



ARIZONA STATE BOARD ON GEOGRAPHIC AND HISTORIC NAMES



KATIE HOBBS
SECRETARY OF STATE

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Tuesday, January 24, 2023

The members of the Arizona State Board on Geographic and Historic Names (“ASBGHN” or “Board”) convened a meeting on January 24, 2023, through Zoom, telephone, or in-person at the Arizona Historical Society, Arizona Heritage Center, 1300 N. College Ave., Tempe, AZ 85288

MINUTES

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 10:02 a.m. by Chair Arthur Pearce.

Roll Call

Present: David Breeckner, Janelle Breedveld, Roland Maldonado, Kevin McHugh, Arthur Pearce, Mark Sanders, and Keith Watkins

Absent: Kathy Ber, Jenna Leveille, Alyssa Foster

Staff: Jane Cadwalader, Amy Chan, Betsy Howard, Nancy Jасulca, Erinn Manning

Approval of Minutes of December 14, 2022 Board Meeting

Motion to approve the December 14, 2022 minutes as written by K. Watkins and seconded by D. Breeckner

Ayes: Breeckner, Breedveld, Maldonado, McHugh, Pearce, Sanders, Watkins

Election of Board Chair and Vice-Chair

According to the bylaws, a chair and vice-chair are elected at the January meeting. Hearing no objections or nominations from the floor, D. Breeckner moved to re-elect the current chair and vice-chair. R. Maldonado and K. McHugh seconded.

Ayes: Breeckner, Breedveld, Maldonado, McHugh, Pearce, Sanders, Watkins

APPROVED

Secretary of State Adrian Fontes

Secretary of State Adrian Fontes was called upon by Chair Pearce to introduce himself. He thanked the Board for the work it does. He recognizes the role of the Secretary's office to support the Board and the work the Board does. He is here to be a partner where necessary, be a promoter where needed, and to stay back out of the way when needed. Secretary Fontes told us a little about himself and his family's lineage.

Dockets for Board Review, Discussion, Public Comment, and Possible Action

Deferred Dockets

Docket 2020-04 *Doubtful Peak*, proposed new name for a geographic feature located in Cochise County. Applicant: H. Bates Estabrooks

A letter of support from Cochise County Board of Supervisors was received. Additional research was provided by Matt O'Donnell from the USBGN, who found a 1917 hydrology report which refers to a feature in the general area as Doubtful Peak. The hydrology report talks about the San Simon water basin. This is a wilderness area and the USBGN tries not to name features in there unless there's a name that has already been used on that feature before.

*Motion to approve Docket 2020-04 made by K. Watkins and seconded by J. Breedveld.
Ayes: Breeckner, Breedveld, Maldonado, McHugh, Pearce, Sanders, Watkins*

APPROVED

Docket 2021-01 *Grand Canyon Junction*, proposed name change of an unincorporated community located in Coconino County. Applicant: Nathan Schott

This was a name change for a census designated place called Valle and is situated between Williams and the Grand Canyon National Park. The proposal received support from the area, Coconino County, and Tusayan. No response has been received from the National Park Service. The USBGN sent the information about the name change to the US Census Bureau for comment. The Census Bureau did review it and currently are not providing a comment. The decision of the ASBGHN will be passed onto the Census Bureau, who will use the information from the Arizona Board and the US Board to make their decision. The City of Williams was contacted and there was no comment.

Within the purview of the Board, the applicant has not met the threshold that this is a historically driven name change.

*Motion to reject Docket 2021-01 was made by K. Watkins and seconded by D. Breeckner.
Ayes: Breeckner, Breedveld, Maldonado, McHugh, Pearce, Sanders, Watkins*

REJECTED

Docket 2021-05 *Porcupine Canyon*, proposed name change for a geographic feature, located in Yavapai County and Docket 2021-06 *Porcupine Mountain*, proposed name changes for a geographic feature, located in Yavapai County. Applicant: Jennifer Touchine and Amanda Benton

Both these dockets were deferred pending the Board's discussion of the term "squaw" now being referred to as "Sq" at its December 14th special meeting. The applications were forwarded to the Board from the USBGN to change the names of two features in Yavapai County. The applicant is asking that the names be changed because of the derogatory Sq term. The names have already been changed at the federal level per Secretary of the Interior's Order 3040, declaring the Sq term derogatory. The proposals

were submitted by the director of Hózhó Life, Inc. on behalf of the Director of Apache Culture at the Yavapai Apache Nation of the Camp Verde Indian Reservation's Cultural Resource Center. The newly proposed name comes from the Dilzhe'e People [also known as the Tonto Apache] who know the mountain as Das Zine Das Dahe, which means "Where The Porcupine Sits" and the People that lived in that area were known to be of the Porcupine Mountain People Clan. The Yavapai Apache Nation Director of Apache Culture has decided on the English version of the name so there will be less resistance from locals and visiting hikers who are unwilling to learn how to pronounce the Apache name."

Motion to approve Docket 2021-05 and Docket 2021-06 was made by D. Breeckner and seconded by R. Maldonado.

Ayes: Breeckner, Breedveld, Maldonado, McHugh, Sanders

Nays: Pearce, Watkins

APPROVED

Docket 2020-06 *Raccoon Bluff*, proposed name change for a geographic feature, located in Maricopa County. Applicant: Tom Torres, Acting Forest Supervisor, Tonto National Forest
This docket was deferred at the October 25, 2022 meeting pending comment from the Maricopa County Board of Supervisors and tribal nations. As of January 19th, comment has been received from Thomas Gavin, District 2 Supervisor in support of changing the name. Pete Martinez, Forest Service Southwestern Region Cartography Unit, sent an excerpt of a newspaper article regarding the origin of the name Coon Bluff. J. Cadwalader read the story to the Board. This area was a favorite camping place for the Boy Scouts and began calling it Coon Camp, Coon's Point, or Coon Bluff. Earl Merrill, columnist for the Mesa Tribune, provided these details in a 1968 story.

The only concern that D. Breeckner had initially when taking this up previously, was the origin of the actual term itself, whether it was described here in the application. If it was an inferred racial epithet, or if it was actually one that has since taken on that life, and based on that story, it does sound as though this was intended to be referring purely to the animal. K. Watkins is in favor of keeping the current name as an historical name. K. McHugh appreciates K. Watkins argument of looking at linguistic history, because words change through time, and they need to change. Language is not dead. Unfortunately, the term has come to be a derogatory word. The Board would like to hear from the Yavapai Apache Tribe and the Salt River Pima-Maricopa Tribe.

A member of the public, commented in favor of changing the feature to Raccoon Bluff. She stated that the current signage of Coon Bluff does not have the story of the origin of its name and thought maybe it could be added.

Motion to defer Docket 2020-06 was made by D. Breeckner and seconded by J. Breedveld.

Ayes: Ayes: Breeckner, Breedveld, Maldonado, McHugh, Pearce, Sanders, Watkins

DEFERRED

New Dockets for Board Review

Docket 2022-01 *La Paz County Sheriff's Sergeant Michael Rudd Memorial Highway*, proposed name change for a highway, located in La Paz County. Applicant: District 2 Supervisor Duce Minor
This is a proposed additional commemorative name which is between Mile Post 0 to Mile Post 71. Currently, this portion of the highway is known as Pearl Harbor Memorial Highway. This would be an additional name. Sheriff Sergeant Michael Rudd was killed in the line of duty October 11, 2021, during pursuit of a fraud suspect on the I-10 around mile marker 37 or 45, depending on reports. A commercial vehicle that was not involved in the pursuit, hit two police vehicles and Sergeant Rudd was fatally injured. He is the first La Paz County officer killed in the line of duty. Supervisor Duce Minor has support from the community, the County, Congressman Paul Gosar, his widow Amanda Rudd, Alberto Gutier, Arizona Governor's Office of Highway, and Legislative District 30 Representative Leo Biasiucci. The Town of Quartzsite and the La Paz County Board of Supervisors each created a Resolution in support for this name. No response from the tribal nations. The mile markers are the width of La Paz County along I-10. M. Sanders noted that ADOT receives requests from ADPS to name roads after fallen officers.

Motion to approve Docket 2022-01 was made by K. Watkins and seconded by K. McHugh.

Ayes: Ayes: Breeckner, Breedveld, Maldonado, McHugh, Sanders, Watkins

Nays: Pearce

APPROVED

With time running out, the Chair deferred Docket 2022-02 *Hamilili Point*, Docket 2022-03 *Hózhó Point*, and Docket 2022-04 *Tatàypi Point* until the next regular meeting of the Board.

Comments from the Public

No members of the public wished to speak.

Upcoming Meeting Date(s)

The Board meetings are scheduled quarterly on the fourth Tuesday in the months of January, April, July, and October. D. Breeckner offered to have future meetings at the Arizona Heritage Center.

The next scheduled meeting of the Board is Tuesday, April 25, 2023 at 10:00 AM. The meeting location will be at the Arizona Heritage Center in Tempe.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned by 11:03 a.m.

Arizona State Board on Geographic and Historic Names
By Arthur L. Pearce, II, Chair