

SOUTH DAKOTA BOARD ON GEOGRAPHIC NAMES  
BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Tuesday, August 27th, 2019

1:30 p.m. (CDT)

Commission Room-Becker Hansen Building, 700 E. Broadway Ave, Pierre SD

Chair Hansen called the meeting to order at 1:35 p.m. CDT.

Board Members Present:

Chairwoman June Hansen – Dept. of Transportation

Vice Chairman Jay Vogt – State Historical Society

Cole Irwin – Dept. of Tourism

Board Secretary:

Alli Moran – Dept. of Tribal Relations ~ recording

Board Members Not Present:

Brian Gustafson – Dept. of Environment & Natural Resources

David Flute – Secretary, Dept. of Tribal Relations

Others Present:

Craig Wagner – City of Hartford (via conference call)

Chairwoman Hansen opened requesting a roll call of members present. Moran conducted a roll call of members, quorum was achieved.

The minutes from the 08.15.2019 Board meeting were read for approval. Vogt moved for approval of meeting minutes for 08.15.2019 meeting, Irwin seconded. All members voted aye, meeting minutes approved as read.

#3 Informational Item: Name Change Request forwarded from USBGN

US Board on Geographic Names contacted Chairwoman Hansen in regard to a Fall River County citizen's request to rename a lake from "Larive" to "Hidden Lake." There is support for the name change. Chairwoman Hansen stated that based on the state law: SDBGN deals with name changes of offensive or insulting features. The proponent of the name change does not fit criteria of the state law. Therefore, the USBGN is moving forward without SDBGN input. Chairwoman Hansen entertained a motion if any Board Member sees the name as obscene or insulting, and any need to obtain public commentary. Vice Chair Vogt asked for clarification of USBGN request and stated that the SDBGN does not need to be involved in the process. Irwin and Chairwoman Hansen concurred. Chairwoman Hansen made the executive decision to not proceed or make recommendations and informed the SDBGN of her decision.

#### #4 Informational Item: COGNA Conference

No report for 2019 COGNA Conference. COGNA did ask for an annual report. SDBGN plans to send a SDBGN Member to the conference next year. Vice Chairman Vogt discussed the benefits of attending the COGNA Conference and the SDBGN will prepare to have a delegate attend next year.

#### #5 Discussion on Unnamed Creek in Minnehaha County

Chairwoman Hansen entertained additional public comment on the feature.

##### Public Comment:

No public comment provided.

##### Board Comment:

No board comment provided. No discussion.

#### #6 Discussion on Unnamed Tributary in Spink County

Chairwoman Hansen discussed supporting documentation from Spink County and the second comment period.

Chairwoman Hansen is compiling a complete list of all SD features with the name "Iron" in their name.

##### Public Comment:

No public comment provided.

##### Board Comment:

No board comment provided. No discussion.

#### #7 Public Involvement Process for Minnehaha County and Spink County Features

Chairwoman Hansen discussed the public involvement process 30-day comment period occurring Friday 08.30.2019 – 09.30.2019, with the board's concurrence of both features, stating that no other names have been received, regardless of informal suggestions in Spink County to the Contact List. Chairwoman Hansen opened discussion on deciding next steps: SDBGN send forth a letter stating "no formal recommendations" to USBGN or hold pending a potential legislative clarification on unnamed features that SDBGN is considering a proposal on. USBGN recommended holding until the ability to make a formal recommendation. If any formal recommendation or public comment is received during the 30-day comment period Chairwoman Hansen will call a meeting.

Vice Chairman Vogt discussed the legislative recommendation process and concurred with USBGN recommendation. Irwin concurred.

Vice Chairman Vogt motioned, to hold forwarding on to USBGN until further direction on how to proceed administratively or via the legislature, Irwin seconded. Chairwoman Hansen discussed speaking to Cabinet Staff regarding the matter and decide which agency will bring forward to the Governor. All members voted aye. No opposition.

#### #8 Discussion – Potential Legislation for 2020 Session

- a. Change Board Membership from “Secretary of Tribal Relations” to “Representative from Department of Tribal Relations” Irwin moved to recommend legislative change for board membership from Secretary of Tribal Relations to Representative from Department of Tribal Relations, Vice Chairman Vogt seconded. Discussion: Vice Chairman Vogt discussed originally the legislation focused on offensive names primarily dealing with American Indian names, it was appropriate at the time to include the Secretary of Tribal Relations to lead the change. All offensive names have been changed. All members voted aye.
- b. Clarification on authority to seek public comment and make recommendation to USBGN on requests to name unnamed geographic feature. Vice Chairman Vogt moved to put forth legislation to seek clarification on the authority to seek public comment and make recommendations on unnamed geographic features, Irwin seconded. Discussion: Chairwoman Hansen discussed the importance of clarification as the SDBGN wants to follow the wishes of the legislature and help the citizens of SD have their voices heard on names for unnamed features. Chairwoman Hansen gave examples of name changes to unnamed features and discussed USBGN and SDBGN procedures. Vice Chairman Vogt discussed clarifying SDBGN role in unnamed features procedure. All members voted aye.
- c. Other Proposed Changes  
Vice Chairman Vogt discussed current legislation 1-19C-5 which lists all the names that SDBGN was instructed to change, he suggested deleting the list, will address in the drafting process as an editorial change.

#### #9 Information Item: Status on deleting SDBGN Website

Chairwoman Hansen reported that the SDBGN website is deleted and gave a public thank you to Ann DeVany at the Department of Tourism. Vice Chairman Vogt asked who will have access to the Boards and Commissions portal, Chairwoman Hansen and Alli Moran will have access.

Public Comment on agenda items or non-agenda items:

No public comment provided.

Other Business:

No other business, the next meeting will be at the call of the chair.

Irwin moved to adjourn, Vice Chairman Vogt seconded. All members voted aye, meeting adjourned at 2:04 p.m.

Recorded by Alli Moran.