

NEVADA STATE BOARD ON GEOGRAPHIC NAMES

MINUTES January 12, 2016

The meeting began at 9:35am, Great Basin Science Sample and Records Library conference room, 2175 Raggio Parkway, Reno, NV

Introductions of Members and Guests:

Board Members Present:

Christine Johnson, Executive Secretary - Nevada Historical Society (non-voting).
Jeff Kintop, Chair, Nevada State Library & Archives
Jack Hursh, Nevada Bureau of Mines & Geology
Robert (Bob) Stewart, US Bureau of Land Management, retired
Katrina Leavitt, US Bureau of Land Management
John Burgess, Nevada Dept. of Transportation
Skip Canfield, Nevada Dept. of Conservation & Natural Resources
Larry Schmidt, US Forest Service

Absent:

Margaret (Peg) Rees, University of Nevada, Las Vegas
Daryl Crawford, Inter-Tribal Council
Paul Starrs, University of Nevada, Reno (
Linda Newman, University of Nevada, Reno, Emeritus
David Davis, Nevada Bureau of Mines & Geology

Guests:

None

Welcome and announcement of “new management” by Chair, Jeff Kintop, 9:39 a.m.

1. Approval of Minutes

Minutes to be approved were listed on agenda as the May 12, 2015 minutes, when the minutes to be considered for approval were meant to be the September 8, 2015. Open meeting law does not allow for the incorrect agenda items to be voted upon. This item tabled for approval at the next meeting, May 4, 2015.

2. Announcements, Chair or Executive Secretary

The Chair and members discussed the challenges of NGBN noticing for applications received versus US Board noticing, the specific example being for tribal entities. Apparently, after the US Board receives our recommendations for approval, they follow a more broader “noticing area criteria”. The specific example cited was for an application for the naming of a butte in Nye County that NGBN recommended approval last meeting. NGBN followed our established tribal noticing procedures. However, once the US Board received NGBN’s file, they noticed a larger list of tribes in other states. One distant Arizona tribe commented back with lack of support. Discussion ensued on this topic of a tribe with no real connection to Nevada replying in opposition. The Chair produced a letter from the US Board explaining that, although there was lack of support from a distant tribe, since the comments lacked any suggested alternative or even any justifications, the US Board would always follow a balanced protocol that recognized NGBN’s efforts for fair review of the information and criteria based on local, connected entities.

3. Announcements from Board members

One member informed the Board that he had been in contact with an applicant who proposed naming a western Nevada location for Pony Bob Haslam – “The Longest Pony Express Ride Ever”, <http://www.legendsofamerica.com/we-ponybobhaslam.html>. The member stated that the preferred location was northeast of Sand Spring Station by Sand Mountain. The member was going to meet the applicant at the site next weekend for a site visit, and advise the applicant on the best way to apply. Also, the Board agreed that this would be a very appropriate agenda item for our next meeting in May during the COGNA Conference, since it would highlight a topic very unique to Nevada.

A member discussed with the Board aspects of the Open Meeting Law and how to ensure public comments do not become antagonistic, an issue the NGBN dealt with during the long attempt to name Sam Clemens Cove at Lake Tahoe.

Another member asked the status of all of NGBN's other recommendations for approval at the US Board (we have 5). Those are all under review.

Board was notified that Jane Freeman has changed jobs and will no longer be serving on the NGBN. Dan White (regional rep) would like to phone in to meetings.

4. COGNA Conference: Discussion and Organization

NGBN is the host for this year's conference at the Peppermill from Tuesday May 3 to Saturday May 7. NGBN members have been hard at work to bring the conference to Reno. A “contest” was held for the best name for the conference, and Skip Canfield's proposal won – “Great Names in the Great Basin”.

The Board had a lengthy discussion on logistics and assignments. All Board members will help with meeting room logistics and run the different tables at the event and assist with transportation. A large bus will be provided for the Saturday tour and Board members are required to be up front to tell the different stories of the featured stops. Transportation to the rest of the events will be handled by Board members to assist those attendees without cars.

NGBN will hold their regular May meeting during the conference. Specific date to be determined. Idea for Skip Canfield will tag team with one other member on a panel discussing a unique naming application NGBN reviewed along the Colorado River 2 years ago for multiple springs. The NGBN was able to fly down to Las Vegas on the NDOT plane and raft down the river to the different sites, a real highlight.

The importance of this example is that a lot of State Naming Boards rarely even meet. NGBN is an example of a very committee board.

5. Select meeting place for next meeting:

In the event the NGBN meeting cannot occur during the COGNA conference, the date of May 10, 2016 (9:30am-approximately 12:00pm) will be held at the Great Basin Sample and Records Library Conference Room, Great Basin Science Sample and Records Library (GBSSRL), 2175 Raggio Parkway, Reno, NV.

6. Public Comments:

No public comments made.

7. Meeting Adjourned:

Bob Stewart motioned for adjournment, seconded by Larry Schmidt. Meeting adjourned at 11:30am.

