



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

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## Weekly Review: February 27-March 3, 2023

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### **Workshop**

**February 27, 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.

### **Legislative Branch Weekly Sync Meeting**

**February 27, 2023**

Legislative staff facilitated a Weekly Sync Meeting with elected officials to review the upcoming Band Assembly agenda items. The review included discussion about the workshop schedule and District Representative initiatives.

### **Workshop**

**February 28, 2023**

Legal staff facilitated a workshop for the elected officials, legislative staff, GRA personnel, and MLCV attorney regarding proposed revisions to Title 15, Chapter 1 (Gaming Regulatory Authority).

### **Band Assembly Meeting**

**March 1, 2023**

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

The District Representatives approved the minutes from the Band Assembly meeting dated February 22, 2023.

The Speaker of the Assembly convened the formal public hearing regarding Title 4 Legal Counsel. The hearing opened with an introduction of the bill by Representative Wind at 10:13 a.m. During the hearing, public comments were made by hearing attendees. The hearing closed at 10:31 a.m.

The District Representatives received a presentation from Commissioner of Corporate Affairs Joseph Nayquonabe Jr. regarding capital requests.

The District Representatives accepted (except one that needs a different letter) Formal Notification received on February 23, 2023 (dated March 1, 2023) from Joseph S. Nayquonabe, Commissioner of Corporate Affairs, of FY2023, Quarter 2 Capital Projects that reads as follows:

Please accept this letter as a formal notification that we intend to open FY2023 Q2 capital projects. Per the revenue ordinance we must provide notice at least ten (10) business days before

expending the money on a project equal to or exceeding \$25,000 and less than \$250,000. If the Band Assembly fails to stay the project within ten (10) business days after receiving notice, then Mille Lacs Corporate Ventures may expend money on the project.

Grand Casino Hinckley Projects:

1. Grand Casino Hinckley Capital Project (H23-ENT-01)
2. Grand Casino Hinckley Capital Project (H23-TBL-01)
3. Grand Casino Hinckley Capital Project (H23-TBL-02)
4. Grand Casino Hinckley Capital Project (H23-CTM-01)
5. Grand Casino Hinckley Capital Project (H23-PRO-05)

Grand Casino Mille Lacs Projects:

1. Grand Casino Mille Lacs Capital Project (M23-HOT-02)
2. Grand Casino Mille Lacs Capital Project (MS23-FPL-01)
3. Grand Casino Mille Lacs Capital Project (M23-REC-01)
4. Grand Casino Mille Lacs Capital Project (M23-MNT-01)

Mille Lacs Corporate Ventures Project:

1. Mille Lacs Corporate Ventures Capital Project (C23-FIN-01)

The District Representatives approved Resolution 20-03-07-23 (A Resolution Supporting the Pine County Broadband Project Funded by the U.S. Department of Agriculture – Rural Development Reconnect Program Through Congressionally Directed Spending).

The District Representatives approved Resolution 20-03-08-23 (A Resolution Approving the Continuance of Mille Lacs Corporate Ventures, Non-Gaming, and Gaming Fiscal Operations Until June 30, 2023).

In the “Messages from the Representatives” portion of the agenda, District I Representative Virgil Wind opened up with thanking Representative Merrill for her round dance the previous Friday. It was an awesome event, really do appreciate the invite and he was glad he could play a part. Representative Wind shared he also wanted to thank everybody for attending our District I sledding part 2 event. We had a lot of fun, a lot of kids, a lot of volunteers. Thank you to DI staff again and all the volunteers that came out, all the people that came out. It was a wonderful day; lot of smiles and laughs. Appreciate the help and everybody coming together. Representative Wind closed his comments discussing a fire loss in the community and he noted that, when the Band as a whole comes together to support a Band member that suffers a traumatic experience, it really is a really special thing. Yesterday we had a Mille Lacs Band elder that had a very bad day and, by the end of the day, she although going through a lot of trauma was secure in where she was. There were different people that came and stepped up and different departments that helped her along the way. It is very exciting to see what we can accomplish when we all work together. I do appreciate everybody that helped out this elder yesterday and came together to show support and that is continuing to happen today. Miigwech to everybody.

District II Representative Wendy Merrill opened with Miigwech again to the elected officials who helped sponsor her event on the previous Friday. The numbers at the event for at least

signing in was close to 250 people, but there were likely more that came in and kind of didn't have anywhere to sit and left. So it was a really good turnout and she is looking forward to hosting more events in Chiminising and Minisinaakwaang. It was a good night. Miigwech again, Virgil, for coming and helping out. He stayed until the very end and helped clean up. His help is much appreciated.

**Workshop** **March 1, 2023**

Legal staff facilitated a workshop for the elected officials, legislative staff, GRA personnel, and MLCV attorney regarding proposed revisions to Title 15, Chapter 1 (Gaming Regulatory Authority).

**Workshop** **March 2, 2023**

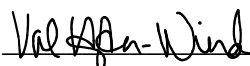
Legal staff facilitated a workshop for the elected officials and staff regarding proposed revisions to Chapter 4 (Tribal Employment Rights Office) of Title 15 (Independent Agencies) with a review of the public comments.

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 3, 2023**

Legal staff facilitated a workshop for the elected officials, legislative staff, Commissioner of Administration, Human Resources Director, and Deputy Solicitor General regarding proposed revisions to HR personnel policies and procedures.

*The next Band Assembly meeting is currently scheduled for Wednesday, March 8, 2023, at 10:00 AM.*

  
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Valerie Harrington-Wind  
Chief Communications Officer