

Missouri Board on Geographic Names
May 2011 Meeting
Interpretive Center
Secretary of State 600 W Main
Jefferson City, MO
May24th, 2011 Minutes

Attendees: Jane Messenger, Chris Barnett, Gary Claspill, Alan Foreman, Jerry Vineyard, Frank Nickell, Jay Turner, Ray Fox, Henry Sweets, John Fisher, Dwight Weaver, Ken Dagel, Darrell Pratte (arrived late), Lynn Morrow, and Debra Greene.

Also in attendance was Suzy Wolfe (recorder), Administrative Aide for Local Records, and Kim Moseley, Administrative Aide for Records Management.

Absent: John Dougan Gary Kremer, Arnold Williams, Tony Spicci, and Gordon McCann.

Guests: Mr. Chuck Lahmeyer, Ms. Anna Nowack

Chris Barnett called the meeting to order at 10:15 a.m. and gave a brief overview of the agenda for today's meeting. He also welcomed guests to the meeting.

Call for Proxies

Chris called for proxies. Ray Fox is carrying proxies for Arnold Williams and Tony Spicci. Lynn Morrow is carrying a proxy for Gordon McCann.

Call for Additions to the Agenda

Chris called for any additions to the agenda. He said there would be a meeting scheduled for sometime in June of this year for himself, Jane Messenger, John Dougan, Lynn Morrow, and Suzy Wolfe (recorder). The members of the Executive Committee will be meeting to discuss the official business and the rules that need to be followed under the Secretary of State. Lynn Morrow added that under the new statute, an annual report is required. He said he is working on that and when it's finished he will put it up on the website.

Introductions of Board Members

Chris asked the guests to introduce themselves. Chuck Lahmeyer, local resident of Jefferson City, attended the meeting to propose a name for a feature he calls "Alton Creek". Anna Nowack, a Department of Natural Resources employee and Missouri steward for the National Hydrography Dataset, was also in attendance. Chris then called for the introduction of the board and staff members.

Minutes for October 2010 Meeting in Springfield, MO COGNA Conference

Chris asked for any corrections, additions, or deletions to the minutes from October 2010. Henry Sweets moved to accept the minutes as written. Frank Nickell seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Training Session

Chris said the next item on the agenda is a training session on how to submit names to GNIS. Chris introduced Jane Messenger as the trainer.

Jane started by going online to the GNIS website at <http://geonames.usgs.gov/>. She then instructed everyone to look in their papers for a handout on submitting names to GNIS. She informed everyone that there are two types of features. One is natural features and all name submissions for these features must go through the full Board process. The other is administrative features -- those names can be submitted through the geonames website without Board review. The following is a recap of the handout.

Submitting names to GNIS

What type of names can be submitted to GNIS for automatic commitment?

- Administrative feature names
 - Airports
 - Bridges
 - Buildings
 - Cemeteries
 - Churches
 - Crossings (man-made)
 - Dams
 - Hospitals
 - Levees
 - Mines
 - Oilfields
 - Parks
 - Reserves (does not include forests, or civil divisions)
 - Schools
 - Towers (radio, cell, etc.)
 - Trails (not including roads or highways)
 - Wells

What is needed?

- Locative attributes
 - May be latitude/longitude in degrees, minutes, seconds
 - May be coordinates from hand-held GPS device
 - May be coordinates from an on-line image or map source
 - May be physical address
 - May be a detailed description of how to drive to the feature
- County
- State
- Type of feature
- Description of feature
- Why feature needs a name if it is unnamed
- Why the name needs to be changed if it is named
 - If the feature is named, you will need the GNIS FID (feature ID)
- Any other name by which it may be known
- Bibliographic/Source reference
 - Book
 - Picture of posted sign at the feature
 - Map
 - Atlas
 - Web Site URL
 - Wikipedia generally not accepted
 - Published document (will probably need corroborating evidence)

Additional information that is not required, but preferred

- Who supports the proposed name

- Additional evidence of the name
- History of the feature

How to submit

- For one name at a time:
 - <http://geonames.usgs.gov>
 - Click on Domestic Names in blue bar on the left of the page
 - Then click on Purpose or Change a Name in the blue bar on the left
 - Then complete as much of the information as possible, and submit
- For multiple entries at a single time
 - Put information in an email and submit to bnexec@usgs.gov
 - Put information in an Excel Spreadsheet with each piece of information in a separate column and each name on a separate row. Submit to mlmccormick@usgs.gov along with a brief explanation in the email as to who you are & what you are submitting.
 - Submit to Jane Messenger at jmessenger@usgs.gov

She reminded everyone that you must first check to see if the feature already has a name. Then you fill out the information on the submission form.

Note: If you are naming a feature after a person, the person MUST be deceased for at least 5 years. And you must be careful about the exact spelling of the name, as this could cause some confusion if there is a misspelled name.

New Business

The following four proposals were considered together, as action must be taken on all four simultaneously in order to resolve the name conflict issue.

Bee Hollow: This is a valley, which is 2.9 miles long. It is located in Ozark National Scenic Riverways in Delaware Township and heads at 37°05'02", 91°28'41"W, trends NW then N to its confluence with the valley through which Jacks Fork flows, 8.9 mi SW of Eminence; Shannon County, Missouri; Secs 17,16,21&22, T28N, R5W, Fifth Principal Meridian; 37°06'20"N, 91°30'40"W; USGS map – Jam Up Cave 1:24,000.

Mouth:http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gazpublic/getgooglecoor?p_lat=37.10555555555556&p_lon_gi=-91.51111111111111

Source:http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gazpublic/getgooglecoor?p_lat=37.08388888888889&p_lngi=-91.47805555555556

Proponent: Col. Tom Akers; Eminence, Missouri

Case Summary: This is the first of four proposals submitted in an effort to correct the application of names applied to various valleys and streams in Shannon County. These features are in the vicinity of Jacks Fork and also within the Ozark National Scenic Riverways, which is managed by the National Park Service. The name Bee Hollow applies currently to a 3.5 mile long valley; however, the proponent believes that is incorrect and says the name should be moved to the next unnamed valley 2.5 miles downstream. He claims this valley, unnamed on topographic maps and in GNIS, has been known for fifty years as Bee Hollow.

Approximately 0.7 miles upriver from the mouth of the unnamed valley is Bee Bluff, which was apparently named in reference to the honeybees that can sometimes be seen in the holes in the cliff (another source says the bluff acquired its name because of the presence of bee trees (Place Names Of Five Central Southern Counties of Missouri, 1939)). He claims that the existing Bee Hollow is in fact Stillhouse Hollow (q.v.). Although the valley in question is unnamed, the stream that flows through it is named Island Branch; however, the proponent claims this is also incorrect, and he is proposing the new name Bee Hollow Branch (q.v.) instead. He says that the next stream further downstream, named currently Allen Branch, is in fact Island Branch.

This name change proposal has been approved by the Shannon County Commissioners.

Bee Hollow Branch: stream; 2.9 mi long; in Ozark National Scenic Riverways in Delaware Township, heads at 37°04'59", 91°28'54"W, trends NW then N through an unnamed valley proposed to be named Bee Hollow (q.v.), to enter Jacks Fork; Shannon County, Missouri; Secs 17,16,21&22, T28N, R5W, Fifth Principal Meridian; 37°06'21"N, 91°30'44"W; USGS map – Jam Up Cave 1:24,000; Not: Island Branch.

Mouth:http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gazpublic/getgooglecoor?p_lat=37.10583333333333&p_longi=-91.51222222222222

Source:http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gazpublic/getgooglecoor?p_lat=37.08305555555556&p_longi=-91.48166666666667

Proponent: Col. Tom Akers; Eminence, MO

Case Summary: This is the second proposal submitted in an effort to establish the correct names and applications for various streams and valleys in the Ozark National Scenic Riverways area of Shannon County. This 2.9 mile long stream is currently named Island Branch; however, the proponent believes that name should be moved to another tributary 3 miles further downstream, and that the stream in question, which flows through Bee Hollow (q.v.), should be named Bee Hollow Branch. His initial proposal claimed that the stream and valley are known collectively as Bee Hollow; however, he is willing to add the generic "Branch" to differentiate the stream from the valley.

This name proposal has been approved by the Shannon County Commissioners.

Island Branch: stream; 3.4 mi. long; in Ozark National Scenic Riverways in Delaware Township, heads at 37°05'03", 91°28'27"W, flows NW then N to its confluence with Jacks Fork; Shannon County, Missouri; Secs 10,9,15,14,23&25, T28N, R5W, Fifth Principal Meridian; 37°06'59"N, 91°29'15"W; USGS map – Bartlett 1:24,000; Not: Allen Branch.

http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gazpublic/getgooglemap?p_lat=37.116439&p_longi=-91.4876384&fid=748570

Proponent: Col. Tom Akers; Eminence, MO

Published: Allen Branch (USGS 1917, 1985; State Highway Map 1938; *Place Names Of Five Central Southern Counties of Missouri* 1939; *DeLorme Missouri Atlas & Gazetteer* 2007)

Case Summary: This proposal is to correct the application of the name Island Branch in Shannon County by relocating the name to another stream that is currently named Allen Branch. Both streams are northerly-flowing tributaries of Jacks Fork, entering the main stream approximately three miles apart. Although the two streams have been labeled on USGS maps as Island Branch and Allen Branch for over fifty years, the proponent reports that locals have always referred to them as Bee Hollow and Island Branch, respectively. He does not indicate why the latter stream is known as Island Branch as there is no evidence of an island along its course. A listing of Shannon County Place Names, posted online by the State Historical Society of Missouri, includes Allen Branch, noting that the name was recorded in a 1939 thesis, having been found on the 1938 State highway map. However, the proponent claims no one living in the area is familiar with the name Allen Branch.

This name change proposal has been approved by the Shannon County Commissioners.

Stillhouse Hollow: valley; 3.5 mi long; in Ozark National Scenic Riverways in Delaware Township, heads at 37°03'33"N, 91°29'03"W, trends NW to enter the valley through which Jacks Fork flows; Shannon County, Missouri; Secs 20,21,28,27&34, T28N, R5W, Fifth Principal Meridian; 37°05'26"N, 91°30'45"W; USGS map – Jam Up Cave 1:24,000.

http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gazpublic/getgooglemap?p_lat=37.0906066&p_longi=-91.5123611&fid=748765

Proponent: Col. Tom Akers; Eminence, MO

Case Summary: This proposal is to change the application of the name Stillhouse Hollow. This name applies currently to a 0.6 mile long valley, but the proponent claims local usage applies the name to another valley that is 3.5 miles long and which is further downstream. Both valleys enter the valley through which Jacks Fork flows, and are approximately 2.5 miles apart. The proposed location is currently named Bee Hollow, but the proponent believes this name refers to the next valley downstream. He also claims the currently named Stillhouse Hollow has no local name. The current application of Stillhouse Hollow was verified by USGS fieldwork in 1968. GNIS lists 15 valleys in Missouri named Stillhouse Valley, three of which are in Shannon County. The closest is just less than four miles upstream from the valley in question.

This name change proposal has been approved by the Shannon County Commissioners.

After the summaries were read and discussed at length, there was some debate as to whether these names should be approved or tabled with a request for more information. Henry Sweets moved to change all four names and Debra Greene seconded the motion. The discussion on Henry's motion resulted in at least two "nays". Jerry Vineyard abstained, saying that they do not have enough information to vote on the items. He recommended that the board investigate. Subsequently, the motion amended to a motion to defer until November, 2011. Ray Fox offered to investigate the case. Jerry also made a motion to do some investigations. Ray Fox seconded the motion. Motion carried. Jay Turner, Ray Fox, and Darrell Pratte will do some research and report to the board at the next meeting in November.

Alton Creek

Case Summary: This 4.2 mile long stream heads at 38°38'21"N, 92°07'13"W Summit Township 0.6 mi south southwest of the school in Holts Summit, flows southwest then turns northwest to its confluence with Turkey Creek 1.7 miles north northeast of the confluence of Turkey Creek with the Missouri River and 1.5 miles northwest of the Jefferson City Memorial Airport in Callaway County, Missouri; sec. 10, 11, 2, 1 T44N, R10W and Sec 36 T45N, R10W, Fifth Principal Mer. The mouth is at 38°36'42"N, 92°09'55"W.

This stream is proposed to be named for the Alton Railroad whose route from 1872 – 1933 used the valley through which the stream flows. The Alton Railroad was the final name of a railroad linking Chicago to Alton, IL, St. Louis, MO, and Kansas City, MO. The latter part of this system is now part of the Kansas City Southern Railway system. The Kansas City, St. Louis and Chicago Railroad (1878 – 1950) was leased by the Alton RR Mexico-Kansas City.

The proposed name is supported by the City of Jefferson City, the City of Holts Summit, and the Callaway County Commission.

A query of GNIS in Missouri returned no records in Missouri containing the name Alton Creek although there are two buildings, two civil, two dams, a gut, an island, four locales, three populated places, on post office, on reservoir and three school features in Audrain, Bates, Jackson, Madison, Oregon, Shannon and St. Charles counties using the word Alton in their name.

Chuck Lahmeyer presented his case. He said he has a personal connection to this case because the creek is where he used to play when he was a child. After the presentation there was some discussion on the case and the history of it. Lynn Morrow then suggested that the issue be tabled until the executive members of the board have a chance to review the by-laws. Then they will re-examine the case in November.

Lynn made the official motion to defer the case until the November meeting. Gary Claspill seconded. Darrell asked why the board would like to "table the motion". Chris Barnett informed

everyone that under the by-laws of the board, they have to have 30 days' notice for a proposed name, so members can do research and review the documents. The motion was carried.

Missouri Dams and Reservoirs

This deals with the issue of how some of the information was put into the GNIS database. Jane Messenger provided an overview of the problems associated with this process and said that some members are holding a teleconference later today (after the meeting) to discuss a plan of action; the Army Corps of Engineers' inventory was downloaded sometime in the late 1980's and this database was not checked for duplicates and/or mistakes. Many problems have been reported and the teleconference will hopefully lay out a plan of action to correct the GNIS.

Questions

Dwight Weaver asked about the Executive meeting entertaining a possibility of adding a variance to the board's authority, so that when something "like Alton Creek" comes up, the board can act more swiftly (the Board was very pleased with the fine Alton Creek presentation). Lynn Morrow and Chris Barnett said that is the reason for the Executive members to meet, i.e., to articulate in writing the Board's procedures. A draft of the by-laws will be circulated among members for their review well before the November meeting and for discussion & decisions at the November meeting.

Reports

Jane Messenger gave a short report on the COGNA conference. She said that the Missouri Board broke even on expenses and turned in about \$800 to COGNA. She said they received a number of compliments about the conference. Jane and Chris Barnett both expressed their thanks to the board members for their attendance at the MoBGN meeting held in conjunction with the conference, and a special thanks to those members who provided assistance in running the conference and presenting at the conference.

Jane mentioned to the members that we need to appoint someone from this board to go to the conference this year. The National COGNA conference will be held in Hawaii. Ray Fox moved that Chris Barnett go to the conference to represent Missouri. Jay Turner seconded the motion. The motion was carried.

Lynn Morrow reported that the Archives is making progress in digital capture of early 19th-century historic maps. The latest batch of early Missouri maps borrowed from Darrell Pratte & the Land Survey has been treated in the conservation lab and was sent to the Imaging department (several from Ste. Genevieve and eastern Missouri counties). Lynn will return these and ask for another group to treat & scan for the Land Survey website.

Lynn said that the Missouri Historical Soil Maps project co-sponsored with Chris Barnett and MU geographers (which consist of about 75 maps) has made headway (lab treatment and digital capture). He reported that c. 65 of them are nearing completion and participants will then have to find the remaining maps, or conclude the project.

And last in current projects, Lynn showed a print of a full-color 1925 Ozarks Playgrounds Association map borrowed from the Powers Museum in Jasper County. He reminded board members that if they have significant historic maps for place name research needing such work, to notify him for an archival appraisal.

Lynn then told the board about an upcoming historic Boone's Lick Road project. He will join colleagues in six counties who are interested in researching the route and its variances. They

plan to work for a few years, while pursuing a legislative commission for advanced study, and perhaps landmark recognition as an extension of the Santa Fe Trail. There is an organizational meeting in June in St. Charles, where the Heritage Crossing is planning a major Transportation exhibit for 2012.

Next Meeting Date and Adjournment

The next MOBGN meeting will be held in the Missouri Secretary of State's office in Jefferson City, MO on **November 8th, 2011 at 10:00 am**. Chris reminded everyone about the teleconference on Missouri Dams and Reservoirs that is going to take place in the Archives Conference room, just down the hall, and then everyone was thanked for their attendance and the meeting was adjourned.