

Meeting Minutes
Burial Preservation Board
May 23, 2014
10:00 AM – 2:00 PM
Working Lunch
State Capitol Building
Room 317
1301 East Sixth Avenue
Helena, MT 59601

Present: Skye Gilham, Ruby Stump, Videll Stump, Sr., Rosemary Caye, Marilyn Silva, Dr. Stan Wilmoth, Dr. Ruthann Knudson, John Murray, Mike Manion, Steve Platt, Robert Four Star, Dr. Sarah Anzick, Jason Smith, Dr. Shane Doyle, Stockey White, Patricia Hewankorn, Natalie Storey with the Livingston Enterprise, and Monica Abbott

1. Call meeting to order: *John Murray, Vice Chair 10:05*
John called the meeting to order at 10:05.

2. Introductions and opening prayer

John gave the opening prayer following with introductions of all attending.

3. ***Action Item*:** Approve June 21, 2013 Meeting Minutes
Dr. Ruthann Knudson offered a motion to approve minutes from June 21, which was seconded by Robert Four Star. The motion passed unanimously.

4. Elections: *Mike Manion*

Mike identified the members of the board. He recommended how the elections would proceed.

Chair nominations: Marilyn Silva nominated Rosemary Caye, who recused herself. Marilyn nominated Ruthann. Robert nominated Marilyn. Nominations were closed; a paper ballot vote was cast. The outcome was a tie vote. Marilyn conceded to Ruthann. Vice Chair nominations: Robert nominated Marilyn. Videll closed nominations; Marilyn was approved as Vice- Chair.

After the elections Ruthann presided over the remainder of the meeting.

5. Anzick Remains: *Dr. Ruthann Knudson*

Guests Dr. Sarah Anzick and Dr. Shane Doyle were introduced to the members of the board.

Ruthann who has been involved since 1968, reported on the background of the Anzick burial remains. She also gave her background with repatriation and reburial. Private landowners are only responsible to contact the coroner when human remains are found on their land.

The Montana repatriation law was law in 2001. The Montana human remains law was passed in 1991, but this law is not retroactive.

The statutes apply to state and private land. Under the Repatriation Act, a person would have to make a claim and if there is a dispute, then the board will have to hire a hearing examiner. The board can accept or reject and modify results of the hearing.

6. Discuss Dr. Larry Lahren questions

Ruthann helped Mike check records regarding the questions that were submitted by Dr. Larry Lahren through his lawyer. To begin answering the questions, Ruthann asked Sarah to speak to the board about the remains.

Sarah related that the remains were out of her family's possession for many years. There are two sets of remains, which are very fragmentary. Dr. Dee Taylor of the University of Montana Department of Anthropology had the Anzick human remains in the Department until his death in 1991, and they subsequently were in the possession of his son, Mark Taylor. In 1999 Mark Taylor returned the remains to the Anzick family.

Ruthann described how the remains were found. Sarah mentioned she always felt protective and respectful of the remains.

Many of the board members from the tribes spoke about their respect for remains and the traditions and beliefs of their cultures regarding remains.

Sarah told how the remains were found when she was two years old. The artifacts found at the same time are on display at MHS. This was a significant find because of the age of the remains, almost 13,000 years old. Sarah's background is in genetics and she worked on the human genome project. In 2000, she visited two tribes to ask their perspective on studying the remains. In 2010 Sarah had the Center for GeoGenetics. Natural History Museum of Denmark, University of Copenhagen to have them tested. She worked with the Center on the analysis. The Clovis child is equally related to all Native Americans. Sarah wants to rebury the remains.

There was discussion about a proposed time capsule. After the discussion, it was decided to not have a time capsule.

Shane spoke about visiting the site. He met Dr. Eske Willerslev of the Center for GeoGenetics

and found out that the boy was related to 80% of Native Americans. Shane spoke with Crow Elders and Conrad Fisher from Northern Cheyenne. Conrad suggested the Crow should take the lead. Shane supports reburying and mentioned they would like to do in June. Shane said a location has been chosen and the remains will be reburied near where they were found. The Crow Nation will perform the reburial ceremony.

Sarah would like to keep a portion of the remains for study. She asked if there could be a mechanism for a tribe to protect and keep a small portion for future study.

There was discussion by the tribal members over the burial of all of the remains. The board is advising Sarah but she wants to be respectful of the wishes of the board.

*There was a break for lunch at noon. The meeting reconvened at 1:10 p.m.

Shane told about plans for ceremony and not to let it become a spectacle. There was discussion of alternative locations. Sarah wants to be respectful of the tribes and nations. It was noted that not everyone will be happy with decision but it is up to Sarah. These remains are known throughout the world. The remains will need to be protected so they are not disturbed.

The board discussed questions in the letter and asked about the intent of the questions. Ruthann has sent every email to Larry regarding the remains.

The board recognizes all of Larry's work. Sarah mentioned that he does not want to be associated with the remains.

It was suggested that the board review his information and get back to him with answers. There was a motion by Marilyn to review documents and meet June 20. Mike will send a

letter stating the board requests more time. The motion was seconded by Skye and passed unanimously.

7. New case remains: *Stan Wilmoth*

- Human teeth from Park County were turned in to Stan's office from Dr. Larry Lahren. These were surface finds by Strickley Creek. Rosemary asked if Mike could send a letter to Larry requesting additional documentation for what he sent to Stan.
- An anonymous package arrived from Crow Reservation near Pass Creek containing old beads floral designs on metal wire. Rosemary suggested it would be NAGPRA and to talk to George Reed about these. Stan will contact George. Roberta Fitch is the NAGPRA contact at Crow Nation.
- Stan received a phone call regarding a skull found in 1969 near Harlowton in a field. It was given to a dentist. Skye Gilham, John Murray, and Stan will rebury it on property owned by the Derosier family.
- Anonymous box arrived which included a skull found on trips. The grandmother was a teacher of biology and had it on her desk. It is from the Havre area. Morris will rebury it.
- There was a discovery of remains on the Chevalier ranch in Silver Creek while digging in shale rock with a front-end loader. The landowner called the sheriff who sent it to the crime lab and it was then sent to Stan. John, Skye and Stan will rebury with other remains on the Derosier family property.

8. Old and new business

Morris Belgard made a motion to purchase a copy of the Paleo American Clovis Odyssey book, which was seconded by Morris. The motion passed unanimously.

John made a motion to purchase the Larry Lahren Homeland book and Montana Before history by Doug MacDonald, which Morris seconded. The motion passed unanimously. Ruthann said she would contact Doug MacDonald asking if he would donate a copy of his book for the board.

9. Other business

Rosemary asked about the status of the UOM final NAGPRA compliance report.

The Pictograph remains are segregated from other remains.

John offered a motion to adjourn with Morris seconding the motion. The meeting adjourned at 2:53 p.m.

10. Next meeting: The next meeting is scheduled for June 20 in Helena