

## **The Minutes of the Nevada State Board on Geographic Names**

### **Tuesday, September 9, 2008 Meeting**

*Linda Newman:* We will convene the Nevada State Board on Geographic Names. I would like to request we go around the table and if you give your name and your institution, and then when you speak if you would also repeat your name. The student who was transcribing the minutes said, "I could hear the ladies but not the gentlemen." So speak up, speak up and give your name. So why don't we do that first.

*Skip Canfield:* Skip Canfield, Conservation of Natural Resources.

*Jordan Hastings:* Jordan Hastings, Nevada Bureau of Mines and Geology.

*David McMorran:* David McMorran, US Forest Service.

*Eric Moody:* Eric Moody, Nevada Historical Society.

*Peg Rees:* Peg Rees, UNLV.

*Jack Hursh:* Jack Hursh, Nevada Bureau of Mines and Geology, Jack Hursh.

*Linda Newman:* Linda Newman, DeLaMare Library, UNR. We have a few announcements, um, next time when we send out the minutes and, well we will have the minutes, and the agenda we ask that you RSVP so that we have any idea. If we have issues that have to be voted on we do need a quorum so if you can't make it if you could get your alternate here. So, I think we're going to ask in the future to please respond or send the thing out, but it's necessary to get confirmation, so we might have to rattle some cages to get you or your alternate here. Um, oh! We have a more or less fledgling webpage going on. So I thought I would pass this out. If you're not aware of it, it does exist. I think, you know, it is a good thing. So, if people have questions there are good links there to the national board. So, if someone wants to know: well, how do I submit a name? There's some basic information there including the links so that people can submit online.

*Jack Hursh:* And I'd like to comment that even if you have trouble finding it you can just go to the Nevada Bureau of Mines site, [www.nbmge.unr.edu](http://www.nbmge.unr.edu), and then go to "Links" and then under "State of Nevada" you will see "Geographic Names Board."

*Linda Newman:* It was not the first thing that came up if you googled. The first thing that came up was the roster of us and you need to navigate back to the main page from that. I don't know why that came up first.

*Jack Hursh:* I noticed that as well. We can fix that.

*Linda Newman:* Do you have some announcements?

*Jack Hursh:* I handed out the sign in sheet and I have the roster. If there are any corrections let me know.

*Linda Newman:* We'll post it after. There's almost never that many corrections. Does anyone else have announcements? Okay. We have one piece of business, officially speaking, so I'll pass this around. This came to me immediately after Lynette, so I made copies of the nitty gritty. This was a submission to, and this came to us from Roger Paine, of the US Board of Geographic Names, through the executive secretary, Lou Yost. Um, the person submitted the name Holmy Airport. They submitted it through the online method. Describe the feature: it's an airport strip south side of Groom Lake, military looking description. Holmy is the latest of several names; I have no idea how they came up with that, that have been used to identify this feature. Note: the earlier names were Water Town, Dreamland, and Area-51. They give the elevation; they give the lat-long. Um, other names used for this feature: Groom Lake. Name in local usage: no. So, I really don't know where they came by that name. The person submitting it was, um.

*Jack Hursh:* Was his last name Holmy?

*Linda Newman:* No, Anthony Pace in Tukwila, Washington. We often get them from upstate which is kind of interesting, um.

*Jack Hursh:* Earlier names were Water Town, Dreamland, and Area-51.

*Linda Newman:* But where did they get the Holmy? I don't know. That wasn't explained. But the explanation is, you know, they acknowledge a receipt and explain that this is part of an official area, a government area. So, we cannot name it, and the reply is to put some extra on the FAA provides updates to the board with geographic names as they assign them. So, it really was a moot point, but they respond officially and I think their explanation is good for us to be aware of; it's just one of those facets of naming what we can and cannot assign names to. If this had come to us directly then it would have been in our hands to put together the response and forward it to the national board as a matter of record.

*Jack Hursh:* So the reverse happened.

*Linda Newman:* Yes. And that's not unusual it can come that way. If they go to the, who knows how to find them, if they go to the national board, there's a place to submit it online. So, then they in effect handled it. I don't know how this person got to this area even; I would think it would be off limits.

*Male Member:* It was probably a military official who was there on assignment.

*Linda Newman:* We have his name and email and they have responded so we don't have to do anything and that's why we don't have to take a vote on it. It's a moot point that the national board has handled, but that was our first official business. And we do need to keep a log or a spreadsheet with the gist of it. With who submitted it and so that's why everybody now has this information.

*Male Member:* Like a project status spreadsheet.

*Linda Newman:* Yes, very much so. Um, in this case it's been handled.

*Male Member:* Would that be something we would keep posted on our website, too?

*Linda Newman:* Yeah, why not. I think that's a good idea.

*Jack Hursh:* It might be instructional for other people too, so. And people can log in inquiries. I had an inquiry just via email somebody wanted to name a canyon out in the Nightingale Range. So I referred them back to the website and I pointed out that they couldn't name it after somebody living and some of the criteria and I never heard from them again. I suspected it was someone that wanted to name it after themselves or something.

*Linda Newman:* Um, yeah we don't...it isn't necessary to give them much of an explanation, but it's nice that we have some of that on the web. Probably the most basic one I have, I would assume everyone has a copy of this, I'm not sure where I even got it, um, guidelines for the Nevada State Board on Geographic Names. It's only like, what, two or three pages. And if you don't happen to have that we have it on the web. It is four pages. If we don't I'll get you a copy. It's just the most basic explanation is what it looks like. It was given to me at some point. Obviously, a Xerox of the 49<sup>th</sup> Xerox level. But it gives you a statement as to the composition, the authority, how we were made official, objectives, procedures for review, and guidelines for naming.

*Male Member:* Is that something that we can type up electronically to post on the web.

*Linda Newman:* Absolutely, absolutely. It's pretty crude as it is. I do have a student. She does pretty good she just had a hard time understanding us and got most upset. It's pretty awful type. I'd just assume let her start all over then we could share it, post it, look for any typos. But she does a pretty nice job. She puts together lists of things for me.

*Jack Hursh:* And if she's listening thank you very much.

*Linda Newman:* Yes, Courtney.

*Jack Hursh:* It's very helpful.

*Linda Newman:* So, we have no other announcements? Okay, we have a report, then, from Jordan on the Cagna Conference. Would you like to get closer so you don't have to shout?

*Jordan Hastings:* It will be very brief. I didn't actually get to go to Cagna, so.

*Linda Newman:* Oh you didn't! Oh, I'm sorry to hear that. I was looking forward to going to the one next year especially. Although I was actually looking into going to this one I wish I'd have known you weren't able to go.

*Jordan Hastings:* No, it turned out at the very last minute that I couldn't go. I've got a...being in an airplane with a sinus problem is a dangerous proposition.

*Linda Newman:* Well the next one as I recall somewhere in my text is in South Carolina which is why I said, "Sure I'll go. I'll go." I have people there which I've left; lots of family so.

*Jack Hursh:* You speak that language?

*Linda Newman:* Yes I speak that language although it's long diluted from being out here so long. Um, if, I'm not sure where they post the minutes from that if there is a summary somewhere if you can rustle it up for us and then give us a summary or post it to the rest of us. I think that would be good. I'm assuming they must put it on the national website at some point.

*Jack Hursh:* There's a website. They probably have the abstracts and journal entries on the website.

*Linda Newman:* I know they have presentations but there's also a matter of somewhat official business that we probably all should take a look at the site. The Tingley's always gave us a nice report. They usually made it. One or both went to the meetings depending on where they were. We have...the next meeting is scheduled for January 13<sup>th</sup>. It's the second Tuesday. The normal schedule is May, September and January. I traditionally host it but I have no reason to hog that at all because you can park at that moment on campus as a rule. So, we have a nice conference room upstairs I would like to host it unless someone else would like to offer.

*Male Member:* In DeLaMare?

*Linda Newman:* Yes, in the DeLaMare Library. So, if that's okay I will verify that the room is available and we'll send that out immediately in the event it's not. Or if you'd like to host it the second Tuesday of May.

*Male Member:* Could this sheet be emailed to the members?

*Linda Newman:* Yes, Yes. It just got put together. Our efficiency level hasn't reached that of the Tingley's. (Unintelligible mumbling in the background)

*Male Member:* I don't know if you want to post it on our website because it has private emails, but...

*Linda Newman:* Well, if it...I would think traditionally it's your office email.

*Male Member:* I'm just not sure that...I'm fine with it I'm just not sure if anyone else wants it on the site.

*Linda Newman:* I'm on the site. I thought I attached everybody's.

*Male Member:* I'm ok with it on the site.

*Linda Newman:* Yeah. I would certainly give your office phone and email. If your agency does not have an alternate um, I'm not sure what to do in my place. I'll be looking into that. I represent DeLaMare, but the person in this position. I've been in this position for, geez, twenty-odd years. My predecessor was Mary Ansari who had been around for the last 50 years. She was the mines librarian and map librarian before me, so when I took over the map library I eventually inherited this position as a representative from her. I think traditionally it should go to someone who has been fairly active which usually means you have professional connections with history and or geography of the state in some fashion, and people who work in the field certainly have a very good connection that make them viable. So, I don't know, I haven't gotten that far.

*Jordan Hastings (?):* Curious. On agendas that are this light do we have video conferencing capabilities for someone like you who spends a lot of money and time to get up here for twenty minutes?

*Linda Newman:* Yes, that is something I do...I think having a lot of warning. I know that we don't often get down there. I understand once when there was a big issue. With most of us up here, with more of the federal offices and state offices and the representatives are up here it's unfair. I don't hesitate to admit.

*Jack Hursh:* I noticed in my record of agendas that they had postponed and cancelled meetings.

*Linda Newman:* I am going to look into that because in the ground floor of the new Knowledge Center, we call it the KC, um, it is a high tech center, and I feel quite sure that that will be an availability. So I'm going to look into that so that if we have voting business and people cannot be here, we're not as attentive as last May, that might be doable unless someone has an

objection. If you can...if there's two-way communication...I don't know why that wouldn't be officially acceptable.

*Jordan Hastings (?):* That's acceptable for voting.

*Male Member:* Yeah. Well, I think it's difficult because we do a lot of handouts.

*Linda Newman:* They do need to be posted in advance and I suppose I could've with the Holmy Airport. I could have sent that out I just chopped off all the...there was some other stuff to me attached to it and I just chopped it up and copied it off for you. Um, it should go into the minutes I think that if you would like that explanation we will forward it. I've got all of the emails so I will forward that out to anyone who was not here. Is there further business?

*Peg Rees:* I'd like to request that we hold the meeting at 10:30 instead of 10.

*Linda Newman:* I don't have a problem with that. Unless there was an excessive amount of business and since we, at this point, have no nominated names it would be a first reading unless we, you know, two (unintelligible) haven't shown up between now and then I don't have a problem with that at all. We'll make that a matter of record to begin at 10:30 for reasons of transportation ease. Pardon?

*Jordan Hastings (?):* It works out better to move on into lunch after an hour.

*Linda Newman:* Okay. Further comments?

*Jack Hursh:* Good job.

*Linda Newman:* Thank You! We'll adjourn at 10:25.