Minutes Washington State Committee on Geographic Names

January 19, 2023

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT

Sara Palmer – Chair
Mary Schaff – WA State Library Representative
Dr. Allyson Brooks – Dept. of Archaeology and Historic Preservation
Mike Iyall – Tribal Representative
Putnam Barber – Public Member
Dean Foster - Public Member
Dr. Grant Smith – Public Member

STAFF PRESENT

Caleb Maki

AUDIENCE PRESENT

Laura Price
Allie Taylor
Crystal Miller
Misty Ives
Debby Haase
Akuyea Karen Vargas
Kenny Ocker
Patricia Earnest
Matthew O'Donnell
Guy Moura
Mat Jackmond

1		Washington State Committee on Geographic Names
2		January 19, 2023 - 10:00am
3		Room 172 - Natural Resources Building
4		1111 Washington St. SE, Olympia, WA 98504
5		(360) 902-1000
6		(500)/01 2000
7		Agenda
8		<u> </u>
9	A.	CALL TO ORDER
10		
11	В.	APPROVAL OF MINUTES
12	C	NAMES FOR FINAL CONCIDERATION
13 14	C.	NAMES FOR FINAL CONSIDERATION Mason County
15		Nathaniel Sargent Lake – Name Change - APPROVED
16		Rodney White Slough – New Name - APPROVED
17		•
18	D.	SQ REPLACEMENT NAMES FOR FINAL CONSIDERATION
19		Garfield County
20		South Tucannon Spring - APPROVED
21 22		Okanogan County
23		Gooseberry Creek - APPROVED
24		000000000000000000000000000000000000000
25	E.	SQ REPLACEMENT NAMES DEFERRED FOR INITIAL CONSIDERATION
26		Chelan County
27		Masawii Lake – DEFERRED
28 29		Wowpu-tushwa – DEFERRED
29 30		Kittitas County
31		Cle Elum Tarn – DEFERRED
32		Nosh Nosh Wahtum – DEFERRED
33		
34		Okanogan County
35 36		Black Canyon Ridge – DEFERRED Swaram Creek Ridge – DEFERRED
37		Mokeihl – DEFERRED
38		WORCHI DEI ERRED
39	F.	NAMES DEFERRED FOR INITIAL CONSIDERATION
40		Jefferson County
41		Kilisut Passage – New Name - DENIED
42 42		Passage through – New Name – APPROVED FOR FINAL
43 44	G.	NAMES FOR INITIAL CONSIDERATION
44 45	G.	NAMES FOR INITIAL CONSIDERATION Thurston County
46		Hopkins Ditch - New Name – APPROVED FOR FINAL
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1 Q	П	ADIOHDNMENT

CALL TO ORDER

- 2 The Chair of the Committee Sara Palmer called the meeting to order at 10:07am. All of the
- 3 Committee members introduced themselves.

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SAFETY REVIEW

6 Committee staff gave a safety overview and instructions on evacuating the building in case of an emergency.

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APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- 10 Chair Sara Palmer called for approval of the minutes for the October 25, 2022 Committee on
- 11 Geographic Names Meeting.

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13 MOITION: Mike Iyall moved to approve the minutes.

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15 SECOND: Dr. Grant Smith seconded the motion.

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17 ACTION: The motion was approved unanimously.

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19 PUBLIC COMMENT FOR NATHANIEL SARGENT LAKE

- 20 Debby Haase asked to speak in support of Rodney White Slough, but said she supported this
- 21 proposal as well.

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NATHANIEL SARGENT LAKE FINAL CONSIDERATION (Action Item)

- 24 Chair Sara Palmer informed the Committee that additional letters of support were received just
- 25 days prior, and that the Committee members should have a copy.

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- 27 Mike Iyall thanked the community for their comments of support, and made a motion to approve
- 28 the proposed name.

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30 MOTION: Mike Iyall moved to approve the name Nathaniel Sargent Lake.

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32 SECOND: Dr. Allyson Brooks seconded the motion.

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- 34 ACTION: The motion was approved unanimously to send Nathaniel Sargent Lake to the Board on
- 35 Geographic Names with the Committee's recommendation to approve.

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PUBLIC COMMENT FOR RODNEY WHITE SLOUGH

- 38 Debby Haase said that she appreciates that these proposals are being considered to repair racial
- 39 harm that happened, and continues to happen. Debby Haase said that this is one step in repairing
- 40 harm that has happened for a long time, and she really hopes that these changes are made as well
- as genuine apologies made for the wrongs that have been done.

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RODNEY WHITE SLOUGH FINAL CONSIDERATION (Action Item)

44 After hearing the public comment, Mike Iyall made a motion to approve the proposed name.

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46 MOTION: Mike Iyall moved to approve the name Rodney White Slough.

SECOND: Dr. Grant Smith seconded the motion. 2

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4 ACTION: The motion was approved unanimously to send Rodney White Slough to the Board on Geographic Names with the Committee's recommendation to approve. 5

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- After the motion was approved, Chair Sara Palmer thanked the proponents and the Living Arch 7
- Cultural Heritage Project for all the work that was done to bring these proposals in front of the 8
- Committee. Chair Sara Palmer said that proposals such as these are exactly what the Committee
- likes to see, and said that hopefully the Committee receives more proposals like these in the future. 10

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PUBLIC COMMENT FOR SOUTH TUCANNON SPRING

Guy Moura, representing the Confederated Tribes of the Colville Reservation, told the Committee 13 that he is fine with "South Tucannon Spring" or "Tucannon Spring". 14

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SOUTH TUCANNON SPRING FINAL CONSIDERATION (Action Item)

- Mary Schaff said that she assumes this was changed because of another nearby Tucannon Springs. 17
- Staff said that this was the case, so the DOI task force added "South" to the name. 18

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20 MOTION: Mike Iyall thanked the community and moved to approve the name South Tucannon

Spring. 21

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SECOND: Dr. Allyson Brooks seconded the motion. 23

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- ACTION: Before voting, Dean Foster asked if other Tribal Governments were in agreement to this 25
- 26 proposed name. Chair Sara Palmer said she was unaware of any disagreement between Tribal
- Governments. The motion was approved unanimously to send South Tucannon Spring to the Board 27
- on Geographic Names with the Committee's recommendation to approve. 28

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PUBLIC COMMENT FOR GOOSEBERRY CREEK

- Guy Moura, representing the Confederated Tribes of the Colville Reservation, told the Committee 31
- that the Tribe did not have a particular traditional concern with "West Fork Frosty Creek" or 32
- "Gooseberry Creek". 33

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GOOSEBERRY CREEK FINAL CONSIDERATION (Action Item)

Chair Sara Palmer said these two proposals will bring the WA Committee on Geographic names 36 in line with the names approved by the U.S. Board on Geographic Names. 37

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39 MOTION: Mike Iyall thanked the community and moved to approve the name Gooseberry Creek.

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SECOND: Dr. Grant Smith seconded the motion. 41

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- 43 ACTION: During the motion, Mary Schaff asked staff if there were any other Gooseberry Creeks
- in WA. Staff said that there is a Gooseberry Flats in the area. The motion was approved 44
- unanimously to send Gooseberry Creek to the Board on Geographic Names with the Committee's 45
- recommendation to approve. 46

1 After the motion was approved, Chair Sara Palmer thanked the Tribes for their work on these proposals.

PROPOSALS RELATED TO U.S. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR'S SECRETERIAL ORDER 3404

- Masawii Lake
- Wowpu-tushwa

- Cle Elum Tarn
- Nosh Nosh Wahtum

- Black Canyon Ridge
- Swaram Creek Ridge
- Mokeihl

Chair Sara Palmer gave an overview of the progress of the names relating to SO 3404. Chair Sara Palmer said that the Committee had deferred these names at the prior meeting to provide an opportunity for the Confederated Tribes of the Colville Reservation and the Confederated Tribes and Bands of the Yakama Nation to have a discussion concerning these proposals.

Guy Moura, representing the Confederated Tribes of the Colville Reservation, said that there were some technical level contact between the Tribes, but they never agreed on one name for each feature. Guy Moura said that after last meeting when the Committee asked the Tribes if an agreement could be reached, the Committee's comments were forwarded to the Confederated Tribes of the Colville Reservation Council. Guy Moura said that to the best of his knowledge, a response has not been sent back to the Committee on Geographic Names.

Chair Sara Palmer said that she was glad to hear those conversations were ongoing, but because no response has been received suggested that the Committee should defer these names to allow an agreement to be reached. Chair Sara Palmer said to the Committee that perhaps these names could be placed on a long term deferred status list that the Committee could revisit if an agreement was made. Chair Sara Palmer said that currently these features have a name approved by the DOI SO 3404 task force, so she suggested that the Committee on Geographic Names places these in a long term deferred status.

Putnam Barber asked Chair Sara Palmer if he could see a list of the name chosen for each feature by the DOI SO 3404 task force. Staff showed a list of the proposed names, and the names that were selected by the task force.

Mike Iyall said that the Committee should start a deferred action list because in naming these places, the Committee should get it right and there is no rush. Mike Iyall said that the Tribes will have their own considerations, and the Committee should listen to each proponent and then make a decision when the Committee has that opportunity.

Mary Schaff said that she likes the idea of formalizing a list so that the Committee does not allow these proposals to be forgotten. Mary Schaff said that she is hesitant to place a timeline on these proposals, but that there should be a formality that allows the Committee to revisit these issues.

Putnam Barber said that the names could be on the agenda as a list that the Committee could revisit when more information is available, and Chair Sara Palmer said that should be achievable administratively, and she wants to be respectful of the Tribes as they have conversations and not have anyone feel rushed.

Dean Foster asked Chair Sara Palmer to clarify that these names would be on a list that the Committee would see at each meeting. Putnam Barber said that this was his suggestion. Mike Iyall said that creating a new category is necessary because these names came to the Committee under unique circumstances where an offensive name was replaced with a placeholder name and it would be better to have a local community propose a traditional name.

Dr. Allyson Brooks suggested that the list be called "Extended Deliberation" to show that there is still work being done on these names, but the Committee is not ready to make a decision until cultural groups come up with an agreement.

Guy Moura said that the desire of the Confederated Tribes of the Colville Reservation was to see these offensive names changed, and the Tribe has specific recommendations that was formalized in a letter that has never been rescinded. Guy Moura said that the Tribal Historic Preservation Officer has authority to speak on behalf of the Tribe when it comes to cultural matters, and in this instance the Tribe has responded with their preferred names.

Guy Moura said that deferring these proposals until the Confederated Tribes of the Colville Reservation and the Confederated Tribes and Bands of the Yakama Nation reach an agreement may be a very indefinite period, and one subject to review and decision in the future.

Guy Moura said that the compromise was that the Confederated Tribes of the Colville Reservation technical team notiefied the Confederated Tribes and Bands of the Yakama Nation that Masawii Lake was the preferred name, as was Swaram Creek Ridge. Guy Moura said that the Confederated Tribes of the Colville Reservation would defer to Confederated Tribes and Bands of the Yakama nation for the feature in Kittitas County. Guy Moura pointed out the rationales for the chosen names submitted by the Confederated Tribes of the Colville Reservation that were submitted, and he did not see rationales submitted by other Tribes and individuals proposing names. Guy Moura said they were very specific in noting where the information came from and whether the feature was in active use by Tribal membership, and would appreciate if that could be taken into consideration.

Guy Moura said that the ridge in Chelan County is not in the ceded lands of the Yakama Nation, and that the Confederated Tribes of the Colville Reservation spent considerable time and effort on changing the nearby creek from Sq___ Creek to Swaram Creek several years ago, and that was from a Methow Tribal Elder. Guy Moura said he respects the Committee, but the Confederated Tribes of the Colville Reservation has a strong interest in moving forward now with the names proposed.

Chair Sara Palmer asked Guy Moura to clarify that the Confederated Tribes of the Colville Reservation would be willing to go with the proposed name by the Confederated Tribes and Bands

of the Yakama Nation for the feature in Kittitas County. Guy Moura said that the Confederated Tribes of the Colville Reservation would not be open to that idea if the other two names proposed

by the Confederated Tribes of the Colville Reservation were deferred.

Mike Iyall said that this is a difficult decision, as there shouldn't be an Olympia decision for local matters. Mike Iyall said that the Committee should not impose their will on a local issue. Mike Iyall said he has represented his Tribe on different issues, and does not think outsiders should resolve a local issue.

Dr. Allyson Brooks said that this appears like the U.S. Board has made a decision, and that the WA Board is following along. Dr. Allyson Brooks asked how does having two names affect mapping efforts when the Federal and State Boards are in disagreement.

14 Chair Sara Palmer said that because of the locations and modern mapping systems, this shouldn't 15 be as big of an issue as it was in the past. Dr. Allyson Brooks asked what would happen if the 16 Committee agreed to names not chosen by the U.S. Board, and if the WA Board would forward 17 their decisions to the U.S. Board.

19 Chair Sara Palmer said that was the intent, and said that was just what the WA Board did when 20 they approved several names at their prior meeting.

Mary Schaff said that the U.S. Board has not given the state any doubt that they would not go along with that process, and appreciates that Mike Iyall said the there is no Olympia solution as there is not a Washington D.C. solution either. Mary Schaff said that all involved should trust that we are all working towards the same goal, and does not think the U.S. Board has any bias and would reject WA recommendations.

Mike Iyall said that the Committee are outsiders, and it would be wrong to impose their will. Mike Iyall said that the Committee is responsible to act when a strong message is sent by the community.

Dr. Grant Smith said that the principle the Committee adheres to is predominant local usage, and when there are conflicting proposals the interests of the local community dominates. Dr. Grant Smith said that it is the Committee's responsibility to make a choice, and that choice should reflect the local community. Dr. Grant Smith said that in this case, the Committee is asking two Tribes to make a choice for the local area, and that the Committee does have to act eventually. Dr. Grant Smith said he has reservations to placing these names in an inactive status, as the Committee eventually has to decide.

Dean Foster said he agrees with Mike Iyall's recommendation, and that Committee should listen carefully to Guy Moura and the frustration with this process. Dean Foster said that the Committee is doing a balancing act here, and that the lack of response from the Confederated Tribes and Bands of the Yakama Nation should not be seen as a veto. Dean Foster said that he believes in giving the Tribes one more meeting to allow the Yakama Nation time to respond.

Dr. Grant Smith agreed to give the Tribes on more meeting to reach an agreement, but said the Committee would have to make a decision at that time.

PROPOSALS RELATED TO U.S. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR'S SECRETERIAL ORDER 3404 (Action Item)

- Masawii Lake
- Wowpu-tushwa

- Cle Elum Tarn
- Nosh Nosh Wahtum

- Black Canyon Ridge
- Swaram Creek Ridge
- Mokeihl

MOTION: Dr. Allyson Brooks moved to defer the names until next Committee meeting.

SECOND: Mike Iyall seconded the motion.

ACTION: The motion was approved unanimously to defer the names until next Committee meeting. Mary Schaff said that she would like to go back to Dean Foster's comment on the frustration felt by Guy Moura. Mary Schaff said that the frustration is not unique to the work that the Tribes have been doing, saying that since she has been on the Committee there have been several proposals where members of the public were frustrated with the process and how long it can take. Mary Schaff said that the Committee is doing their best to make considered decisions and that it is the right decision, but that the Committee should be considerate of the proponent's time.

PUBLIC COMMENT FOR PASSAGE THROUGH

Misty Ives, the Tribal Historic Preservation Officer for the Port Gamble S'Klallam Tribe, thanked the Committee for allowing time to bring this proposal forward and asked staff to update the original application form with the correct contact information.

Misty Ives said there have been conversations since the original application was submitted, and as we build and gain strength as people part of that strength revolves around geographical landscapes and their importance to the Tribe. Misty Ives said that the passage being talked about today is very important to the Port Gamble S'Klallam Tribe as there is written history that talks about this feature being a passage through. Misty Ives said that in some of the stories she has heard was that due to strong winds in the area, the passage was a protecting place where the people could go through and wait the wind out saving them not having to paddle around the whole land mass.

Misty Ives said that due to development in the area, this feature was closed off until the S'Klallam Tribes acquired funding and opened the passage to Oak Bay. Misty Ives said this act speaks high volume to how important this feature is to the Tribes. Misty Ives said that she is aware of the issue with the characters used to spell the proposed name, and if that would lead to the proposal not being approved, the Port Gamble S'Klallam Tribe will propose "Passage Through" which is a literal translation of scloq^w. Misty Ives said that if the Tribe cannot use the traditional name, there have been conversations about including signage and information on the traditional spelling.

Misty Ives said that after the passage was open, there was a canoe journey that went through the passage and it was healing to bring the canoes through the passage for the first time in 80 years.

Laura Price said that she agree with Misty Ives, and offered to share her computer screen to show a photo of the canoe journey taken as the canoe went through the passage.

Chair Sara Palmer thanked the proponent for their work on bringing this proposal forward. Misty Ives said she thanks Ally Taylor for bringing this forward and carrying the torch.

Mary Schaff thanked the proponent, and asked to clarify that if the proponent would be changing their proposed name to "passage through". Misty Ives said yes, and that the Tribes would have signage and other information about the history and traditional spelling of the feature and the cultural importance to the Tribes.

Mike Iyall thanked the proponent for giving the Committee some flexibility in proposing a name using a different character set. Mike Iyall gave an example of a Cowlitz trail that ran from Tumwater to Vancouver, and depending on your mode of travel or members in your party, the route might change. Mike Iyall said that with this passage, there would be times a larger canoe could not go through, while a smaller canoe could navigate the feature.

Laura Price said that while they were thinking of the name, the spelling of scłoq^w was preferred, but if there was a way of using the common meaning of the name that would be appropriate. Laura Price said that the canoe journey was a healing event, and would send the photo to Committee staff.

Sara Palmer said that the Committee has to work with the constraints of using the Roman language, but within those constraints the Committee should defer to the individual Tribes preference in spelling. Chair Sara Palmer thanked the proponents for sharing today and said that the cultural work being done is very important.

Laura Price shared a photo of the canoe journey with the Committee and talked about the ceremony held at the feature during the journey. The Committee members thanked the proponent for the sharing the photo and Chair Sara Palmer asked for a motion.

PASSAGE THROUGH FINAL CONSIDERATION (Action Item)

Dr. Grant Smith asked if the Committee could proceed without having to redo the application, or just update the proposal to Passage Through. Chair Sara Palmer said that she is comfortable with moving forward with the new proposed name.

Matthew O'Donnell, representing the U.S. Board on Geographic Names said that the U.S. BGN can likely work with the name scłəqw using Unicode characters, and wanted to know if WA has to use ASCII characters. Matthew O'Donnell said that he wanted everyone to know that the U.S. BGN was not holding this proposal up because of the character sets used for the proposed name.

46 Mathew O'Donnell clarified to staff that if a character appears in the U.S. BGN's Appendix G, it

1 can be used to spell a feature name. Mary Schaff said that if that is the case, can WA approve the

- 2 name scloqw and the U.S. Board would approve the name as well? Mathew O'Donnell said he
- 3 cannot speak for the U.S. Board members, but this might be the case.

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- 5 Mike Iyall said that the Tribes might be able to request a change to the wording in the current
- 6 WAC that would allow non-ASCII character sets. Chair Sara Palmer said that changing the WAC
- 7 would not be possible through an administrative action. Chair Sara Palmer suggested to the
- 8 Committee that they approve the name Passage Through today, and before the next meeting
- 9 Committee members and interested parties can pursue changing the allowable character sets.

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- 11 Dr. Allyson Brooks cautioned against lobbying, as she and others on the Committee are state
- 12 employees. Chair Sara Palmer agreed, and said staff would look into it more. Mike Iyall said that
- 13 we are in new ground on these proposals, and new solutions might be needed. Dr. Allyson Brooks
- suggested that the Committee talk with the WA Attorney General's Office for clarification.

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- 16 Mike Iyall said that the Committee should consider that the proposed name scləqw was used by the
- original inhabitants, and got lost over time.

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19 MOTION: Putnam Barber moved to approve the name Passage Through.

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21 SECOND: Mike Iyall seconded the motion.

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- 23 ACTION: The motion was approved unanimously to approve Passage Through for Final
- 24 Consideration.

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- PUBLIC COMMENT FOR KILISUT PASSAGE
- 27 None

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KILISUT PASSAGE FINAL CONSIDERATION (Action Item)

Following the discussion for Passage Through, the Committee made a motion to deny the competing proposal Kilisut Passage.

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33 MOTION: Mike Iyall moved to deny the name Kilisut Passage.

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- 35 SECOND: Putnam Barber seconded the motion. During discussion of the motion, Mary Schaff
- said she wanted to thank the proponent for her time, and recognized that the proponent felt strongly
- 37 about the proposal. Mary Schaff said she thought that if the Tribes did not have a strong interest
- in this feature, the Committee might have approved Kilisut Passage.

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- 40 ACTION: The motion was approved unanimously to deny the name Kilisut Passage. Putnam
- Barber asked staff to express the Committee's comments when informing the proponent why the
- 42 name was denied.

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Following the motion, Chair Sara Palmer asked if the Committee could table the discussion of character sets until a future date.

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MOTION: Mike Iyall moved to table the discussion on character sets.

SECOND: Dr. Allyson Brooks seconded the motion.

ACTION: The motion was approved unanimously to table the discussion of character sets. Mary Schaff said that like the discussion earlier about proponent's time, the Committee would like to see this resolved but do not have a definite time line. Laura Price thanked the Committee and said that we are in a new age of recognition. Akuyea Karen Vargas, the proponent for Rodney White Slough and Nathaniel Sargent Lake, said that she appreciates all the groups bringing forward these issues.

PUBLIC COMMENT FOR HOPKINS DITCH

Mat Jackmond, the proponent, said that he hopes his proposal is a simple fix. Mat Jackmond said that he is Chair of Hopkins Drainage Ditch District #2 in Thurston County that has existed since 1902, and actually owns the drainage ditch and is responsible for maintaining storm water runoff through the ditch. Mat Jackmond submitted a document from 1878 that lists the viewers tasked by the Thurston County Commissioners to find this ditch and referenced a map showing the feature as a man-made ditch. Mat Jackmond said that the Thurston County GIS showed the feature as a ditch for over 20 years on their maps until a new manager wanted the names to match the Federal names database which shows the feature as part of Salmon Creek. When the maps changed at the county level, Mat Jackmond said that led to confusion as the maps show the ditch as part of Salmon Creek on digital devices. Mat Jackmond said that he hopes this proposal makes it clear that this feature is a ditch and not part of Salmon Creek. Mat Jackmond said that the landowners know the feature as a ditch and the feature has always been known as a ditch since his time as chair.

Mike Iyall asked if the proponent know the origins of the Hopkins name. Mat Jackmond said he was not sure, but it appears on documents in 1878 and may have referenced a landowner in the area. Mike Iyall said that we all win when there is not flooding, and Mike Iyall thank Mat Jackmond. Mat Jackmond said that due to the incorrect maps, people think this is a fish bearing stream and not a ditch. Mat Jackmond said that in January, the area flooded and the ditch did serve its purpose.

Mary Schaff asked staff if there are other ditch features in WA. Staff said there were, and often referred to as canals. Mat Jackmond said that he hopes if this proposal is approved, the correct location of Salmon Creek can be updated.

MOTION: Dr. Grant Smith moved to approve the name Hopkins Ditch.

39 SECOND: Mike Iyall seconded the motion.

41 ACTION: The motion was approved unanimously to approve Hopkins Ditch for Final Consideration.

COMMITTEE BUSINESS

Chair Sara Palmer updated the Committee on the process of getting funding for outreach concerning derogatory names. Chair Sara Palmer said that she did not see it in the budget, and

- 1 does not believe that the Committee will get funding, but Chair Sara Palmer said she will keep
- 2 looking into the issue.

4 ADJOURNMENT

5 The meeting was adjourned at 11:38 am.