

# NEVADA STATE BOARD ON GEOGRAPHIC NAMES

## MINUTES

**May 14, 2013**

**The Meeting began at 9:40AM, Lyon County Utilities Building, guest of Historical Society of Dayton Valley and Lyon County.**

Board Members and guests introduced themselves:

**Board Members Present:**

Skip Canfield, Nevada State Dept. of Conservation & Natural Resources

Christine Johnson, Nevada Historical society, Reno, Alternate

David Davis, Nevada Bureau of Mines & Geology

Robert Stewart, US Bureau of Land Management, retired

Terri Frolli, US Forest Service

Jeff Kintop, State Archivist, Nevada State Library & Archives

Cynthia Laframboise, Nevada State Library & Archives

Margaret Rees, University of Nevada, Las Vegas

Daryl Crawford, Inter-Tribal Council of Nevada

John Burgess, Nevada Dept. of Transportation

Jack Hursh, Executive Secretary, Nevada Bureau of Mines & Geology

Linda Newman, Chair, University of Nevada, Reno, Emeritus

**Absent:**

Marianne Farretta, Cartographer, Nevada Dept. of Transportation

Michael Maher, Nevada Historical Society

**Guests:**

Guy Rocha, Stony Tennant, Laura Tennant, Chuck Muth, Paul Smith, Rich Dunn, Mabel

Masterman, Ray Fierro, Tom Chadie, Terry Cynar, Elaine Bergstrom, Eric Archer, Andy Sichak,

MaryAnn Sichak

**Agenda:**

1. **Minutes** of January 8, 2013 meeting. No changes, corrections or additions.  
Bob Stewart moved to accept. Skip Canfield second motion. Vote unanimous to accept.  
Minutes will be posted to NV Board web site and sent to US Board

**2. Announcements:**

**a. Chair.** Chair thanked Historical Society of Dayton Valley and Lyon County for hosting the meeting. Announced that Mark Sappington, National Park Service, sought approval to join the Board from his office which came too late to submit a bill to amend our legislation to include the NPS this meeting of the NV Legislature. Will try for next session. Jeff Kintop has offered to write and submit the bill.

**b. Executive Secretary – None.**

**3. Board Members and Guests - None.**

**4. Fremont Lookout, Lyon County, name proposal, First Hearing:**

Chair summarized discussion of naming possibilities from January meeting and follow-up emails. Proposers Guy Rocha and Stony Tennant decided on Fremont Lookout to name the spot where, after much research of records and in field, it is believed Fremont stood to view the horizon and decided to proceed not along Carson R. but rather south along Walker River seeking a path through Sierra Nevada.

Guy Rocha spoke again on the research of the documents including Fremont's to determine this site. Stony Tennant described the field checks to match official statements and methods of determining distance, latitude and longitude at that time. There is a Fremont Pass in the Lake Range already in the GNIS but without corroborative data.

**5. Last Stand Lake [formerly Bear Paw {Dry} Lake], Nye County, name proposal, First Hearing.**

Chair summarized proposal which was initiated in Aug 2011 to name a playa in Railroad Valley because of some significance for meteorites; a name would clarify location. The original proposal of Bear Paw Lake had been acceptable to the Duckwater Shoshone Tribe but the US BLM requested a more relevant name. Proposer responded with Last Stand Lake after Last Stand Well some 4 miles away which was on January 2013 agenda. The US BLM then objected to *any* name. After further discussion by the NV Board representative of the BLM, the national office sent a statement to the US Board changing their position stating that they would support the name of Last Stand Lake. Letters went to Nye County and local tribal offices requesting response to Last Stand Lake; no responses received.

Discussion.

Chair pointed out that although this was listed today as a First Hearing [given confusion with BLM responses], it was discussed at the January meeting as Last Stand Lake and could be considered as sufficient review [as required by NV Board Procedures] for a vote to be taken.

Bob Stewart proposed that that a vote be taken today; Peg Rees second motion. Vote unanimous to take vote today. Bob Stewart then moved for a vote in favor; Rees

second. Unanimously carried. *A footnote to this vote, a letter was received on May 17, after the May 14 meeting, from the Duckwater Shoshone Tribe, stating that they do not like the name Last Stand Lake and would like to research and submit a Shoshone name for the area.*

**6. Mount Reagan, Clark County , FIRST Hearing.**

This was discussed at the January meeting but is the first official hearing following receiving the official proposal. Considerable print and email correspondence has been received by the NV Board. Issues include the term 'mount;' the US Board liaison stated that 'there are no standards, let alone rules for the use of generic terms in geographic names.' Also some ongoing confusion about the exact mount/peak/spot to be named as many seem to take this as a renaming of Sunrise [which it is not]. Maps distributed noting Sunrise Mountain is a small range north of Frenchman Mountain where the proposed peak name is located. The term 'sunrise' on large scale maps of Frenchman Mtn. refers to an airway beacon. It was noted that Frenchman Mtn. was named when this area was still part of Arizona Territory. Peg Rees noted that local Native American peoples consider the whole of the two ranges as Sunrise. She also pointed out that the west side is a dump/landfill. Mr. Muth was aware of this and said it is no longer used as such and there are long-range plans to clean it up. Mr. Muth, who proposed the name, then spoke and distributed notebooks to all NV Board members which gave detailed material on his proposal, its justification and support. He acknowledged potential political issues. He was asked if he could document the NV residents of the many supporters listed. He said he could and would. Paul Smith, Mass., came specifically to address NV Board in favor of naming.

[brief break]

- 7.** Jack Hursh, Exec. Secretary, spoke of receiving an inquiry from Sue Silver, Assistant Director of the Mineral County Museum, to correct the spellings of two names in Mineral County. Research has shown that Corey Peak and Brawley Peaks should be Cory Peak and Braly Peaks. Sue Silver submitted copies that were distributed to the board of several historical documents proving that the spellings Cory and Braly were originally used; First Hearing will be at Sept. meeting.
- 8.** Jack Hursh reported that Charlotte Stock of the Nevada Bureau of Mines and Geology has suggested naming some feature for Alvin McLane, long-time authority on NV names, author and publisher of NV interests. A few suggestions include a natural arch in the Pinenut Mountains in Eldorado Canyon, a petroglyph site near Pahrnagat, a

petroglyph site in Reveille Canyon, or a prominent unnamed peak on the NE side of Winnemucca Lake. A comment was made that it would not be appropriate to name a petroglyph site. A comment was made that the arch really was not that impressive. Research will continue on possibilities.

- 9.** Inquiry to Hursh on name origin of Pumpkin Hollow, Lyon County. Mentioned in two historic newspaper articles but not on maps. No more information known at this time.
- 10.** Inquiry to Hursh on name confusion of Charleston Peak and Mount Charleston. Charleston Peak is a geographic site, a peak (11,918 feet) in the Spring Mountains. Mount Charleston refers to the populated place in the canyon below Charleston Peak.
- 11.** Meeting site for Sept. 10, 2013 meeting. No volunteers, so will be held at the NBMG – Great Basin Science Sample and Records Library, conference room, Reno, NV.
- 12.** Additional opportunity for guest comments [as specified in NV Open Meeting law]. Chair again thanked the Historical Society of Dayton Valley and Lyon County for hosting the meeting; lunch and a tour of the Museum and ride out to viewing spot of Fremont Lookout will follow meeting.
- 13.** Meeting Adjourned at 11:30 AM.