

NEVADA STATE BOARD ON GEOGRAPHIC NAMES

MINUTES September 9, 2014

The meeting began at 9:35am, Great Basin Science Sample and Records Library conference room, 2175 Raggio Parkway, Reno, NV

Introductions of Members and Guests:

Board Members Present:

Christine Johnson, Executive Secretary - Nevada Historical Society (non-voting).
Jeff Kintop, Chair, Nevada State Library & Archives
David Davis, Nevada Bureau of Mines & Geology
Jane Freeman, US Forest Service
Larry J. Schmidt, US Forest Service
Paul Starrs, University of Nevada, Reno
Linda Newman, University of Nevada, Reno, Emeritus
Skip Canfield, Nevada Dept. of Conservation & Natural Resources
Jack Hursh, Nevada Bureau of Mines & Geology
Margaret (Peg) Rees, University of Nevada, Las Vegas
John Burgess, Nevada Dept. of Transportation
Daryl Crawford, Inter-Tribal Council

Absent:

Robert [Bob] Stewart, US Bureau of Land Management, retired

Guests:

Terry Cynar, Reno

Welcome and announcement of “new management” by new Chair, Jeff Kintop, 9:35 a.m.

1. Public Comment: None

2. Approval of the Minutes of the May 13, 2014.

Motion to approve by Daryl Crawford and was seconded by Paul Starrs.
Vote unanimous with 1 abstaining (Peg Rees).

3. Announcements:

Chair Jeff Kintop stated he has continued to receive contact from people regarding the naming of Clemens Cove. To clarify, the issue is tabled until further notice.

Secretary Christine Johnson said that both the Chair and the Secretary (and by proxy, affiliated staff at the Historical Society) received several voice mails at work regarding the public opposition to the Board's decision to table the Clemens Cove issue. Some of the voicemails were hostile if not vulgar in nature.

Notification from National Board:

1) Braly Peak, because feature straddles the state line of California, California has deferred decision pending extent of feature. California wants clarification before proceeding. Need to find out whom to contact in California regarding this.

2) Wilhoite peak was not processed because the family hasn't supplied the biographical information on Wilhoite. This information will be provided at the next meeting.

4. Announcements from Nevada Board:

Jack Hursh stated that McLane Peak naming needs to be revisited and will be put on agenda for January's meeting for its first hearing.

5. Morrison Peak:

All we have is the nominating form; Submitted by John Bell, long standing geologist from the Bureau of Mines & Geology, a personal friend of Mr. Morrison, who was an active surveyor in the 1970's. Mr. Morrison is the man who submitted for the naming of Bunejug Hills in the 1970s, in addition to several submissions for Native American place names. He has been dead more than five years, and Mr. Bell wants to name a peak (seemingly any peak) after Mr. Morrison, because of his past work. More information will be needed from the nominator to proceed on this item.

5. Mt. Scorpion:

Background: This is a 4090' summit administered by the BLM, 2 miles south of the Nevada State College. The college proposes to name the summit "Mt. Scorpion" after the school mascot. This is an annual event for students to climb the mountain. The President of the college supports it, as does Joe Hecht. The range is names, the particular peak is not. The Chair asked for comments on this item. General discussion included: There are ongoing debates with mounts – perhaps they should consider Scorpion Peak. The USGS tends to shy away from the use of "Mount" unless it is free standing. Mt. Reagan had a peak, and the feature (and the associated effort) changed to considering Reagan Peak. Reagan Peak was more in standing with the current naming conventions. It's not a "Mount." It is in the McCullough Range, a volcanic range. Chair stated he had a link to the video submitted to support the naming, and would send to the Board. General board discussion ensued surrounding the chosen terminology. This is a very rugged area, and they should name it. Perhaps if we explain to the school the issue over the terminology, they may be amicable in considering "Peak" as an alternative. Apparently the school has been calling this feature "Mt. Scorpion" since 2008. The Board feeling of "Peak" being more appropriate is based on modern convention/terminology for geographic features. Board members requested specific maps/documentation and/or photos of the feature that is being named to accompany requests. This item will be on the agenda for the January, 2015 meeting as a second hearing.

6. Select a meeting place for next meeting.

The date of January 13, 2015 (9:30am-approximately 12:00pm) was decided on to be held at the Great Basin Sample and Records Library Conference Room, Desert Research Institute campus, 2175 Raggio Parkway, Reno, NV.

7. Public Comments:

Daryl Crawford asked if it was acceptable to bring doughnuts, to which the Board heartily agreed. Mr. Crawford then expressed his deep thanks to Jack Hursh and Linda Newman for their years of service and dedication to the NBGN, and supplied the new Secretary with Intertribal Council information to make research and communications easier (and is appreciated!).

8. Meeting Adjourned at 10:15 a.m.

Minutes prepared by Christine Johnson and subject to approval by the Nevada State Board on Geographic Names at next meeting.