

Missouri Board on Geographic Names

May 18, 2023

James C. Kirkpatrick State Information Center

600 W. Main St.

Jefferson City, MO 65101

DRAFT

Voting Members Present: Chair Designee John Dougan, Vice Chair Chris Barnett, Scott Faenger, Gary Kremer, David Nail, Alicia Struckhoff and Steve Vance. Participating virtually were Bryan Chinn, Brett Chloupek and John Fisher.

Voting Members Absent: Alan Foreman, Debra Greene, Melanie Hans, Lynn Morrow, Frank Nickell and Henry Sweets.

Non-Voting Members Present: Secretary Brian Rogers.

Chair Designee John Dougan called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. He then called roll and thanked everyone for participating.

Approval of Meeting Minutes from November 17, 2022

John Dougan presented draft minutes from the MOBGN's meeting on November 17, 2022. Vice Chair Chris Barnett moved to approve the minutes as presented. Motion seconded by David Nail. All in favor. None opposed. Motion approved.

COGNA Report, presented by Chris Barnett

Chris Barnett stated that the 2024 COGNA planning committee met in January 2023 to complete the form required by the City of Columbia when requesting RFPs from area hotels. When discussing the form and possible venues with COGNA Executive Secretary Christine Johnson afterwards, she very much liked the idea of using the State Historical Society of Missouri's Center for Missouri Studies for sessions and events.

Gary Kremer indicated that the State Historical Society of Missouri board of directors has agreed to lower fees associated with using space at the Center for Missouri Studies for the 2024 COGNA Conference, but they need to know exactly what is needed and when.

Barnett thanked Kremer and stated that there is precedent for the conference being held in a space separate from the hotel. Kremer added that both the Broadway and Tiger hotels are within relatively easy walking distance of the Center for Missouri Studies. Barnett indicated he would setup a virtual meeting with Christine Johnson and State Historical Society of Missouri staff to discuss specific needs.

Barnett explained that the COGNA planning committee is now looking at midweek dates in mid-September 2024, with the toponymic tour on a Friday. This will help avoid any

conflicts with University of Missouri home football games. Whether the conference would begin on a Tuesday or Wednesday is still up in the air.

Barnett then indicated that the 2023 COGNA Conference is scheduled from Sept. 12-16, in Portland, Oregon. Barring interest from other MOBGN members, he volunteered to represent the board. Gary Kremer then nominated Barnett to fill this role. Motion seconded by John Fisher. Dougan then asked if there were any further nominations. None were forthcoming, so he called for a vote. All in favor. None opposed. Barnett will represent the MOBGN at the 2023 conference.

MOBGN Appointments

John Dougan stated that Joseph Gillman retired as director of the Missouri Geological Survey, and that a letter has been sent to the director of the Department of Natural Resources requesting a new agency designee. It is assumed this will be new Missouri Geological Survey Director Carey Bridges.

Dougan indicated that Dwight Weaver's seat remains vacant and that Frank Nickell has not participated on the board for several years, so a search is now underway to identify two individuals to begin new citizen appointment terms in November 2023. The Kansas City-area and southwest part of the state are underrepresented, so potential members from these areas are preferred. He asked the board to contact Secretary Brian Rogers with any possible names.

Alicia Struckhoff mentioned that she knows the Wilson's Creek National Battlefield GIS specialist and that they might be a good choice. Chris Barnett added that the battlefield was a large part of 2010 toponymic tour and staff were very knowledgeable and helpful throughout the planning process. Dougan indicated he would follow up with Struckhoff for more information.

Dougan then said that there are three other active citizen appointee members with terms expiring in November, and that Brian Rogers will reach out to them individually to confirm their willingness to continue serving on the board.

Discussion of Calypso Spring and Big Rock Spring Proposals

Chris Barnett reminded the board that multiple proposals from the same proponent—as in this case—can be considered together.

Barnett summarized the proposals, stating that Calypso Spring and Big Rock Spring are unnamed springs along Carney Creek in Barry County. They are found 230 feet and 70 feet, respectively, east of Farm Road 1245. And while Calypso Spring is intermittent, Big Rock Spring is perennial. Both were submitted by Missouri Geological Survey geologist Lauren Mack on behalf of proponent Robert Berger, who owns the land on which they are located.

Calypso Spring is derived from Calypso, a Greek nymph whose name means to cover or hide, much like an intermittent spring. The proponent believes this is apt name because the feature only has flow during normal rainfall periods, “hiding” beneath the surface at other times. Big Rock Spring is named for the large Pierson Limestone rock out of which the six-foot-wide flow originates.

Barnett then asked Secretary Brian Rogers if a request for comment had been sent to the Barry County Commission. Rogers replied that a letter was sent on March 7, 2023, to which there had been no reply, indicating the county has no official opinion on the use of either feature name.

Barnett asked for a motion to consider the proposals jointly. So moved by Gary Kremer. Motion seconded by David Nail. All in favor. None opposed. Motion approved.

Barnett noted that the springs are both found and identified by these names in the Missouri Department of Natural Resources’ GeoSTRAT tool dataset. John Dougan asked if metadata tells when they were added. Barnett replied that it does not, then explained that there is nothing keeping states from recognizing and naming features not identified by the federal government. He went on to say that he does not believe this happens often, but springs would be a likely source of such names. Barnett indicated he would contact the Missouri Department of Natural Resources to inquire about other such spring names.

David Nail asked if anyone had searched for these feature names in GNIS. Rogers replied that he had and that there are no other Calypso or Big Rock springs in Missouri.

Barnett moved to recommend both proposed names to the US BGN. All in favor. None opposed. Motion approved.

Upcoming Proposals

Brian Rogers explained that there are three other active Missouri place name proposals, but that they must be considered at the next meeting because they were received after the 45-day cutoff before meetings set in the MOBGN bylaws. Materials for these proposals—Waugh, Frisco and Sycamore creeks—will be distributed to the board once received from the US BGN.

David Nail inquired about the potential for a Brockaway Spring proposal after the inquiry received in March 2023. Dougan replied that no formal proposal hasd yet been received, but that it is certainly a possibility before the November meeting.

Chris Barnett asked Dougan about the status of an Adrian’s Island proposal. Dougan replied that there has not been any progress since former Jefferson City Mayor Kerry Tergin left office. He added that it might be a good proposal to consider at the 2024 COGNA Conference. Barnett stated that former board member Walter Schroeder has researched the island’s history and may make a good proponent when the time comes to submit an actual proposal.

Discussion of Next Meeting

Brian Rogers stated that the board's next meeting is scheduled for 10 a.m. on Thursday, November 16, 2023. Though there will be a virtual component, in-person attendance is encouraged.

Adjournment

Gary Kremer moved to adjourn. Motion seconded by Scott Faenger. All in favor. None opposed. Motion approved.

Meeting adjourned at 10:56 a.m.