



Mille Lacs Band of Ojibwe Indians
Legislative Branch of Tribal Government

Band Assembly Weekly Update: Week of February 28-March 4, 2022

Monday, February 28, 2022: Legislative held a work session for the Band Assembly Members, and Legislative Staff.

Work Session Agenda: Discussion: Printing the 2021 Official Acts and 2021 Supplement to the Laws and Rules, Discussion: Title 2 – Removal and Exclusion, Bill: Title 6 – Ethics Code and Government Employees, Bill: Title 5 – Structure of the Court of Appeals and Elder Panel, and Discussion: Solicitor’s Memo Regarding the Vaccine Mandate

Legal staff facilitated discussion on printing the 2021 Official Acts and 2021 Supplement to the Laws and Rules with questions and comments with plan to move forward with contract.

Legal staff presented on Title 2 – Removal and Exclusion public comment period ended with no public comments. Bill was discussed with moving forward with letter and submit for Band Assembly agenda. Legal Staff facilitated discussion on Solicitor’s Memo Regarding the Vaccine Mandate with questions and comments.

Legal staff presented on Bill: Title 6 – Ethics Code and Government Employees with review of draft red line version changes with discussion, questions, and comments.

Bill: Title 5 – Structure of Court Appeals and Panel of Elders will be presented at an upcoming work session.

Tuesday, March 1, 2022: Legislative held a work session for the Band Assembly Members, and Legislative Staff.

Work Session Agenda: Bill: Title 6 – Government Employees & Ethics and Bill: Title 5 – Structure of the Court of Appeals and Elder Panel

Legal staff presented on Bill: Title 6 – Ethics Code and Government Employees with review of draft red line version changes with discussion, questions, comments and move forward with letter for public comment notice.

Employees, and Title 5 – Structure of the Court of Appeals and Elder Panel will be presented at upcoming work session.

Legislative hosted a Pre-Band Assembly meeting to discuss the agenda items. **Approval of Minutes:** February 23, 2022. **Reports and Presentations:** Commissioner Nayquonabe Re: Wewinabi Formal Request of Econ Dev Funds and Commissioner Applegate Re: Land Acquisition Presentation.

Unfinished Business: Nomination: Bobby Anderson and Richard Hill for Housing Board Elder position and Band Assembly Bill 20-01-29-22: Re: 2.14.22 APB minutes. **New Business:** Resolution 20-01-15-22: Approving the 2021 Hazard Mitigation Plan. **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 2, 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:** February 23, 2022. Record was amended and approved.
- **Reports and Presentations:**
 - a) 10:15 a.m. Joseph Nayquonabe, Commissioner of Corporate Affairs
Re: Wewinabi Formal Request of Economic Development Funds (**Executive Session**).
Presentation for was completed in Executive Session.
 - b) 11:00 a.m. Kelly Applegate, Commissioner of Natural Resources
Brandi Sam, Interim Director of Land Management
Re: Land Acquisition Presentation. Presentation was completed with questions and comments.
- **Unfinished Business:**
 - a) **Nomination:** A nomination letter dated February 4, 2022, from the Secretary-Treasurer and Chief Executive, nominating Bobby Anderson and Richard Hill to fill the current vacant Housing Board Elder position. Current term expires June 30, 2022. **Tabled 2/9/22.** Nomination was taken from the table with a roll call vote request for nominee Anderson and the nomination failed. Roll call vote request for nominee Hill and the nomination passed.
 - b) **Band Assembly Bill 20-01-29-22:** 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 on February 14, 2022. **Tabled 2/23/22**
Sponsor: District I Representative. Bill was taken from the table, discussed, and re-tabled.
- **New Business:**
 - a) **Resolution 20-01-15-22:** A Resolution Approving the Band's Tribal Emergency Response Committee 2021 Hazard Mitigation Plan. Resolution was approved with a waiver of the formal reading.
- **Other Business: None.**
- **Messages from the Chief Executive-** Aaniin Boozhoo Band Members and today we had Swearing in for a couple positions a couple of positions. With Corporate Ventures we had Leanna DeJesus who will be a board member and I say welcome to her I think she would be an excellent addition to the board over there at Corporate and also we have a new Associate Judge Rhonda Sam really excited about Rhonda being sworn in Rhonda has really cared for the band most of her life and so to have her in this capacity is a good thing. Reminder to our young

ladies in the community that we have a Young Women's Leadership Conference coming on March 18th & 19th in Hinckley it's for ages 12 and older and there are a couple of slots left, parents if you have some daughters that you would like to be involved in a leadership conference with training we have a couple of national speakers coming and also they have the opportunity to work with some cyber security initiatives, also learning how to some things with videos and I think it's pretty exciting so young girls please look at the flyers on Facebook and will be in the newsletter hopefully you have the opportunity to sign up it's a one day conference on the 18th in Hinckley a lot of exciting things will be happening to that at the time. Was just attending MAICC Minnesota Indian Affairs Counsel in Black Bear was in person on Monday it's virtual on Tuesday and was here today so didn't get the last part of that MAICC meeting, but lot of good information I terms what's going on with the state and what kind of opportunities we have in small business, law enforcement, DNR, on and on and on Administration. This administration under Governor Walz and Lieutenant Governor Peggy Flanagan has really opened the door to tribes and so we have an on-going government to government relationship. First time in my history of being Chief Executive that this administration has been so open to tribes, so a very good relationship and sharing of revenues and things of that sort that happen and any time we bring those opportunities back to the band we put them in our programs so you as a band member have the opportunity to utilize that. I did mention in my video this week but Happy Birthday to everybody in the month of March. Miigwech.

- **Messages from the Representatives-District I Representative**- First off to kind of piggyback of Madam Chief there a huge thank you to Leanna DeJesus for her interest in the Corporate Board and I want to give Rhonda Sam a shout out since I've been in this position Rhonda is a hard working dedicated employee of the band a great person to work with always has a good attitude and somehow literally come rain, sleet, or snow she gets the job done I for one really appreciate her and looking forward to her contributions to helping the Justices make our Band stronger so shout out to Madam Chief for that nomination I really have a lot of respect for Rhonda so I want to make sure that's said a couple times. This Thursday the Men's Empowerment group kind of a grassroots group here in District I is having a fundraiser at the old community center it will be on Thursday 10 to sellout it is going to have tatortot hot dish piece of fry bread some water that will go along with it so just another great group that helps support our men here in District I we're happy to help them along happy to do what we can to support them. For District I community members anybody I guess that wants to come out the District I Office celebrating kind of the change of seasons here doing some fun stuff we have a District I community sledding event we have it scheduled for March 13 and March 20, 2022 we figured the first day would kind of be a burner as we figure it out, the event will be from 1-4 p.m. on Gichiyaabe Loop behind the new community center. During the construction of those two beautiful facilities there was a large hill constructed of the soil spoil from those sites so we're going to try to make it into a community sledding hill. Kick that off we will have some snacks hot chocolate snow tubes available warming tents if elders want to come out and have coffee, we're doing hot dogs too fun for the whole family. Going to try to make it accessible for elders to be able to come up and watch our youngsters. I'd never thought I would say this but really kind of wishing for some snow and some cold weather for the next two weeks to hold our hill, never thought I'd say it but if we could at least get one of those two days out have some fun kind of celebrate coming together in spring here in March. I want to thank Kelly Applegate for coming out with that fee that whole presentation that he did today I was very impressed with that really want to thank him for the hard work and the willingness to come and explain how that land acquisition works to us and putting it so neatly in presentation just amazing job by

Kelly. **District II Representative**- I'd also like to offer my congratulations to Rhonda Sam and Ms. DeJesus thank you. Miigwech very much I don't have much to report on I am still working on a domestic pet protection code at this point in time myself and Joe Jensen one of the Staff Attorneys is working with me and we hope to get that out soon. Have a good day. Miigwech. **District III Representative**- Just want to also extend my Congratulations to Leanna DeJesus I feel confident that you will do a great job welcome aboard. Congratulations Rhonda Sam for the Associate Justice position lots of work to be done lot of dollars to be gained good for you. I will be reaching out to the Solicitor General today or tomorrow to enforce the dog ordinance I have put it out three more than enough times to remind people that you got to keep your dogs penned or gated and there's still neighbors dogs getting into other neighbor's garbage. They're destroying other dogs that dogs fighting dogs and some are dying, some require a huge vet bill for repairs. You know band members are reaching out to me saying you got to get this enforced and it's not like I haven't said it, it's been over a year, been more than a year now and I have been saying it monthly. Tie up your dogs if they need shots get them shots, get a penned in area keep them in there otherwise you will be ticketed and if it's going to be continuous after that the dog can/may be destroyed so it's all about to you now but I will be in touch with the Solicitor General to enforce this ordinance. District III Community Meeting the third Wednesday of the month. Not too much on the menu barbeque ribs, potato salad, maybe some corn bread and maybe some fruits I don't know yet we will get there. Potentially we have our Revisor of Statutes Hanna Valento as a guest also our Staff Attorney Joe Jensen just to give some updates and talk about themselves etcetera so on that's it for now as far as speakers unless someone's got someone they want on the agenda let me know I will put them on. Mi'iw.

- **Messages from the Secretary-Treasurer**- I think everything has been said there.

Legislative hosted a MLBO Foundation Advisory Committee Annual Meeting

Thursday, March 3, 2022: Legislative held a work session for the Band Assembly Members, and Legislative Staff.

Work Session Agenda: Bill: Title 5 – Structure of the Court of Appeals and Elder Panel

Legal Staff presented on Title 5 – Structure of the Court of Appeals and Elder Panel draft red line version changes with discussion, questions, and comments.