

MINUTES DRAFT
FOR THE MEETING OF THE
HAWAI‘I BOARD ON GEOGRAPHIC NAMES

DATE: May 4, 2022
TIME: 2:00 p.m.
PLACE: Leiopapa A Kamehameha Building
Office of Planning and Sustainable Development
235 S. Beretania Street, 6th Floor Conference Room
Honolulu, Hawai‘i 96813

AGENDA ITEM 1: Call to Order

Mr. Marzan called the meeting to order at 2:09 p.m.

The following were in attendance:

MEMBERS: Marques Marzan (Bishop Museum)
Meyer Cummins (Land Survey Division)
Niniau Kawaihae (Department of Hawaiian Home Lands)
Holly McEldowney (Department of Land and Natural Resources)
Arthur Buto for Mary Alice Evans (Office of Planning and Sustainable
Development)
Keith Gutierrez (Office of Hawaiian Affairs)

ABSENT: Kapā Oliveira (University of Hawai‘i at Mānoa)

GUESTS: Jenny Runyon (US BGN, USGS)
Bobby Camara

AGENDA ITEM 2: Review of Meeting Minutes for December 7, 2021

MOTION: Ms. Kawaihae moved to approve the minutes of December 7, 2021; Ms. McEldowney seconded the motion.

The members present voted unanimously to approve the meeting minutes of December 7, 2021.

AGENDA ITEM 3: Public Comments

Ms. Kawaihae shared her screen displaying the meeting packet while Mr. Buto talked about several email threads from the USGS.

Ms. Runyon sent the US BGN Review List for its meeting which included the names that had been submitted by the National Park Service and approved by HBGN. Other lists included the Action List and Decision List. She explained that the Review List has a case brief for each name proposal received in the preceding quarter. The Action List is a list of

all pending proposals that have not been acted on to date. It also notes decisions that the US BGN has made in the last 12 months. Jenny sends out the Decision List to the state naming authorities showing the decisions that were made at the last US BGN meeting.

Also included are emails from Mr. Bobby Camara and Dr. John Smith.

One of the messages noted that ACUF deferred decision making about changing the name of Lō'ihī to Kama'ehuakanaloa until sometime after Dr. Smith meets with the HBGN. Dr. Smith will be invited to the next meeting of the HBGN. This name is in the Foreign Names database, since it's beyond the 12-mile limit. If ACUF does approve the name change, Lō'ihī would become a variant name.

Also included is a newspaper article noting that several Hawai'i nonprofit organizations received grants to restore traditional place names. Mr. Camara said that the Edith Kanaka'ole Foundation is having a meeting with the HVO Kūpuna group to talk about traditional place names. He will ask them to contact HBGN if appropriate.

No decision making on this item.

Ms. Kawaihae asked that the Board jump to Agenda Item #5 to introduce Mr. Gutierrez.

AGENDA ITEM 5: Introduction of Keith Gutierrez, Office of Hawaiian Affairs (OHA)

Mr. Gutierrez, the Research Program Manager at OHA introduced himself. His resume is included as part of today's meeting packet. The Research Program is involved in land culture history for internal and external support and engagement.

No decision making on this item.

AGENDA ITEM 4: Announcements

Mr. Buto provided a summary of bills in the Legislature that have an impact on HBGN.

SB2026. Board packets shall be provided 48 hours prior to meeting time.

SB3172. Recordings for meetings have to be retained and posted. In the minutes of the meeting timestamp each agenda item.

HB2491. Applies to letterhead for State and county agencies. Agencies need to be consistent in their use of Hawaiian language for words and place names in their letterhead. The bill includes HBGN as a source to be consulted for geographic place names.

A reminder from the State Ethics Commission that the deadline to submit the Financial Disclosure form is by end of May. Mr. Gutierrez asked if the report is different from the initial report he filed prior to joining the Board.

The HBGN meetings are hybrid – Board members can participate remotely; meetings will be recorded; physical meeting space is also provided; in OPSD some COVID protocols are still in place (physical distancing, masking); the building has a security guard downstairs in the lobby – meeting participants will need a government-issued ID. Parking passes are available for Board members attending in-person.

No decision making on this item.

AGENDA ITEM 6: Review and discuss previous HBGN decision on Mauna Kea

The purpose of this agenda item is to provide information to current Board members about HBGN’s decision in 2014 to change the name from **Maunakea** to **Mauna Kea**. Ms. McEldowney is the only current Board member who was a member of the 2014 Board.

Ms. Kawaihae shared that almost 20 years ago she sat on the Native Hawaiian Advisory Council to Office of Maunakea Management at UH Hilo. The decision was made to use Maunakea as one word. Her great grandmother is a Maunakea from ‘Opihikao on the Puna side of the Big Island.

No decision making today, but it could be added to a future agenda for discussion and decision making.

AGENDA ITEM 7: Discussion and decision on Kūkahau‘ula

Continued from last meeting. The meeting packet includes tables that Ms. McEldowney compiled. She researched the pu‘u names at the summit and noted when they came into use. Older names are Kahau‘ula, Lilinoe, and Waiiau. Others came in afterwards, by different people at different times. Mr. Cummins found the same thing looking at historical maps.

Kūkahau‘ula is not in the GNIS as Primary name; it is listed as a Variant name for Pu‘u Wēkiu, and it is misspelled as **Kukahaula**. The item today is to propose a new name applied to the summit area, not just a single pu‘u. The images in the packet show some boundaries drawn around the proposed area.

Ms. McEldowney noted that there are some eruption vents and smaller cones that make up a bigger pu‘u. In the 80’s and 90’s she did field work on the shrines up there and walked from the summit to the 11,000 foot elevation and saw features from a variety of angles. From some perspectives the different vents appeared as one pu‘u, which is why she clustered them together as a single feature. The State Historic Preservation Division (SHPD) assigned a single site number to the multiple vents in the area in a draft Environmental Assessment following Ms. McEldowney’s descriptions.

In 2008 a name application was submitted by Paula Helfrich and Kanoe Sukanuma Wilson. The Board did not make a decision on it.

Ms. McEldowney suggested revising and resubmitting the name application for the current Board’s consideration. Mr. Marzan suggested that Dr. Kimura or a student might be interested in submitting the name application. Mr. Camara volunteered to contact Dr. Kimura and will suggest that he use the existing documentation in the meeting packet to complete the name application form. Helfrich and Wilson proposed Pu‘u Kūkahau‘ula, but is Kūkahau‘ula in SHPD’s site number 21438, as it appears on older maps. Ms. McEldowney can assist with organizing the existing documentation to support the application. The GNIS record requires a latitude and longitude coordinates.

For the newer named pu‘u it was suggested that a comment be added noting the origin and circumstances of the naming.

No naming decision was made.

AGENDA ITEM 8: Discussion and decision on global concatenation

Mr. Buto noted that the green highlighted names on the list were identified at the December 7, 2021 meeting as being straightforward with respect to spelling. No decisions were made at that meeting though because several members were absent.

MOTION: Ms. Kawaihae moved to approve the spelling corrections highlighted on the spreadsheet; Mr. Buto seconded the motion.

Mr. Marzan clarified that the spelling corrections for these highlighted names include both concatenation and the use of diacriticals.

The members present voted unanimously to approve the spelling corrections of the highlighted names on the spreadsheet.

Status Key: 1 = Not Hawaiian; 2 = Not Reviewed; 3 = More Research Needed; 4 = HBGN Corrected; 5 = Already Correct in GNIS; 6 = Name Change							
Stat	Feat ID	Name	Class	Corrected	Source	Notes	USGS Quad
4	363916	Puu Lepo	Summit	Pu‘ulepo	HBGN	PNH: not listed; UHP: Pu‘ulepo	Hawi
4	363917	Puu Lepo	Summit	Pu‘ulepo	HBGN	PNH: not listed; UHP: Pu‘ulepo	Kahuku Ranch
4	363972	Puu Mamo	Summit	Pu‘umamo	HBGN	PNH: not listed; UHP: Pu‘umamo	Hawi
4	363637	Puu o Lani	Summit	Pu‘uolani	HBGN	PNH: not listed; UHP: Pu‘uolani	Hawi
4	364024	Puu Ohia	Summit	Pu‘u‘ōhi‘a	HBGN	PNH: Pu‘u‘ōhi‘a, O‘ahu; UHP: Pu‘u‘ōhi‘a	Kukuihaele
4	364047	Puu Pahoehoe	Summit	Pu‘upāhoehoe	HBGN	PNH: Pāhoehoe not listed as a pu‘u; HBGN: combined, Pu‘upāhoehoe	Pahoa South
4	364095	Puu Uala	Summit	Pu‘u‘uala	HBGN	PNH: not listed; HBGN: combined, Pu‘u‘uala	Kawaihae
4	364097	Puu Uau	Summit	Pu‘u‘ua‘u	HBGN	PNH: Pu‘u‘ua‘u, O‘ahu; HBGN: combined, Pu‘u‘ua‘u, area is noted in Boundary Commission Testimonies as being where birds were hunted	Hawi
4	364099	Puu Ula	Summit	Pu‘u‘ula	HBGN	PNH: Pu‘u‘ula, Moloka‘i; UHP: Pu‘u‘ula	Hawi

AGENDA ITEM 9: Review selected place names on the island of Hawai‘i (Camara)

[Ms. Kawaihae left the meeting at 4:00pm]

Mr. Buto asked if **Waiiau** should have an ‘okina. Mr. Camara called attention to the documentation accompanying Kukahauula. Those maps do not show an ‘okina in the name. There are two distinct features, the lake and the pu‘u, as shown in the maps. Ms. McEldowney noted that the names are in common usage. Mr. Camara noted that the pu‘u feature is already in the GNIS as **Pu‘uwaiau** (concatenated), Feature ID 364115. The spreadsheet entry, Feature ID 364585, is to remove the word “Lake” as a descriptor in the name. Pu‘uwaiau and Lake Waiiau are in the USGS topo map circa 1980. The lake is a more distinctive feature, there are many pu‘u, but not many lakes. The Board was in agreement to remove the word “Lake” from the feature name.

There were no concerns about the corrections for the other three names.

MOTION: Mr. Cummins moved that the Board approve the spelling corrections for the four names on the spreadsheet; Mr. Gutierrez seconded the motion.

Ms. McEldowney noted that we’ll need to let the Natural Area Reserves folks know about the spelling change for their signage and written materials.

The members present voted unanimously to approve the spelling corrections of the highlighted names on the spreadsheet.

Status Key: 1 = Not Hawaiian; 2 = Not Reviewed; 3 = More Research Needed; 4 = HBGN Corrected 5 = Already Correct in GNIS; 6 = Name Change							
Stat	FeatID	Name	Class	Corrected	Source	Notes	USGS Quad
6	364585	Lake Waiiau	Lake	Waiiau	HBGN	Bobby Camara: recommends removing the English word "Lake" from the name and just leaving "Waiiau;" more research needed, 11-16-21; HBGN: based on topo maps and historical maps of the area, the Board is not adding an ‘okina; based on the naming preferences at HVO, the English word "Lake" is being removed from this feature, 05-04-22	Mauna Kea
4	364110	Pu‘u‘ula‘ulua	Summit	Pu‘u‘ula‘ula	PNH	HBGN 11/2012: Pu‘u‘ula‘ula from UHP 4th Ed; PNH: "Pu‘u‘ula‘ula: Cone and rest house at the 10,092-foot level on the trail to the summit of Mauna Loa. Kīlauea qd... Coulter lists places with this name at Humu‘ula, Ka Lae, Keāhole, Pāhala, and Waiki‘i qds., Hawai‘i;" spelled correctly on the map, but incorrectly in GNIS, 11-16-21; HBGN: based on PNH, 05-04-22	Mauna Kea
4	363714	Pu‘uholei	Summit	Pu‘uhōlei	PNH	PNH: Pu‘uhōlei; different quad (Puna qd.), but same spelling, 11-16-21; HBGN: based on PNH, 05-04-22	Mauna Kea
4	366216	Pu‘uwekiu	Summit	Pu‘uwēkiu	HBGN	Promote from variant to primary name, 11-16-21; HBGN: adding the kahakō to the spelling of the name and moving an existing Variant name to the Primary name and vice versa; 05-04-22	Mauna Kea

AGENDA ITEM 10: Establish a regular meeting schedule

The Board members requested sending out a poll by email to find a suitable meeting day/time.

AGENDA ITEM 11: Adjourn

Mr. Marzan adjourned the meeting at 4:10 p.m.