



Quarterly Board Meeting  
Seven Clans Casino Red Lake/WebEx  
10200 MN-89, Red Lake, MN 56671  
Wednesday February 17, 2021  
9:00 AM – 4:00 PM

### **MEETING MINUTES**

- I. Meeting called to order – Chairman Larsen
- II. Invocation and Prayer – Eagle Talon Drum Group and Daryl Seki, Chairman
- 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, ***Chairwoman 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***  
PRESENT

*Board Member*—William Rudnicki, ***Tribal Administrator Shakopee Mdewakanton Sioux Community***  
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*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  
Representative Heather Keeler  
Representative Dean Urdahl  
Senator Mary Kunesh  
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  
via designee: Deb Burns  
Commissioner of Human Service—Jodi Harpstead  
Commissioner of Human Rights—Rebecca Lucero  
Iron Range Resources & Rehabilitation—Mark Phillips  
via designee: Al Becicka and Billie Isham  
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  
MMB Commissioner Schowalter

**Visiting Commissioners**

Agriculture – Thom Peterson  
Bureau of Mediation Services – Janet Johnson  
Commerce – Steve Kelley  
Labor and Industry –Roslyn Robertson  
Management and Budget – Jim Schowalter  
Met Council Chair – Charles Zelle  
Military Affairs – Brigadier General Shawn Manke  
MnIT – Tarek Tomes  
Office of Higher Learning – Dennis Olson  
Pollution Control Agency – Laura Bishop  
Public Safety – John Harrington  
Revenue – Cynthia Bauerly

- IV. MOTION by Prairie Island Indian Community to approve the February 17, 2021 minutes, seconded by Fond du Lac: **MOTION PASSED** **7 For 0 Opposed 0 Silent**
- V. MIAC STAFF REPORTS – Executive Director, Cultural Resources, Legislative & Grants Director—bypassed due to Executive Session. Motion by Prairie Island Indian Community Second by Grand Portage. **MOTION PASSED** **7 For 0 Opposed 0 Silent**

Copies of staff reports are available on the MIAC website.

- VI. BOARD UPDATES: Lt. Governor Peggy Flanagan, Rep. Dean Urdahl, Rep. Heather Keeler, Senator Mary Kunesh, DNR Commissioner Strommen, DOC Commissioner Schnell, DEED Commissioner Grove, MDE Commissioner Ricker, MDVA Commissioner Herke, MDH Deb Burns, IRRR Al Becicka, MDOT Commissioner Kelliher

AGENCY UPDATES: MDA Tom Peterson, DLI Roslyn Robertson, BMS Commissioner Johnson/Lane Harstad, Commerce Steve Kelley, MNIT Tarek Tomes, OHE Dennis Olson, MPCA Laura Bishop,

MMB Commissioner Schowalter (absent), DPS Commissioner Harrington, MDR Commissioner Bauerly

VII. REPORTS:

Urban Indian Advisory Board –bypassed  
Ombudsperson for American Indian Families – Jill Esch  
Tribal Nations Education Committee – Jennifer Murray  
Joint Advisory Committee – Laurie York

VIII. PRESENTATIONS:

**Weisman Inventory Collection Update:** Katherine Hays, Associate Professor of Anthropology/Director of the Race Indigeneity, Gender, and Sexuality Studies Initiative; Tadd Johnson, Senior Director American Indian Tribal Relations/Professor of American Indian Studies U of M, Duluth, Joan Gabel, President of University of Minnesota

**Updates on Children’s Cabinet – COVID response and resources for children and families, and healthy beginnings and food security update related to tribes:** Erin Bailey, Assistant Commissioner/Executive Director of the Governor’s Children’s Cabinet

**Census 202/GOTNV:** Shelly Diaz, Census 2020 Tribal Hub; Annastacia Belladonna-Carrera, Executive Director Common Cause; Jolene Jones, Native American Community Development Institute

**The Federal Reserve Bank of Minneapolis – Introductions:** Heather Soprena, Roberta Downing, and Casey Lozar Center for Indian Country Development

IX. OLD BUSINESS:

MIAC support of Red Lake Letter regarding Line 3  
Executive Session discussion – Over half of quorum voted in support of the letter. MIAC moves forward with support of the Red Lake letter.

X. NEW BUSINESS:

Urban Indian Advisory Board – Board of Director Position  
Executive Session discussion to seat Marisa Cummings  
MOTION by **Boise Fort** to seat Marisa Cummings on the Urban Indian Advisory Board, seconded by **Fond du Lac**: **MOTION PASSED** **7 For 0 Opposed 0 Silent**

Minnesota Forest Resources Council – MIAC Representative  
Executive Session discussion to reseat Keith Karnes  
MOTION by **Boise Fort** to seat Marisa Cummings on the Urban Indian Advisory Board, seconded by **Fond du Lac**: **MOTION PASSED** **7 For 0 Opposed 0 Silent**

XI. ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Next meeting: TBD

4:05pm – MOTION to Adjourn made by Prairie Island, seconded by White Earth

Meeting Adjourned

Respectfully submitted,

Shannon Geshick, Executive Director