

NEVADA STATE BOARD ON GEOGRAPHIC NAMES

MINUTES September 15, 2016

The meeting began at 9:36 am, at the Great Basin Science Sample and Records Library at 2175 Raggio Parkway, Reno NV, 89512.

Introductions of Members and Guests at 9:30am, and welcome by Skip Canfield, Chair.

Board Members Present:

Skip Canfield, Chair, Nevada Dept. of Conservation & Natural Resources
Christine Johnson, Executive Secretary – Nevada Historical Society (non-voting)
Cynthia Laframboise – State Library & Archives
Diane M. Lightwood – State Library & Archives (alternate)
Catherine Magee, Nevada Historical Society – voting alternate
Karl Yonkers, Nevada Dept. of Transportation (alternate)
Larry Schmidt, US Forest Service (alternate)
Jack Hursh, Nevada Bureau of Mines & Geology
Linda Newman, University of Nevada, Reno, Emeritus
Robert (Bob) Stewart, US Bureau of Land Management (Retired)
David Davis, Nevada Bureau of Mines & Geology (alternate)

Absent:

Margaret (Peg) Rees, University of Nevada, Las Vegas
Daryl Crawford, Inter-Tribal Council
Paul Starrs, University of Nevada, Reno
John Burgess, Nevada Dept. of Transportation

Guests:

Ron Moe
Dan White – U.S. Forest Service, Utah; Regional Coordinator for Geographic Names (call-in)

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

Meeting called to order at 9:36am by Skip Canfield. Motion to approve agenda made by Bob Stewart, seconded by Linda Newman. Unanimous approval of agenda. Board members were introduced. Mention of new representation of State Library and Archives staff, and Catherine Magee from the Nevada Historical Society as the voting member for the Nevada Historical Society. Bob Stewart mentioned his service on the Board since its inception in 1985.

2. Approval of Minutes from May 4, 2016 meeting (for possible action)

Motion to approve minutes from May 4, 2016 meeting made by Bob Stewart to approve minutes, seconded by Catherine Magee. 1 abstention, otherwise unanimous. Motion approved.

3. Announcements, Chairman or Executive Secretary

No announcements from the Chair, comment from Executive Secretary regarding success of May 2015 COGNA conference held in Reno; congratulations to the Board in general and special compliments to Jack and Larry for their efforts on the bus tour, and Dan White echoed the sentiment complimenting NBGN on the hosting duties for the conference. And a special welcome to the new Chair, Skip Canfield, and acknowledgment of the new “packet” format for meeting documents (board appreciates and likes this format).

4. Announcements from Board Members

Linda Newman asked whether National Park Service will be added to our Board per legislative action (proposed earlier in the year by former Chair Jeff Kintop). Cynthia Laframboise says she will ask Mr. Kintop the status and will email Skip Canfield. Jack Hursh mentioned loss of longtime meeting attendee Terry Cynar – Mr. Cynar was a “friend of the NBSGN.” He will be missed. Bob Stewart mentioned Guy Rocha, former State Archivist, is unwell, and has been instrumental in research and naming sites in Nevada. NBSGN wishes him well. Diane Lightwood requests update to contact information – all information for all Board members will be verified and updated.

5. Public Comment

Pursuant to Nevada Open Meeting law, the NBSGN allows for public comment at the beginning and end of our meetings. Ron Moe asked why internet site for NBSGN does not have meeting information; Jack Hursh acknowledges that he overlooked posting this information on sites, but all board meeting information is posted by Board members at locations listed on meeting agenda posted prior to meeting dates. Website will reflect upcoming dates of meetings in the future. This is a wholly volunteer board with no private funding for websites, UNR hosts this page for NBSGN and Jack Hursh updates.

6. Protocol and Streamlining of NBSGN procedures (for possible action)

a) Chair (Skip Canfield) discussed the policies and procedures for the NBSGN dating back to 1985. Mr. Canfield provided in meeting packet the NBSGN guidelines, and at COGNA, the Federal Board policies and procedures were made available (copies made available to NBSGN). Also provided to the Board is NRS 327.120 which established the Board legislatively. Official membership of NBSGN is established by NRS 327.120. There seem to now be agencies that could or should be included, some in retrospect and some in progressive thinking. For example, the Intertribal Council was mandated legislatively to be part of the NBSGN, however the Nevada Indian Commission was excluded or otherwise overlooked. The National Parks Service (mentioned in agenda item #4) has requested inclusion. Chair and Exec. Secretary question these kinds of missing links for potential outreach. Nevada Indian Commission is a Governor appointed commission. Nevada Indian Commission seems to be the official agency for Native American representation for many State agencies. This kind of change would require Legislative change. Bob Stewart mentioned that the NBSGN was not part of organizing the representative agencies in 1985. Suggests legislative action and mentioned that we have had no representation from the Intertribal Council in two years. Exec. Secretary mentioned she called Daryl Crawford from the Intertribal Council and he said he would be attending this meeting (but he is absent). Skip Canfield is concerned our board will have difficulty achieving a Bill Draft Request for legislative change to this statute. NBSGN wishes collectively to have active Native American representation on the board. Various board members suggested ways to include the Native American representation in other ways, including inviting Shery Rupert (Nevada Indian Commission) to sit on NBSGN as an alternate, or including on the Advisory Panel to the NBSGN (currently only Jeff Kintop – former Chair of NBSGN – is on the Advisory Panel). This panel was never implemented in the past. Jeff Kintop asked to be on the panel as he retired his position on the Board in May, 2016.

b) Next discussion on this topic relates to voting members. The NRS statute for NBSGN states that agencies are represented by employees of said agencies. Concern by the Chair and Exec. Secretary is that retired staff from agencies (including Forest Service, BLM, UNR) does not necessarily have approval to represent these agencies. Bob Stewart says he has approval as an official volunteer to serve on NBSGN representing the BLM. BLM does have staff in Carson City willing to serve and represent BLM. Concern is that our Board’s votes will not be valid under close scrutiny, in situations where two members from the same agency in attendance may vote (a quorum is established by number of agencies represented, not number of people representing a particular agency). Bob Stewart mentions State Attorney General is quite concerned about Open Meeting Law. NRS. 327.120 states ONE voting member per agency. Executive Secretary position is meant to be filled by the State Cartographer, but Nevada no longer has a State Cartographer, therefore the position is filled by vote, and in this case, the alternate for that person (in this case the Nevada Historical Society) must vote to

represent the agency as the Executive Secretary position is a non-voting position on the Board. The officers of the NBGN therefore are concerned to lose the institutional knowledge of the currently serving board members that happen to be retired, and in order to avoid this loss, found the “Advisory Panel” mentioned in the guidelines that can be used to keep these members actively participating on the board, and have all voting members be current employees of their agencies. Exec. Secretary mentioned Jeff Kintop was thrilled to be able to be the inaugural member of the Advisory Panel so that he can both still participate and of service to NBGN. Larry Schmidt, Bob Stewart, and Linda Newman were contacted by the Exec. Secretary several months ago as to this issue and the status of their representation on the Board and included the option/suggestion of participation on the Advisory Panel. As a result, Cheva Gabor, representative from the US Forest Service, actively sought Larry Schmidt and requested he continue to represent their agency in her stead. He submitted the official letter to this effect. Dan White mentioned that the Federal agencies’ representatives (Forest Service specifically) should come from the official representative voice, although a discussion seldom happens. Mr. White also suggested “at large” or public members to serve on the Board. Bob Stewart mentioned the difficulty in dealing with the federal representatives. Skip Canfield mentioned that the Federal Board would obviously like notification as to upcoming dialogue or votes at the State level, but should appreciate the State vote/input/perspective as it is passed up the chain for final discussion. Motion for Skip Canfield to outreach to Shery Rupert regarding possibly inclusion in NBGN activities by Bob Stewart, Jack Hursh seconded, motion carried.

c) Outreach letter content also discussed – seeking feedback on verbiage from Board members. Skip Canfield requests board to look at letter, consider formality/verbiage, and suggest improvements by email to Exec. Secretary. Catherine Magee mentioned a few terms in the letter format that can be changed, and offered editing. These letters need to be more friendly and invite participation. Looking for a more positive spin on the letters seeking feedback. Exec. Secretary to send sample letter to Dr. Magee for editing, will be sent to the board for review before next board meeting.

d) Website format and content: Chair asking to get agendas posted on the Website and minutes/meeting packets. Jack Hursh maintains, and says can possibly zip these files and post. Most people look for information on Websites now, and our Board should have its information available as soon as possible. Concern voiced over posting draft minutes. No draft minutes will be posted until approved. Chair recognizes Mr. Hursh’s volunteerism for maintaining the Website.

7. COGNA Conference (for discussion only)

Exec. Secretary reviewed all Board members who attended, and praised outcome of COGNA conference. Mentioned the amount of information conveyed/learned during conference. Mentioned the importance of attending the conferences in the past and future. Board agrees they all learned a lot by attending, and Exec. Secretary will be attending 2017 COGNA in Virginia. Praise and appreciation for all the assistance by various Board members, special thanks to Linda Newman, Jack Hursh, Larry Schmidt and John Burgess (with Karl Yonkers contributions to atlas production). Dan White mentioned federal board felt the conference brought good topics. Dan White mentioned that conferences like COGNA highlight that all states are going through the same things, which gets overlooked until we are able to gather in situations like COGNA affords, and he appreciates the efforts of all state boards. COGNA affords a good network. A job well done by all.

8. Pony Bob Peak, Churchill County (first hearing – for possible action)

Chair explained what first hearings are for in the naming process. Jack Hursh introduced Ron Moe, proponent of Pony Bob Peak. Jack Hursh retold story of Pony Bob Haslam (most famous Pony Express rider). Original suggestion of honorary site named for Pony Bob was near Ft. Churchill on the Carson River, but Jack Hursh suggested a site along the actual historic ride route. Found Sand Springs station – looks over Sand Mountain – Pony Express trail ran along base of Pony Bob Peak (proposed). Story will be summarized of importance of Pony Bob and his famous ride on the Pony Express Trail to forward to U.S. Board after second hearing by Jack Hursh. Jack Hursh and proponent have climbed peak and supplied photographs of site and view. Proponent emphasized the fact that the Pony Express

trail is directly below this peak. History buffs and tourists alike will appreciate this site. The Borax triangulation station is on the peak, but it is common to have a triangulation station on a peak named differently. The National Pony Express Association has re-rides annually on the historic route, and Jack Hursh went and spoke to the association and did a presentation on Pony Bob, the proposed site, and a PowerPoint of images and the association had Pony Bob's great-nephew at the meeting. Mr. Hursh solicited feedback on the proposal – and all were quite supportive and happy to hear about this proposal. Pony Express Association plans to send a letter of endorsement for this proposed site. Issue over the cartographic issues regarding a single name for the feature. Haslam Peak would be lost in significance, as the historic figure of Pony Bob is the recognized name. Proponent hoping to have the feature named with the two names “Pony Bob” as opposed to singularized with “PonyBob” Peak. Dan White feels this feature should be accepted with multiple words in the title (Pony Bob Peak). This is on BLM land, and Mr. White sees no initial problems with the naming of this site. Motion to forward this item to the January meeting for a second hearing made by Jack Hursh, seconded by Cynthia Laframboise. Motion carried unanimously.

9. Mount Hanna (first hearing – for possible action)

This is a mountain peak in Clark County, with a triangulation station there with the same name (Hanna). The site of Mount Hanna has been published in papers on local geology. There is also mention of local usage. Jack Hursh submitted the proposal as it is in the context of local usage by the University of Nevada, Las Vegas (UNLV) in already published reports. All three peaks (Mount Hanna, Center Mountain of item #10 and Mount Sutor of item #11) have a triangulation station on each with the same names. The professor submitting the applications is seeking these names to be made official so that their publications represent the sites correctly. Mr. Hursh has a question: the mountain is a dominant feature within the range, and a question as to whether “mount” is appropriate versus “peak.” Bob Stewart motioned to forward Mount Hanna item to second hearing in January, seconded by Larry Schmidt. Motion carried unanimously.

10. Center Mountain (first hearing – for possible action)

Asking applicant to provide citations for historic references to these features to aid in the discussion on this (and items 9 and 11) for second hearings. This item has the same proponent and same discussion. Jack Hursh will ask proponent for additional materials and citations. Bob Stewart made the motion to send this item to the January meeting for a second hearing, seconded by Linda Newman. Motion carried unanimously.

11. Mount Sutor (first hearing – for possible action)

This item has the same proponent and same discussion as items 9 and 10 above. Bob Stewart moved to send this item forward to the January meeting for a second hearing, seconded by Linda Newman. Motion carried unanimously. Chair reiterates that Jack Hursh will ask proponent for additional information. Dan White asking for clarification on triangulation stations on peaks. Names are derived from triangulation stations and locals want the peaks named for these stations. On application, “yes” should be circled for whether these names are in local use. Mr. White inquired as to whether Mt. Sutor and Mt. Hanna are commemorative names – the U.S. Board will inquire as to who these are named for. Bob Stewart said he would investigate this information in order to provide better background for the U.S. board. Motion made by Bob Stewart to forward Mount Sutor to a second hearing in January, seconded by Larry Schmidt. Motion carried unanimously.

12. L and D Mountain, Elko County (second hearing – for possible action)

This is a second hearing item. Skip Canfield discussed the letter from the applicant to the U.S. Board, and the response back from the U.S. Board. The background information is in the packet, and reflected in the May, 2016 minutes, but additionally, Mr. Canfield mentioned that the State has a communication site on the top of this feature. Ellen D was the term used historically and in connection with this site. The Exec. Secretary reread Jeff Kintop's prior research. Linda Newman asks if U.S. Board can include as an alternate name. With the length of time the erroneous name (L and D) has been used, perhaps it can be included as an alternate. A 1903 scientific journal lists the site as Ellen D mountain, and other

references in 1912 list the same name (long before proponents' family arrive in the area according to Census information). The proponents' remembrances do not reflect accurate history. Ellen D Mountain is on maps well before the timeframe pertaining to their family history. Suggested possibly adding L and D as a variant, with the permanent and recorded name of Ellen D remaining. The question of who Ellen D was brought up, unknown origin, but again reference to 1903 and 1912 references on maps to Ellen D existing. Question of L and D qualifying as a variant – believe so as it does show up on maps after 1950. Jack Hursh proposes to forward to US Board as a variant, seconded by Linda Newman, motion carried unanimously.

13. Booker Hot Springs, Lyon County (second hearing – for possible action)

Submitted by Sue Silver. At first hearing Bob Stewart was asked to look into a variety of issues regarding this item (and number 14, 15, and 16). To name the springs would assist in any local law enforcement or medical issues for orientation purposes. Booker's name is appropriate because John G. Booker had the foresight to recommend the Hot Springs be reserved as lands for the public use. Naming this site would honor him for his local contributions. A very unusual thing for a land surveyor to make this kind of recommendation, but he did, and the lands were set aside, and naming this feature for Booker seems appropriate (per Bob Stewart and Sue Silver). Honor seems appropriate and need is in identifying the site officially for public safety. Skip Canfield asked if local population calls this Grant Hot Springs (per research provided). Chair suggests Booker be official, with Grant Hot Springs as a variant. Letters have been sent by NBSN asking for feedback from Native and Government groups on this naming suggestion. Bob Stewart moves to carry this item forward to the next meeting to continue researching this item, seconded by Cynthia Laframboise. Motion carried unanimously. Bob Stewart will undertake additional research.

14. Coal Valley, Lyon County (second hearing – for possible action)

Submitted by Sue Silver. Coal Valley south of the Hot Spring area in item 13. Chair has researched, does not find any 'red flags' on this item. Linda Newman questions whether this is a name for an area or a specific feature. The application says under GNIS lat/long a specific location. Linda Newman proposes to forward this item to the U.S. Board with the location that is specified on the application. Seconded by Jack Hursh. Motion carried unanimously to forward to the board with the recommendation of approval by NBSN.

15. Durant's Mill, Lyon County (second hearing – for possible action)

Submitted by Sue Silver. According to the Federal Guidelines for naming, the apostrophe in this name is inappropriate. First hearing reflected that Durant Mill will be acceptable to the proponent according to Bob Stewart. Named for a man named Durant – this name was incorrectly spelled in a variety of places (historic newspapers specifically) as Durand, but the correct name is Durant, and this is a spelling correction. Linda Newman suggests that Durand be the variant name. The application with correct name of Durants Mill is suggested by Chair; Linda Newman suggests the application reflect Durands Mill be the variant on the application. GNIS reflects historical name of Durands Mills according to Dan White, and a variant name of Durant Mills. Proponent needs to resubmit the application with desired name. Dan White asks if there is anything there as quad map reflects nothing currently there. This is a historic site, and proponent wants to clarify the historic record by submitting Durants Mill or Mills. GNIS has plural. Bob Stewart will resubmit this application on behalf of the proponent for Durants Mills. Dan White mentions that the citation for "Mill" in GNIS dates to 1901. Bob Stewart moves for a resubmission of the application with Durants Mill. Seconded by Larry Schmidt. Motion carried unanimously.

16. Ravenelle Ranch, Lyon County (second hearing – for possible action)

Submitted by Sue Silver. This is a naming correction. No red flags on this feature in research. Brief discussion ensued regarding proponent's submission, including proof of spelling of man's name the feature/location is named for. Cynthia Laframboise moved to forward this feature's naming correction to U.S. Board for consideration, seconded by Larry Schmidt. Motion carried unanimously.

17. Select meeting place for next meeting (for possible action)

Jack Hursh moved to hold the next meeting in January, 2017 at the Great Basin Science and Sample Records Library at 2175 Raggio Parkway, Reno NV, 89512 at 9:30am. Seconded by Cynthia Laframboise. Motion carried unanimously.

18. Public comments

Pursuant to Nevada Open Meeting law, the NBGN allows for public comment at the beginning and end of our meetings. Exec. Secretary asked if Dan White would like to call into the next meeting, he Bob Stewart thanked the board for having the meeting on a Thursday (as opposed to traditional second Tuesday). Exec. Secretary noted in last meeting that only Windous Butte was remaining from past naming issues. Windous Butte now on naming agenda for U.S. Board and will be followed. Cynthia Laframboise asked about status of Mt. Reagan. Board explained that the feature naming process circumvented the NBGN and went attached to a U.S. legislative bill, which died in progress.

19. Adjournment

Motion to adjourn by Bob Stewart, seconded by Larry Schmidt. Motion carried unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 11:35am.