



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

**Band Assembly Weekly Update: Week of February 14-18, 2022**

**Monday, February 14, 2022:** Legislative held a work session for the Band Assembly Members, and Legislative Staff.

Work Session Agenda: Discussion: CTAS Grant Application for 2022, Bill: Title 2

Removal and Exclusion, Bill: Title 6 – Ethics Code and Government Employees, and Bill: Title 5 – Judicial Branch.

Grants Department presented on CTAS Grant overview and budget options with questions and comments.

Legal staff presented on Removal and Exclusion for a second review of the approved changes with discussion, questions and comments. Plan to draft letter for third public comment notice.

Legal staff presented on Ethics Code and Government Employees draft with discussion, questions, and comments.

Legal staff presented on Judicial Branch with discussion, questions and comments.

**Tuesday, February 15, 2022: Joint Session of the 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 Elected Officials present.  
Chief Executive, Melanie Benjamin  
Secretary-Treasurer, Sheldon Boyd  
District I Representative, Virgil Wind  
District II Representative, Marvin Bruneau  
District III Representative, Wallace St. John Sr.
- **Approval of Agenda:** Agenda was amended and approved.
- **Minutes:** None.
- **Unfinished Business:**
  - a) **Joint Session of the Band Assembly Resolution 19-04-16-21:** A Resolution Adopting Rules of Procedure for the Joint Session of the Band Assembly **Tabled 9/30/2021**
  - b) **Joint Session of the Band Assembly Resolution 20-01-10-22:** A Resolution Designating the Community Room at the Old District I Community Center as the Mille Lacs Band of Ojibwe Election Office **Tabled 2/09/22**. Resolution was taken from the table, discussed, and re-tabled.
  - c) **Joint Session of the Band Assembly Resolution 20-01-11-22:** A Resolution Defining the Mille Lacs Band Reservation to Establish Voting Districts and Designate Polling Places **Tabled 2/09/22**. Resolution was taken from the table, amended, and approved with a waiver of the formal reading.

- **New Business:**

- a) **Joint Session of the Band Assembly Resolution 20-01-14-22:** A Resolution Appointing Urban Voting Precinct Election Board Members for the 2022 Minnesota Chippewa Tribe Election on the Mille Lacs Reservation. Resolution was amended and approved with a waiver of the formal reading.
- b) **Joint Session of the Band Assembly Resolution 20-01-15-22:** A Resolution Suspending Commissioner of Administration Peter Nayquonabe Pending Resolution of Criminal Charges in Mille lacs County. Resolution was introduced, read, amended and approved.

- **Other:**

- a) Commissioner of Administration discussion. Discussion was held in Executive Session.

**Wednesday, February 16, 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 9, 2022. Record was approved.

- **Reports and Presentations:**

- a) 10:15 a.m. Rhonda Sam, Nominee  
Re: District I Associate Justice position. Confirmation hearing was completed with a summary and opening statement of the Nominee followed by questions and comments.
- b) 10:30 a.m. Bobby Anderson, Nominee  
Re: Housing Board - Elder position. Confirmation hearing was completed with a summary and opening statement of the Nominee followed by questions and comments.
- c) 11:00 a.m. Richard Hill, Nominee  
Re: Housing Board - Elder position. Confirmation hearing was completed with a summary and opening statement of the Nominee followed by questions and comments.

- **Unfinished Business:**

- a) **Nomination:** A nomination letter dated February 3, 2022, from Chief Executive Benjamin, nominating Rhonda Sam to fill the current vacant District I Associate Justice position pursuant to 5 MLBS § 5(b). Current term expires August 15, 2026. **Tabled 2/9/22**
  
- b) **Nomination:** A nomination letter dated February 3, 2022, from Secretary-Treasurer Boyd, nominating Katherine Davis to serve as the inaugural Band Member Representative on the newly created Institutional Investment Committee pursuant to 17 MLBS § 204 (f)(1). Term will expire December 31, 2025. **Tabled 2/9/22.** Nomination was taken from the table. A roll call vote was requested and the nomination passed.
  
- c) **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**
  
- **New Business:**
  
- a) **Band Assembly Bill 20-01-28-22:** A Bill of Supplemental Appropriation for Mille Lacs Corporate Ventures for Maadaadizi Inc., Mille Lacs Wastewater Inc., Grand Makwa-Wewinabi Inc., Grindstone Laundry, and Foxtrot Marketing for the Fiscal Year ending September 30, 2022. This bill has been drafted based on formal documents submitted by the Commissioner of Corporate Affairs on January 21, 2022.  
**Sponsor: District III Representative.** Bill was introduced, read, and tabled.
  
- **Other Business: None.**
  
- **Messages from the Chief Executive-** Not present.
  
- **Messages from the Representatives-District I Representative-** First off I want to congratulate Kate Davis as Inaugural Board Member Band Member Representative to Investment Committee Board Congratulations thank you for your interest. Also want to put out there again that we do have another Removal and Exclusion draft out to public comment right now. That's going to be out to public comment I believe for ten days so plead to membership to please review the current draft of Removal and Exclusion that's out there, provide commentary. You always hear me say we're looking for different lenses as we draft this legislation, this one's been out a few times now and every time that it goes out it gets a little better and just looking for that. You know the legislative job is nothing taken lightly here so looking for input wherever we can and then the other thing I wanted to add is that we do have our District I Community meeting on February 23, 2022 next Wednesday starts at 5:30 p.m. Some of the bigger stuff that we have going there is that Aanjibimaadizing will be there for a demonstration or presentation we also are very fortunate to have multiple programs bringing their tables and their information to help Band membership connect with those programs so thank you to all of those. Again if you have any questions, input, concerns you can always reach me directly too my cell number is (320)630-1428 reach out if you need to we're here to help thank you. **District II Representative-** Community meeting tomorrow night in Isle Chiminising Center at 5:30 p.m. and the Community meeting in East Lake Minisinaakwang will be on February 24, 2022 at 5:30 p.m. Miigwech. **District III Representative-** Community meeting tonight 5:30 p.m. Grand Casino Hinckley we have somebody from the HHS department to give some brief updates also our Legal Counsel Adam Candler to do a power point. I'm not sure what it is, even if I did I

wouldn't tell you, just kidding it's a surprise. Also I did obtain boxing tickets for this weekend's entertainment on Friday night so we're setting that up now for people to sign up. There's some I have and there's some that will have to be picked up at will-call. Those of you who win general admission will have to pick up at will-call and I will have the other one's back out at Aazhoomog and we will get them distributed ASAP. Other than that Mi'iw see you tonight.

- **Messages from the Secretary-Treasurer-** Just a quick mention on the Institutional Investment Board that was established under law again Congratulations to Kate Davis for being the Inaugural Band Member. We will have a number of interested investment professionals that we will be bringing forth to the Assembly for confirmation and we're looking to staff that Investment committee very soon so we can move forward with Mille Lacs Band taking a more active role in managing the investments of the Band. Miigwech.

**District III Representative** hosted a community meeting for District III Community.

**Thursday, February 17, 2022:** Legislative held a work session for the Band Assembly Members, and Legislative Staff.

Work Session Agenda: Discussion: Contract with Foxtrot to Print Statute Books and Official Acts, Bill: Title 6 – Ethics Code and Government Employees, and Bill: Title 5 – Judicial Branch  
Legal staff facilitated discussion on contract for printing Statute Books and Official Acts with questions and comments.

Legal staff presented on Title 6 – Ethics Code and Government Employees with a review of section by section substantive changes with discussion, questions, and comments.

Legal staff presented second public comments received to date regarding Healing-to-Wellness with discussion, questions, and comments.

Title 5 – Judicial Branch will be discussed at an upcoming work session.

**District II Representative** hosted a Community Meeting for District IIA Community.