



Quarterly Board Meeting  
Grand Portage Lodge & Casino & via WebEx  
70 Casino Dr, Grand Portage, MN 55605  
Tuesday, November 10, 2020  
9:00 AM – 4:00 PM

**MEETING MINUTES**

- I. 9:02am – Meeting called to order – Chairman Larsen
- II. Invocation and Prayer – Grand Portage Councilman John Morrin
- III. Roll Call – Shannon Geshick, Executive Director

**MIAC Executive Board Members:**

- Board Chair*—Robert L. Larsen, ***President Lower Sioux Indian Community***  
PRESENT
- Board Vice-Chair*—Shelley Buck, ***President Prairie Island Indian Community***  
PRESENT
- Board Member*—Kevin R. DuPuis, Sr., ***Chairman Fond du Lac Band of Lake Superior Chippewa***  
PRESENT
- Board Member*—Cathy Chavers, ***Chairwoman Bois Forte Band of Chippewa***  
PRESENT
- Board Member*—Faron Jackson, Sr., ***Chairman Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe***  
PRESENT
- Board Member*—Robert Deschampe, ***Chairman Grand Portage Band of Lake Superior Chippewa***  
PRESENT
- Board Member*—Michael Fairbanks, ***Chairman White Earth Nation***  
PRESENT
- Board Member*—Samuel Strong, ***Secretary Red Lake Nation***  
ABSENT
- Board Member*—Rebecca Crooks-Stratton, ***Secretary/Treasurer Shakopee Mdewakanton Sioux***  
ABSENT
- Board Member*—Melanie Benjamin, ***Chief Executive Mille Lacs Band of Ojibwe***  
PRESENT

***A quorum was present***

**Non-voting members present:**

- Governor’s Office- Lieutenant Governor Peggy Flanagan
- State Representative Mary Kunesch-Podein
- State Representative Dean Urdahl
- Senator Patricia Torres Ray
- Commissioner of Administration—Alice Roberts-Davis
- Commission of Corrections—Paul Schnell

Commissioner of Education—Mary Cathryn Ricker  
Commissioner of DEED—Steve Grove  
Commissioner of Health—Jan Malcolm  
Commissioner of Human Service—Jodi Harpstead  
Commissioner of Human Rights—Rebecca Lucero  
Iron Range Resources & Rehabilitation—Mark Phillips  
    via designee: Al Becicka  
Minnesota Housing Finance Agency—Jennifer Leimaile Ho  
Natural Resources—Sarah Strommen  
Transportation—Margaret Anderson Kelliher  
Veteran Affairs—Larry Herke

**Non-voting members absent:**

Senator Gary Dahms

**Visiting Commissioners**

Agriculture – Thom Peterson  
    via designee: Patrice Bailey  
Bureau of Mediation Services – Janet Johnson  
Commerce – Grace Arnold  
Management and Budget – Jim Schowalter  
    via designee: Eric Hallstrom  
Met Council Chair – Charles Zelle  
    via designee: Robert Liligram  
Military Affairs – Major General Shawn Manke  
MnIT – Tarek Tomes  
Office of Higher Learning – Dennis Olson  
Pollution Control Agency – Laura Bishop  
Public Safety – John Harrington  
Revenue – Robert Doty

IV. MOTION made by Prairie Island to approve the August 28, 2020 meeting minutes, seconded by Grand Portage: **MOTION PASSED** **8 For 0 Opposed 0 Silent**

V. MIAC STAFF REPORTS – Executive Director, Cultural Resources, Legislative & Grants Director—bypassed due to Executive Session. Copies of staff reports are available on the MIAC website

MOTION made by Mille Lacs to approve MIAC staff reports, seconded by Bois Forte:  
**MOTION PASSED** **8 For 0 Opposed 0 Silent**

VI. BOARD UPDATES: Lt. Governor Peggy Flanagan, Rep. Dean Urdahl, Rep. Mary Kunesch-Podein, Senator Patricia Torres-Ray, Administration/Commissioner Davis, Corrections/Commissioner Schnell, Education/Commissioner Cathryn Ricker, Employment & Economic Development/Hamse Warfe, Health/Jackie Dionne, Human Services/Commissioner Harpstead, Human Rights/Commissioner Lucero, Housing & Finance/Commissioner Leimaile Ho, Iron Range Resources & Rehabilitation/Al Becicka, Natural Resources/Commissioner Strommen, Transportation/Commissioner Kelliher, Veterans Affairs/Commissioner Herke

AGENCY UPDATES: Agriculture/Shannon Kesner, Bureau of Mediation Services/Commissioner Johnson, Commerce/Commissioner Arnold, Management & Budget/Deputy Commissioner Hallstrom, Met Council/Robert Liligram, Military Affairs/Lieutenant Colonel Ed Suarez, MnIT/Commissioner Tomes, Office of Higher Learning/Commissioner Olson, Pollution Control Agency/Commissioner Bishop, Public Safety/Nigel Perrote, Revenue/Commissioner Doty

VII. REPORTS:

Ombudsperson for American Indian Families – Jill Esch  
Tribal Nations Education Committee – Jennifer Murray  
Joint Advisory Committee – Laurie York/Commissioner Harpstad/Vern LaPlante

VIII. PRESENTATIONS:

**Expanding Financial Access and Inclusion across Minnesota’s Tribal Nations** – Anne Leland Clark, Financial Capability + Learning Director, and Kim Hover, Financial Inclusion Manager

**East Phillips Neighborhood Institute (EPNI)** – Michelle Shaw, EPNI Communications Coordinator, Cassandra Holmes, EPNI Board Member, and Dean Dovolis, EPNI Board President

**Wakan Tipi Center/Lower Phalen Creek Project** – Maggie Lorenz, Wakan Tipi Center Director/Lower Phalen Creek Project, Kate Beane, Board Member, Wakan Tipi Center/Lower Phalen Creek Project

**Tribal-State Relations Training website, eLearning, virtual training, and lunch & learn** – Linda Aitken, Tribal-State Relations Training Manager, Melanie Franks, Tribal-State Relations Coordinator

**Boards & Commissions, sharing information on appointments** – Madelyn Nelson, Director of Boards & Commissions, Jacqueline Congello, Associate Director of Appointments

IX. OLD BUSINESS:

X. NEW BUSINESS:

Resolution 11102020\_01 Tribal Energy  
MOTION made by Bois Forte to approve the Tribal Energy Resolution, seconded by Fond du Lac  
**RESOLUTION ADOPTED** **8 For 0 Opposed 0 Silent**

XI. ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Next meeting: TBD

5:05pm – MOTION to Adjourn made by Bois Forte, seconded by Prairie Island

Meeting Adjourned

Respectfully submitted,

Tanya LaFromboise, MIAC Office Manager