



Mille Lacs Band of Ojibwe Indians
Legislative Branch of Tribal Government

Weekly Review: March 6-10, 2023

Workshop

March 6, 2023

Legal staff facilitated a workshop for the elected officials, legislative staff, TERO Director, and TERO Board Co-Chair regarding proposed revisions to Chapter 4 (Tribal Employment Rights Office) of Title 15 (Independent Agencies) with a review of the public comments.

Workshop

March 7, 2023

Legal staff facilitated a workshop for the elected officials and staff regarding proposed revisions to Title 4 (Commissioner of Finance), Title 4 (Legal Counsel), and Title 15 (Band Member Legal Services).

Legislative Branch Weekly Sync Meeting

March 7, 2023

Legislative staff facilitated a Weekly Sync Meeting with elected officials to review the upcoming Band Assembly agenda items. The review included discussion about model policies regarding gift cards, emergency housing, event tickets, meal distributions, and community event sponsorships; the workshop schedule; and District Representative initiatives.

Band Assembly Meeting

March 8, 2023

The Speaker of the Assembly convened a meeting of the Band Assembly. The District Representatives amended and then approved the agenda.

The District Representatives approved the minutes from the Band Assembly meeting dated March 1, 2023.

The Band Assembly received a presentation from Band member Lucious Wade regarding issue and concerns with Band Member Legal Services. The Band Assembly also received a presentation from Commissioner of Natural Resources Kelly Applegate regarding DNR Public updates and announcements.

The District Representatives amended and approved Band Assembly Bill 20-03-10-23 (A Bill Authorizing a Supplemental Appropriation for the purpose of authorizing expenditures for the Executive Branch for the Fiscal Year ending September 30, 2023).

The District Representatives approved Band Assembly Bill 20-03-11-23 (A Bill amending Section 4 of Title 4 of the Mille Lacs Band Statutes to ensure continuity in vital executive officer positions of Band government by providing a timeline in which the Chief Executive shall make a

nomination for any vacant Commissioner position and establishing an alternative process should the Chief Executive choose not to nominate individuals to fill vacant Commissioner positions, which are responsible for overseeing numerous employees and government programs, because a full cabinet of executive officers ensures effective delivery of essential services to Band members).

The District Representatives approved a contract with Innovative Basement Authority to provide labor and materials for an emergency elder home renovation project at a private residence in Brainerd.

The District Representatives approved Resolution 20-03-09-23 (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 20-03-10-23 (A Resolution Authorizing the Mille Lacs Corporate Ventures to Expend Funds from FY2023 Capital Budget for Grand Casino Mille Lacs Projects).

The District Representatives approved Resolution 20-03-11-23 (A Resolution Adopting and Implementing the Run River Comprehensive Watershed Management Plan).

The District Representatives approved Resolution 20-03-12-23 (A Resolution Approving the Amended Public Law 102-477 Master Plan for the Non-Removable Mille Lacs Band of Ojibwe for the Time Period Beginning October 1, 2022, Through September 30, 2025).

The District Representatives approved Resolution 20-03-13-23 (A Resolution Ratifying a Joint Powers Agreement with the State of Minnesota to Combat Human Trafficking and Child Sexual Exploitation).

The District Representatives approved Resolution 20-03-14-23 (A Resolution Ratifying a Court Data Services Subscriber Amendment to Criminal Justice Data Communications Network Agreement).

The District Representatives approved Resolution 20-03-15-23 (A Resolution Ratifying a Joint Powers Agreement with the State of Minnesota to Provide the Band Access to the Minnesota Criminal Justice Data Communications Network).

The District Representatives approved Resolution 20-03-16-23 (A Resolution Ratifying a Memorandum of Agreement with the Pine County Sheriff's Office).

The District Representatives amended and approved Resolution 20-03-17-23 (A Resolution approving the 2023 membership into the Indian Gaming Association).

In the "Messages from the Representatives" portion of the agenda, District I Representative Virgil Wind opened with thanking the other members of Band Assembly for their support on the controversial Title 4 bill. The intent is to provide somebody in that position for vital services and I do appreciate your support on that, it's a huge part of the Band making sure that we're firing on all cylinders and, when somebody is not in these vital roles, I believe that we're misfiring a little bit and I do appreciate your support on that. Representative Wind shared a couple announcements for this coming week as I mention last week an elder Alicia Skinaway lost her home recently and the WEWIN chapter is doing a benefit that will occur this Friday, March 10, 2023 from 7:30 a.m. until gone. It will occur at the old District I community center and will include fried potatoes, fry bread, scrambled eggs, oatmeal, bacon, and sausage hopefully I didn't

get that menu wrong. Representative Wind stated a huge shout out to the WEWIN chapter for their support of this Mille Lacs Band elder. Representative Wind shared the District I office is very happy to participate and help Mille Lacs Band Members with their Mille Lacs basketball camps, Eldayshun Big Bear, Cedric LaFave, and Mykal Garbow are sponsoring two invites in the District I area one of them is this Saturday from 2-5 p.m. at the new District I community center. The next is next Saturday at the new District I community center also from 2-5 p.m. Very well put together camps with great messaging for our local youth a huge thank you to these three Band members that take time out of their busy schedules and volunteer their time to share that messaging. One hundred percent do appreciate that. Representative Wind shared without getting emotional I'd like to thank Adam Candler as this is his last Band Assembly with the Band I would like to thank him for his time and service within the Band here I think he said going on 8 years, some words that come to mind when thinking about Adam: process, process, process; drive; understanding; collaboration; forgiveness at times; but most important is friendship. Representative Wind closed his comments with, he appreciates Adam. Thank you Sir, can we give Adam a round of applause please.

District II Representative Wendy Merrill opened with, as Kelly Applegate mentioned earlier, she wants to again reiterate the importance of that meeting that's happening on Saturday from 12-1:30 p.m. This meeting is how you can be involved and support efforts in regards to the Tamarack mine. There will be a meal provided and she is set to speak at the event. She will see everyone Saturday, again this was moved to Saturday out of respect for the family. There is a wake and funeral happening tonight and tomorrow, so we just want to be respectful. Representative Merrill stated that, on Sunday, we'll have our Chiminising family fun night at Isle Bowl & Pizza from 3-6 p.m. Please join us. Representative Merrill stated that our community meetings for this month are going to be on March 22nd in Chiminising and March 23rd in Minisinaakwang. Representative Merrill stated our Chiminising Youth Pow Wow is on April 23rd There are messages in our Mille Lacs Band paper in regards to that and open gym for this month are March 5th and 19th. We just had one on Sunday if you want to join us on the 19th. That would be great. Representative Merrill closed her comments by stating that, again, I don't want to get all emotional, but I just want to say thanks Adam for everything that you have done, she always rooted for you and will continue to root for you until, you know, you have your goals. And hopefully you can come back to the Band eventually. Miigwech.

District III Representative Harry Davis opened with we are supporting an Ogitchidaa way group with the Warrior men of District III are trying to get a group started. They had their first meeting yesterday they didn't get a good turnout, but they did start it at least. Representative Davis shared the Aazhoomog community center is starting a renovation committee. We have our first meeting with Percy Benjamin this Thursday that will be at Meshakwad. They're going over the details and the work scope. We have three female Band members and two male Band members from Aazhoomog to volunteer their time. Representative Davis stated the boxing area at Meshakwad will be meeting tomorrow with Percy. Also we're going to talk about addition to some walls and enclosing the boxing gym would help protect our equipment and stop people from disturbing our process. Training is still Tuesday-Thursday 5:30-7:30 p.m. Depending on weather and community meetings, this Thursday we are having a community meeting so there won't be training this Thursday. I'd like to welcome Sheldon Jr to our boxing team. He's doing an excellent job there. He's progressed quite a bit and he's really looking like a real boxer these days. Representative Davis stated we're also working on hosting a pop up pow wow at the Meshakwad and is presently in progress and will update a date coming up soon hopefully before ceremonial dances start. Representative Davis closed his comments with thanking Adam for his

service to the legislative staff including Band Assembly and complimenting him on the excellent job he has done for us. Thank you, Adam.

Secretary-Treasurer Sheldon Boyd stated a thank you to Adam for being with us during this time and, as you think of the big picture, everyone's paths cross through their lives and the Band Assembly's passed and now there is a convergence of people during their times and we all get together for a short time. Secretary-Treasurer Boyd stated these last few years we have gotten a lot done and I think history has to mark Adam was principal author of our investment statute and many others along with his staff that he has gotten together. Secretary-Treasurer Boyd stated he really appreciates that it was a really good time and you can't be understated with what has been accomplished during this short time and we look forward and wish him well on his journey down the road and everyone else's journey down the road. It's been a good time to get together during these few years.

Workshop

March 8, 2023

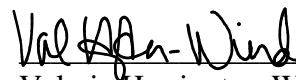
Legal staff facilitated a workshop for the elected officials, legislative staff, Solicitor General, OSG attorneys, Native Affairs Outreach Director, and Family Services Director & personnel regarding proposed revisions to Title 8 (Children and Families) ICWA jurisdiction/transfers.

Workshop

March 9, 2023

Legal staff facilitated a workshop for the elected officials and staff regarding public comment letter for Title 8 (Children and Families) and proposed revisions to Special Revenue Resolution to increase burial expense coverage program.

The next Band Assembly meeting is currently scheduled for Wednesday, March 15, 2023, at 10:00 AM.



Valerie Harrington-Wind
Chief Communications Officer