

Missouri Board on Geographic Names
November 2011 Meeting
Interpretive Center
Secretary of State 600 W Main
Jefferson City, MO
November 8th, 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, Lynn Morrow, and John Dougan, Gary Kremer, Tony Spicci, Henry Sweets, Debra Greene.

Also in attendance was Suzy Wolfe (recorder), Administrative Aide for Missouri State Archives, and Merideth Johnson, Administrative Aide for Local Records.

Guests: 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, was also in attendance.

Absent: Arnold Williams, and Gordon McCann.

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

Introductions of Board Members and Guests

Chris Barnett 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, was also in attendance. Chris then called for the introduction of the board and staff members. John Dougan made note of Suzy Wolfe's promotion and the addition of Merideth Johnson to Local Records staff.

Minutes for May 24th, 2011 Meeting in Jefferson City, MO

Chris Barnett asked for any corrections, additions, or deletions to the minutes from May 2011. Henry Sweets moved to accept the minutes as written. Jay Fox seconded the motion. Motion carried.

The May 2011 Minutes are available on the MOBGN website.

Revisited Business

Alton Creek

Case Summary: This 4.2 mile long stream heads in 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.

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, Holts Summit city, 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 dams, a gut, an island, four locales, three populated places, one post office, one reservoir and three school features in Audrain, Bates, Jackson, Madison, Oregon, Shannon and St. Charles counties using the word Alton in their name.

Proponent Chuck Lahmeyer presented his case. After the presentation there was discussion on the proposal and its history.

Jane stated that Holts Summit, and Jefferson City approved of this name. There are no known objections to this name. Chris has done some research and says that he cannot find a name anywhere so it is eligible for naming. Chuck Lahmeyer made the attempt to contact neighbors of creek to see if they had any objections to the name Alton Creek. Jane received an email from Walter Schroeder, former Chair of the board, who approved the proponent's suggestion.

Tony Spicci moved that we approve Alton Creek, Ray Fox seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Bee Hollow: This is a valley, which is 2.9 miles long. It is located in Ozark National Scenic Riverways in Delaware Township and continues to Jacks Fork River, Shannon County.

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. Although the valley proposed to be named Bee Hollow 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 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, proposed to be named Bee Hollow, Shannon County (and not Island Branch).

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, 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, Shannon County (and not Allen Branch).

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, Shannon County.

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. National Park Service agreed to all these name changes. There are emails verifying this. According to the county these names are appropriate and this is how the locals refer to them. Jay Turner, Ray Fox, and Darrell Pratte did some research and reported to the board there is not any documentation that these are the correct names. If the name changes are approved, a note will be added into history field providing the original GNIS name for the features. Darrell said that after interviewing locals in the area, they stated that Col. Akers would know best about the correct names. People believe this is a cartographical error rather than a field error that was done in 1968.

Jerry Vineyard motioned not to vacate the names, keep as is but there was no second so motion died on the table.

After the summaries were read and discussed in length, Henry Sweets moved to approve all four name proposals and Darrell seconded the motion. There were no nays, the motion was carried. Jerry Vineyard abstained.

New Business

August A. Busch Lake Number 33

Jane did some research years ago and came across the fact that MDC has renamed all the reservoirs in the August A Busch Conservation area. They named them all August A. Busch Lake “ #” – Number “ #”. They named what was currently named Kraut Run Lake August A. Busch Number 33. The dams are also named as with the August A Busch Dam Number #. They would like to officially change the name the reservoir to August A. Busch Lake #33 from Kraut Run Lake. Some feel that the name Kraut Run Lake maybe considered offensive. US board does not consider the term officially derogatory. Jane did research to determine the source of the name. It dammed Kraut Run but she could not determine the sources of the stream name. This name change would only impact the reservoir.

Motion to discuss: Gary Kremer motioned it, Ray Fox seconded.

The name Kraut Run Lake is not known to many people, including those who work there. The name may have carried over from National Inventory of Dam, Army Corps of Engineers Database form 1980 without any quality check. They felt they could fix it later and later is now. This database is famous for errors; they received their information from state agencies that governed the reservoirs. It is likely that MDC did not put the name Kraut Run Lake on said maps. This is Case #11-9.

Chris Barnett reminded the board this is a reservoir and that although man-made features can be renamed freely natural features are for board review and, reservoirs fall under the category of needing board approval.

After some discussion Chris Barnett called a motion to vote, Gary Kremer seconded. Motion passed.

Daisys Creek

3/10th mile long stream that flows west into Willow Branch in Bates County. Creek named after a native of the area, Daisy Seelinger who was active in the community. This creek has been known as Daisys Creek for almost 100 years. This area is now used for educational purposes to teach the public about life in the early 20th Century.

Jerry thinks this is not a creek and to be careful not to change definition of what is a creek. Darrell and Ray Fox agreed with Jerry, Jane reminded the board that the board does not restrict the size. The federal office does not define what constitutes a creek, a branch, a stream. Toni motioned to approve, Gary seconds. After some discussion Ray calls the question to a vote. Two nays because they do not feel that creek is an appropriate generic name for the feature. Motion passed.

Willow Branch

The USGS field notes indicated that the name stopped at the confluence of two tributaries where the stream forks into the southeast and northeast. The cartographer placed the type on the southeastern tributary. Jane indicated that the county was going to do further research and that they planned on naming all the unnamed tributaries of Willow Branch. The county will be sending the proposals later.

Lynn Morrow motioned to table the issue, Ray Fox seconded the motion. Chris Barnett called the vote: the vote passes.

Board recommend that Jane continue to inform proponents of unnamed stream names that the Missouri Department of Natural Resources has established a stream generic hierarchy. That is that branches flow into creeks and creeks flow into rivers. Although the U.S. Board does not support any stream hierarchy and the Missouri Board supports the U. S. Board, Missouri DNR would still prefer that proposals for unnamed streams reflect the MO DNR hierarchy. This hierarchy only applies to the three generics branch, creek, and river.

Groger Creek

2.8 mile stream flows into Wallace Creek. Name honors Mary Groger who lived in the area during 19th century. The grave is 200 yards from the stream and proponent feels that it is appropriate name. Jane read an email received from the proponent this morning indicating that it has support of the surrounding neighbors. Gasconade County Commission also approves the proposal.

Gary Kremer moves for the proposal, Toni Spicci seconds.

The vote passes

Wildflower Creek

Flows into Deer Creek, is 1.5 miles long. Citizens would like to name it Wildflower Creek because of the flowers that grow there. The City of Ladue approves this name along with St. Louis Metropolitan Sewer District. This proposal comes from the Deer Creek Watershed Alliance group who is in the process of naming all unnamed tributaries to Deer Creek.

Henry Sweets motions for the discussion, Jay Turner seconds this motion.

Chris Barnett calls the vote, the motion passed.

Continuing Business

MOBGN Bylaws

The executive committee has come up with a new set of bylaws. Bylaws are very similar to the previous set under executive order. John Dougan suggests discussing the new bylaws before the vote.

Section III H and I have changes.

Article II Section One – raises the discussion about voting members; a long discussion started about the issue of proxy and who is considered a voting member, and how to deal with voting when people are absent during meetings.

Article III –Duties of officers

Gary Kremer motions to not have proxies available.

Henry Sweets seconded this motion.

Chris Barnett called the motion

Debra Greene and Ray Fox opposed.

Chris Barnett suggested tabling the motion.

The board then decided to have a meeting of the executive committee to further discuss the bylaws that are in question. The Vice-chair can currently appoint temporary members to the executive committee, so Chris Barnett appointed Henry Sweets. The committee will meet sometime between now and 90 days prior to the next meeting.

Reports

Jane Messenger and Chris Barnett gave a short report on the COGNA 2011 Conference. Jane and Chris both attended but Chris was the voting member. COGNA members discussed the re-inclusion of reservoir, canal, and channel features on the types of names which must be reviewed by the US Board on Geographic Names. They also discussed Native American names of features that have derogatory names and how to deal with them. The next COGNA meeting will be held in Minnesota in eighteen months rather than twelve.

Lynn Morrow reported that the Missouri State Archives is making progress scanning maps. Historic Soil Maps prior to 1950 are complete except eleven; Gary Kremer said he would check to see if the State Historical Society could fill in the remaining soil maps from pre-modern soil surveys. The latest early nineteenth-century maps from DNR, Land Survey, have been treated, scanned, and are ready to return; the Archives will request more to work on. All the soil maps and DNR maps are available to members electronically through the Archives.

It was also mentioned that Jerry Vineyard has a new book about Greene County geology.

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 **May 22, 2012 at 10:00 am**. Chris thanked members for their attendance and the meeting was adjourned.