

NEVADA STATE BOARD ON GEOGRAPHIC NAMES

MINUTES January 14, 2014

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, Nevada Historical Society
David Davis, Nevada Bureau of Mines & Geology
Robert [Bob] Stewart, US Bureau of Land Management, retired
Skip Canfield, Nevada Dept. of Conservation & Natural Resources
John Burgess, Nevada Dept. of Transportation
Jeff Kintop, State Archivist, Nevada State Library & Archives
Jack Hursh, Executive Secretary, Nevada Bureau of Mines & Geology [non-voting]
Linda Newman, Chair, University of Nevada, Reno, Emeritus

Absent:

Daryl Crawford, Inter-Tribal Council
Margaret Rees, University of Nevada, Las Vegas
Marianne Faretta, Senior GIS Analyst, Nevada Department of Transportation
US Forest Service representative Terri Frolli has retired; no replacement yet chosen.

Guests:

Guy Rocha, State Archivist, retired
Eric Moody, Director, retired, Nevada State Historical Society
Gene and Vicki Piccinini, Reno
David Antonucci, Tahoe City, CA
Jenny Antonucci, Tahoe City, CA
Stony Tennant, Dayton
Bob Graham
Terry Cynar, Reno
Larry J. Schmidt
Peter S. Lathrop

Agenda:

1. Minutes. Sept. 10, 2013. Accepted with correction to title of Marianne Farretta and addition of statement of public comment opportunity prior to Adjournment.

Motion to accept by B. Stewart, seconded by J. Kintop.
Vote unanimous with 2 corrections/additions.

2. Announcements from the Chair and Secretary:

- Chair: 2014 Council of Geographic Names Authorities Conference, Austin TX at end of April. The Chair encouraged anyone able to attend and report back to this Board [no one spoke up].

- Changes in Agenda will be noticed in Agenda of next meeting; items will not be given an asterisk but rather noted as [‘possible action’]; pointed out agenda possibilities at bottom of agenda: items may be merged, postponed, order may be altered. Agendas should be 12 point type. It will be noted that there is public comment opportunity at beginning and end of meeting.
- Executive Secretary: Retirement of Terri Frolli, US Forest Service rep; we await a replacement.

3. Announcements from Nevada Board: None

Guests: None [at this time]

4. Mount Reagan, Clark County, update:

Summary of activity since past meeting: no responses to letters to city governments of N. Las Vegas, Las Vegas, or Clark County Commissioners, or Native units in area. Chair then sent a letter to US Board stating vote in favor and lack of any response. Very shortly after, Chair was notified that a US House Bill # 3440 had been submitted by Las Vegas Rep Dina Titus to name the same peak [as verified by request to double-check coordinates with Muth proposal] ‘Maude Frazier Mountain.’ [Maude Frazier was the first female Lt. Gov. of Nevada, an educator in many Nevada mining communities and played a key role in founding what was to become University of Nevada Las Vegas.]

A bill takes precedence and as long as the bill is ‘active’ [could be through entire session of Congress], then no action can be taken by the US Board on Geographic Names. Chair was told that this is a very rare occurrence.

Chair informed Mr. Muth of situation.
No comments.

5. Last Stand Lake, Nye County, [formerly Bear Paw (Dry) Lake], update:

After two years of efforts by this Board to get all parties – civil and Native – in agreement, was accepted by the US Board and noted in their Decisions of Dec. 12, 2013. The proposer was notified and thanked for his patience. The proposer responded and thanked the Board.

No comments.

6. Fremont Lookout, Lyon County, Second Hearing, cited in US Board Quarterly Review # 413:

Proposal was made by a combination of interested parties.
Discussion. It was stated that a road to top is not necessary although there is a track.
Motion by B. Stewart to accept the proposal; second by S. Canfield.
Seven votes in favor, none opposed, no abstentions. Motion carried.
Letters will now be sent to county authority and Native units in area.

Next 4 items were submitted by Sue Silver of the Mineral County Museum to correct spelling of personal names now given for these features in the GNIS. Her extensive documentation points out variations in name spelling often based on maps and repeated thereafter. Her documentation, including personal items, indicates the spelling which she proposes.

7. Cory Peak, Mineral County, Second Hearing.

Discussion. Cory was a prospector in the Aurora area.
Motion to accept proposal to change to ‘CORY’ made by J. Kintop and second by C. Johnson.
Six votes in favor, no objection, one abstention. Motion carried.
Letters will now be sent to county authority and Native units in area.

8. Braly Peak, Mineral County, Second Hearing:

Discussion. Many variations used and cited in the GNIS. He was one of the founders of the Esmeralda

Mining District. Issue complicated because it crosses CA state line. US Board liaison has asked the CA Board to work with or defer to this Board; no reply to date. Motion to accept spelling change to Braly Peak made by S. Canfield and second by B. Stewart.

Six in favor, no objections, one abstention. Motion carried.

Letters will now be sent to county authority and Native units in area.

Lapham Canyon and Lapham Meadow were discussed together as name is for same person, a Capt William Wallace Lapham, an early California pioneer and superintendent of the General Grant Mining Company, Esmeralda County [now in Mineral County], Nevada, who eventually served in the California Legislature. Many variations of name found on many documents. The proposal includes photos of a tombstone bearing the name William Wallace Lapham.

9. Lapham Canyon, Mineral County, Second Hearing:

Motion to accept spelling of Lapham made by S. Canfield, second by C. Johnson. Six votes in favor, none opposed, one abstention. Motion carried. Letters will now be sent to county authority and Native units in area.

10. Lapham Meadows, Mineral County, Second Hearing:

Motion made by B. Stewart to accept the name change as proposed; second by S. Canfield. Six votes in favor, none opposed, one abstention. Motion carried. Letters will now be sent to county authority and Native units in area.

11. McLane Peak, Pershing County, Second Hearing.

A proposal to honor Alvin McLane, a person of considerable reputation in field work and publications on Nevada archaeology, history and geography. The nominated spot is a peak in the Nightingale Mountains overlooking the north end of Winnemucca Lake.

Discussion. Guy Rocha, L Newman, Eric Moody, J. Hursh and others spoke in recognition and appreciation of the work of Alvin McLane and the appropriateness of this site to bear his name.

Motion to accept this proposal to name a peak in Pershing County made by J. Kintop, second by B. Stewart. Seven votes in favor, none opposed, no abstentions. Motion carried. Letters will now be sent to county authority and Native units in area.

12. Cleveland Rocks, Clark County, Second Hearing.

The proposed name is for a small ridge just west of and on the border of the city of Las Vegas in honor of the contributions of the people of Las Vegas from Cleveland, Ohio. No `Cleveland...` names were found in Clark County in the GNIS. Question of local support especially as this is not a matter of `common usage.`

J. Hursh has requested the proponent to discuss the jurisdiction with the Clark County Commissioner Brager.

Move to table until clarification on jurisdiction made by B. Stewart, second by J. Burgess.

Vote of seven in favor, no objection, no abstentions. Motion carried.

13. Wilhoites Peak, Nye County, Second Hearing.

A commemorative name for a family which settled in the area to be given to a peak on US Forest Service land. The name is in common usage by the Forest Service but not by others in the area. A Benchmark named `Benchmark Wilhoites VABM, 8309` sets precedence for naming a feature.

Discussion with input from family members present. Parents ran a store in area and father worked for the Highway Dept; deceased for some years. `Don Wilhoites` is mentioned in the proposal; not the father; the proposal is not for him but for the family [name].

Motion in favor made by J. Burgess, second by D. Davis. Vote seven in favor, none opposed, no abstentions. Motion carried.

Letters will now be sent to county and native authorities.

Break of about 15 minutes. Resumed meeting at 11:30.

14. Sam Clemens Cove, Washoe County, First Hearing.

David Antonucci, Tahoe City, CA, prior to beginning his presentation, asked that Board member Bob Stewart, with whom he has had many formal and informal debates on this subject, be excused from room given Stewart's opposing position to Mr. Antonucci. The Chair could see no reason for this given Mr. Stewart's assurances of no interruption [*although Chair did not believe the assurances necessary*]. Mr. Antonucci proceeded by accusing the Board of 'subterfuge' [definition on screen]. He continued with many reasons why the cove should not be named and the Board should select another site and call it 'Mark Twain cove.'

Chair stated that there was no 'subterfuge:' this will be a public proposal by a public board. Noted that as yet, no proposal has been finalized.

J. Kintop reported on his attendance in December on behalf of this Board at the Nevada 150 Commission [a Governor appointed body to celebrate the 150th year of Nevada statehood]. The Commission voted unanimously to support the renewed proposal to name the Sam Clemens Cove given his significance to this state especially during our earliest years of western settlement.

Discussion then followed regarding continuing the proposal verses other sites.

A motion was made by S. Canfield, second by J. Kintop to proceed with the commemorative name of Sam Clemens for a site. Vote: All in favor, one abstention. Motion carried.

Discussion continued regarding potential impact of naming same site [cove] as in prior proposal. Noted that this Board has very rarely taken this into consideration; the point being that this Board considers the rules as stipulated by the US Board and appropriateness to the site. Some members offered to research various aspects of impact and possibility of verifying, nullifying, or qualifying them and report back to the Board.

A second motion made by S. Canfield to pursue naming of the original cove, second by C. Johnson. Vote: six in favor, one abstention. Motion carried.

15. Select a meeting place for next meeting.

Given the urgency to finalize the proposal for Sam Clemens Cove, the Board then felt that another meeting should be held before the regularly scheduled May meeting.

The date of the March 18, 2014, third Tuesday was agreed upon and at this same location: Great Basin Sample and Records Library Conference Room, Desert Research Institute campus, 2175 Raggio Parkway, Reno, NV.

S. Canfield moved for adjournment; second by J. Kintop. Motion passed unanimously. Adjournment at 12:10pm.