



Mille Lacs Band of Ojibwe Indians
Legislative Branch of Tribal Government

Band Assembly Weekly Update: Week of December 7-11, 2020

Tuesday, December 8, 2020: Legislative hosted a Pre-Band Assembly meeting to discuss the agenda items. Band Assembly scheduled meeting upcoming dates during holiday and District Representative tasks. Child Protection bill now in effect, need to decide continuance to delay or allow. Revisor statute job descriptions and budget. Discussion with Commissioner of Finance about January payments. Future payment amount and communication needed moving forward. 477 Plan discussion. Commissioner Boyd gave an overview and short summary of the 477 Plan. Question and discussion on meeting the needs of the work readiness preparation of our band wide community. Discussion of numbers of jobs created and a history of language speaker revitalization needs and data. Discussion of program complaints, customer, and professionalism. Presentation tomorrow will include the data of the program. Spending of the interest question and discussion. Discussion of contracts related to Rosetta Stone project. Department of Justice Budget FY 2017-2021 discussion with OSG Legal Services spending FY 2017-2020. BMLA budget short, wouldn't have occurred if budget wasn't cut. Middle management meetings use to help with the budget reviewing. Agenda items for tomorrow discussion: Minutes: None. Reports and Presentations: Sylvia Wise – Confirmation Hearing for Nomination of D3 Associate Justice. Melissa “Baabiitaw” Boyd – Aanjibimaadizing Update. Unfinished Business: Admin contract w/ MLCV for Tribal Economic Business Incubator. Nomination Sylvia Wise for Associate Justice Position. Bills (3) MLCV, Gaming, Non-Gaming. RAP. New Business: Bill amending effective date of 2018 child protection code. Appropriation bill for CMD, DOJ, Education, Administration, & HHS. 8 x contracts (1 x Judicial, 3 x Education, 2 x Administration, & 1 x DOJ). Nomination of Catherine Colstrud to Corporate Board. Discussion of contract funds. Nomination approve or deny timeline. Differences of Child Protection bill from the Statute/passed in 1995 and the one passed in 2018. What both versions lack. Law effect date. Questions and discussion on changes, ensure they follow ICWA. Moving forward options. Major project list overview of completed, draft completed, and incomplete. Representatives lastly open discussion of their legislative agendas, ideas and requests. Commissioner of Finance request for support on approval of employee thank you. Watch for upcoming nomination of MLCV board.

Wednesday, December 9, 2020: Band Assembly occurred through conference call and Zoom.

- **Approval of Agenda:** Band Assembly approved the agenda.
- **Approval of Minutes: None.**
- **Reports and Presentations:**

10:15 a.m. Sylvia Wise, Band Member

Re: Nomination for D3 Associate Justice – Confirmation Hearing. Confirmation hearing held with introduction of nominee and questions answered.

11:00 a.m. Melissa “Baabiitaw” Boyd, Commissioner of Administration

Re: Aanjibimaadizing Update. Commissioner Boyd provided a FY 20 Year-end Report. The report included program data, budget information, FY comparison data, community services, TANF data, WEX data, Youth Band Assembly, Training & Education plans, and a success story. The presentation included comments and question/answer portion.

- **Unfinished Business:**

a) **Contract (Admin):** A contract for Mille Lacs Corporate Ventures to provide implementation of Tribal Economic Business Incubator through the Minnesota Disaster Recover Fund Grant through the St Paul & Minnesota Foundation in support of coronavirus recovery in the community. Contract end date is April 30, 2021. **Tabled 12/02/2020**

b) **Nomination:** On November 9, 2020 Chief Executive Benjamin nominated Sylvia Wise for the District III Associate Justice position pursuant to 5 MLBS § 5 (b). Band Assembly has thirty (30) days to either confirm or reject the nomination. **Tabled 11/18/2020.** Nomination was taken from table. Roll call vote was called for. Nomination passed.

c) **Band Assembly Bill 18-04-16-20:** A Bill for Mille Lacs Corporate Ventures (“Corporate Ventures”), a corporate body politic of the Mille Lacs Band of Ojibwe (“Band”), for the purpose of appropriating funds and authorizing expenditures to Corporate Ventures for its operations, and capital and economic development projects for the period beginning October 1, 2019 and ending September 30, 2020.

Sponsor: District I Representative

Tabled 12/10/2019

d) **Band Assembly Bill 18-04-17-20:** A Bill for Mille Lacs Corporate Ventures (“Corporate Ventures”), a corporate body politic of the Mille Lacs Band of Ojibwe (“Band”), for the purpose of appropriating funds and authorizing expenditures to Corporate Ventures for the operations, and capital and economic development projects of any current or future non-gaming business managed or operated directly or indirectly by Corporate Ventures (“Non-Gaming Businesses”) for the period beginning October 1, 2019 and ending September 30, 2020.

Sponsor: District II Representative

Tabled 12/10/2019

e) **Band Assembly Bill 18-04-18-20:** A Bill for Mille Lacs Corporate Ventures (“Corporate Ventures”), a corporate body politic of the Mille Lacs Band of Ojibwe (“Band”), for the purpose of appropriating funds and authorizing expenditures to Corporate Ventures for the operations, and capital and economic development projects of Grand Casino Hinckley and Grand Casino Mille Lacs (“Casinos”) for the period beginning October 1, 2019 and ending September 30, 2020.

Sponsor: District III Representative

Tabled 12/10/2019

f) Revenue Allocation Plan
Pending further discussions.

- **New Business:**

- a) **Band Assembly Bill 19-02-10-21:** A Bill repealing Band Assembly Bill 19-02-51-20, enacted as Band Ordinance 51-20, and amending Chapter 13 of Title 8 entitled “Child Protection” of the Mille Lacs Band Statutes (“MLBS”) (Band Assembly Bill 17-03-31-17, enacted as Band Ordinance 31-17), for the purposes of amending the effective date and to clarify the applicability of Chapter 13 to court cases opened prior to December 1, 2021.

Sponsor: District II Representative. Bill was removed from the agenda.

- b) **Band Assembly Bill 19-02-11-21:** A Bill of Supplemental Appropriation and Budget Revisions/Transfers for the Community Development, Department of Justice, Education, Administration, and Health & Human Services Departments for the Fiscal Year ending September 30, 2021.

Sponsor: District III Representative. Bill was introduced, read, and approved.

- c) **Band Assembly Bill 19-02-12-21:** A Bill of Appropriation for the Housing Initiative program of the Mille Lacs Band Tribal Government for Fiscal Year ending September 30, 2021.

Sponsor: District I Representative. Bill was introduced, read and approved.

- d) **Contract (Judicial):** A contract for File & Serve Xpress to provide a single, secure centralized online location to file and serve court documents. This is a two-year contract that will end September 30, 2022. Contract was approved.

- e) **Contract (Education):** A contract for Janice Lippit, NCSP to provide school psychologist services for all Nay Ah Shing Schools. Contract end date is June 30, 2021. Contract was approved.

- f) **Contract (Education):** A contract for Therapy Associates, Inc. to provide speech language pathologist services for all Nay Ah Shing Schools. Contract end date is June 30, 2021. Contract was approved.

- g) **Contract (Education):** A contract for Mille Lacs Health System to provide occupational therapist services for all Nay Ah Shing Schools. Contract end date is June 30, 2021. Contract was approved.

- h) **Contract (Community Development):** A contract for Heritage Exteriors & Restoration, Inc. to provide labor and materials for emergency renovation repairs at a private elder residence in District I. Contract end date is June 30, 2021. Contract was approved.

- i) **Contract (Administration):** A contract for GMJ Designs, LLC to provide administrative and technical support services to Tribal Child Support Enforcement for the MTS System. Contract end date is September 30, 2021. Contract was approved.

- j) **Contract (Administration):** A contract for Tribal Consulting Services, LLC to provide support services to program users for Tribal Child Support Enforcement for MTS System. Contract end date is September 30, 2021. Contract was approved.
- k) **Contract (Department of Justice):** A contract addendum for Ziontz Chestnut to provide continued litigation services on behalf of the Mille Lacs Band in connection with the law enforcement agreement. Contract end date September 30, 2021. Contract approved with changes.
- l) **Nomination:** A nomination from Chief Executive Benjamin for Catherine Colsrud to serve on the Corporate Board, At-Large Position. Term ends March 31, 2021. Nomination was tabled.

- **Letters/Announcements: None.**

- **Scheduled Meetings/Events:**

December 16, 2020 Band Assembly Meeting

December 23, 2020 Band Assembly Meeting

December 30, 2020 Band Assembly Meeting

- **Other:**

Thursday, December 10, 2020: Legislative held a work session for the Band Assembly members, Legal Counsel, Staff Attorneys, Legislative Staff, Commissioner of Finance and Legal & Policy Counsel. Work Session Agenda: Revenue Allocation Plan (RAP).

Revenue Allocation Plan: Reviewed Mille Lacs Band Revenue Allocation Plan revisions. Read and discussed red line version line by line. Discussion of RAP & Minor Trust Agreement, calculation equation, ten-year distribution schedule, IGRA requirements & standards, legal applicable clarification, loss of beneficiary process, application process, letter inclusion with application, placement of RAP Act, include General Welfare Exclusion, moving forward plan, BIA approval, and frequently asked questions. All remarks were noted in the margin requiring action for further resolve of concern. Commissioner of Finance presented a Minor Payment Example. A simple model showing the 20% per year distribution when including interest, all explained in the Minor Trust Agreement. Discussion of historical disbursement scenarios, various tax rates (kiddy tax), permitting delaying payments, and effect on financial aid & scholarships.

Discussion of next working session agenda.