

MISSOURI BOARD ON GEOGRAPHIC NAMES

Meeting 0101 Minutes

May 17, 2001

Old Hotel Governor

Room 315

Madison Street

Jefferson City, MO

Attendees: Brent Fischer, Bob Flanders, Jim Goodrich, Don Lance, Craig Manning, Gordon McCann, Jane Messenger (Executive Secretary), Gloria Miller (Vice-Chair), Lynn Morrow, Russ Mueller, Frank Nickell, Walter Schroeder (Chair), Arin Starke (for Chris Barnett), Claude Strauser

Absent: Ryan Burson

Proxies: Arin Starke carried proxies for Chris Barnett and Liz Cook  
Don Lance carried proxies for Tony Holland, Margot McMillen, and Henry Sweets  
Frank Nickell carried a proxy for Jerry Vineyard

Guest: Diana Steele

Meeting was called to order at 10:10 in the old Hotel Governor, room 315.

Walter asked for items to be added to the agenda.

Lynn requested to add a discussion about newly scanned maps available for viewing in the State Archives.

Gloria requested that "Dairy Queen Hill", a proposed name for an unnamed feature, be added to the agenda.

Walter called for corrections to the November, 2000, meeting. Those minutes said that a copy of Glen Yakel's message to the MOBGN would be with the minutes and they were not. The Executive Secretary will add them to the November minutes. The November minutes were declared approved as corrected.

**Continuing Business:**

Roche Percée was redeferred.

Communication from the Domestic Names Committee (DNC), US BGN

Jane read the communication from the DNC regarding the proposed names of "Whitewater Creek" (No. 1), "Whitewater Creek" (No. 2), "Castor River" (No. 1), and "Castor River" (No.2). The communication reaffirmed the policy of the US BGN to discourage the use of the same name for two different features in close proximity and asked that the MOBGN reconsider adding a modifier to each name to differentiate them. Although local usage will probably still refer to each of the features by the "Whitewater" or "Castor River" name, adding the modifier will help prevent confusion in identifying which feature is being referenced.

Jim Goodrich moved and Don Lance seconded that the modifier "Upper" be applied to the beginning of the names of the features north of the Headwater Diversion Channel and that the modifier "Lower" be applied to the beginnings of the names of the features south of the Headwater Diversion Channel and that the modifier "Lower" be applied to the East Channel Whitewater

Creek. The names would be “Upper Whitewater Creek,” “Lower Whitewater Creek,” “Upper Castor River,” “Lower Castor River,” and “East Channel Lower Whitewater Creek.”

Some members wondered if adding these modifiers that were not in local usage would set a precedent for the MOBGN. It was agreed that it would but that this may not be bad. We have set precedents in the past. We will continue to look at each case individually.

Bob reminded the MOBGN that he had suggested Upper and Lower as modifiers during early stages of discussion concerning the names but, due to the MOBGN’s heavy favoritism for local usage, these modifiers were dismissed. However, in light of the DNC’s suggestion and a reminder that local usage is not always the officially recognized name (i.e., Jeff City, MO, for the City of Jefferson, MO) the MOBGN is in favor of reconsidering.

Frank mentioned that the reason Jerry Vineyard spoke against adding modifiers to the names in local usage was because Jerry was against the MOBGN telling the public what to do.

Walter called the question.

Motion passed unanimously

Yes – 18  
No – 0  
Abstained - 0

#### Web Page

Lynn requested web page specifics from Gloria. He said that we could put the MOBGN mission, purpose, member list, decisions, decisions pending, agenda, and e-mail address for people to contact on the state web page but would not be able to put our logo or minutes on the web page. He said that the office of the SOS would not be in favor of supplying web maintenance if there was a lot of it to be done. Lynn said we could have a link to GNIS. Gloria will send web page requirements to Lynn.

#### Ryan Burson

Walter read a letter from Ryan apologizing for his lack of attendance, his forgetting to assign proxy votes, and his resignation from membership. Jim suggested that Walter communicate with Mike Hartman, Ryan’s boss, suggesting Mike reappoint Ryan or appoint a replacement. Walter will do this.

#### Lewis and Clark Bicentennial Academic Conference

The members discussed that there were two different layers of activities and conferences in regards to the Lewis and Clark Bicentennial celebration. These are the Federal and State levels. Lynn reiterated that the State Archives is hosting an academic conference in 2004. Our participation in this conference would establish our presence and educate the public about what we do. To participate and receive funds from the Secretary of State we need to give a specific proposal with costs to that office. The SOS office does have furniture that we could use in the exhibit. We would have to develop the exhibit and presentation.

Jim Goodrich is on another committee working on the Lewis and Clark bicentennial celebration. Claude reminded all MOBGN members that the Lewis and Clark trip involved more than just the Missouri River in Missouri. He told us not to forget the Mississippi River. Craig is working on providing to GNIS for entry into their historical and/or description fields information about names established by the Lewis and Clark expedition.

Walter asked for volunteers to develop proposals for our November 2001 meeting. Jim, Claude, and Lynn volunteered to work on ideas.

## **New Business**

### Cabbage Head

Gloria presented an undocketed proposal by the US Forest Service, Mark Twain National Forest, to name an unnamed feature in Pulaski County in the Mark Twain National Forest. She showed a panoramic picture taken from the top of this 25-foot wide, 12-foot high dolomite rock that is a landmark feature known to Big Piney River boat travelers. She said the name has been in local usage for a long time. Gloria had not contacted Pulaski County or other local administrative officials other than the forest rangers in the district in regards to this name. Jane will do that before forwarding the proposal on to the US BGN.

Jim moved and Frank seconded that the name Cabbage Head be adopted for the rock.

The motion was carried unanimously.

Yes – 18  
No – 0  
Abstained - 0

### Grand River vs Weldon River

Walter discussed the possible mistake by Missouri Department of Transportation (MoDOT) in posting a river name at Princeton. The road sign says Grand River but the official name in GNIS says Weldon. Walter said that at one time there was confusion as to which branch was the headwaters and Bob said the confusion on names existed in Iowa, the source of the river. Brent Fischer, MoDOT will look into how MoDOT is labeling the river and why they are labeling it that way.

### Wild Boar Hollow

Gloria presented an undocketed proposal by the US Forest Service, Mark Twain National Forest, to name an unnamed valley in the Mark Twain National Forest. This name was deferred pending further research by the MOBGN.

### Wild Boar Ridge

Gloria presented an undocketed proposal by the US Forest Service, Mark Twain National Forest, to name an unnamed ridge in the Mark Twain National Forest. This name was deferred pending further research by the MOBGN.

### Dairy Queen Hill

Gloria presented an undocketed proposal by the US Forest Service, Mark Twain National Forest, to name an unnamed summit in the Mark Twain National Forest. She told the MOBGN that one member of the crew working on the forest trail was reported to have reached the top of this hill after working hard during a hot summer day, collapsing on the ground for his break and moaning "God, I wish there was a Dairy Queen here." She said that ever since that event, the local Forest Service people had referred to that hill is "Dairy Queen Hill."

Jim moved and Brent seconded to approve the name "Dairy Queen Hill."

Lynn Morrow said that he was very familiar with that area as a motor cross rider and that he had never heard the name used but instead had heard the name "Yellow Jacket Hill" used. Diana Steele also commented that she had been raised in that area and had never heard either name used. Someone pointed out that often names are created by specific groups and are only known to these groups. A different name could be used by a different group for the same feature.

Don Lance asked if any other local administrative bodies had been contacted and Gloria said no. Diana said that she has all names of the Bull Creek area (the stream in the area of the hill) documented for local and historical usage and will look through her files.

Many of the Board members were reluctant to apply a commercially recognized name to the feature.

Don moved to table the motion until the November meeting.

Yes – 17  
No – 0  
Abstained – 1

## Walk-Ons

### Jerry Vineyard

The e-mail from Jerry Vineyard signifying his resignation from the MOBGN due to his retirement from part-time service was read to MOBGN members. The Department of Natural Resources has hired a gentleman who will start work in June to fill Jerry's old DNR position. Jerry did not know if this individual would also serve as DNR's representative on the MOBGN. Walter will contact Stephen Mahfood, Director of DRN, to remind him that DNR needs a representative on the MOBGN.

**NOTE: Correction from Jerry Vineyard: the e-mail was misinterpreted and he is that he is not retiring from MOBGN yet. He will be at the November meeting.**

### State Archives holdings

Lynn distributed an example of a new collection in the State Archives. The American State Papers Missouri section was edited and published from a complete collection in the Missouri State Archives. Jane asked if Lynn sent any Missouri State Archives names database information to the DNC, but Lynn said no because none of the databases were complete and he wanted to wait until then.

### McKendree Chapel

Don had done some research about Old McHendree Chapel and his research revealed that the name is really Old McKendree Chapel. He mentioned that he had talked with Jenny Runyon, DNC staffer about this and the official name is entered in GNIS as McKendry.

### Trail of Tears

Don mentioned that there is a small committee looking at where the Trail(s) of Tears existed and they are looking at maps. They will document the exact locations and geographic names associated with the trails. Don wondered what, if anything, the MOBGN should do. The next Trail of Tears meeting is at the Walnut Bowl Restaurant in Salem, MO, on July 28.

### MOBGN Appointments

Jane asked that all appointed members look at their appointment dates to make certain that the appointments are not expiring soon.

#### MOBGN Stationary

Lynn displayed a rough example of what the MOBGN stationary would look like and requested information about officer names to put on the stationary. He said that due to the fact that we are under the purview of the Secretary of State office we will have to follow their standard format.

Don moved and Gordon seconded to approve the proposed MOBGN stationary layout.

Yes – 18  
No – 0  
Abstained – 0

#### Statutory Bill

Lynn mentioned that because the MOBGN was created by Executive Order, it is difficult for members to get reimbursed for expenses or any type of state funding. No travel funds are forthcoming to reimburse Board members who are not attached to any other state or Federal organization. He suggested that he and Ken Winn examine the procedure to convert us from Executive Order to Statutory Bill. Now that we are an established body, it is an easier process to convert us to Statutory Bill from Executive Order than it would have been to establish us originally through a Statutory Bill. This will allow us to apply for funding and have a better chance of getting it.

#### COGNA 2000 final fiscal report

Don presented the final report for the COGNA 2000 conference. Don returned the \$500.00 start-up money plus the \$11.15 left over after all bills had been paid.

#### Kelley Valley and Smith Branch

Due to time, Walter did not read the letter from the DNC notifying the MOBGN that the DNC approved the proposals to reaffirm the spelling of the names Kelley Valley and Smith Branch in accordance with the recommendation of the MOBGN.

Not mentioned during the meeting but very noteworthy is an article by Diana Steele in the *Ozark Mountaineer* about the MOBGN and US BGN. The article is titled: “*What’s in a Name.*”

**Next meeting will be at the Secretary of State Office Building, 600 W. Main St., Jefferson City, MO, on November 8, 2001 at 10:00 AM.**