

# Minutes of Interim Committee Meeting

Oregon Geographic Names Board

**June 21, 2021**

Oregon Historical Society

A physical meeting of the Interim Committee was held in conjunction with a telephone conference call. Committee Chair Champ Vaughan called the meeting to order at 1:05 PM.

The following members of the Interim Committee were present for the physical meeting: Bruce Fisher (President), Champ Vaughan (Vice-President & Interim Committee Chair), Mary McArthur (Board Member), and Sharon Nesbit (Board Member). Interim Committee members participating by telephone conference call were Mark Flannery (Board Member), Meredith Carine (Advisor - OWRD), Bob Harmon (Advisor - OWRD), and Frank Lahm (Advisor - BLM). Non Interim Committee members participating by telephone conference call were Bob Hart (Board Member), Liz Lorenzen (Board Member), Doug Decker (Board Member), and Tim Nitz (former Board Member and proposed Advisor - National Park Service).

## 1. Proposals for Unnamed Features

**A - South Harney Lake Hot Springs, HARNEY** - proposal withdrawn by the Proponent, Hank Johnson USGS.

**B - Pronghorn Hot Springs, HARNEY.** Proponent: Champ Vaughan OGNB. Submitted as a competing name to South Harney Lake Hot Springs. Committee members voted to submit the proposal to the full board with a recommendation of approval subject to the results of the 60-day period for comments from the tribes.

**C - Knotts Bluff, JACKSON.** Proponent: Alice Knotts. Committee members voted to submit the proposal to the full board with a recommendation of approval subject to identification of the landowner and opportunity for comment.

**D - Fern Creek & South Fork Fern Creek, WASHINGTON.** Proponent: Sara Jesse. Committee members voted to submit the proposal to the full board with a recommendation of approval subject to identification of landowners and opportunity for comment.

**E - Albertson Creek, WASHINGTON.** Proponent: Kevin Albertson. Committee members voted to submit the proposal to the full board without a recommendation.

**F - Otto Creek, WASHINGTON.** Proponents: Nicole Meyer & Amanda Carkner. Committee members voted to submit the proposal to the full board with a recommendation of approval subject to identification of landowners and opportunity for comment.

**G - Roberts Mountain Pass, DOUGLAS.** Proponent: Gary Hatter. Committee members voted to submit the proposal to the full board with a recommendation of approval subject to identification of landowner and opportunity for comment.

**H - Lawanda Hill, KLAMATH.** Proponent: Gavin McKay. Deferred pending required processing steps.

**I - Lark Island**, CLATSOP. Proponent: Andrew Emien. Further action was deferred pending additional information from the Willapa National Wildlife Refuge, which manages the Julia Butler Hansen Refuge adjacent to proposed Lark Island. One day following the committee meeting, Mark Flannery obtained a supportive response from Jackie Ferrier of the Willapa Refuge. President Fisher will likely place Lark Island on the agenda of the next OGNB full board meeting.

## 2. Name Change Proposals

**A - Big Squaw Mountain/Sacagawea Mountain**, DOUGLAS. Proponent: Jennifer Kristiansen. The proposal is rejected because the historic figure Sacagawea has no association with the geographic region involved and a nationally significant name such as Sacagawea is not appropriate for the feature. (GNIS ID 1138084)

**B - Big Squaw Mountain/Ford Mountain**, DOUGLAS. Proponent: County Commissioner Boice. Submitted as a competing name to Sacagawea Mountain. Deferred pending required processing steps. (GNIS ID 1138084)

**C - Big Squaw Mountain/Dumont Butte**, DOUGLAS. Proponent: Jeremy Johnson, Cow Creek Tribe. Submitted as a competing name to Sacagawea Mountain. Deferred pending required processing steps. (GNIS ID 1138084)

**D - Chinaman Hat/Bath Hat**, WASCO, Proponent: Sara Wesserman. Deferred pending consideration of potential competing name proposals and additional contact with proponent and interested parties. (GNIS ID 1118917)

**E - Squaw Mountain/Kailapa Mountain**, JOSEPHINE. Proponent: Bruce Fisher. Although the Committee members voted to submit the proposal to the full board, David Lewis of the Confederated Tribes of the Grand Ronde, via contact after the committee meeting, requested that the proposal be withdrawn to allow further investigation and consideration of more appropriate proposed names. (GNIS ID 1150287)

**F - Squaw Gulch/Waiwee Gulch**, JOSEPHINE. Proponent: Bruce Fisher. Although the Committee members voted to submit the proposal to the full board, David Lewis of the Confederated Tribes of the Grand Ronde, via contact after the committee meeting, requested that the proposal be withdrawn to allow further investigation and consideration of more appropriate proposed names. (GNIS ID 1150275)

**G - Squaw Creek, East Fork, & West Fork/Takelma Creek(s)**, JOSEPHINE: Proponent: Julie Norman. Deferred pending required processing steps. (GNIS ID 1150229, 1154345, & 1154344)

**H - Negro Creek/Freedom Creek**, DOUGLAS. Proponent: Danielle Davis. Deferred pending input from the Oregon Black Pioneers, which is in the process of considering more appropriate replacement names for all features in Oregon with the name "Negro." (GNIS ID 1146759)

## 3. Other Topics and Business

**A** - The Confederated Tribes of the Warm Springs will be the first federally recognized tribes in Oregon to utilize the USBGN's policy to officially select their own official names for features within Indian Reservations. Toto's Meadow and Todo's Creek have been selected.

**B** - Social Media contributors E-Digest, Blog - News stories on OGNB website. Refer to stories posted on the OGNB website and coordinate with President Fisher if you want to submit a story.

**C** - COGNA Conferences in 2021 and 2022 will likely be training Zoom calls only. Wayne Furr is stepping down as COGNA Executive Secretary on June 30, 2021. New Executive Secretary is likely to be Christina Johnson of Nevada. Possible physical COGNA conference planned for Oregon in 2023.

**D** - **Squaw Creek/Taytay** or **Trail Creek** UMATILLA & GRANT will be resubmitted for consideration. (GNIS ID 1150256)

**E** - A physical OGNB full board meeting is being planned for sometime in October 2021. Suggested location is Lane County. More details later.

**Adjourn** (Meeting adjourned at 3:00 PM)

Respectfully Submitted  
Champ Vaughan, Interim Committee Chair