

# DRAFT

## NEVADA STATE BOARD ON GEOGRAPHIC NAMES

### MINUTES

Tuesday January 14, 2020

The meeting began at 9:31am, at the Nevada State Library, Archives, and Public Records - 100 N. Stewart St., Carson City, NV 89701 (Board Room)

#### **Board Members Present:**

Jack Hursh, Chair, Nevada Bureau of Mines & Geology  
Christine Johnson, Executive Secretary – Nevada Historical Society (non-voting)  
Josh Owens – Alternate, Nevada State Library, Archives, and Public Records  
Don Harper, Bureau of Land Management, Nevada  
Larry Schmidt, US Forest Service, retired (voting - alternate)  
Paul White, University of Nevada, Reno – Department of Geography (voting alternate)  
Jeff Welter, Nevada Department of Transportation (voting – alternate)  
Karl Yonkers, Nevada Department of Transportation  
Dominique Etchegoyhen, Nevada Dept. of Conservation & Natural Resources  
Scott Carey, Nevada Dept. of Conservation & Natural Resources (voting alternate)  
Cynthia Laframboise, Nevada State Library, Archives, and Public Records  
Wanda Taylor, University of Nevada, Las Vegas – Department of Geoscience – on phone  
Paul Starrs, University of Nevada, Reno – Department of Geography – on phone  
Catherine Magee, Nevada Historical Society (voting alternate) – on phone  
Steffan Petersen - National Park Service, Lake Mead – on phone  
Dan White, U.S. Forest Service, Utah – on phone

#### **Absent:**

Craig Burkett, Sr. Deputy Attorney General, Nevada Attorney General's Office (non-voting)  
Inter-Tribal Council of Nevada  
Dean Tonenna, Bureau of Land Management, Nevada (voting – alternate)

#### **Members of Public/Advisory Panel:**

Marissa Weaselboy - Public, UNR Anthropology Student, Western Shoshone (Advisory)  
Linda Newman – NSBGN Advisory Panel  
Ron Moe – Public  
Lora Robb – Nevada Bureau of Mines & Geology

#### **1. Introductions and Approval of Agenda (for possible action)**

Meeting called to order at 9:31am by Jack Hursh. Introductions made of attending Board members and members of the public. Motion to approve agenda made by Cynthia Laframboise, seconded by Karl Yonkers. Unanimous approval of the agenda. Motion approved.

#### **2. Public Comment (action not taken)**

Pursuant to N.R.S. 241, this time is devoted to comments by the public, if any, and discussion of those comments. Comment will not be restricted based on viewpoint. No action may be taken upon a matter raised under this item on the agenda until the matter itself has been specifically included on a successive agenda and identified as an item for possible action. All public comments may be limited to five (5) minutes for each person at the discretion of the Chair. No public comment made.

**3. Approval of Minutes of the September 17, 2019 meeting (for possible action)**

Motion to approve minutes of September 17, 2019 minutes as written made by Don Harper, seconded by Dominique Etchegoyhen. One abstention, otherwise unanimous approval of minutes. Motion approved.

**4. Announcements, Chairman or Executive Secretary**

**From Executive Secretary:** Secretary is moving agencies, will be serving as the alternate position for UNR. Secretary position is up for re-election in September, and no documentation exists that would prevent the role of Executive Secretary from continuing to be filled by Christine Johnson in the alternate voting member role for UNR until the time of re-election. Additionally, Pupfish Peak and Turtle Gulch have been forwarded to the U.S. Board.

**From Chair:** Mr. Hursh is retiring and thus resigning from his position effective this meeting, having served on the NSBGN since 2006. Board thanked Mr. Hursh for his many years of service. Chair reminded that sites from agendas of the recent past that are removed or rescinded still have potential to be brought back.

**5. Announcements from Board Members**

None at this time.

**6. Protocol and Streamlining of NSBGN procedures update (for possible action)**

Executive Secretary commented on potential for subcommittees to exist was run by the Deputy Attorney General, and it appears the NSBGN can work to enact subcommittees. Secretary will connect interested board members to the Deputy Attorney General to further discuss. Board is interested in adding the Nevada Indian Commission to the board, need to write legislation to that effect. More information to follow. Need to update NSBGN website to update contact information and representing agencies. The NV Bureau of Mines & Geology is a great resource for information and maps and research for the process of NSBGN activity. Secretary reminded all board members to remember to utilize all agency resources in order to effectively comment and vote on proposed sites to be as comprehensive as possible in the process of managing naming proposals. Chair mentioned the newest edition of the Nevada Historical Society's publication of the *Quarterly* (journal) features a nice article on Doso Doyabi (formerly Jeff. Davis peak), NSBGN is very proud of the author (proponent) and commended him for the publication.

**7. Election of Chair (for possible action)**

Cynthia Laframboise nominated, no other nominations. Motion to approve made by Wanda Taylor, seconded by Don Harper. No additional discussion, no objections, and no abstentions. Motion passed.

**8. Deacon Peak (for possible action)**

This is the first hearing for this site in Nye County. This is the highest point in the small range of hills directly north of Devils Hole, where the native Pupfish live (affiliated with the proposal from September 2019 for Pupfish Peak). The site would be named for James Deacon, now deceased but distinguished Professor Emeritus of Biology at the University of Nevada, Las Vegas' Department of Biological Sciences. His leadership led to the protection of critical water resources in the Ash Meadows National Wildlife Refuge, and Dr. Deacon was instrumental in gaining recognition for other unique desert fish species in Nevada. This site is in Nye County in the Ash Meadows national Wildlife Refuge, just east of Death Valley. Don Harper mentioned support of honoree (Mr. Deacon), who is held in high regard for the work and research he did on pupfish. Wanda Taylor mentioned her knowledge of Mr. Deacon and his academic and professional achievements, citing his efforts to advance the university as well - finds him wholly deserving of the recognition in the naming of the peak. James Deacon's work is one of the reasons we have the Endangered Species Act today. Motion to forward this proposal to Karl Yonkers, seconded by Dominique Etchegoyhen. No additional discussion, no objections, and no abstentions. Motion passed.

**9. Gridley Peak (second hearing – for possible action)**

This is the third hearing for proposed naming of Gridley Peak in Lander County. passed away. Ms. Weaselboy mentioned this site is in the ancestral homelands of the Yomba tribe, and she spoke to the elders and Chairman of the tribe, and they asked her to have the application retracted and give them time to submit their own name. Secretary mentioned that the NSBGN needs official feedback in the form of a letter, or email, official comments of some kind; public representation needs to be made official (names read into minutes, or official representation sent in on letterhead, emails, etc). Board does not take anonymous letters, or comments on behalf of others without written proof. Question raised as to whether NSBGN can table this item awaiting further information from the tribe. Dan White mentioned that the Forest Service has not given feedback either, supporting extension on the discussion for this site. Motion made to table this item and forward to a fourth hearing made by Paul White, seconded by Dominique Etchegoyhen. No additional discussion, no objections, and no abstentions. Motion passed.

**12. Select Tentative Meeting Place for May 2020 Meeting (for possible action)**

Tentative meeting place selected for next meeting at the Nevada State Library, Archives, and Public Records - 100 N. Stewart St., Carson City, NV 89701, specific room(s) to be determined. Tentatively set for Tuesday, May 12, 2019 at 9:30am time. Motion for the meeting to occur on this date and time made by Karl Yonkers, seconded by Don Harper. Unanimously approved, no objections, no abstentions.

**13. Public Comments (action will not be taken)**

Pursuant to N.R.S. 241, this time is devoted to comments by the public, if any, and discussion of those comments. Comment will not be restricted based on viewpoint. No action may be taken upon a matter raised under this item on the agenda until the matter itself has been specifically included on a successive agenda and identified as an item for possible action. All public comments may be limited to five (5) minutes for each person at the discretion of the Chair. Mr. Moe commented that the State Museum (Carson City) has a display on North American Cheetahs, and is hoping to propose naming a site for this species in a future meeting. Chair commended Mr. Moe for his dedication to the process, and Linda Newman for all her service to the NSBGN.

**14. Adjournment**

Motion to adjourn by Dominique Etchegoyhen, seconded by Don Harper. Unanimously approved, no objections, no abstentions. Motion carried unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 10:15am.