

Missouri Board on Geographic Names
05-08 Meeting
Interpretive Center
James Kirkpatrick Building
Missouri Office of the Secretary of State
Jefferson City, MO
May 15th, 2008 Minutes

Attendees: Chris Barnett, Ken Dagele, John Fisher, David Kreighbaum, Gary Kremer, Gordon McCann, Jane Messenger, Lynn Morrow, Russ Mueller, Frank Nickell, Walter Schroeder, Henry Sweets, Jay Turner, Dwight Weaver, and Arnold Williams

Guests: Leonard (Lynn) Mansfield, Dorothy Mansfield, Mary Wrest, Larry Wrest, Leroy Lane, Edna Smith, and Missouri State Archivist, John Dougan.

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

Absent: Gary Claspill, Mike Flowers, Ray Fox, Tony Holland, and Jerry Vineyard.

Walter called the meeting to order at 10:08 a.m. and gave a brief overview of the day's agenda.

Call for Proxies

Walter called for Proxies. Jay Turner carried proxy for Ray Fox, Lynn Morrow carried proxy for Tony Holland, and Walter Schroeder carried proxy for Mike Flowers.

Call for Additions to the Agenda

Walter called for additions to the agenda, saying he wants to add comments regarding the 2008 COGNA meeting, and gubernatorial appointments. Jane would like to add a demonstration of GNIS links under Reports. Chris said he would like to strike the report on the CARES grant from the agenda.

Introduction of Guests

Jane let members know we have guests present to testify regarding Crow Creek vs. Sherrill Creek. She asked guests to stand and introduce themselves. Lynn Mansfield introduced himself saying he lives half mile from Sherrill Creek. Dorothy Mansfield is Lynn's wife. Mary Wrest and Larry Wrest introduced themselves. Leroy Lane introduced himself, and Edna Smith introduced herself.

Lynn let members know that State Archivist, John Dougan would join the meeting after lunch to talk about the Missouri Digital Heritage Initiative. He explained that Dougan is attending a week long conference in Kansas City and is in transit.

Minutes of November 2007

Walter requested corrections, additions, or deletions to the minutes from November 2007. Henry Sweets moved to approve the minutes as written. David Kreighbaum seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Continuing Business – Minneville

The US BGN requested evidence of local usage for the proposed name change of Minneville, so Walter went to Minneville and interviewed three locals. This number is a good percentage of the residents of Minneville. Walter mentioned that it appears that only about five homes were occupied. Walter said he would conclude from those he interviewed that current usage is Minneville. They all agreed that the spelling should be ‘Minneville’ just as it is at the cemetery. All three people interviewed clearly said ‘No’, the spelling is not Minaville and they have never heard it pronounced Minaville.

Walter related to members that he gave a talk on local usage to a group just after the interview process in Minneville and used Minneville as an example. A lady in the second row jumped up and said she has always lived there and it’s Minneville, spelling it Minneville. The lady’s name is Bette Williamson. The conclusion for local usage is Minneville. Chris Barnett made a motion to reaffirm the Board decision based on current evidence of local usage. Jay Turner seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Change name of Harper Spring to McIntire Spring

Jane reminded members they approved the proposal to change Harper Spring to McIntire Spring, and they approved the proposal to name an unnamed stream McIntire Spring Branch. US BGN sent the proposal back to MOBGN because they want more information on why it was named Harper Spring. Jane received a document from Marsha McIntire showing that her ancestors purchased land in 1916 and that since they sold the land it has never been owned by a Harper. She said in 1933 the family built a spring house on the site. She said the courthouse has no evidence that Harpers ever owned the property, and they didn’t live there. The L.A.D.D. Foundation has no problem with the name change now. The fact that Harper’s never owned that particular property was verified by a Harper. Jane said US BGN is reluctant to change commemorative names and told members that she feels like the field man interviewed someone in the area using a topo map, someone unfamiliar with topo maps, and the interviewee was confused.

Gary K asked what new information we have since our proposal was sent to US BGN regarding this name change. Jane said the L.A.D.D. Foundation no longer opposed changing the name from Harper Spring to McIntire Spring. Chris said we do have

information that Harper never owned the land. Gary Kremer moved to reaffirm MOBGN's original decision to change the name of Harper Spring to McIntire Spring. Chris Barnett seconded the motion. Chris asked if MOBGN needs to make separate motions on the other two names. Gary Kremer restated his motion to reaffirm recommending to US BGN the naming of McIntire Spring, McIntire Spring Branch, and McIntire Spring House for the spring, stream, and historical building, and to provide additional evidence just presented. Motion carried.

[Just a note to MOBGN members that the US BGN did not approve the McIntire names at their June meeting. They were not unanimous, but the name change did pass as well as the proposed stream name. The spring house was entered into the database as an historical feature.]

Sherrill Creek vs Crow Creek

Jane let members know we have been asked to change the name of an unnamed stream to Sherrill Creek, and projected a map onto the screen. She said Russ found evidence the stream was actually called Sherrill Creek in the past and has been published that way on non USGS maps, and that evidence has been confirmed. There was some discussion regarding the "red stream" on the projected map – where it begins and how it flows through the county and through the Department of Conservation land. This is the stream that evidence has been found to indicate was and still is officially named Sherrill Creek. Jane said we now have two streams named Sherrill Creek in Texas County so we no longer need to consider the request to name the unnamed stream because it was already named.

Jane said Mrs. Colleen Crow Williams has requested naming the "blue stream", which is also officially known as Sherrill Creek, Crow Creek. Mrs. Williams sent in several photos as evidence the stream was named Crow Creek. Arnold Williams showed Jane a 1921 map of two bridge projects, and according to the map there was a bridge over Sherrill Branch, 30 miles south of Rolla. There was also a bridge over a Stream Branch 27 miles south of Rolla. Arnold said that doesn't mean the name was actually Stream Branch. Jane asked the visitors where the 1945 celebration took place. Larry Wrest said the stream 27 miles south of Rolla. Jane said current local usage is of paramount importance to the USBGN and current local usage is mixed.

Leroy Lane said the Crow Creek Opry was only about ten years old. He said Crow Creek Fox Trotters came in from San Diego and bought Leroy's land. They bought Crow Creek Opry then. He said it has been closed for five or six years now. They were going to re-establish the Crow Creek Opry as a restaurant and bar but there was a divorce and they left the area. Gary Kremer said there is no documented evidence of the stream ever being called Crow Creek. Gary moved to reject the proposed name change. Ken Dagele seconded the motion.

The question was asked about the sign on the bridge. Jane said the only evidence she was able to find of the name Crow Creek in print was text in Texas County historical papers

where there is mention of a Civil War battle at Crow Camp. Gary said he has seen such historical evidence that simply isn't true. Chris said he found a Crow School on the banks of Crow Creek. Jane said Crows owned land in the north part of the county. Walter said the motion is only to deal with the name of Crow Creek.

Russ asked if this doesn't clear up the two Sherrill Creeks. Walter said no. Jane said the duplicate names might be a problem but we'll let the Domestic Names Committee decide. Larry Wrest asked if a stream is named when the Board names it or because MODOT put the name on their map. Jane said the name put on maps isn't always correct because if the name was compiled from a previously published map containing an incorrect name the incorrect name got transferred. Field work tried to verify and/or gather correct names. In the case of Sherrill Creek it was already established. Sherrill Creek was there before the database. Walter called for a vote on the motion. Motion carried.

Arnold asked about the duplicate names – Sherrill Creek and Sherrill Branch. Jane told members that Arnolds' map shows the southern stream as Sherrill Branch. Jane said she will enter Sherrill Branch as a variant of Sherrill Creek on the southern stream. Larry Wrest said community opinion is important and he passed around copies of a petition of 250 names of people opposed to the name change. Chris asked if we need to make this information available or if local usage for the southern stream is Sherrill Creek. Jane said we are talking about the stream running through the nursery. She said in 1917 the stream is called Sherrill Creek on the soils map, and in 1921 on the bridge construction map it is called Sherrill Branch. Jane asked the visitors if they want to make a proposal for the southern stream. Larry Wrest said the Sturgeon family owned land around the southern stream. Jane told Larry if they want to propose a different name to get with her. Larry asked Jane if he needs to notify the US Board. Jane let him know MOBGN will notify the US BGN.

Larry expressed concern that something could still happen to change the name on the national level. Jane said it is unlikely that the national board will change Sherrill Creek to Crow Creek. Since it is a commemorative name they are very reluctant to change commemorative names as they feel it dishonors the original honoree. She said the US BGN has the final decision concerning the proposed name change from Sherrill Creek to Crow Creek. Leonard Mansfield expressed concern about the proposed name change being slipped under the wire. Jane explained that the county was informed way ahead of the board taking up the proposal. Walter said we need to bring closure to this question. Ken Dagel asked about what information the proponent has regarding the last MOBGN meeting. Jane said she explained everything to Colleen Crow Williams and Colleen decided she would not ask to defer again.

Missouri Questionable Names

Chris let members know that the secret link to the Ramsey file through Western Historical Manuscripts is working again, and it is still a secret. Henry Sweets said it looks like his county still has the biggest list of names to research. Henry asked Chris for the link to the Ramsey Files again. Jane gave Henry the link and password. Chris said a

year and a half ago we submitted several changes and some have not been committed to the database yet. Jane said she will talk to someone to see why it's taking so long.

Jane distributed a new, updated list of Questionable Names letting members know this list is all that's left to take care of. Chris and Henry talked about what appears to be street names on the map in Hannibal. Henry said he will try to work through those. Jane asked if Jenny Runyon can have access to the online Ramsey files. Gary K said to just have her send him a letter. Chris asked Jane if Jenny's access would be for DNC staff or just for Jenny. Jane said it would be just for Jenny, that she is the DNC staff in Reston, VA that would be referring to the Ramsay files on rare occasions. Gordon asked if they can include coordinates and backup material for those names on the list of Missouri questionables. Jane said yes, she'd love it! Chris said to also decide if it is the correct feature class. He said if members could verify what the feature class really is that would be great. There was brief discussion about the feature class not agreeing with the generic or name.

Johnston Summit

Jane reminded members that Mr. Townsend requested changing the name of Johnson Shut-Ins to Johnston Shut-Ins, which can't be done for the state park due to legal concerns. So Jane suggested to Mr. Townsend that he find an unnamed feature to name. He found a summit he originally proposed naming Johnston Summit, but would want to change the proposal to Johnston Mountain. Jane said Jerry Vineyard is concerned that the term summit implies an action and could be applied incorrectly. Jane said Mr. Townsend doesn't care what the generic term is but prefers Mountain to Summit; he just wants to commemorate the Johnston family for settling Reynolds County.

There was some discussion regarding the proposed naming. Jane said the US Board wants a specific person or persons identified to commemorate with the name. She wrote to Reynolds County regarding the proposed change but hasn't heard from them. Chris asked if the land the feature is on is currently in private ownership. Jane said as far as she can tell it is, but just because someone owns the land doesn't mean they own the name of the feature. Chris said he would be more comfortable if the owners were contacted. Henry asked if Mr. Townsend wants to name a feature to commemorate a family name in a place the family didn't own or live? Chris said according to the commemorative name policy the person has to have had a relation to the feature or made a significant contribution to the area. Russ said if the request was in a State Park or on Conservation land they would ask the land owner's opinion. Russ feels we should find out who owns the land. Jane asked how she can find that information. Jay said he does it all the time. Jane said she doesn't know the legal description, just the latitude and longitude. Walter asked Jay if he will identify the landowner. Jay said yes. Henry made a motion to defer the Johnston Summit [Mountain] proposal until the property owners are contacted. Arnold seconded the motion. Motion carried.

[Another note to MOBGN members: The current owner of the land has been contacted and is very much in favor of the proposed name Johnston Mountain. This is the preferred name by Dr. Townsend.]

Additions & Walk-ons – Gubernatorial Appointments

Walter asked if anyone has heard about their gubernatorial appointment. No comments. Walter said his recommendation for gubernatorial appointments didn't state that the people appointed agreed to stay and be reappointed. However, someone else may send an appointment suggestion. He asked members if we need a board recommendation listing the nine members who should be reappointed, plus Jerry Vineyard. He asked if anyone has experience with this sort of thing. No one has. Frank said he feels it is appropriate for Walter to make a recommendation to the Secretary of Boards & Commissions at the Governor's Office. He feels they would probably look at a recommendation from Walter as being helpful. Walter said he spoke with one person at Boards & Commissions in the Governor's Office and asked how he will know when appointments have been made. She said the Governor's office will tell the appointee, that often there is a certificate to accompany the appointment. John D said that state appointees and reappointee's have to have Legislative approval. Walter said the last round of appointments didn't go through Legislative approval. Jane said that according to MOBGN bylaws members are on the board until their position has been replaced by someone else.

COGNA Conference for 2008

Walter and Jane began a discussion about the COGNA Conference for 2008. COGNA is the Council of Geographic Names Authorities which is made up of representatives from each of the state boards, members of the U. S. Board on Geographic Names and other Federal agencies, to meet and discuss various problems that come up and how to handle geographic name issues. Walter said the 2008 conference is in September. Jane said it is in Oklahoma City the Tuesday after Labor Day and registration is \$100.00. The hotel rate is the federal government per diem rate. Jane said this year the conference will involve a workshop regarding feature classes and how to handle them, a State/Federal Roundtable discussion of pertinent geographic name issues as well as other naming and topo issues, and on Saturday there is a toponymic tour. Walter said MOBGN needs a voting representative at the conference. Jane said she is going, and Chris said he is going. Walter appointed Chris as our voting member and Jane will backup Chris as voting member if Chris can't make it.

Report on Redraft of Chapter 109

Walter asked Lynn for an update of the redraft process. Lynn said the process is in the same place it has been for the last three years. He said no sponsor was sought or chosen the past legislative session. Lynn said if any board members from the different agencies, in the executive order listing, want to go through the political route to amend the

executive order, they can do so. He asked Chris if the University is interested in having a fiscal participation in MOBGN. Jane asked Lynn if MOBGN can still continue with the Secretary of State's Office. Lynn said yes. He said things are likely to change in November, but there will be no change with Secretary of State being host to MOBGN.

Gary K said he would be willing to bring the subject of sponsorship up to the Board of Directors of the State Historical Society. Walter said MOBGN would much prefer to be a statutory board and be able to handle money for grants. He asked if there was support from other members for Gary to bring it up to his board. Dave asked how MOBGN would handle the money. Chris said it would be used for grants and to reimburse travel. Then Chris asked if MOBGN could use the money for conference support, such as COGNA. Jane said it could be used for conference registration fees only. She said COGNA didn't pay speaker fees in 2000, and they didn't even waive the registration fee for the speaker in 2000. Lynn said Secretary of State's Office donated \$300.00 to the COGNA Conference in 2000. Gary said the public funding at State Historical Society is from the legislature, and 20% of the society's funding is from member fees. Gary said they can do anything they want with that 20% and they don't have to deal with the University or the Legislature to do so. Walter said he sees no harm in Gary asking his board for support. Jane said it's a good idea.

Missouri Digital Heritage

Lynn introduced the new State Archivist, John Dougan to members, and gave them an overview of MDHI. Lynn told members of the SOS digitized map collection, including the Soulard maps and other Missouri maps that are just waiting for IT department work for Web upload. Lynn said through field operations we have found that probate partition cases are a good resource for maps, as the court often orders a new survey as an exhibit. As a result these maps are unique and not found anywhere else.

John Dougan told members that Secretary of State's Office has a planetary digital camera ordered measuring 3½ by 9 feet so the micrographics staff doesn't even have to touch a map to digitize it. He said it is a \$100,000.00 piece of equipment with software that allows us to scan oversized maps, and it has a book cradle. He said we can put bound maps on the camera and scanner. John told members that if they have a map collection in their agency we can scan it for them.

At this time he projected the MDHI website onto the screen. Jane asked if they can scan the 15 minute quadrangle maps. Lynn said what we need to do is discuss any map collections with the map owners. John explained how we hope to get a catalog of these maps and map owners. Jane asked if John wants paper maps or Mylar separates. John said anything they have, whatever makes the best image for the end user. Jane said she is unhappy with the USGS because they have discontinued the 15 Minute series. She's afraid they got rid of the material and that the boxed material has been trashed or in rare cases shipped to the appropriate state if that state was willing to take the materials and pay for the cost of shipping them. Jane said she thinks DNR still has some paper maps. John said MDHI hopes to partner the Archives collection with the State Historical

Society and others. Chris asked about personal collections, if someone can bring their personal map collection to the Archives, have it scanned to share with others and still be able to keep it as a personal collection. John said yes, through our loan program. He said we need to get the loan process established.

Chris asked how the process works. John said it would become part of a digital collection and explained the source of what is currently on the internet. He then demonstrated navigation through the MDHI site and showed members some of the collections that are online. Chris said he's used the site quite a lot but forgot how to get to the images. John worked at getting to the images but the program wouldn't respond, so he showed members how to do some searches for maps and death certificates. Chris asked how long the site has been up. John said just a few weeks, it's very new. He also spoke of the problems they faced combining so many different databases.

John then explained how MDHI works so well for MOBGN, that MDHI can make a digital image of their map collections. Arnold asked if MDHI will accept links to other websites, saying they have maps back to 1918. John asked if there is metadata with them. Arnold said no. Chris asked if Archives searches the metadata. John said yes, we will deliberately ask if we can link to metadata and again said MDHI is looking for partners and collections.

Chris asked about geographic references, saying there are all kinds of issues with it and asked if MDHI is making an effort to take these maps and do georeferencing. John said if that is done it will be done outside of MDHI. He said we may be able to work through jpeg2000 and do the georeferencing, the formatting is there but the technology isn't.

John D told members the potential is just limitless, adding that maps will be a priority for our planetary scanner. He went on to say there are five staff members in the Micrographics Department and the State Library combined that are working together on the MDHI project.

Demonstration of GNIS Links

Jane pulled up the USGS Domestic Names search site and projected it onto the screen. She let members know there is a new link on GNIS. She entered a search for Sherrill Creek, State of Missouri, feature class 'stream', and then selected send query. Jane's search came up with two streams, as it should have based on the discussion earlier today. Once the results page appears Jane demonstrated that by clicking on the underlined feature name, a detail page comes up. On this page is a lot more information concerning the feature as well as links to map several map sites. Jane told members that Topozone sold out to Trails.com which is a subscription site. Topozone used to be a good site for viewing images and retrieving topographic map information over the area of the feature.

Jane showed members how to get topo maps images. She demonstrated that members can get satellite maps or highway maps. Or they can go to Digital Ortho Quad instead of topo. Jane said she likes clicking on the marker to get the feature id, feature name,

longitude and latitude, and sequence number if there is one. If members don't like the coordinates they can drag the marker where they think the coordinates should be and the program will show the new coordinates. Chris said the USGS application is using Google maps but using a USGS basis. He said there are topo maps on Google. Jane confirmed that but said the USGS application does load topo maps. She said ACME maps are a little slower to load the topo maps but they're there. Jane said the new link appears on the public site and the web edit site.

COGNA 2010

Jane let members know that she and Chris went to Springfield to University Plaza to talk about hosting the 2010 COGNA conference and University Plaza said they would be willing to work with us. Jane said she ran the information by the Secretary of COGNA and he said the proposed contract looks good, with a few tweaks. Jane said so far no other states want to host 2010 so that looks good for Missouri. She said University Plaza is also willing to meet the federal government per diem rates for 2010, and said we can have the conference facilities free for the conference if we have \$4,000.00 of food for the conference. Jane feels like that's no problem. Chris said it is a very impressive looking hotel. He said you immediately see parking lots but just beyond that you see the ball park and the historic district with restaurants and B&B's that are in walking distance. Jane said University Plaza is better than the Holiday Inn on Glenstone. That site was dangerous for walkers.

Gary K asked how many registrants Jane anticipates. Chris said they usually reserve a block of 50 rooms per night. Jane said she anticipates between 80 and 100 people to register. She said the biggest problem with Springfield and University Plaza is there is no airport shuttle, but if we know of a group coming in we can go meet them, if we know the time. Chris asked if members know of a transportation company we could work with.

He said we have to sign the contract with University Plaza by September 30, 2008, adding that Wayne at COGNA will have to do that. Jane asked members if they feel we should go ahead with it. Gary K said Missouri Conference on History plans to have their April 2009 conference there and have been very happy to deal with them. Lynn agreed. Gary asked about donations from State Historical Society and maybe the Friends of the Archives. Jane said there is free internet access in the conference rooms but only one microphone is free. She said she can get visual equipment but not audio equipment. Gary K asked if agency representatives can kick in donations. Chris said he doesn't know about the University. Gordon asked when the conference will be. Jane said the 13th through the 19th of September. Gordon said there is a festival that time of year so there will also be some entertainment for conference goers. Jane said the airfare, hotel costs, and transportation fees are what make a difference. The facility is gorgeous. Walter asked if there are instructions from the board. Jane asked members if they are pleased with the facility. Walter said members are pleased and we can sign the contract by Sept 30, 2008.

Next Meeting Date and Adjournment

Walter let members know there are two dates reserved for the next MOBGN meeting, Tuesday, Nov 18th or Wednesday, Nov 19th. After a brief discussion, members agreed on Wednesday, November 19th for the next meeting date.

Meeting adjourned.