

**NEVADA STATE BOARD ON GEOGRAPHIC NAMES
MINUTES
September 10, 2013**

The meeting began at 9:35am, Great Basin Sample and Records Library Conference Room, Desert Research Institute campus, 2175 Raggio Parkway, Reno, NV

Introductions

Board Members Present:

Christine Johnson, Nevada Historical Society, Reno
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
Margaret Rees, University of Nevada, Las Vegas
Marianne Faretta, Senior GIS Analyst, Nevada Department of Transportation
Jack Hursh, Executive Secretary, Nevada Bureau of Mines & Geology
Linda Newman, Chair, University of Nevada, Reno Emeritus

Absent:

Daryl Crawford, Inter-Tribal Council
John Burgess, Nevada Dept. of Transportation
Michael Maher, Nevada State Historical Society
Skip Canfield, Nevada State Dept. of Conservation & Natural Resources

Guests:

Guy Rocha, Chuck Muth, Kristen Muth, Paul Smith, Larry Schmidt, Peter Lathrop, Ty Cobb, Terry Cynar, Carol Ostergren, Gene and Vicki Piccinini.

Agenda:

1. **Minutes. May 14, 2013.** Accepted with correction to title of Marianne Farretta
Motion to accept by Peg Rees, 2nd by Terri Frolli
Vote unanimous.
2. **Announcements:**
None from chair; discussion on item to follow.
None from Executive Secretary
3. **Announcements** from NV Board: None
Guests: None

Chair requested that in view of long agenda, comments be limited to a very few minutes.

4. Mount Reagan, Clark County, Second Hearing:

Summary of previous presentations and First Hearing [May]: clarification that this proposal is to name the peak of Frenchman Mountain, is not a renaming of the mountain or peak, that 'Mount' is an acceptable term, and that the Reagan proposal met standard *Principles* of the US Board as summarized by Chair.

Lengthy discussion followed: question of whether this is a suitable site to be so named given that the mountain is the site of an [illegal] landfill and [illegal] shooting range [and therefore can be dangerous.] Some concerns for NDOT for parking and safety should this become a more popular

hike. Considerable discussion of letters and email, largely expressing opposition despite confusion of whether a renaming or which mountain is Frenchman and which is Sunrise Mountain. Further issues discussed including that of common usage, whether there is a need to name, collection of letters in favor included in packet included in proposal, and 150 `signers' of email petition in opposition received by chair – noted that online petitions are not given much credence by US Board. Acknowledgement that this proposal has become a political issue.

Motion in favor of proposal of name of Mount Reagan made by Kintop and 2nd by Frolli.

Vote: 5 in favor, 2 opposed, 1 abstention

Letters will be sent to local Tribal units, Clark County and City Councils of Las Vegas and N. Las Vegas [given the immediate proximity]. Time must be allowed for response before reporting to US Board. Mr. Muth was asked to send his packets to the US Board.

5. Fremont Lookout, Lyon County, First Hearing:

Previous proposal was withdrawn and a new *site* has been nominated, same name. This was done because of some historically based objection to previous location. Proposers explained the new site selected jointly with all parties involved and based on additional documentation from original Fremont diary which contains a more detailed daily record and further field work by proposers. The new site is a promontory on Churchill Butte [not summit].

6. Last Stand Lake, Nye County, [formerly Bear Paw (Dry) Lake].

Chair summarized previous activity: US BLM objected to any name although Duckwater Shoshone Tribe expressed acceptance of Bear Paw Lake name. Proposer then suggested `Last Stand Lake' taken from nearby well; this was discussed at Jan. meeting. NV Board voted in favor at May meeting. US BLM eventually accepted this name but shortly after the May meeting the NV Board received a letter from Duckwater Tribe stating objection to the Last Stand Lake name. The NV Board requested suggestions from Duckwater Tribe and in late August the NV Board received a letter from Duckwater Tribe stating acceptance of name.

An official statement and record of vote will be sent to the US Board and proposer notified.

7. Cory Peak, Mineral County

8. Braly Peak, Mineral County

9. Lapham Canyon, Mineral County

10. Lapham Meadows, Mineral County

Above 4 proposals, considered together, submitted by Sue Silver, Assist. Director, Mineral County Museum, in which she documents corrections to spelling of names now in the GNIS.

Cory Peak: this spelling is now a Variant of Corey Peak. Also the name of the 7.5' sheet. Named for J.M. Corey/Cory, discoverer of deposits in area and one founder of Aurora. The spelling varies from very early on various official documents and credible publications. Since 1957, USGS publications use the spelling `Corey.'

Braly Peak: Proposed spelling instead of Brawley; Braly is cited as a Variant. Also Braley. As with Cory/Corey, many early printed works, official and not, cite `Braly' and Brawley.

Proposal states that the name refers to James M. Braly, one of the discoverers of the Esmeralda Mining district and spelled Braly in first map of area, 1861 and also 1862.

Also various spellings occurred over time including Von Schmidt who labeled it as `Mount Brawley.' Issue of feature crossing state line; US Board will be consulted.

Lapham Canyon / Meadow is proposed spelling for Lapon. Believed to be named for Capt. William Wallace Lapham, an early CA pioneer who was in Esmeralda County (now Mineral County) and the Superintendent of the General Grant Mining Company, on the southwest side of Mount Grant. Latham is another misspelling in historic usage. Maps after 1909 usually used 'Lapon.' Question may be: what was the correct spelling of the persons involved.

11. McLane Peak, Pershing County, First Hearing.

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

12. Cleveland Rocks, Clark County, First Hearing.

The proposed name is for a small ridge just west 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.'

13. Wilhoites Peak, Nye County, First 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 not in common usage in the area but a Benchmark named 'Benchmark Wilhoites VABM, 8309' sets precedence for naming a feature. Is there local support?

14. Election of a new Executive Secretary.

Jack was thanked for his service and dedication to this Board which acknowledged the burden of Board service in view of changing work responsibilities. No one expressed an interest in serving. Jack said that he would ask about doing most of the work on his own time but at his office. Chair has picked up some responsibilities [required letters, etc.] and will assist even more.

15. Select a meeting place for Jan. 14, 2014 meeting. Note correction of previous date; meetings are second Tuesday of January, May and September. No agency representatives offered to host and most expressed satisfaction and appreciation for use of the Great Basin Science Sample and Records Library conference room. Assuming availability, the Executive Secretary will schedule the meeting.

Return to 'discussion' item mentioned under item 2.

Chair discussed possibility of resubmitting the proposal for Clemens Cove at Lake Tahoe in light of some changes in circumstances and support. The proposal would strictly address the US Board *Principles* of commemorative naming. Nevada will be observing its 150 Anniversary of statehood Oct. 2013 – Oct 2014. A Commission has been established by the Governor which might be approached for consideration of support for the Clemens Cove proposal given Clemens presence in the earliest time of western settlement. Chair sought opinion from the NV Board; members encouraged moving forward. Chair and Executive Secretary and Bob Stewart will proceed.

Rees moved for adjournment; second by Stewart. Motion passed unanimously.
Adjournment at 12:50pm.