked Representative Merrill for hosting and her hospitality throughout her very wonderful Christmas party this last Friday night we had a lot of fun it was good you guys put together a hell of a show to you and your staff huge Miigwech for that. Representative Wind promoted the annual Sobriety pow wow here in district I it will happen on New Year’s Eve doors will open at 5:00 p.m. here at the new district I community center. We’ve actively been working with the HHS SUD Department to put together an awesome show. Last year we had over 400 people attend this, trying to promote that and hoping to see everyone there. Representative Wind lastly stated pursuant to the statutorily duties given to the Representatives I have the ability and authority, it was stated today that I stuck my nose in Executive Branch business and I want to clearly state that one of my duties within statute under Title 3 section 9 power and the duties of the District Representatives is to represent the community interest of the districts from which the representative was elected in lobbying today for some support of a grant there was some disagreements and clearly in statute I have the ability and the authority to represent the community interests and I believe that anybody that wants to bring some cultural teachings to our community should be supported and hopefully we can find a way to do that in the future.

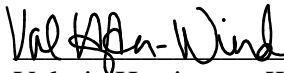
District II Representative Wendy Merrill stated miigwech to everybody that came out to the Adult Christmas party on Friday as Virgil stated it was a lot of fun we had some great comedy acts and I want to say miigwech to those commissioners that showed up, miigwech to District I Representative, and miigwech to the Chief Executive came out to support I appreciate that.

Representative Merrill stated that we do have our youth Christmas party starting tomorrow 5:30 p.m. usual time for our community meeting I did make a couple announcements just make sure to follow me on social media I do share a lot of information on there. We did have to move our youth party scheduled for tonight to Saturday that is the one for Chiminising. Representative Merrill stated going back to the Christmas party I want to say thank you to Raina and Taria's daughters JJ, Angelique, and Illyanna for volunteering at the Christmas party. We are looking for volunteers for tomorrows youth party as well as Saturday if anybody in the community would like to volunteer please reach out. Representative Merrill Remind stated there was an announcement for the women's retreat stated last week that it was going to be on the 20th unfortunately we had to move it ahead to March. I will post more information as we get it. Representative Merrill stated she is looking forward to seeing out urban members down at their Christmas party on Sunday from 2-5pm at the Phillips community center.

District III Representative Harry Davis announced youth Christmas party will be on December 20, 2022, out at the Lake Lena Center, beginning at 5:00 p.m. and the adult Christmas party will be December 21, 2022, at Grand Casino Hinckley will begin at 4:30 p.m. in the hotel ballroom.

Secretary-Treasurer Sheldon Boyd shared it's important as we bring the calendar year to a close in December this is our first calendar year of making it through this format of live streaming. I have to thank a lot of people that what we have effectively done is raise the standard of the accountability of this body and we start with staff Parliamentarian Big Bear and the staff here who have worked hard to give this format substance and the buy in by the Representatives and this whole process and orderly process and what we're trying to meet here is to document the acts and deeds of the Assembly per statute and for future generations. The viewership went beyond our expectations. I'd like to thank the membership and those folks who log in and make this more than just the four of us sitting in the room and talking into microphones. I mean there's a lot of people watching this at one point there was 600+ people viewing these sessions which again was beyond our expectations and as Speaker of the Assembly I would like to thank everyone involved in getting us through this calendar year and we will get started on another one even if this isn't the last session of this year.

The next Band Assembly meeting is currently scheduled for Wednesday, January 4, 2023 at 10:00 AM.



Valerie Harrington-Wind
Chief Communications Officer