



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

**Band Assembly Weekly Update: Week of August 9-13, 2021**

**Tuesday, August 10, 2021:** Legislative hosted a Pre-Band Assembly meeting to discuss the agenda items. **Approval of Minutes:** August 4, 2021. **Reports and Presentations:** None. **Unfinished Business:** Bill 19-04-59-21 (Sovereignty Commission), Nomination of Kelly Applegate as DNR Commissioner, and Nomination of Timothy Jackson as CMD Commissioner.

**New Business:** None. **Other:** Budget Review(s): Office of the Chief Executive, Gaming Regulatory Authority, Department of Natural Resources, & Department of Education. There was discussion, comments and questions on each item. Discussed various items. Work Session schedule. Representatives lastly held open discussion of their legislative agendas, ideas and requests.

**Wednesday, August 11, 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:** August 4, 2021. Record was amended and approved.
  
- **Reports and Presentations: None.**
  
- **Unfinished Business:**
  - a) **Band Assembly Bill 19-04-59-21:** A Bill for an Act to establish the Band Commission on the Exercise of Inherent Sovereign Rights of the Indigenous People who comprise the Non-Removable Mille Lacs Band of Ojibwe.

The Band Assembly has determined that it is in the best interests of the Band that an independent commission be established to evaluate the Band's relationship with the Minnesota Chippewa Tribe. This Bill creates an independent commission for the purpose of providing to the Band an analysis of possible courses of action. The commission is to complete its work by September 30, 2022.

**Sponsor: District II Representative Tabled 8/4/2021.**

- b) **Nomination:** A letter dated July 15, 2021 from Chief Executive Benjamin nominating Kelly Applegate for the position of Commissioner of Natural Resources. The 4-year term end date is June 30, 2025. **Tabled 8/4/2021.** Nomination was taken from the table with a request for a roll call vote and the nomination passed.

c) **Nomination:** A letter dated July 21, 2021 from Chief Executive Benjamin nominating Timothy Jackson for the position of Commissioner of Community Development. The current 4-year term end date is June 30, 2023. **Tabled 8/4/2021.** Nomination was taken from the table with a request for a roll call vote and the nomination passed.

- **New Business:**  
None

- **Other Business:**

a) **Budget Review(s):** Chief Executive, Gaming Regulatory Authority, Natural Resources, and Education. Budget review was completed for Chief Executive, Gaming Regulatory Authority, Natural Resources, and Education with summaries by Office of Management & Budget and representatives from each program with discussion, questions, and comments.

- **Messages from the Chief Executive-** Not present.

- **Messages from the Representatives-District I Representative**-To continue with brief statement on Commissioner Nominations. These Commissioner Nominations are not taken lightly. Congratulate both Commissioners in new roles. Pow Wow Friday the 20<sup>th</sup> no restrictions to outdoor gatherings. Working with Commissioner of Health & Human services to ensure safety. Will have outdoor hand sanitizing stations at pow wow. On as scheduled, see you next Friday. **District II Representative**-Construction projects ongoing with community centers. Ceremonial building renovation to start soon. Miigwech. **District III Representative**-A couple of announcements. Setting up tentative date for state fair tickets, unsure due to any Governor changes in the next couple weeks. Sign up 120 spots for adults only. Children will be out of your pocket. Valley fair was for the children. Concert this weekend, Grand Country Night if haven't drawn you can still sign up, not too late. Tickets will be at will call. Thank everyone for tending to your districts, seeing a lot of camaraderie in the district. I don't take credit for this I never will. You are all doing a wonderful job, keep up the good work.

- **Messages from the Secretary-Treasurer-**There continues to be work done in the background on investments. A summary will be coming when he can speak on the topic. Miigwech.

#### **Thursday, August 12, 2021:**

Legislative held a work session for the Band Assembly members, Legal Counsel, Revisor of Statutes, Staff Attorney, Legislative Staff, and OSG Housing Attorney.

Work Session Agenda: Workshop: Bill – Community Development Reorganization Adam Candler & Workshop: Policy – Rent-to-Own Ryan Simafranca.

Legal Counsel presented on Community Development Reorganization. There was discussion on the draft bill with a plan to move forward to Revisor of Statutes for further review.

OSG Housing Attorney presented on Rent-to-Own Policy. Reviewed policy with slide show presentation with discussion, questions, and comments on each slide.