



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

---

## Weekly Review: July 17-21, 2023

---

### **Workshop**

**July 17, 2023**

Legal staff facilitated a workshop for the elected officials and staff regarding Cannabis Code as a new chapter within Title 15 – Independent Agencies.

### **Band Assembly Meeting**

**July 18, 2023**

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

The District Representatives received a Cannabis Business Project – Funding Request from Joseph S. Nayquonabe, Commissioner of Corporate Affairs in executive session, prior to the presentation the need for executive session was shared by the Solicitor General and Commissioner of Corporate Affairs and a Shareholders Report FY23, Quarter 2 from Joseph S. Nayquonabe, Commissioner of Corporate Affairs in executive session

District II Representative Wendy Merrill shared a thank you to Commissioner of Corporate Affairs for the presentation.

### **Band Assembly Meeting**

**July 19, 2023**

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

The District Representatives tabled Band Assembly Record: June 19, 2023, Band Assembly Record: June 21, 2023, and Band Assembly Record: June 29, 2023.

The District Representatives received a GRA FY2023 Quarter 1-3 Budget Review from Teresa Kozumplik, Executive Director of OGR&C for Gaming Regulatory Authority, an Executive FY2023 Quarter 1-3 Budget Review from Percy Benjamin, Deputy Assistant to the Chief Executive.

The District Representatives conducted a Confirmation Hearing – Housing Board, District I Position for Richard Hill, Nominee.

The District Representatives took from the table and removed Nomination: A letter from the Chief Executive selecting Wallace St. John, from the District 3 Representative’s nominees (Wallace St. John and Katie Draper), to serve on the Mille Lacs Band Housing Board per 12MLBS § 306(a)(9). Term end date is June 30, 2026. Tabled 7/12/23.

The District Representatives took from the table and approved Foster Care License: District 2a: Renewal: FFH2120002 Tabled 7/12/23.

The District Representatives approved Band Assembly Bill 20-04-44-23 (A Bill Authorizing a Supplemental Appropriation for the purpose of authorizing budget transfer(s)/revision(s) for the Executive Branch for the Fiscal Year ending September 30, 2023).

The District Representatives approved Resolution 20-04-29-23 (A Resolution Adopting the FY 2023-2026 Mille Lacs Band Transportation Improvement Plan, FY2023 Tribal Transportation Program Agreement Retained Services Addendum and FY 2023 Referenced Funding Agreement with the United States Department of Interior – Bureau of Indian Affairs).

The District Representatives approved a contract with Simafranca Law Office to provide legal services at the discretion of the Band Member Legal Services to fill an open staff attorney position. Contract end date is September 30, 2023.

In the “Messages from the Representatives” portion of the agenda, District I Representative Virgil Wind opened with thanking and congratulating District II for her one year and District III Representatives for his one year back. Representative Wind shared a thanks and congratulate again to Gaming Regulatory Authority and District II Representative Title 15 work. Representative Wind shared thanking Richard Hill for his willingness to serve on the board and Darla Roache for her term. Regarding the nomination and confirmation hearing of Richard Hill asking the constituency to watch the confirmation hearing and reach out with comments so we can make the best informed decision as the housing board plays an important role. Representative Wind shared the District I Mid-Summer fun day will be July 30, 2023 at the Shaw Bosh Kung Park on Virgo road this will include different contests and different things aimed at bringing community together. Need any information reach out to him directly (320)630-1428 or DI Office (320)532-7423. Community engagement has been an important topic here within the District I Office the ability and the need to bring community together, we have faced and continued to face isolation issue and soaring epidemic we deal with every day. It’s been the thought of the DI office bringing people together and celebrating what it’s like to be community and family. Representative Wind closed his comments with the District I July community meeting is Wednesday, July 26, 2023 at the new District I community center from 5:30-7:30 p.m. welcome and office update from him, Assistant Commissioner of Administration, Maria Costello and Housing Director, Dan Boyd will provide CMD/Housing update, and MCT delegation update with Michele Palomaki and Danielle Smith. Any questions reach out to him. Miigwech.

District II Representative Wendy Merrill opened with miigwech to everybody she hit her 1-year anniversary for her position as District II Representative and she wants to say Miigwech for everybody’s support and mentorship, a lot of listening and getting feedback from community members and how important it is for the people in District II and IIA. Representative Merrill shared Chiminising community meeting tonight at 5:30 p.m., tomorrow in East Lake at 5:30 p.m., ground blessing on Thursday for the pow wow this coming weekend. Representative Merrill shared Friday-Saturday we have some cool things happening at the East Lake pow wow we have a couple visiting host drums we have Smokey Town and we have a local host drum Red Willow, invited drums Motown, P~town Boyz, and Little Bear. Specials, singing contests, hand drum contests, food vendor contests, women’s back up, relay happening on Sunday a lot of the flyers are posted on the Face Book page. We have some outgoing royalty specials from one of our kids Taria Aubid’s daughter Jazlene “JJ” White will have a special this weekend.

Representative Merrill closed her comments with come on out she's inviting everyone to come out to community meetings tonight tomorrow and pow wow in East Lake.

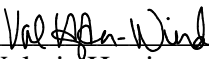
District III Representative Harry Davis opened and closed with our community meeting will be tomorrow at Grand Casino Hinckley at 5:30 p.m. and congratulations to Wendy on her first year of District Representative, this will probably be his 17<sup>th</sup> year in this job, he enjoys it.

**Workshop**

**July 20, 2023**

Legal staff facilitated a workshop for the elected officials, staff, and Mille Lacs Corporate Ventures Vice President of Strategic Growth regarding Cannabis Code draft revisions from the Cannabis Code comments.

*The next Band Assembly meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, July 26, 2023 at 10:00 a.m.*

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Valerie Harrington-Wind  
Chief Communications Officer