NEVADA STATE BOARD ON GEOGRAPHIC NAMES

MINUTES

Notice of Public Meeting and Agenda of the Nevada State Board on Geographic Names

A public meeting will be held on:

Tuesday, March 11, 2025
9:30am

Nevada Department of Conservation and Natural Resources
DCNR Conference Room, Tahoe 2-E,
901 Stewart St
Carson City, NV 89701

Board Members Present:

- Paul White, Chair – University of Nevada Reno, Dept. of Geography (voting member)
- Christine Johnson, Executive Secretary – University of Nevada Reno, Dept. of Geography (non-voting Executive Secretary, voting alternate for UNR)
- Brandon Bishop – Department of Conservation & Natural Resources (voting alternate)
- Dominque Etchegoyhen, Deputy Director NDCNR (voting member)
- Craig Burkett – Senior Deputy Attorney General, Attorney General's Office (non-voting)
- Dean Tonenna – BLM (voting alternate)
- Clifford Banuelos – Intertribal Council of Nevada (voting member)
- Cynthia Laframboise – Nevada State Library, Archives and Public Records (voting)
- Catherine Magee – NHS (voting member)
- Jeff Welter, Cartography Supervisor Nevada Department of Transportation (voting member)
- Gabriel Judkins – UNLV Dept. of Geosciences (voting member)
- Dan Kozar – BLM (voting member)
- Christina Clack, Nevada Bureau of Mines & Geology (voting alternate)
- Duff Callan – NDOT (voting alternate)
- Lawanda Jones – Native American Affairs (voting member)

Board Members/Alternates Not Present:

- Rachel Micander, Nevada Bureau of Mines & Geology (voting member)
- US Forest Service Representatives
- Nevada Parks Service

Guests

- Will Whitney – Proponent for Whittell Peak
- Cynthia Miller - USGS
- Lawanda Jones – Native American Affairs (voting member)

AGENDA:

1. **Call to order and approval of Agenda (For possible action)**
   Meeting was called to order at 9:30am
2. **Introduction of Board, Guests (Action will not be taken)**
   Board was introduced, guests introduced. No action taken.
3. **Public comment (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 5 minutes for each person at the discretion of the Chair.

   No public comment was provided.

4. **Approval of the Minutes of November 2024 meeting (For possible action)**
   Motion to approve minutes of November 2024 meeting made by Dominique Etchegoyhen, seconded by Paul White. Unanimous approval, motion carried.

5. **Approval of Minutes from June 2024 meeting (For possible action)**
   Motion to approve minutes of June 2024 meeting made by Cynthia Laframboise, seconded by Gabriel Judkins. Unanimous approval, motion carried.

6. **Announcements, Updates: Chairman or Executive Secretary**
   Executive Secretary: COGNA conference will be in Golden, CO in August and Executive Secretary will be attending. The Federal Advisory Committee on Reconciliation in Place Names was decommissioned in February, 2025 by the Trump Administration. Legislation is being written to remove the Federal members from the NSBGN in line with Federal request and with general state process. The legislation will also assign the previous seat on the NSBGN to the larger division of the Department of Museums & History and will be assigned by the Administrator.

7. **Whittell Peak (For possible action)**
   Discussion surrounding Whittell Peak, proponent reintroduced and board discussed. Motion made by Dominique Etchegoyhen, seconded by Cynthia Laframboise. Votes in favor: ITCN, DCNCR, NDOT, NHS, DNAA, UNR, UNLV, BLM, NSLA, NBMG. Votes opposed: none. Abstentions: none. Motion carried.

8. **Fool's Fount** – Elko County (For possible action)
   This application is the first hearing for this site, and came to us from the US Board on Geographic Names. Was sent to BLM for comment already, but Don Harper has retired. This is a perennial spring in the Adobe mountain range of Elko County located on the southern face of tower mountain in the long Canyon. The spring was historically limited to those on horseback or on or on hoof OK however a BLM fire break was created during the coal fire of 2017 that could allow for some motorized access a small pond retains some of the spring flow with the overflow continuing down the natural draw into the long Canyon drainage. Proponent says there is colloquial use among ranchers and sheepherders. No local opposition per proponent. Cliff Banuelos offered to reach out to for more information from Tribal authorities. This site is on land administered by public lands administered by the BLM. Motion made to send to a second hearing made by Paul White, seconded by Dominique Etchegoyhen. Votes in favor: ITCN, DCNCR, NDOT, NHS, DNAA, UNR, UNLV, BLM, NSLA, NBMG. Votes opposed: none. Abstentions: none. Motion carried.

9. **Protocol and streamlining of NSBGN procedures update** (For possible action)
Discussion on upcoming legislation regarding changes to NSBGN membership in Assembly Bill AB354. Special meeting suggested. Motion to have special meeting made by Dominique Etchegoyhen, seconded by Paul White. Votes in favor: ITCN, DCNCR, NDOT, DNAA, UNR, UNLV, BLM, NSLA, NBMG. Votes opposed: none. Abstentions: NHS. Motion carried.

10. **Select tentative meeting place and date for next meeting** (For possible action)

Tentative date of March 24-28 was chosen to continue discussion of AB354.

11. **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 5 minutes for each person at the discretion of the Chair.
No public comment was received

12. Adjournment
Meeting was adjourned at 11:22am