

Missouri Board on Geographic Names
11-07 Meeting
Interpretive Center
James Kirkpatrick Building
Missouri Office of the Secretary of State
Jefferson City, MO
November 7, 2007 Minutes

Attendees: Chris Barnett, Gary Claspill, John Fisher, Michael Flowers, Ray Fox, Tony Holland, David Kreighbaum, Gary Kremer, Gordon McCann, Jane Messenger, Lynn Morrow, Russ Mueller, Frank Nickell, Walter Schroeder, Henry Sweets, Jay Turner, and Dwight Weaver.

Guests: Ken Fox, Mark Howard, Lynn Mansfield, Jimmy Sherrill, Dale Mansfield, Don Gibson, Donna Gibson, Mary Wrest, Larry Wrest, and Dorothy Mansfield.

Also in attendance was Jeanne Martin (recorder), Administrative Secretary for the Local Records Division.

Absent: Ken Dagele and Jerry Vineyard.

Walter called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. and gave a brief overview of the day's agenda.

Call for Proxies

Walter called for proxies. Henry Sweets carried proxy for Ken Dagele, and Mark Howard carried proxy for Arnold Williams.

Call for Additions to the Agenda

Lynn requested adding the 1976 McBride map to the agenda items at the end of the meeting.

Introduction of Guests

Jane let members know we have guests present to testify regarding Crow Creek vs. Sherrill Creek. She asked guests from Sherrill and Licking to stand and introduce themselves, and tell board members where they live. Larry Mansfield introduced himself saying he lives half mile from Crow Creek. Jimmy Sherrill introduced himself. Dale Mansfield said he currently lives in Pensacola, FL, but owns property along Sherrill Creek in Phelps County. Don Gibson introduced himself saying he lives in Licking. Donna Gibson let members know she is Don's wife. Mary Wrest and Larry Wrest introduced themselves. Dorothy Mansfield let members know she is Lynn's wife and lives a half mile from Crow Creek.

Introduction of Board Members

Walter asked that board members introduce themselves to the guests. Mark Howard let members know he is representing Arnold Williams with MODOT.

Minutes of May 2007

Walter requested corrections, additions, or deletions to the minutes from May 2007. Jane said she submitted minor corrections to the minutes, letting members know she also requested that future minutes make a distinction between Gary C or Gary K. Mike Flowers requested his name be spelled correctly in the minutes. With no further comments, Mike Flowers moved to accept the minutes with corrections. Dave Kreighbaum seconded the motion. Motion carried.

KUDOS to Gordon McCann and Tony Holland

Walter told board members that Gordon McCann was recently honored for his work as a folklorist. The Missouri State University Ozarks Studies Institute presented Gordon with an award “in appreciation for his expertise in Ozarks folklife”. Walter mentioned Gordon’s participation in a collection of CDs of Ozark music.

Walter announced to members that Tony Holland recently received a Distinguished Professorship from Lincoln University for his work.

Continuing Business – Minneville

Walter asked Gary Kremer for an update of his work surveying Minneville locals. Gary explained he has nothing to report; health issues and other matters kept him from doing the survey. Walter deferred the question for now and offered to help Gary with the survey. Walter then asked who the “locals” are. Jane said the USGS hasn’t defined locals.

McIntire Spring vs. McIntire Spring Branch

Walter asked for an update regarding the McIntire Spring proposal. Chris Barnett reported that the Domestic Names Committee sent the proposal back to MOBGN due to lack of evidence of past ownership of the property. Jane said they also asked for evidence as to why the property was called Harper Spring. Jane asked Mike Flowers if he has access to ownership information for Harper Spring. Mike requested help pinning down the location. Chris said he found a 1930 plat map series with a tract of land owned by Harper in the north east section, but not where the spring is located. He said the spring was owned by a lumber company. Jane said the McIntires built the spring because they owned the land and that was before the 1930’s. Currently the L.A.D.D. Foundation owns the land on which the spring is located. Mike asked for a legal definition. Jane said she will send it to him.

Mike suggested going through county deeds to find ownership. Jane said that is one county we do get replies from and asked if she should go through the Recorder of Deeds? The answer was yes. Chris said anytime there is a published map with a commemorative name, the US Board is reluctant to change the name because they feel that is dishonoring the individual for whom the feature was named. If the name is just associative they are more willing to change the name. Jay Turner mentioned that the Forest Service trail guides do have the name printed as Harper Spring. According to the county commissioner, the people in the area have no problem changing the name. Jane said there is no evidence that the name was applied to honor Harper. She said we need to do more research. Chris asked if we need documentation that maybe Harper didn't own the land. Walter asked Jane if she is going to talk to the county commissioners. Jane said yes.

Johnston Shut-ins vs. Johnson Shut-ins

Jane let members know that Dr. Townsend decided to withdraw the request to change the name. She suggested that Dr. Townsend could propose the name Johnston Shut-ins to some other geographic site and the suggestion was well received. Jane said Dr. Townsend would like a plaque placed somewhere in the park explaining why Johnson is the park name as opposed to the name of the people in the cemetery, whose name is Johnston. Mike Flowers said he will take the request to Mr. Childers. Mike then read a document regarding the name of the park and asked if he needs a formal request from the Board to approach Mr. Childers. Walter asked members how they feel about the plaque, saying there is no precedent for such an action. Mike commented that we seem to be a middle man. Walter suggested we decide as a board not to take up the matter. Chris asked if we need to propose Johnston Shut-ins. Jane said it is now a variant. Jane said she will put on our docket that the proposal is withdrawn.

Sherrill Creek vs Crow Creek

Jane let members know that the Phelps and Texas county commissioners both put articles in the local papers regarding the proposed name change of Sherrill Creek to Crow Creek and the naming of an unnamed stream Sherrill Creek. Jane received no reply from Phelps County so assumes they have no opinion. Texas County received lots of response from residents. The official reply from the Texas County commissioners was that they had no opinion as to changing the name of Sherrill Creek to Crow Creek. In the Licking newspaper article, the Texas County commissioners stated that they felt the unnamed stream was too insignificant to warrant a name. Jane explained that the size of a feature or the amount of water in a stream or lake makes no difference to the US BGN. Jane said she received multiple calls from residents of Texas County. Two of the residents are opposed to the change because they have lived in the area for more than fifty years and know the stream as Sherrill Creek. One resident approves of the change. Jane said she has a list of telephone calls she has received and she has received numerous petitions against the name change.

Ken Fox put a Texas County soils map from 1917 on the projection screen. He then displayed a shaded relief map overlaid by the current topographic map. The streams in question were outlined in red and in blue. Jane pointed out the blue stream letting members know this is the stream Colleen Williams proposes to name Crow Creek, currently named Sherrill Creek on topographic maps. The red stream is currently unnamed and Colleen proposes naming it Sherrill Creek. Jane pointed out to members the location of Crow School in Section 8, which is south of the stream, and Crow Church, which isn't far away, adding that there is also a Crow Campground. She said Mike has other evidence. Mike said he is originally from Houston, MO and his grandmother is from Licking. Mike went back to original plats and found lots from 1841 through 1910 belonging to the Crow and Sherrill families. He found patents for properties as small as 40 acres and larger. Mike said both families owned land and lived there long before plats and maps were made. He said Sherrill owns along the feature not named and Crow along the feature named Sherrill. Mike feels it's noteworthy that we know both families.

Mike showed members a 3-ring binder containing property ownership for the area. Jane said currently no Crows own land around Sherrill Creek. She told members that if the red stream becomes Sherrill Creek, and the blue stream keeps the name Sherrill Creek, we're in violation of USGS principles and policies because there shouldn't be duplicate names for the same type of feature in close proximity to each other.

At this time Larry Wrest asked to address the Board. He told Board members he was born in 1951 and lived on the 1880's home place. He said west of the home place was the town of Sherrill and they had to cross Sherrill Creek to get to town. He said when the family went to Kimble on the gravel road they crossed that creek and called it Sherrill. Larry went on to say Pigeon Creek forms the first watershed on the Current River. Boone Creek flows west to the Big Piney River. He said the Sherrill family homesteaded the property. Joel Sherrill came in 1847 and purchased 1,000 acres on the stream highlighted in red. Larry mentioned Sherrill Spring and said he knew the blue stream as Sherrill Creek. Larry said he lived on the unnamed (or red) creek all his life and the older people know it as Sherrill Creek. He mentioned the petition to keep the currently named Sherrill Creek as Sherrill Creek and went on to say he knows five people in Kimble who want the name left as Sherrill Creek. Larry said the Browns, Mansfields, and Lynches all know it as Sherrill Creek and they all homesteaded the area. He said the Kimble community was very lively in the 1860's, but the Sherrill community started growing at the turn of the century so the community started having "Sherrill Days." Sherrill Creek is less than a quarter mile from the Sherrill community.

Larry said as far as the Crow Church or Crow School, no one has ever attempted to restore the buildings in an effort to commemorate the community. He said he understands that when the USGS wants to determine the name of a creek they talk to the people who live in the area. He thinks the stream should remain Sherrill Creek. Larry said people may think it is named Crow Creek because of the name on the modern opera house, which is named Crow Creek Opry, and they don't see the sign on the highway with the name Sherrill Creek.

At this time Dale Mansfield asked to address the Board. He thanked Larry for all his research and let members know there are 12 members of his family and 70 members of the next generation of his family who want the name Sherrill Creek kept. Dale said he respects the Crow family, and if they want to restore the school and church he would be the first to help. Chris Barnett asked the guests if any of them know of a name for the red stream on the map. Three of the guests said no. They mentioned that they know Sherrill Spring but no name for the unnamed creek. Lynn asked guests if they have looked at abstracts or deeds to see if Sherrill was mentioned. The guests said they didn't have time before this meeting to do that kind of research. Lynn asked if they will look and get back to the Board. Mike Flowers said the creeks are often used as natural boundaries for property descriptions. Lynn said the name may also show up in county minutes and that when a road is surveyed the creek names usually are mentioned in those surveys.

Jane let members know that Colleen Crow Williams asked that MOBGN defer decision of the proposed name change so she could be present to discuss it with them. Gordon asked if the red stream is free flowing and asked if there was ever a name given to it, asking further if it was ever used as a boundary. Lynn said the fact that there is only a 1917 map is an anomalous piece of evidence and it is common that mistakes appear in such printed compilations. He said Colleen needs to present corroborating evidence because all the evidence of the people here and his own research bear out Sherrill Creek. Dorothy Mansfield asked Jane how much research Colleen had done. Jane said she doesn't know.

Walter asked, in answer to Gordon's question, is the creek very dry or is it spring fed? He also asked if the red creek has ever been referred to as a hollow. Larry Wrest said once in a while there is a little pool of water in it, but it has been a dry year and the stream is very dry now. The creek, to his knowledge, is not referred to as a hollow. Lynn Mansfield said the name of the creek should be recorded in church baptisms. He said people older than him were baptized there. Jane said she has letters from people who were baptized in Crow Creek adding that baptism records are confusing because there are often two names for the same creek. Larry Wrest said many people think Crow Creek runs into Sherrill and maybe there is confusion about which stream is to be named Crow Creek. Jane said she specifically asked Colleen which stream and she said the one under the bridge at Highway 63. Frank Nickell asked how many bridges are on the red waterway. Larry Wrest said there is one on old highway 63 over the stream running through the nursery but there is also a new bridge on the new 63 over the currently named Sherrill Creek. Jane asked who owns the nursery. Russ Mueller said Conservation owns the nursery. Dave Kriegbaum said he can check with the Corps to see if there are any navigation permits for the stream. Frank suggested MODOT should have a record of the name of the creek. Jane said she gets the sense that most people in the area call it Sherrill Creek. Mike said he interviewed a family named Hammonds and they made reference to Crow Creek. Larry Wrest said the Hammonds have only been in the area since the 1960's. Jane then read a letter from a member of the Sherrill family about the history of the area.

Walter asked if there are any more questions. Lynn said the Archives has all the MODOT photographs from the 1920's and 1980's and he will check the labeling. Chris asked about local usage. Lynn said it seems from the evidence today and his own research we have rarely heard Crow Creek used in the area. Walter said it is a matter of fairness to allow the proponent to present evidence and he encouraged the guests present to return. Ken Fox helped explain the procedural timeline for a proposed change to the guests. Larry Mansfield said Crow ownership is in the northern section at the watershed of the Little Piney. Chris said he will check that out and said he is concerned that the 1917 map is a federal document and we have to accept the name printed on that map. Jane said she went to Jenny Runion and Lou Yost thinking it would violate the duplicate name policy if the name of the currently unnamed stream is added to GNIS based on this 1917 soils map. Lou and Jenny said not to add the name to GNIS without other corroborating evidence because who knows if those soils maps are correct.

Larry Mansfield said in 1945 his sister's husband was overseas and the community decided to have a party for victory over Japan and they advertised in the Houston newspaper a community celebration to be held at the bridge on highway 63, concluding that "no one got lost going to the bridge."¹ Gordon thanked the guests for coming. Walter invited the guests to join us for lunch.

Work on Questionable Names

Jane asked if anyone is doing any more on Questionable Names. Dave said he is stuck on the Chain of Rocks. He said it is listed as a falls but it is not really a falls, just a rock outcropping. Dave got no help from hypsographic features either.

Gordon mentioned seeing the names Ant, Aunt's and Ance Creek for one feature and asked Lynn what he found. Lynn said what he found was inconclusive, but he has seen Aunt's, just can't remember where. Walter said Ance is a person's first name in Appalachia. Jane asked that they keep her informed.

New Business

Jane began by letting members know she applauds Priscilla Stotts works with the Stream Team. Priscilla has trained the stream team members to complete the forms as much as possible and get letters of recommendation from the county to include with their proposals. Mr. Thomas C. Boersig III submitted a proposal through Priscilla for the name Orr Hollow Creek for an unnamed stream in Iron County. It is less than 3 miles long and the name is based on Warren Hill and Orr Hollow Road. Jane said that the Iron County Commission agrees that Orr Hollow Creek is an acceptable name. Walter asked if there are any questions. Mike asked what we know about the stream. Jane explained that the Stream Team gets more recognition and possible funding if the stream

¹ Though not mentioned during the meeting, the "bridge" on 63 that goes over the currently named Sherrill Creek was not in existence in 1945. If Larry is really referring to the bridge over Sherrill Creek then he has to be referring to the bridge on old 63 going over the currently unnamed stream. MODOT needs to verify which bridge existed in 1945 and it would be nice to get a copy of that Houston Article from 1945.

they are cleaning has a name. She said Wilma Blanton with Conservation certified there was no previous name for the stream and also agreed that Orr Hollow Creek is a reasonable name. Chris moved to approve the name Orr Hollow Creek. Russ seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Headwater Diversion and Castor River Diversion

Jane acknowledged that the Board has considered this situation before. She said GNIS has one stream for Castor River and one stream for Whitewater River, each with their mouths south of the diversion channels and their sources north of the diversion channels... GNIS has the feature class for the canals identified as channels, but they are canals and that has been changed. GNIS said the two streams named Whitewater River, above and below the channel, cannot have the same name because that violates the policy of duplicate names. The same policy applies to the Castor River streams. So in 2000 the MOBGN proposed naming the streams the Upper and Lower Whitewater Creek and Upper and Lower Castor River.

Once the DNC made the decision to agree with MOBGN that there would be an Upper and Lower Whitewater Creek, Upper Castor River and Lower Castor River, the question arose where the mouth would be for the Upper Castor River and the Upper Whitewater Creek. In 2000, MOBGN proposed that the water flowing into the Castor River Diversion Channel (hyposographic feature) should be the Castor River Diversion Channel (hydrographic feature) feature and the water flowing into the Headwater Diversion Channel (hyposographic feature) should be the Headwater Diversion Channel (hydrographic feature). Jane said she thinks the USBGN lost this paperwork so they now are asking MOBGN for a recommendation. Jane said that currently the way GNIS has the mouth of the Upper Whitewater Creek it empties into the Mississippi River. The Castor River flows into the Upper Whitewater Creek which flows into the Mississippi River. Jane said the USBGN wants a decision today.

Ken Fox put a map of the area on the screen so members could see where the Upper Whitewater Creek enters the diversion channel and the Upper Castor River flows into the Castor River Diversion Channel which connects to the Headwater Diversion Channel that empties its waters into the Mississippi River. Ken showed the mouth of the Upper Castor River at the Upper Whitewater Creek. Walter mentioned that we aren't worried about the hyposographic features; we are worried about the water courses. Frank asked what local usage is for the diversion channel. Jane mentioned that the Little River Drainage District calls all of the water in both the Headwater Diversion Channel and the Castor River Diversion Channel (hypsographic features), the Castor River (hydrographic feature). Chris asked if there are other streams cut by diversion channels. Jane said yes, but they haven't checked to see what they are because it has taken 7 years to get these done. Frank said he thinks there are 13 streams involved.

Jane said the USBGN wants to know what the water in the diversion channels is called, as they are previously unnamed. She said Jenny has a name on it now, but it is not what MOBGN proposed or where the MOBGN proposed the original mouth of the Upper

Whitewater Creek was to be. Walter said he thinks it should be local usage and Walter made a motion to name the water in these two channels the Upper Castor River. Tony seconded the motion. Motion carried. There was more discussion regarding the mouth of the river at the Mississippi and what the source is for Upper Whitewater Creek. Gordon requested clarification of the question. Jane said the mouth of the Upper Castor River is the Mississippi and the mouth of Upper Whitewater Creek is the Upper Castor River at the Headwater Diversion Channel. Ray asked if moving the mouth of Upper Whitewater Creek needs a proposal. Jane said yes. Ray Fox made a motion to move the mouth of the Upper Whitewater River to the Upper Castor River. Mike Flowers seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Ken Fox noted that when people finished the Panama River they came to Southeast Missouri and dug diversion ditches. Ray Fox added that lumbermen from the Panama project came to help with the Southeast Missouri project. John Fischer said that without the floating dredge the Southeast Missouri project would not have been possible. Jane commented that the project converted one of the biggest swamps in the U. S. into agricultural land. Walter said it is still the largest project of its kind in the world. Jane asked if the Board would like to pursue other stream names. Chris asked if GNIS staff will do that. Jane said no, those changes have to go through the US Board. Gordon McCann moved that the Board not aggressively pursue more name issues in this region. Board members agreed.

Additions to Agenda – The McBride Map

Lynn presented the McBride map to members letting them know the Archives has it in digital form, so if any of the members want it Laura Jolley will send it electronically. Lynn said the Archives has several hundred maps in digital format and Laura Jolley can send the maps to anyone upon inquiry. Lynn then suggested that everyone please take a look at the map. Lynn asked Walter to explain the background of the map, as it came from a master's thesis project.

Jane said everyone knows where the bootheel of Missouri is, but it isn't in GNIS. She asked Lynn if the name is one word or two. Lynn said Bootheel is one word. Walter said some feel the Bootheel is only that part below the northernmost part of the Arkansas line, while others feel the Mississippi/Ohio flood plain is the Bootheel. Jane said we're fortunate because we only need the center coordinates for an area. Walter said we need to find the center. Walter said it is typically considered to be the Missouri/Ohio flood plane; the Bootheel name came after statehood. Jane said she would like to see that in GNIS. Walter asked if we need to propose the change. Jane said yes, and we need the source. Lynn said the Ogilvie dissertation should be a good source. Walter suggested the Ramsey file as a good source. Chris said the Ramsey file doesn't mention the Bootheel.

Report on the Missouri Ramsey File

Chris was researching a question for Jenny Runion from a computer printout from Western Historical Manuscripts in Columbia. He learned that Western Historical

Manuscripts put the Ramsey file information in a searchable database in 2000. Chris said David Moore, Associate Director of Western Historical Manuscripts let Chris have a patron copy of the database and Chris has a URL address on the screen for MOBGN members to be able to get to the database. He said the password is case sensitive - lower case, and it is ramsey, with the password mobgn. Chris said there is a simple way to query the database. He said a screen will appear from the sign-on screen with search criteria boxes. He explained how members can use the query and demonstrated a query, saying the site isn't very user friendly. Chris said he's looked through the database and hasn't found spelling or other errors.

Chris asked David Moore about putting the database up for public use and they plan to do this eventually. David said he wants to get the database in better shape for public use, and he would like to be able to tie this database with GNIS. Gary Kremer said Gerald Hirsch is already talking with GNIS about such a link. He said Gerald has to review record by record. Walter said the Ramsey files were done primarily by English Department students and they weren't particularly interested in coordinates. Chris said there are 32,287 names in the database. Walter said originally there were three sets of cards, one organized by county alphabetically; one sent to Western Historical Manuscripts in alphabetical order by county; and a third set sent to GNIS. Chris said the database is not the actual thesis, it has more analytical information. Jane said it is still a nice find.

Gubernatorial Appointments

Walter said next summer is the time when gubernatorial appointments are due for renewal for the next three years. He said he will work with the Governor's office on that.

Redraft of Chapter 109

Lynn said Ron Berry is the Legislative Liaison for the Secretary of State's Office and he is looking for a sponsor to carry the redraft bill to the legislature. Lynn said this is the third year we've tried to get action on this. He said we propose to monitor progress on the request for the next six months to see if some serious movement will come from the legislature. He said Western Historical Manuscripts, State Historical Society of Missouri, and the Secretary of State have lots of institutional changes in the near future and if positive movement doesn't come from the legislature maybe someone would like to propose another legislative path for MOBGN. Lynn said whatever the result for institutional sponsorship, the State Archives/Local Records can still provide support staff and a place to meet. He said the primary original goal still is to get a fiscal office so MOBGN can manage and administer funded grants and to ask for funds to send members to COGNA.

Missouri Digital Heritage Initiative

Lynn began by explaining that he and Gary Kremer are on the Missouri Digital Heritage Initiative (MDHI) Committee which plans to launch an Initiative in 2008. Lynn said it is

an ambitious project. He said the Archives/State Library/IT departments hired several staff and have purchased equipment for the project, while the KSIC building is being rewired to accommodate the new equipment. Lynn let members know generally what is occurring in the meetings now, and offered an update at the May meeting, when other administrators could address the MOBGN. He said at that time MOBGN could discuss potential projects that will promote MOBGN goals through the MDHI initiative.

Chris Barnett asked Lynn if there is any effort to digitize maps. Lynn said yes, as they have the 830 Soulard maps and the Archives c. 250 ready now; but all projects are theoretically possible, as nothing has really been prioritized. He said that production is proceeding with projects from Local Records and the Archives in lieu of an official priority list. Lynn said everyone here at the table can suggest high profile projects. He said the State Library as a primary department sponsor is advertising the effort, but MSA/Local Records is proceeding with in-house collections. Gary Kremer said every county has an 1876 atlas and a 1946 atlas and it would be a bonanza for patrons if they were digitized on the website. Lynn said he and Gary Kremer are the only historians on the committee now; other members are from IT and the State Library. Lynn said that Local Records involvement has led the State Library to Civil War History and other historical themes. He said MOBGN members know the patronage they represent and need to make themselves known. Walter asked Jane to put Missouri Digital Heritage on the May agenda. Lynn said he and Gary Kremer will discuss this potential presentation with MDHI committee representatives for the May meeting.

CARES Grant

Walter asked Chris Barnett to report on the CARES Grant. Chris said they finished the grant in April and worked on getting a new grant in place. He said at the COGNA conference he learned that a new grant is in place and that it was backdated to July 1st – from award date on October 2! He also learned that the first report is overdue! Chris said his first report was on identification of schools and radio towers. Ray Fox gave him a CD of 103 entries to check. He said all his work on public schools in August 2007 is on a database and is in full agreement with information on schools nationwide. Chris said he needs to enter all these into GNIS and asked Jane if he should reference the source. Jane said yes. Chris went on to discuss the mapping process. Ray Fox mentioned using coordinates with the USGS topo quads. Chris said there will be new topo maps to also verify names. Chris went on to say only 551 of the more than 2,000 schools are in GNIS, so he has a lot to do to get all of it into GNIS.

2007 COGNA

Walter asked Jane to report on the 2007 COGNA meeting. Jane said Chris represented MOBGN very well and even voted for us. Jane said she mentioned that Missouri was willing to host COGNA in 2010, so she and Chris have been designated to initiate planning. Jane reminded members that Missouri hosted COGNA in St. Louis in 2000.

She said major things need to be considered. First, easy access to the airport is important because people come from all over. She said KCI is more accessible than Springfield but it costs more to stay in Kansas City. Jane said comparing the cost of airfare to the cost of hotel space Kansas City and Springfield are about even. Second, hotel space must be considered. And Third, if the conference space is owned by the hotel it is much cheaper than a privately owned conference space. Fourth, the possibility of toponymic tours are great in both Kansas City and Springfield. Jane said we do have experts in Springfield for toponymic tours.

Jane asked where board members prefer to have the meeting. Gordon and Lynn pointed out that the Hammons conference center is a good place. Walter said Springfield sounds good. Lynn said Milt Rafferty would likely host a tour. Jane asked if there are hotels to host the conference. She said they need one room for 100 people and a banquet room. They usually need two rooms. She said the conference is usually 4 days, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday, some going home on Saturday but many staying for the Saturday toponymic tour and departing Sunday. Gordon suggested using University rooms. Mike suggested the University Plaza can handle 300 easy. Lynn said University Plaza is very convenient. Mike added that they are reasonable too. Mike made the motion that MOBGN sponsor the 2010 COGNA convention at a conference center in Springfield. Henry Sweets seconded the motion. Motion carried. Walter asked Jane to take the lead on plans and to choose staff to help. Chris, Lynn and Gordon volunteered to help Jane.

Russ asked if the COGNA conference for 2008 is in Oklahoma City, and asked about the dates of that conference and the cost. Jane confirmed Oklahoma City and said the cost is usually about \$250.00 plus the cost of the hotel. She said it is in September 2008, right after Labor Day on a Tuesday. She said she will send the information to Russ.

For the 2007 COGNA conference in Lexington, KY, Chris commented that Missouri was the most active state on the USGBN docket. Jane named all the Missouri items – there were ten names on the COGNA-DNC docket.

Next Meeting Date

Lynn confirmed that the meeting will be May 15th, in the Interpretive Center at JCKSIC for May 2008.

Adjournment

Walter thanked Jane for the wonderful goodies and thanked Lynn for lunch. He wished everyone safe travel back home. Dave Kriegbaum made a motion to adjourn. Chris seconded the motion. Motion carried.