

Missouri Board on Geographic Names  
11-06 Meeting  
Interpretive Center  
James Kirkpatrick Building  
Missouri Office of the Secretary of State  
Jefferson City, MO  
November 14, 2006 Minutes

Attendees: Chris Barnett, Gary Claspill, Ken Dagel, John Fisher, Mike Flowers, Ray Fox, Tony Holland, Gary Kremer, Gordon McCann, Jane Messenger, Lynn Morrow, Russ Mueller, Frank Nickell, Walter Schroeder, Henry Sweets, Jay Turner, and Dwight Weaver.

Guests: Joyce Schumacher, Karol Palmer, Edwin Bybee, and Ken Fox.

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

Absent: Brent Fisher and Arnold Williams.

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

### **Call for Proxies**

At this time Walter called for Proxies. With no proxies being carried Walter asked that anyone leaving the meeting early please leave their proxy with someone.

### **Call for Additions to Agenda**

No additions were requested.

### **Introduction of Guests**

Jane introduced Joyce Schumacher, who in turn introduced her sister Karol Palmer. Jane let Board members know Joyce and Karol grew up in the village of Minneville and will be giving testimony regarding an item of New Business on today's agenda.

Jane next introduced Ken Fox, a colleague of hers from the Reston staff of the USGS. She went on to explain that the office in Reston, VA will be closed January 5, 2007, and most of the staff there will lose their jobs. One staff member, their main researcher, was moved to the headquarters office. The work done by staff in Reston, VA has been picked up by the Rolla and Denver offices. Rolla picked up the research, and Denver picked up the GNIS database maintenance.

Jane introduced Mike Flowers as a new MOBGN Board member. Mike is Surveyor for the Missouri Department of Natural Resources working in Rolla. Mike gave members an overview of the records his office keeps in Rolla. Members know that his office is responsible for the maintenance of the public system for Missouri. Walter told members that Mike is an agency representative gubernatorial appointment.

Walter let Board members know that Jerry Vineyard asked him to say good-bye for him. Jerry wishes to resign his appointment to the board as agency representative of the Department of Natural Resources. However, Walter and Jane are going to ask Jerry if he will continue on with the Board as a gubernatorial appointee. Jane acknowledged that Jerry is the Board's resident geologist. It was decided that a motion was needed and Chris Barnett moved to ask Jerry to consider accepting a gubernatorial appointment to the MOBGN Board. Lynn Morrow seconded the motion. Motion carried.

### **Introduction of MOBGN Members to Guests**

For the benefit of guests present at the meeting, and new member Mike Flowers, Walter asked Board members and others seated at the table to introduce themselves and give their job title.

### **Minutes of May 2005 Meeting**

Walter requested corrections, additions, or deletions to the minutes from the May 2005 meeting. Ray Fox moved to approve the minutes from May 2005. Henry Sweets seconded the motion. Motion carried.

### **Status of USGS in Rolla**

Jane said she really doesn't know what is going on. The Rolla and Denver offices have to compete with everyone else for their jobs. They are competing against each other until a decision is made in April or May as to which office will survive, and the USGS mapping function will move to that location.

### **History of MOBGN and its procedures**

Walter let Board members know we will not go over the History of MOBGN today but will move on to Jane's presentation. Jane planned to review the history and procedures for the benefit of guests from Kansas who are interested in getting their Board on Geographic Names on track. However, they were not able to attend today's meeting.

### **Presentation: the Importance of Database Maintenance**

Jane let the Board know that due to State of Missouri firewall issues she isn't able to get to GNIS maintenance. Jane said they should be able to get into GNIS maintenance on

their home computers, but for members of a State agency they will not be able to get there from the work computers because of the state's firewall.

Jane continued the presentation by explaining how to call up a location name in GNIS and change it. She said that for administrative features the old name goes to the variant field and they can enter all other names in the variant field. Jane explained that the US Board is very much in favor of local usage for geographic names. If a geographic feature's class changes we would have to go to the Edit field, find the feature and put 'historical' after that name. Then members will have to go in and create a new entry for a new class of feature. She asked members to enter the administrative name, coordinates, classification, and bibliographic reference, and said the check boxes and drop down lists provide county and quad name, and will even add the elevation if members enter the coordinates. Jane gave members information on classification names adding that there are some names entered a year and a half ago that are still good names.

At this time Jane began a demonstration of Google Earth and called up the Minneville Cemetery. She was able to close in on the cemetery and pointed out to members that the coordinates appear on screen. Anywhere the cursor moves the coordinates change to always reflect the location of the cursor. Next Jane called up Liberty, MO and street names appeared on screen. Jane was then able to tilt the view from directly above to an oblique level. It was pointed out that with some cities larger than Liberty a 3-D view will often appear. Chris Barnett said members can enter an address or even just a zip code and Google Earth will find the place.

For an area that occurs in multiple units, like the Mark Twain National Forest, put the coordinates close to the center, but they must fall within one of the units. Mark Twain has quads that aren't contiguous. Jane said when calling up a stream, arroyo or valley, primary coordinates should be taken at the mouth of the linear feature and source coordinates are at the head or source of the feature. Jane said members won't be dealing much with natural features because the names of natural features are based on local usage – USBGN leans to local usage, not historical. She said the full board has to make the decision to change the name of a natural feature. The Domestic Names Committee is reluctant to change commemorative names because Board members feel it shows dishonor to that person for whom the feature was originally named. Jane said she feels we really have to work hard to find out if a name indicates ownership, commemoration or local use.

Chris Barnett asked whom members have to go to when the Reston, VA office is closed in order to get a password for access to GNIS maintenance. Jane said when Robin Worchester is gone after January 5<sup>th</sup>; members will go to Dwight Hughes, a contractor working for the USGS names folks in Reston. Otherwise, Chris mentioned that when requesting access to GNIS maintenance members need to be able to qualify for access. Jane said just being a member of MOBGN would qualify members to be eligible for a password. At this time Jane gave members the web address for GNIS maintenance – <http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/htmlbd/f?p=gnis>; she said when the screen appears there is

a pop-up window asking for a password. Chris Barnett has done some work in GNIS maintenance and told members how he uses the system.

Jane asked Board members to start work entering the Missouri Questionable Names. She added that Missouri hasn't updated names in 15 years and DHS (Homeland Security) wants churches, hospitals, schools and cemeteries updated. She said DHS wants the denomination of churches and the legal name of schools. Any name changed becomes a variant name. Gary Kremer asked about the name of a church which is also a school. Jane said two entries are required in this case, one for the church, and one for the school. Some discussion followed about the Jefferson City Correctional Center with 16 buildings. Jane said this would require 17 entries in GNIS. Ray Fox asked if it is the same for a college. Jane said for a college members would probably just focus on the middle of campus or the administration building. If they know the coordinates and names of the individual buildings, the GNIS would like to have each building entered separately. In the event that a place name was a church and it is now a school the church itself is historical and a new entry would be made for the school.

Discussion turned back to the Google Earth demonstration as Jane zoomed in on St. Louis to see 3-D buildings. The Gateway Arch was in 3-D as a solid rectangle while its shadow on the ground was the true Gateway Arch form. Ken Fox told members they can create a KMLS file with Google Earth. Jane noted that Google Earth is easier to work with than *The National Map* and other sources. Chris said Google Maps are also available. Though just 2 dimensional they are still capable of switching the view back and forth, just not in 3-D. Ken Dagele was curious to see the view of MECCA in Saudi Arabia, mentioning restrictions placed on certain areas. Jane called the site up and was able to move through most of the site, though a portion of the site was not clear.

Jane asked that before members make a web entry for a new name that they check in the county category to make sure the name isn't already in GNIS; she said the name may be listed with slightly different coordinates. She warned that GNIS will only show the first 15 entries on a query page but below the returned table on the left is an option to go to additional returned names. The maximum number of returned names is 2000. Be sure to search the category for the classification, county, and state, and then members will be sure to see all GNIS has for the county. Chris advised that members try to recognize the place and then change the name if it is incorrect, and suggested going to TOPOZONE to see exactly where the place is on the map. The subject of caves was mentioned and Jane said by Federal law cave sites can't be returned but are still listed in GNIS. Also, some tribes don't want certain site locations shown. Jane said if members identify a place with the classification of cave to immediately let GNIS/USGS know so it can be flagged. Caves will be on maps, but not returned through a GNIS search. If members go into GNIS and attempt to call up a cave site, the response from GNIS will be 'feature does not exist' or 'no name found'.

## **New Business**

Walter turned over this part of the meeting to Jane. Jane asked that no recommendation on the Minaville vs Minneville case be made today because she would need to contact several other authorities yet. Jane began a discussion of the request she received regarding the spelling of a small village in North Kansas City called Minaville. Jane received a request to change the spelling of the village from Minaville to Minneville and reviewed the Excel database with members showing the sources checked.

Jane then asked Joyce Schumacher to speak to the Board. Joyce let members know she and her sister were raised in Minneville and always knew the spelling to be Minneville. She gave an overview of the history of the various names the village has had over time, presenting members with photos and other documents she used for source materials. Joyce spoke of the town historian and long time resident, Bessie Capps, who spelled the name Minnaville in her 1885 town history. Joyce showed members a photograph of the school in 1913 with the spelling Minaville on the blackboard. She has also found that spelling in newspaper articles. Joyce handed Jane a folder of copies of articles from the Clay County Archives. Lynn Morrow asked Joyce if she has any records from the recorder's office showing property transfers with the town name. Joyce showed Lynn a transcription from a warranty deed showing the name Minnaville. Mike Flowers asked if she had the deed to her parent's property. Joyce said she and her sister have never seen such a document. Joyce passed her source materials around and Lynn found a document from 1893 from the Clay County Court spelling the name Minnaville. Chris Barnett asked Joyce who owns the cemetery. The cemetery is owned by Clay County. Karol told Chris that Minneville is now incorporated into the City of Kansas City. Gordon McCann asked what Kansas City calls that area now. Joyce couldn't answer his question; she doesn't know what it's called other than just Kansas City. Jane asked Joyce if the cemetery is private. Joyce said no, and offered to bring her book on the cemetery from her car which has an ownership print out. Karol mentioned that there is an Indian burial mound in the cemetery, though the identity of the Indian is not known. Jane said that complicates things because the Domestic Names Committee Staff has to contact the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) to see what tribe might have been in the area and what name they want for the cemetery. She said most tribes have no opinion as to a name. Jane said that it could take 2 years before we hear from BIA, they function on tribal time and that's why DNC puts a time limit on any requests presented.

At this time Board members and guests enjoyed a catered buffet lunch by Chez Monet.

Discussion of Minaville vs Minneville resumed and Joyce returned with her Minneville Cemetery book. Mike Flowers mentioned that it could be the Osage tribe and mentioned the Platte Purchase. Walter said in 1809 land was ceded to the Osage. Jane said something to think about is the Missouri River changed course and she has read of their burial mounds being around the hills on the river. John Fischer asked if there was a post office in Lindeman at one time. Joyce said yes, from 1804 to maybe 1901, according to the Stamp Collectors Society. Jane found in Joyce's book that there was a post office there from 1881-1885 showing the spelling as Minaville, then from 1891 to 1909 also spelled Minaville. Jane also found a warranty deed from 1904 showing the name Minnaville. Mike Flowers produced a railroad map from December 24, 1887 of

Lindeman. He also had a surveyor's line map which clearly shows the spelling Minneville, MO. Mike said he also found a station map from 1932 with no mention of Lindeman or Minneville, and he hasn't been able to find subsequent survey descriptions. Mike said 1917 is the earliest line map he found and it shows Minneville.

Walter asked Joyce to resume with cemetery records, so Joyce showed members photos of the cemetery. Jane said the cemetery is owned by Clay County and she will have to contact them to see what name they have for the cemetery. Then she will also contact Kansas City to see if they have an official name for that unincorporated area, which is now incorporated into Kansas City. Gordon asked if the cemetery is registered with Clay County as a cemetery. Jane said yes and Joyce responded that Kenneth Neth at the Clay County Archives said Clay County does own the cemetery. Joyce let members know she has a couple of maps made by Gallup from the late 1900's and a map from the Army Corps of Engineers made in the 1970's showing the town name spelled Minneville. Chris Barnett asked if we are talking about Minaville vs Minneville for the town or the cemetery name. Jane said for the town and the cemetery. Lynn asked if there are artifacts from the mounds. Joyce and Karol are not aware of any. Lynn said it would be good to contact Archeological Survey of Missouri, which has been moved from the University of Missouri to the Center for Archaeological Research, Missouri State University, Springfield, to see if there is any recorded data of artifacts from the area. Walter asked if there are any further questions of Joyce and Karol. With no further questions, Jane said she will contact Archeological Survey in Springfield and added that it will take at least a year before any decision can be made about changing the name of Minaville.

Walter continued with the second item under new business. He told Board members Kurt Durwitz requested a name change from Coleman Hollow to Kuhlman Hollow. Jane said the Perry County Historical Society agrees with the request, that Kuhlman Hollow is the way it should be spelled. Jane has not heard from the county yet regarding the request. Mike Flowers said he searched current survey records regarding the request and found the property in Section 21, 32 and 35, N & E, May 14<sup>th</sup> & 15<sup>th</sup> from 1900. He said there is a four-page survey that was completed for one of the land owners listed as Ebenezer Kuhlman. Mike said that again in 1914 he found Kuhlman as owner of the pieces of land where the hollow is. Jane found the fieldman's notes where he had recorded the name but did not mention that he had asked specifically for a spelling of the name. She felt certain that the fieldman spelled the name the way he heard it pronounced. She said Jerry Vineyard has no problem changing the name, that it could have been a fieldman's mistake. Walter said he feels since Kuhlman owned the land it is a field error in spelling. Jane said there is no evidence from the Historical Society that there were any people living in Perry County or the area named Coleman. Chris asked if MOBGN can make the decision today to change the name. Jane said yes. Walter asked Jane if she thinks DNC wants to keep this as a commemorative name. Jane feels is just a misspelling but wouldn't guarantee how the decision would go. She would have to make it clear in the write-up to the DNC that the MOBGN feels this was a spelling error caused by pronunciation. Walter asked for discussion from the Board. Gordon said if it there had been Coleman's in the area we would have found it. At this time Walter asked for a

motion. Gordon McCann moved to accept Kuhlman as the official spelling for Kuhlman Hollow. Chris Barnett seconded the motion. Motion carried.

### **Continuing Business**

Walter said we are revisiting the McIntire Spring and McIntire Spring House discussion. Jane said Jerry got back to her and the LADD foundation has always known it as Harper Spring. Jane said Jerry feels current owners should have a lot of say in what the name should be and they should have veto power. However, that is not to imply that the LADD Foundation is against the name change as in the e-mail from Jerry he did not say that the LADD foundation was against the name change. Jane said the Board voted to approve the change. Walter asked if we need to vote again to keep our decision to change Harper Spring to McIntire Spring and from Harper Spring House to McIntire Spring House. Ray Fox said he sees no reason to overturn the vote. David Kriegbaum asked if the third name change request would affect the Board's decision. Jane said McIntire Spring House won't go to the BGN because it is an administrative name, but McIntire Spring Branch will because it is a natural feature and an associated name. The BGN may not accept McIntire Spring Branch. Jane said the Board does need to vote on McIntire Spring Branch.

Walter decided to move on to McIntire Spring Branch as a new item. Jane let Board members know that area has no name. Walter asked if the Board is proposing a new name for an unnamed feature. Chris Barnett made the motion to name McIntire Spring Branch for the unnamed stream feature connecting McIntire Spring to Blair Creek. Dave Kriegbaum seconded the motion. Walter asked for discussion and Henry Sweets asked if this decision is contingent on the first two name change requests being accepted. Jane said no, MOBGN had a proponent request the change. David asked if the county has a problem with it and Jane responded that the County approved of the change. Walter called for a vote on the motion. Mike Flowers abstained for lack of knowledge of the subject. Motion carried.

### **Questionable Names**

Jane requested that members contact Robin Worcester for login and password for their web edit work. Chris Barnett asked for clarification of 'island' for a feature no longer evident. Jane asked if the designation is historical. Chris said there are two features in the boot heel, elevated areas called islands. There was some discussion regarding the designation 'island'. Jane said a proponent sent a proposal to BGN requesting designation of the Eastern part of the United States as an island because it is surrounded by water. She said the generic attached to a name doesn't necessarily designate the class.

### **MoDOT Highway Map Discussion**

Jane said she sent 300 names to Arnold Williams to verify. If a name on a published MoDOT map is not correct we need to add it to GNIS as a variant. If the name on MoDOT is correct we need to correct it in GNIS.

Mike Flowers said DNR has the official responsibility for the list of state parks and gave the list to Jane.

## **Reports**

### Report on the Office of Administration's Assessment/Asset Management System

For this report, Gary Claspill introduced Board members to Edwin Bybee, Director of Planning with the Division of Facilities Management, Design and Construction. Gary explained that Ed is in charge of a project to make assessment of all state facilities. Ed needs to determine what the state owns, what it will cost to bring it up to standards, and what will be the value after that is accomplished. Jane asked Ed if he uses the address or coordinates to locate these buildings. Ed said they are using coordinates. He said they have identified 23 million square feet of office buildings, including 50 % of DNR sites. Some of the buildings not in the system already have been added; some buildings in the system were gone – demolished, etc. – and have been taken out.

Ed said they do not have coordinates for all the sites and after some discussion Jane offered to get Gary and Ed in touch with Dwight Hughes in Reston in an effort to make the location task easier for Ed. Jane asked Ed if they know the boundaries of the parks and conservation areas. Ed said not at this time but he would like to be able to see an overall photo of the areas, a view like Google Earth provides. Ray Fox suggested that Ed look at the University system because it already has some location coordinates. Jane and Chris offered to help Ed get his information into GNIS.

### Report on the CARES Grant

Chris Barnett said not much has happened with Missouri names for the past 15 years so information is out of date. He has been working on the list of 409 questionable names Jane provided for MOBGN members, targeting Department of Homeland Security places and Office of Administration buildings. So far he has reviewed 260 names and verified 89 feature classes. He said there are 5 places for which he can't determine the feature class, and 9 he has identified for deletion. Jane asked about the deletions. Chris said that some were names only of grange organizations, with no locations, and others were variants of names already in GNIS. He said a few names were typed incorrectly in Ramsey file names. Chris found some locations with no coordinates, so he added them. Chris mentioned having a list from the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education of school locations from the 2005 school year and he wants to make sure they are all there. Chris added that he wants to submit a list to Dwight in the next couple of weeks and asked members not to enter duplications of school names in GNIS.

Chris said he was able to get a list of 10,000 churches in the State of Missouri and wants to work on those, he feels a lot of them are historic. Jane asked Ray Fox to check on a list of hospitals. Chris also mentioned a list of cemeteries and said he would like a list of conservation lands and DNR park lands. There was some discussion about Federal land



areas and who handles the administration of them. Jay Turner and Russ Mueller offered to get Chris in contact with someone that could help with those areas, and mentioned a database Chris might find helpful. Chris asked Walter for a list of mines in Washington County. Chris said the project ends the end of March 2007.

#### Report on COGNA

Jane reported that the COGNA 2006 meeting in Boulder, Colorado was very interesting. She said the 2007 meeting will be held in Lexington Kentucky on October 1<sup>st</sup> through 6<sup>th</sup> and attendees will be staying at the Ramada in Lexington. Jane said the 2008 COGNA meeting will be in Oklahoma, probably Norman. Ray Fox said the 2009 COGNA is to be in South Carolina, and Jane said they are looking for volunteers for the 2010 COGNA meeting. Ray told Board members there was an excellent talk on surveying the American West and spoke of the efforts the Arapaho Tribe is making in naming features in an effort to preserve their culture.

#### Report on redraft of Chapter 109 – MOBGN status (Executive Order vs statute)

Lynn Morrow reported to the Board on efforts of the Secretary of State's Office to redraft Chapter 109.225, making a statutory change to put the MOBGN under state statute rather than Executive Order. Lynn said Secretary Carnahan agrees SOS should move ahead with the redraft as a decision item. This change would mean that appointments to the Board will be made by the Secretary of State, not the Governor. It will also mean that members can be reimbursed for travel. It will mean MOBGN can potentially get support for conferences, perhaps the 2010 COGNA conference. Lynn said tomorrow morning SOS will present the redraft request to political staff, letting them know this is what we want to do, and they will recommend Democrat and Republican people to support our request.

Walter asked if there is anything Board members can do. Lynn said when we know who the Democrat and Republican sponsors are he will e-mail Jane and she can let members know who they are, then members can work through these sponsors. Ken Fox asked about MOBGN membership saying all he sees is agency representation and asked about the rest of the board. Lynn said there are 9 members at large, that the bylaws indicate 19 members total. Jane said she would recommend there be 10 members at large, for 19 total members, in case a tie vote needs broken. Lynn said he will add the recommendation for 10 members at-large and invited Board members to e-mail suggestions to him. Walter asked who the Board Chairman will be. Lynn said the Secretary of State is the Chairman of any Board under the Secretary of State's Office. Also MOBGN will have to redo their bylaws because, if a bill passes, the Secretary of State will need new by-laws, perhaps in the form of an administrative rule.

#### **Next Meeting Date and Adjournment**

Walter said the next meeting date is to be the 17th of May, the third Thursday. Because that date is not available for JKSIC's Interpretive Center, the room is reserved for

Thursday May 10<sup>th</sup> instead. Walter asked if May 10<sup>th</sup> is okay with members. Because there may be scheduling conflicts for the academics on the Board, it was agreed that if the 10<sup>th</sup> will not work, Jane and agency members will check into having the Board meeting at a different location – perhaps Rolla or an agency conference room somewhere in Jefferson City.

With no further business Walter adjourned the meeting at 2:45 p.m.