DATE: August 6, 2024
TIME: 2:00 p.m.
PLACE: Leiopapa A Kamehameha Building
             Office of Planning and Sustainable Development
             235 S. Beretania Street, 6th Floor Library
             Honolulu, Hawaiʻi 96813

[0:00:00] AGENDA ITEM 1:   **Call to Order**

Mr. Cummins called the meeting to order at 2:05 p.m.

The following were in attendance:

MEMBERS: Marques Marzan (Bishop Museum) [in-person]
             Holly McEldowney (Department of Land and Natural Resources) [in-person]
             Arthur Buto for Mary Alice Evans (Office of Planning and Sustainable
                 Development) [in-person]
             Meyer Cummins (Land Survey Division) [remote]
             Kapā Oliveira (University of Hawaiʻi at Mānoa) [remote] *left the meeting at
                 2:57pm*
             Lilliane Makaila (Department of Hawaiian Home Lands) [remote]
                 disconnected from the meeting at 2:37 p.m.

ABSENT: Hailama Farden (Office of Hawaiian Affairs)

GUESTS: Jenny Runyon (Staff, US BGN, USGS) [remote]
             Dr. Shellie Zahniser (Executive Secretary, Domestic Names Committee
                 (DNC), US BGN, USGS) [remote]
             Bobby Camara [remote]
             David Fogel [remote]
             Leilani DeMello [remote] *joined at 2:30 p.m.*

[0:01:10]
AGENDA ITEM 2:   **Review of Meeting Minutes for July 2, 2024**

[0:02:00]
MOTION: Mr. Cummins moved to accept the minutes of July 2, 2024. Ms.
Oliveira seconded the motion.

[0:02:18]
*The members present voted unanimously to approve the meeting minutes of July
2, 2024.*

[0:02:25]
AGENDA ITEM 3:   **Public Comments**

   None.

[0:02:40]
AGENDA ITEM 4:   **Announcements**

   None.

[0:02:55]
AGENDA ITEM 5:   **Discussion about the possibility of using Hawaiian terminology instead of English descriptors in feature names and suggesting Hawaiian terminology in the GNIS Feature Class descriptions.**

Mr. Buto included in the meeting packet Ms. Makaila's list of GNIS Feature Classes that contains suggested Hawaiian terms for some descriptions. Mr. Buto clarified that today's discussion not to replace any feature classes in the names of features but is focused on reviewing the descriptions that appear in the GNIS Feature Class definitions.

Mr. Camara added that there is a website (trussell.com) that has a searchable interface to many Hawaiian dictionaries; search for "lake" and entries from different sources will be listed. He noted that the current discussion is to add Hawaiian terms to the Feature Class descriptions in the GNIS and has nothing to do with the Feature Name itself. In the past the Board removed an English descriptor from a feature name, i.e., "Crater" from "Hiʻiaka" and the Hawaiian feature name stands alone. The Hawaiian feature class could be added to the name, e.g., "Lua Hiʻiaka," and the English Feature Class doesn't have to be part of the Feature Name.

He also asked about the process to add these Hawaiian terms to the GNIS Feature Class descriptions. Mr. Buto explained that this is an informal staff-level process; Ms. Runyon asked that the Board send her a comprehensive list of the suggested terms to be added to the Feature Class descriptions rather than sending multiple lists piecemeal.

Mr. Camara suggested that for the Feature Class "Bench" the Hawaiian term "kaulu" (*ledge, step, jog as on a cliff*) be added as an example in the description.

   [0:18:50]
   MOTION: Ms. Makaila moved to accept the list as it is with the additional highlighted terms to be submitted to Ms. Runyon. Mr. Cummins seconded the motion.

   [0:19:30]
   The members present voted unanimously to accept the list as it is with the additional highlighted terms and to send the list to Ms. Runyon.

[0:19:37]
MOTION: Ms. Makaila moved to start a working list of additional Hawaiian terms to add to the GNIS Feature Class descriptions. Mr. Cummins seconded the motion.

[0:20:15]
The members present voted unanimously to start a working list of additional Hawaiian terms to add to the GNIS Feature Class descriptions.

[0:20:42]
AGENDA ITEM 6:   **Discussion and decision on establishing a Permitted Interaction Group (PIG) to research the name of the Island of Hawai'i.**

Ms. Makaila: previous discussions were tabled waiting for more members present. She supports creating a PIG and volunteered to serve.

Ms. Oliveira also volunteered to serve on the PIG.

Mr. Cummins volunteered to serve on the PIG as a mapping resource but does not have to travel.

Mr. Camara questioned the necessity of a PIG. He believes that the initial concerns about changing the name of the island were because the Board's intentions were not known, and he feels that the name "**Hawai'i**" would not be disputed.

Mr. Cummins noted that one purpose of the PIG might be to educate people about the mission of the HBGN. Mr. Marzan's previous experiences serving on PIGs were very different from this issue and from each other – the Maui community supported changing the name of **'Īao Stream** to **Wailuku River**, whereas for **Ahu'ailā'au**, the feature did not have a name and many different names were proposed by the community. In the GNIS for the **Island of Hawai'i**, **Hawai'i** and **Hawai'i Island** are both already listed as variant names. Identifying among those names, which one the majority of the community supports could be part of the decision making.

Ms. Oliveira expressed concern that open-ended discussion of the name of the island could distract from the original purpose of the agenda item, which was to look at it in the context of the official names of the other islands, "**Kaua'i**," "**O'ahu**," "**Maui**," etc.

Ms. Makaila agreed that the intention is to remove "Island of" from the current official name, and the supportive of that would be to include source information…

[0:35:09]
Ms. Makaila's audio and video disconnected.

Mr. Cummins asked if Board members would support changing the name to "**Hawaiʻi**."
The context of the name would be clear enough to differentiate between the State or the
island, and the proposed change is already one of the variant names listed in the GNIS. A
decision could be made expeditiously without expending funds for travel, and prior to
reaching out to the media to better clarify what the HBGN is, what was done in this case,
and why.

Mr. Camara suggested publishing information in OHA's *Ka Wai Ola*. He is working with
Pua Fernandez-Akamine on an article proposing changing the name of the **ʻAilāʻau Flow**
that happened in the 1400s to the **Kualaloa Flow**.

Ms. Runyon asked that if HBGN reaches out to media it stresses that federal agencies must
still use the official name, "**Island of Hawaiʻi**." A proposal to change the official name
could be made to the US BGN; there might be pushback. Ms. Runyon asked Mr. Buto to
research the State's records for documentation about when the name "**Island of Hawaiʻi**"
was approved as a change. She thinks it was circa 2000. The GNIS should reflect the date of
that decision.

Mr. Cummins suggested that rather than establishing a PIG now the Board reach out to
media and/or social media to explain the reasons for this agenda item and the options that
are being considered. If there is significant pushback or concerns, the Board could then
move forward with establishing the PIG with the members who have already volunteered.

> *[0:51:25]*
> **MOTION**: Mr. Cummins moved to not establish a PIG at this time. Ms. Oliveira
> seconded the motion.

> *[0:51:45]*
> *The members present voted unanimously to not establish a PIG at this time.*

[0:52:00]
Ms. Oliveira left the meeting.

Mr. Buto suggested that before the Board puts this item on the agenda, that might be the
time to reach out to the media with information about the HBGN and why this is on the
agenda and other relevant information.

[0:53:50]
AGENDA ITEM 7:   **Discussion and decision on selected feature names on Oʻahu.**

Mr. Camara provided a reprint of Puakea Nogelmeier's report on "**Pūowaina.**" Mr. Buto
suggested that the Board take some time to read through this 90-page report and discuss it at
the next meeting.

Other names on the current list include "**Diamond Head**," "**Aniani Ridge**," "**Api Spring**," and "**Awanui Gulch**."

[1:01:15]
MOTION: Mr. Cummins moved to change the status of "**Aniani Ridge**," "**Api Spring**," and "**Awanui Gulch**" from "3" to "7." Ms. McEldowney seconded the motion.

[1:01:40]
*The members present voted unanimously to change the Status Codes of "**Aniani Ridge**," "**Api Spring**," and "**Awanui Gulch**" from "3" to "7."*

Mr. Buto will send the next portion of the Oʻahu place names to the Board.

AGENDA ITEM 8:   **Adjourn**

At the next meeting, Mr. Buto would like to review the meeting date/time, since it has been difficult in recent months to gather more than just a quorum of the Board for a regular meeting.

[1:03:27]
MOTION: Mr. Buto moved to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Cummins seconded the motion.

[1:03:31]
The members present voted unanimously to adjourn.

Mr. Marzan adjourned the meeting at 3:08 p.m.

Status Key: 1 = Not Hawaiian; 2 = Not Reviewed; 3 = More Research Needed; 4 = HBGN Corrected; 5 = Already Correct in GNIS; 6 = Name Change; 7 = HBGN partial correction, exhausted available references and research resources						
Stat	**Feat ID**	**Feature Name**	**Feature Class**	**Corrected Name**	**Source**	**Notes**	**USGS Quad Name**
7	358606	Aniani Nui Ridge	Ridge	Aniani Nui Ridge	HBGN	PNH: not listed; more research needed; 05-07-2024; HBGN: Registered Map 72 (ca. 1872) shows "Aniani;" online resources Papakilo Database and Ulukau both include records related to "Aniani Nui;" will check nūpepa, 06-04-2024; HBGN: exhausted available reference and research resources, 08-06-2024	Koko Head
7	358618	Api Spring	Spring	Api Spring	HBGN	PNH: not listed; more research needed; 05-07-2024; HBGN: exhausted available reference and research resources, 08-06-2024	Koko Head
7	358648	Awanui Gulch	Valley	Awanui Gulch	HBGN	HBGN: exhausted available reference and research resources, 08-06-2024	Ewa