

# MICROFILM DIVIDER

OMB/RECORDS MANAGEMENT DIVISION  
SFN 2053 (2/85) 5M



ROLL NUMBER

DESCRIPTION

3047

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*La Costa Rickford*  
Operator's Signature

*10/6/03*  
Date

2003 HOUSE POLITICAL SUBDIVISIONS

HCR 3047

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Yolanda Richardson  
Operator's Signature

10/16/03  
Date

2003 HOUSE STANDING COMMITTEE MINUTES

BILL/RESOLUTION NO. HCR 3047

House Political Subdivisions Committee

☐ Conference Committee

Hearing Date: February 13, 2003

Tape Number	Side A	Side B	Meter #
1	X		0.0-29.3
Committee Clerk Signature <i>Mickie Schmidt</i> 2-20-03			

Minutes:

**TAPE 1; SIDE A:**

**(0.0) CHAIRMAN GLEN FROSETH:** We will open the hearing on HCR 3047. Roll Call:

We have a quorum.

**(1.3) SEN. DORVAN SOLBERG:** (Testimony in support) (See attachment #1 & #2-amendment)

**(3.6) CHAIRMAN GLEN FROSETH:** What is the total cost on that?

**(3.7) SEN. DORVAN SOLBERG:** John will be able to answer that. He'll be next.

**(3.8) REP. RON IVERSON:** What is the current name?

**(3.8) SEN. DORVAN SOLBERG:** There is no name. The suggested name is Missouri

Yellowstone Confluence Interpretive Center. We'd like our own name. I oppose the word in the name "Interpretive."

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Operator's Signature Date

Page 2

House Political Subdivisions Committee

Bill/Resolution Number HCR 3047

Hearing Date: February 13, 2003

**(6.9) JOHN HELLER; FARMER; BUSINESS OWNER:** (Testimony in support) Talked

about the history of ND pertaining to the Visitors Center. The name Yellowstone-Missouri Discovery Center is supported by The Yellowstone-Missouri Confluence Chapter of the Lewis and Clark Trail Period ??? Foundation as the new name of the center. The name implies the sense of intriguing and fascination, that some new information would be learned by visiting.

**(10.4) CLAUDIA BERG; DIRECTOR OF MUSEUM OF EDUCATION DIVISION FOR THE STATE HISTORICAL SOCIETY:** (Testimony is Neutral) (See attachment #2)

Explained the meanings of words Confluence Center. Confluence means "the coming together of the two rivers."

**(16.3) REP. DALE SEVERSON:** Does the Social Society have any money in there?

**(16.4) CLAUDIA BERG:** Yes.

**(16.6) FERN SWENSON; DIRECTOR OF BUSINESS FOR THE STATE HISTORICAL SOCIETY:** (Can't hear) (Explained the numbers- money)

**THERE WAS COMMITTEE DISCUSSION.**

**(28.4) REP. DALE SEVERSON:** On page 2, line 1- (read) Does the word "and direct" does that mandate that they have to?

**(28.7) REP. WILLIAM KRETSCHMAR:** I don't believe so. It's not a statute.

**(29.0) CHAIRMAN GLEN FROSETH:** Any other testimony? Hearing none, we will close the hearing on HCR 3047.

2003 HOUSE STANDING COMMITTEE MINUTES

BILL/RESOLUTION NO. HCR 3047

House Political Subdivisions Committee

☐ Conference Committee

Hearing Date: February 13, 2003

Tape Number	Side A	Side B	Meter #
2	X		22.5-32.0
Committee Clerk Signature <i>Mickie Schmidt</i> 2-26-03			

Minutes:

**TAPE 2; SIDE A:**

**(22.5) CHAIRMAN GLEN FROSETH:** We will call the committee back to order. We will open the hearing on HCR 3047. We have an amendment that takes out two words on line 2, Page 1.

**(22.9) REP. ANDREW MARAGOS:** I WOULD MOVE THE AMENDMENT.

**(23.0) REP. ALON WIELAND:** I SECOND IT.

**(23.0) CHAIRMAN GLEN FROSETH:** Any discussion? I'll take a voice vote on the amendment. All in favor, say I. 14-y; 0-n; 0-absent The amendment carries. What are the committee's wishes?

**(24.0) REP. WILLIAM KRETSCHMAR:** I think that Missouri should come first.

**(24.6) CHAIRMAN GLEN FROSETH:** The reasoning was that Lewis and Clark were on the Missouri. They were looking for the Yellowstone.

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Operator's Signature Date

Page 2

House Political Subdivisions Committee

Bill/Resolution Number HCR 3047

Hearing Date: February 13, 2003

**(25.7) REP. CAROL NIEMEIER: I WOULD MOVE A DO PASS AS AMENDED.**

**(26.1) REP. MARY EKSTROM: I SECOND IT.**

**(26.5) REP. MIKE GROSZ: In opposition.**

**(27.0) REP. BRUCE ECKRE: In opposition.**

**(27.9) REP. DALE SEVERSON: In opposition.**

**(28.3) REP. ALON WIELAND: In opposition.**

**(29.7) CHAIRMAN GLEN FROSETH: I will have the clerk call the Roll Call Vote: 5-y;**

**9-n; 0-absent; MOTION FAILS.**

**(30.6) REP. DALE SEVERSON: I MOVE A DO NOT PASS AS AMENDED.**

**(30.6) REP. ALON WIELAND: I SECOND IT.**

**(30.8) CHAIRMAN GLEN FROSETH: I will have the clerk take the Roll Call Vote: 9-y;**

**5-n; 0-absent; Carrier: Rep. Iverson. The motion carries. (32.0)**

38385.0101  
Title.0200

Prepared by the Legislative Council staff for  
Representative Solberg  
February 11, 2003

VR  
2/13/03

HOUSE

AMENDMENTS TO HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 3047 Po1 Sub  
2-13-03

Page 1, line 2, remove "stodgy and"

Renumber accordingly

Page No. 1

38385.0101

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Richard Costa  
Operator's Signature

10/6/03  
Date

Date: 2-13-03

Roll Call Vote #: 1

2003 HOUSE STANDING COMMITTEE ROLL CALL VOTES  
BILL/RESOLUTION NO. HCR 3047

House "POLITICAL SUBDIVISION" Committee

☐ Check here for Conference Committee

Legislative Council Amendment Number

Action Taken

Do Pass As Amended

Motion Made By

Rep. Niemeyer

Seconded By

Rep. Ekstrom

Representatives	Yes	No	Representatives	Yes	No
Chairman Glen Froseth	✓				
Vice-Chairman Nancy Johnson		✓			
Mike Grosz		✓			
Gil Herbel	✓				
Ron Iverson		✓			
William E. Kretschmar		✓			
Andrew Maragos	✓				
Dale Severson		✓			
Alon Wieland		✓			
Bruce Eckre		✓			
Mary Ekstrom	✓				
Carol A. Niemeler	✓				
Sally M. Sandvig		✓			
Vonnie Pietsch		✓			

Total (Yes) 5 No 9

Absent 0

Floor Assignment

If the vote is on an amendment, briefly indicate intent:

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Operator's Signature

La Costa Rickford

Date

10/10/03



Date: 2-13-03

Roll Call Vote #: 2

2003 HOUSE STANDING COMMITTEE ROLL CALL VOTES  
BILL/RESOLUTION NO. HCR 3047

House "POLITICAL SUBDIVISION" Committee

☐ Check here for Conference Committee

Legislative Council Amendment Number \_\_\_\_\_

Action Taken Do Not Pass As Amended

Motion Made By \_\_\_\_\_ Seconded By \_\_\_\_\_

Representatives	Yes	No	Representatives	Yes	No
Chairman Glen Froseth		✓			
Vice-Chairman Nancy Johnson	✓				
Mike Grosz	✓				
Gil Herbel		✓			
Ron Iverson	✓				
William E. Kretschmar	✓				
Andrew Maragos		✓			
Dale Severson	✓				
Alon Wieland	✓				
Bruce Eckre	✓				
Mary Ekstrom		✓			
Carol A. Niemeler		✓			
Sally M. Sandvig	✓				
Vonnie Pietsch	✓				

Total (Yes) 9 No 5

Absent 0

Floor Assignment Rep. Iverson

If the vote is on an amendment, briefly indicate intent:

Yolanda Rickford  
Operator's Signature

10/16/03  
Date

**REPORT OF STANDING COMMITTEE (410)**  
February 13, 2003 1:57 p.m.

Module No: HR-28-2603  
Carrier: Iverson  
Insert LC: 38385.0101 Title: .0200

**REPORT OF STANDING COMMITTEE**  
HCR 3047: Political Subdivisions Committee (Rep. Froseth, Chairman) recommends  
**AMENDMENTS AS FOLLOWS** and when so amended, recommends **DO NOT PASS**  
(9 YEAS, 5 NAYS, ABSENT AND NOT VOTING). HCR 3047 was placed on the Sixth  
order on the calendar.

Page 1, line 2, remove "stodgy and"

Renumber accordingly

(2) DESK, (3) COMM

Page No. 1

HR-28-2603

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Operator's Signature

10/16/03  
Date

2003 SENATE POLITICAL SUBDIVISIONS

HCR 3047

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10/6/03  
Date

2003 SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE MINUTES

BILL/RESOLUTION NO. HCR 3047

Senate Political Subdivisions Committee

☐ Conference Committee

Hearing Date March 20, 2003

Tape Number	Side A	Side B	Meter #
1	X		2471 - End
1		X	0 - 1985
1		X	2933 - End
2	X		0 - 88

Committee Clerk Signature

*Shirley Long*

Minutes:

**CHAIRMAN COOK** called the committee to order. All members (6) were present.

**CHAIRMAN COOK** opened the hearing on HCR 3047 urging the State Historical Society of North Dakota to rethink and amend the proposed unmarketable name of the state visitor center at the confluence of the Yellowstone and Missouri Rivers.

**Testimony in support of HCR 3047.**

**REPRESENTATIVE DORVAN SOLBERG**, District 2, introduced HCR 3047. (See attached testimony) He also passed out testimony from Michael Casler. (See attached)

**SENATOR JUDY LEE** asked if he really thought it was necessary that the legislature get involved in choosing the name of the site.

**REPRESENTATIVE SOLBERG** replied that it was requested by the folks up there and he thinks it is acceptable that we take a look at it.

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*Salvatore Riccardi*  
Operator's Signature

*10/16/03*  
Date

Page 2

Senate Political Subdivisions Committee

Bill/Resolution Number HCR 3047

Hearing Date March 20, 2003

**SENATOR JUDY LEE** feels this is a local dispute and should be settled in the local area.

**Robert Thompson**, President of the Yellowstone-Missouri Confluence Chapter of the Lewis and Clark Trail Heritage Foundation testified in favor of HCR 3047. (See attached testimony)

**SENATOR JUDY LEE** asked what he saw as the difference between interpretive center and discovery center.

**Robert Thompson** replied it is what the public's perception is. They mean the same otherwise.

**SENATOR CHRISTENSON** asked if the groups tried to compromise.

**Robert Thompson** answered that the name that was selected by the State Historical Society was not made fully aware until the ground breaking last spring. At that point it was already made apparent that the name had been selected and that would be the name and that is when they became concerned that there was no input from the community on this. There has been no compromise met at this point.

**Testimony in opposition to HCR 3047.**

**Claudia Berg**, Director of the Museum and Education Division for the State Historical Society testified in opposition to HCR 3047. (See attached testimony)

**SENATOR CHRISTENSON** asked when we hear the words interpretive and discovery semantically they are defined differently. She asked if there was a special context in the museum that makes them very much the same.

**Claudia Berg** said that in the museum field and travelers who have traveled extensively, an interpretive center is more historical based in its information and provides information in text in artifacts as well as some hands on experience. A discovery center in a greatest majority of instances is much more closely aligned with science centers, children's museums and with

Page 3

Senate Political Subdivisions Committee

Bill/Resolution Number HCR 3047

Hearing Date March 20, 2003

interactive technology kinds of presentations and they don't have to be inclusive of each other but they really do imply different things in the general public.

**SENATOR JUDY LEE** asked if there was a mediation process in place for the historical society to resolve questions that are brought to the historical society in which there is not agreement.

**Claudia Berg** answered no.

Further discussion Tape 1, Side B, Meter # 1602 - 1920

No further testimony.

**REPRESENTATIVE SOLBERG** passed out a letter he had received.

**VICE CHAIRMAN SYVERSON** closed the hearing on HCR 3047.

**SENATOR COOK** asked for discussion on HCR 3047.

**SENATOR JUDY LEE** just doesn't think we need to get into this .

**SENATOR JUDY LEE** moved a DO NOT PASS on HCR 3047.

**SENATOR CHRISTENSON** seconded the motion.

Roll call vote Yes 6 No 0 Absent 0

Carrier: **SENATOR JUDY LEE**

Date: 3-20-03  
Roll Call Vote #: 1

2003 SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE ROLL CALL VOTES  
BILL/RESOLUTION NO. HCR 3047

Senate Political Subdivisions Committee

☐ Check here for Conference Committee

Legislative Council Amendment Number \_\_\_\_\_

Action Taken Do Not Pass

Motion Made By Senator Judy Lee Seconded By Senator Christenson

Senators	Yes	No	Senators	Yes	No
Senator Dwight Cook, Chairman	X				
Senator John O. Syverson, V C	X				
Senator Gary A. Lee	X				
Senator Judy Lee	X				
Senator Linda Christenson	X				
Senator Michael Polovitz	X				

Total (Yes) 6 No 0

Absent 0

Floor Assignment Senator Judy Lee

If the vote is on an amendment, briefly indicate intent:

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Richard Costa  
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10/16/03  
Date

**REPORT OF STANDING COMMITTEE (410)**  
March 20, 2003 12:38 p.m.

Module No: SR-50-5304  
Carrier: J. Lee  
Insert LC: . Title: .

**REPORT OF STANDING COMMITTEE**  
HCR 3047, as engrossed: Political Subdivisions Committee (Sen. Cook, Chairman)  
recommends **DO NOT PASS** (6 YEAS, 0 NAYS, 0 ABSENT AND NOT VOTING).  
Engrossed HCR 3047 was placed on the Fourteenth order on the calendar.

(2) DESK, (3) COMM

Page No. 1

SR-60-5304

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Operator's Signature

*10/16/03*  
Date



2003 TESTIMONY

HCR 3047

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Almeta Rickford  
Operator's Signature

10/6/03  
Date

#1 213-03

HCR 3047

Good morning Chairman Froseth and members of the Political Subs

Committee. For the record, my name is Dorvan Solberg and I am a

representative from Dist. 5 which includes Burke, Divide, most of Williams  
and the NW part of Mountrail Counties. I have distributed an amendment for

you this morning to the proposed resolution HCR 3047. This amendment  
merely excludes one word which I believe is out of place and not appropriate.

I bring you this resolution on behalf of the people and groups in the Williston  
area who have worked so hard to bring the soon to be opened visitor center at  
the famous confluence of the Yellowstone and Missouri Rivers to a reality.

The confluence area is rich in the history of Lewis and Clark and the two  
forts, Fort Union and Fort Buford. It is no more than fitting that the people  
whose hard work has brought this visitor center to a reality should have the  
distinct honor to select a name for this great addition to our tourist industry in  
North Dakota. The city of Williston along with our congressional delegation  
and a number of people who were involved in the fund raising efforts have  
raised \$3.5 million to fund this worthwhile project. These are the people who  
should select the name for this new visitor center. You may also note that the

Yellowstone-Missouri Confluence Commission is named in North Dakota

law and is chaired by Lt. Governor Jack Dalrymple. The people who have worked so hard for this project should be the ones who select the name and we see no reason whatsoever for the name selected by the State Historical Society to take preference over this common sense title supported by the people of McKenzie, Williams and Divide Counties who have invested their money, time and efforts into this Great Project. The name, "Yellowstone-Missouri Discovery Center" is most appropriate and should be finalized prior to the grand opening and dedication of the center. A few of the groups who support this name are, Yellowstone-Missouri Confluence Chapter, Lewis and Clark Trail Heritage Foundation Inc., Friends of Fort Union and Fort Buford, Members of the Yellowstone-Missouri Confluence Commission and many other organizations who have helped with this project.

Chairman Froseth and Committee members I strongly urge a DO PASS on this important resolution and will stand for questions from this Committee.

Salvatore Riccardi  
Operator's Signature

10/16/03  
Date

2-13-03  
#2 2-13-03

38385.0101  
Title.

Prepared by the Legislative Council staff for  
Representative Solberg  
February 11, 2003

PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 3047

Page 1, line 2, remove "stodgy and"

Renumber accordingly

Page No. 1

38385.0101

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La Costa Richard  
Operator's Signature

10/6/03  
Date

HCR 3047

Good morning Chairman Cook and Senate Political Subs Committee Members.

For the record, my name is Dorvan Solberg and I am a Representative from Dist. 2 which includes Burke, Divide, most of Williams and the NW part of Mountrail Counties.

I bring you this resolution on behalf of the people and groups in the Williston area who have worked so hard to bring the soon to be opened visitor center at the famous confluence of the Yellowstone and Missouri Rivers to a reality. The confluence area is rich in the history of Lewis and Clark and the two forts, Fort Union and Fort Buford. It is no more than fitting that the people whose hard work has brought this visitor center to a reality should have the distinct honor to select a name for this great addition to our tourist industry in North Dakota.

The city of Williston along with our congressional delegation and a number of people who were involved in the fund raising efforts have raised \$3.5 million to fund this worthwhile project. These are the people who should select the name for this new visitor center. You may also note that the Yellowstone-Missouri Confluence Commission is named in North Dakota law and is chaired by Lt. Governor Jack Dalrymple.

The people who have worked so hard for this project should be the ones who select the name and we see no reason whatsoever for the name selected by the State Historical Society to take preference over this common sense title supported by the people of McKenzie, Williams and Divide Counties who have invested their money, time and efforts into this great project.

The name, "Yellowstone- Missouri Discovery Center" is most appropriate and should be finalized prior to the grand opening and dedication of the center. A few of the groups who support this name are, Yellowstone-Missouri Confluence Chapter, Lewis and Clark Trail Heritage Foundation Inc., Friends of Fort Union and Fort Buford, Members of the Yellowstone-Missouri Confluence Commission and many other organizations who have helped with this project.

I would urge the Committee to carefully read the written testimony sent to you from Mr. Michael Casler who is the Vice President of the Yellowstone, Missouri Conference Chapter. There are two gentlemen here from Williston who will present further testimony on HCR 3047, Mr. Greg Hennessy and Mr. Jon Keller.

Chairman Cook and Committee Members I strongly urge a DO PASS on this important resolution and will stand for questions from this Committee.



"Michael Casler"  
<steamboatmc@hotmail.com>

03/19/2003 01:01 AM

To: dcook@state.nd.us, dayverson@state.nd.us,  
lchrste@state.nd.us, galee@state.nd.us,  
jlee@state.nd.us, mpolovit@state.nd.us  
cc: dsolberg@state.nd.us, slyson@state.nd.us  
Subject: Written Testimony for HCR 3047

Dear Chairman Cook and Senators of the Political Sub's  
Committee;

My name is Michael Casler from Williston, and I would like to  
provide you  
with written testimony for the hearing on HCR 3047. I will be  
out of state  
and unable to personally appear before your committee.

I would urge the committee for a DO PASS on HCR 3047. This  
issue is very  
simple, the local community and those who have worked for over  
five years  
raising 3.5 million dollars for this project suggest the name  
"Yellowstone -  
Missouri Discovery Center" as the appropriate name for this new  
center.

In May of 1998, I and many other interested people from the  
Williston  
community were appointed by then Lt. Governor Myrdahl to the  
"Lewis & Clark  
at the Confluence Committee" and charged with helping to  
develop the  
resources at Confluence Park and Fort Buford State Historic  
Site. This  
committee was chaired by Noel Poe Superintendent of Theodore  
Roosevelt  
National Park, and reported to the Lt. Governor who chaired the  
Yellowstone-Missouri Confluence Commission (NDCC 55-06) on the  
development  
ideas, which were approved and the project went forward.

In reviewing documents of this committee from the last five  
years, at no  
time has the State Historical Society of North Dakota held an  
open public  
meeting to seek in-put into naming this center. You may hear  
testimony that  
the SHSND held a public meeting on November 6, 2002 on the  
name. This is not  
true, I attended this meeting and the discussion was about the  
type of  
exhibits to be placed in the center and the reconstructed  
barracks at Fort  
Buford SHS, but not a name.

I have sent to each of you two pages of evidence that shows  
that even at the  
Ground Breaking Ceremony on May 23, 2002, (page 1) the  
Historical Society's  
own News Release does not use the name "Missouri-Yellowstone  
Confluence  
Interpretive Center". You are going to hear from SHSND staffers  
that this

*Salvatore Riccardi*  
Operator's Signature

*10/16/03*  
Date

name was chosen two years ago, I would then ask you if that were the case why not use the name in the ground breaking news release?

Page 5 of the evidence is a break down of the funding that has went into this project, please note that \$515,000 was funded from the legislatur to the SHSND for Improvements at the Fort Buford site, and not into any of the building project itself. While I do concede that the funding for the project was "run through" the SHSND, it was the local community who worked hard to raise this money. I also want to point out that the Williston community and region did not come begging to the Legislature for money, we were creative and went beyond the usual methods in raising money.

You will hear from SHSND staffers that they cannot use the name "Yellowstone - Missouri Discovery Center" for several reasons.

1. that the name "Discovery" means a science center or children's museum or they will have to redo the exhibits. Not true.

2. That the name "Yellowstone - Missouri" is geographically incorrect, wrong! the name Yellowstone-Missouri is already in the ND Century Code as 55-06, enabling the Yellowstone-Missouri Confluence Commission which is chaired bt the Lt. Governor.

3. That a "survey" was done and the name wasn't recognized as a visitor center. I submit to you that emailing your friends do not constitute a "survey".

4. The SHSND has already spent money on the sign and have printed material with the name the have chosen. I would ask, who told them to spend this money? certainly not any of the areas residents, nor the committee who was selected to work with them.

I offer the following reasons for the name "Yellowstone-Missouri Discovery Center.

1. The "Corps of Discovery" was President Thomas Jefferson's name for the Lewis & Clark Expedition, and therefore the impetus for the construction of this center.

2. The area is geographically the confluence of the Yellowstone River with the Missouri.

3. The name Discovery Center will fit nicely into North Dakota Tourism's marketing effort as in "Discover North Dakota", and for the Lewis and Clark Bicentennial, and whose web site is "DiscoverND.Com". Also it will join with the Columbia Gorge Discovery Center on the Lewis and Clark Trail.

4. That the current name selected by the State Historical Society of North Dakota is too long and unmarketable.

5. The community of Williston and area residents have helped to raise over 3.5 million dollars for this project, and have not asked the state to pay this cost.

6. The State Historical Society of North Dakota has refused to listen to the areas residents on this name issue and has selected a name by a secret committee.

7. The Center will be a badly needed economic draw for northwestern North Dakota and its residents should have a major voice in naming this center the "Yellowstone-Missouri Discovery Center."

Please, consider a DO PASS on HCR 3047.

Thank You for your time.

Sincerely,

Michael Casler  
Williston, North Dakota  
Vice-President, Yellowstone-Missouri Confluence Chapter  
Lewis and Clark Trail Heritage Foundation.

---

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page1.pdf



page5.pdf

*Volusia Rickford*  
Operator's Signature

*10/6/03*  
Date



Good Morning,

My name is Robert Thomson and I am President of the Yellowstone-Missouri Confluence Chapter of the Lewis & Clark Trail Heritage Foundation, Inc. I come before you to testify in favor of HCR 3047 and the name "Yellowstone-Missouri Discovery Center" for the new visitor center being built by the State Historical Society at the confluence of the Yellowstone and Missouri rivers.

The Confluence of the Yellowstone & Missouri rivers has long been a spot of intrigue and fascination. As Meriwether Lewis and William Clark, co-leaders of the Corps of Discovery, ascended the Missouri River in 1804 they were already aware of the existence of the Yellowstone-Missouri Confluence. It was to them an extremely important destination point as it marked the end of Euro-American knowledge of the area. From the point of the Confluence on the Corps of Discovery would be entering "Terra Incognito"; they would be discovering people, places, flora and fauna previously unknown to Euro-Americans.

As Meriwether Lewis, first to arrive at the Confluence, observed the flood plain of the Yellowstone-Missouri Confluence region he witnessed huge herds of buffalo, elk and antelope, abundant numbers of white tail and mule deer, packs of wolves, many coyotes, ground squirrels, prairie dogs, geese, pelicans, and more. Lewis had just discovered a wonderland of diverse animal life previously known only to the Native Americans that lived and hunted in the region. Despite the fact that a few French fur traders had traveled to the Confluence before the Corps of Discovery this Serengeti-like bio-diversity had never been reported. What a wonderland to enter! The herds intermingled with one another and, according to Lewis' own notes, hardly seemed to notice or care that he was present.

The Yellowstone-Missouri Confluence would continue to be an important landmark for decades to come, for traveling bands of Native Americans, for fur traders, soldiers, pioneers and for modern day tourists. Since before the time of Lewis & Clark, discovery has always played an important role in the Confluence region.

The proposed name "Yellowstone-Missouri Discovery Center" evokes that feeling of awe and wonderment that Meriwether Lewis, and countless others after him, have felt upon visiting the Confluence area. It also creates a link between Lewis & Clark and the new visitor center, in that President Thomas Jefferson's name for the expedition itself was the Corps of Discovery. As the Lewis & Clark Bicentennial is the impetus for this project it should be paramount to create a direct tie between the two.

Having "Yellowstone" before "Missouri" may be thought by some to be incorrect, but geographically speaking it is the confluence of the Yellowstone River with the Missouri River. There is even precedence in the North Dakota Century Code for placing Yellowstone before Missouri. NDCC 55-06 authorized the formation of the Yellowstone-Missouri Confluence Commission, which is chaired by the Lt. Governor.

*Robert Thomson*  
Operator's Signature

*10/16/03*  
Date

Some may think that "Discovery Center" implies either a science museum or a children's museum, but this is not necessarily so. Two good examples of non-science, non-children specific discovery centers exist. One is the Columbia Gorge Discovery Center at The Dalles, Oregon. The Columbia Gorge Discovery Center is, according to its web site, the "Official Interpretive Center for the Columbia River Gorge National Scenic Area." One focus of the Columbia Gorge Discovery Center is the Corps of Discovery.

The Johnstown Heritage Discovery Center in Johnstown, Pennsylvania "Tells the story of Immigrants to Industrial Cities." This discovery center focuses on the history and cultural heritage of a region, exactly as a discovery center at the confluence of the Yellowstone and Missouri rivers would do.

The name selected by the State Historical Society, Missouri-Yellowstone Confluence Interpretive Center, is too long, clumsy, does not roll off the tongue, provides no instant spark of imagination, and is unmemorable. In addition, the name was chosen without any input from the people of the Confluence region - people who helped to raise the money to build the new visitor center.

In closing, let me please urge you all to consider a do pass on HCR 3047.

Thank you for your time.

**State Historical Society of North Dakota  
The Missouri-Yellowstone Confluence Interpretive Center**

Mr. Chairman and members of the Political Subdivisions Committee, good morning, my name is Claudia Berg, Director of the Museum & Education Division, for the State Historical Society. I am here representing Merl Paaverud, Director of the State Historical Society. He is testifying at another committee hearing this morning. I appreciate the opportunity to provide information related to HCR 3047.

On behalf of the State Historical Society I would like to say that we were surprised and quite disappointed when HCR 3047 was presented. Where did this come from? Since 1999, we have worked side by side with the community of Williston on this project, taking great pride, like the community, in its development. Numerous organizations, individuals, agencies and staff members have invested a great deal of time and resources in this project to make it a must-see destination for regional, national, and international visitors.

To explain the **name selection process**, the following points are offered:

**The Mission**

- The mission of the confluence center is to present the northwest region of the state as an historic district. To connect the geology, natural, Native American, fur trade, military, and settlement history to the development of contemporary issues in the region today. Transportation is the thread that weaves the stories of the confluence together. *Tracks, Trails, Rivers, and Roads*, a 2,000-square-foot permanent exhibit, will anchor the interpretation in the Missouri-Yellowstone Confluence Interpretive Center.

**The Process**

- The planning process, involved discussions with such Williston-area groups as the Yellowstone-Missouri-Fort Union Commission and the Fort Buford Sixth Infantry. Planning for the building and subsequently the name of the facility began in 1999. Although not unanimous, the majority of people involved with the process agreed with the name selection of Missouri-Yellowstone Confluence Interpretive Center.
- An additional opportunity for input was the public forum held in Williston at the State Historical Society's Community Conversation in January 2002. Numerous topics were covered, and tourism and partnerships were two of the main areas of interest that evening. There were no concerns or alternative ideas voiced at this meeting regarding the new building at the confluence.
- The Confluence Interpretive Center name has been used since August 1999. As of November 6, 2002, when a meeting was held in Williston for public input on confluence center exhibits, no comments were made stating a concern for the building name. Fabrication of building signage is currently in production.

**The Name**

- The emphasis on the Missouri River is based on the prominent role the Missouri has played in the history of North Dakota. It is this river that formed the transportation route that impacted the development of the northern great plains and the region now known as North Dakota.
- The Missouri River is the heart of the historic corridor from the South Dakota border to the Montana border and beyond where many of North Dakota's Lewis and Clark bicentennial events will take place. The Missouri is what united Fort Union with her sister forts, Fort

Clark near Washburn and Fort Pierre at Pierre, South Dakota. Western North Dakota's frontier military story was forged on overland trails and the Missouri River. The name Yellowstone-Missouri works well for organizations in the immediate Williston area; Missouri-Yellowstone describes the geographic region that addresses the history of North Dakota. This new facility, along with Fort Buford State Historic Site, serves as the northwestern North Dakota anchor for the State Historical Society's statewide interpretive master plan, that has been developed with much local input. Other historic site anchors include the Chateau de Mores in southwestern North Dakota, Fort Abercrombie in southeastern North Dakota, and the Pembina State Museum in northeastern North Dakota.

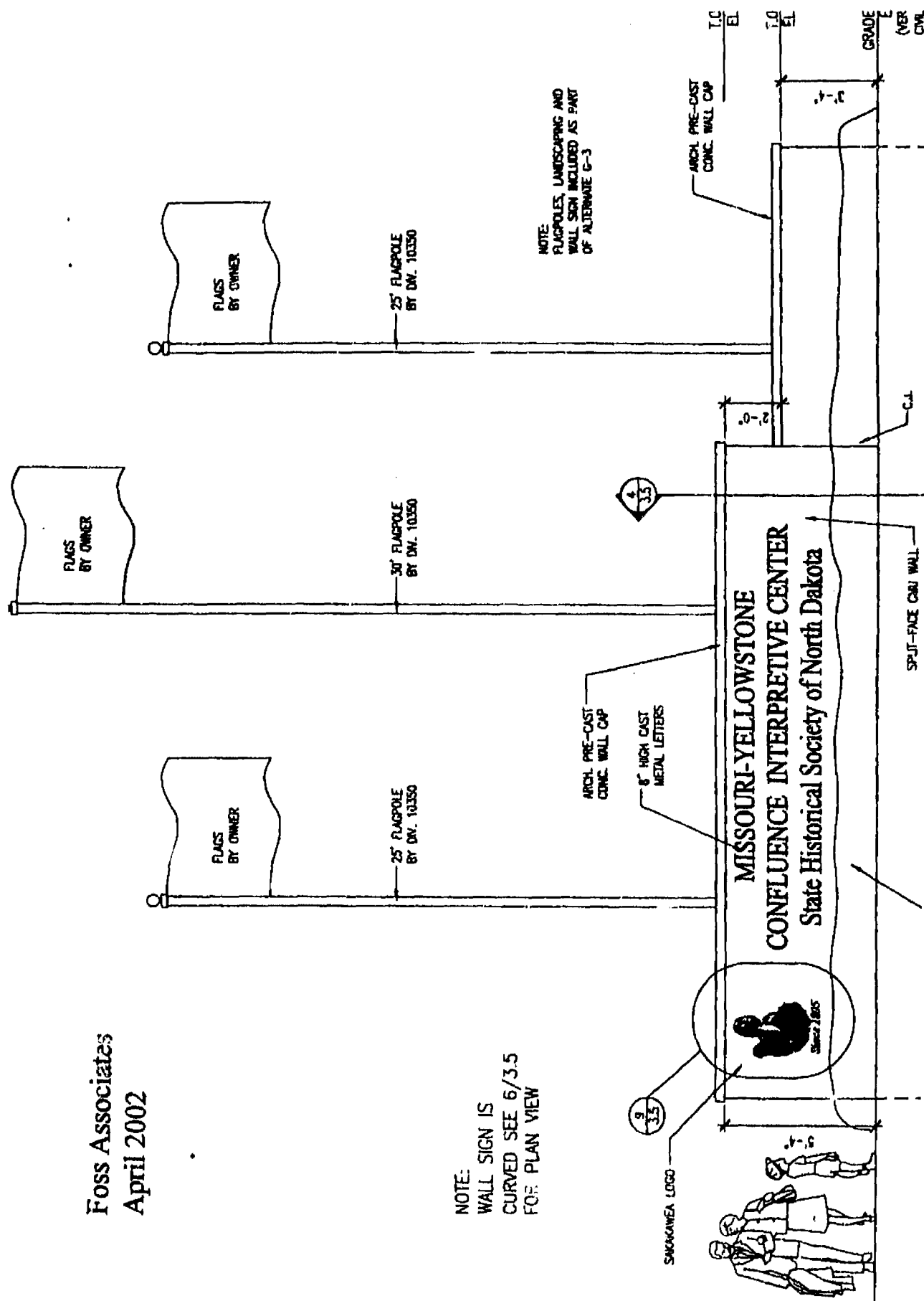
- The term *confluence* was selected to identify where this building would be located. The word *confluence* succinctly means the coming together of the two rivers. A recent survey was made of people in-state and out-of-state, those in the private sector, and those in the museum profession. All groups associated Yellowstone with Montana or the national park, while Missouri was identified as a river by those from North Dakota and as the state by those living elsewhere. Using the word *confluence* identifies the location as the meeting place of these two specific rivers.
- The term *interpretive center* was selected for the function of the exhibits. Visitors have expectations of functions and features, based on a building's name. A discovery center is most frequently associated with a science-related, hands-on experience. This is an exciting way for children to learn, especially about science and technology. The goal to associate the term *discovery center* as a Lewis-and-Clark-related place was lost on everyone surveyed, both in the profession and the general public. Without a reference to Lewis and Clark when using the term, discovery center implies something quite different than what was intended as a bicentennial tourism destination. National surveys as well as the North Dakota Tourism Division's survey state that heritage tourism travelers are knowledgeable and savvy travelers. Knowledgeable, experienced travelers have seen discovery centers, interpretive centers, and other types of museums and have differing expectations of each facility.
- In the American Association of Museums directory, listing some 8,000 museums in the United States, four institutions are listed with Yellowstone as the first word in their title, and all four are geographically located in south-central Montana and near the Wyoming border.
- Finally, as a marketing tool, the current name, Missouri-Yellowstone Confluence Interpretive Center, provides clear and concise destination information. Through marketing plans and public relations efforts that will include the use of this descriptive and accurate name, it will be the stories of the people and the confluence that will provide the memorable experiences that the visitors to this historically important area will remember.

*Lois Costa Richardson*  
Operator's Signature

*10/16/03*  
Date

Foss Associates  
April 2002

NOTE:  
WALL SIGN IS  
CURVED SEE 6/3.5  
FOR PLAN VIEW



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*Richard*  
Operator's Signature

10/16/03  
Date

Funding Sources for the Missouri-Yellowstone Confluence Center and Reconstruction of a  
Barracks, Fort Buford State Historic Site

**Federal Funding**

Confluence Center

\$1,000,000 Transportation Enhancement Program (TE) - Department of  
Transportation/Federal Highway Administration - Required Project Concept  
Report

\$ 100,000 IMLS - exhibits at the Confluence Center

Confluence Center & Barracks

\$1,496,700 U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development - Required Environmental  
Review Record

\$ 203,000 U.S. Department of Commerce - Economic Development Administration (Design  
and Engineering) - Required Environmental Clearance Document

\$ 250,000 National Historic Publication and Records Commission - Research, Video

\$ 30,000 National Park Service - Initial planning

TOTAL FEDERAL FUNDING: \$3,079,700

**State Funding**

\$ 9,200 State Historical Society Museum Store Funds

\$ 9,700 Fort Union/Fort Buford Confluence Commission

TOTAL STATE FUNDING: \$18,900

**Williston Match**

\$ 252,000 Williston Area

TOTAL WILLISTON AREA MATCH: \$252,000

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Richard Costa  
Operator's Signature

10/16/03  
Date

State Historical Society Staff:

Environment Reviews and Project Concept Report: Division Director, Review and Compliance Coordinator, Chief Archeologist

Design, Construction, Project Management: Director, Division Directors (HP & M&E), Architectural Project Manager, Western Regional Site Manager, Site Supervisor

Research & Exhibits: Director, Division Directors (SAL, M&E, HP), M&E Curators, Communications Director

Budget Management/Federal Reports or updates: Assistant Director, Division Director (HP), Architectural Project Manager

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Salvatore Riccardi  
Operator's Signature

10/16/63  
Date

4A WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 26, 2003

**EDITORIAL**

## *Pick a name*

Both names seem clumsy, but what are the options? We are just not used to anything.

Recently, legislation was introduced in the North Dakota House from a Williston group to name the confluence center the Yellowstone-Missouri Discovery Center. The state Historical Society wants it named Missouri-Yellowstone Confluence Interpretive Center.

Without getting into the struggle between the state and the Friends of Fort Union/Fort Buford, the 'average Joe' can live with either - but the center needs a name.

Lewis & Clark would be nice, but it seems everything bears that name.

For months the Williston Herald has just called it the confluence center because it never had a real name. It needs one. The center should be listed in phone books and other directories as we near the celebration of the anniversary of the Corps of Discovery's visit to our area.

The confluence of the Missouri and Yellowstone rivers has always been an important part of our history. Lewis and Clark noted its significance in their journals.

This center will educate visitors of the significance of the rivers. We have come a long way in efforts to make the center a reality - too far to argue about seat covers and staplers.

Pick one and lets move on.

*Salvatore Riccio*  
Operator's Signature

*10/16/03*  
Date



WILLISTON DAILY HERALD  
Feb. 20, 2003

# House passes name bill for confluence center

By KATHRYN GURENKE  
Staff Writer

The visitor's center at the confluence is one step closer to being officially named the Yellowstone-Missouri Discovery Center.

House bill HCR3047, which sanctions the name, was passed by a 47-45 vote Tuesday.

"It was a very close vote," said bill sponsor District 2 Rep. Dorgan Solberg, D-Ray.

The vote was close because the name was contested by the State Historical Society, who offered an alternate choice, Missouri-Yellowstone Confluence Interpretive Center.

Solberg said the society's delegates misled the overseeing house committee in a meeting forcing a "do not pass" recommendation.

"They did a semantic tap dance," said Greg Hennessy, co-chair of the Lewis & Clark at the Confluence Fund Drive, chairman of Friends of Ft.



Union/Ft. Buford and author of house bill HCR-3047.

In the meeting, the State Historical Society claimed to have "secured the money" for the visitor's center when the funds were actually raised by Main Street Williston with the help of Sen. Byron Dorgan, D-ND, Sen. Kent Conrad, D-ND, and Rep. Earl Pomeroy, D-ND.

Solberg said that he worked on the bill because he feels that the people of Williston funded the center and should therefore be allowed to choose its name.

"The people in Williston have worked so hard to make this a reality," he said. "They should be able to name it."

Tuesday, Solberg spoke on the floor to point out the misleading information given by the State Historical Society. "It was a hard fought battle," he said.

The Historical Society also argued that the word "discovery" makes the center sound like a science center which will deter visitors.

The Corps of Discovery was the original title of the Lewis & Clark expedi-

tion. "If it's good enough for Thomas Jefferson, it's good enough for me," said Hennessy.

The name of the center will be printed on highway signs, maps and Web sites so advocates of the name Yellowstone-Missouri Discovery Center argued that the shorter name will be easier to accommodate. Bill supporters also claim the Historical Society's name is harder to say and remember. "It's long, cumbersome and clumsy," said Solberg.

The name Missouri-Yellowstone Confluence Interpretive Center also is misleading because it is geographically incorrect, added Hennessy. It would contend the center's location marks the confluence of the Yellowstone river, not the Missouri river.

Although the center still lacks a name, it's due for completion this summer.

Hennessy said they focused on fundraising and technical portions of the project for so long that finding a name was placed on the back burner.

When they did start looking for a

name, the group searched through journals, entries of the explorers and discovered what an impact this area had on Lewis and Clark, he said.

The entire portion of Lewis & Clark's journey up to the Mandan Villages had already been mapped. After the expedition left Mandan the first spot they discovered was the Yellowstone confluence.

"Both coming and going, the discovery of the Yellowstone River was important to Lewis and Clark," said Hennessy.

Hennessy said that the name also stemmed from the creation of a Yellowstone-Missouri Fort Union Commission in 1959 by the late Sen. Frank Wenstrom.

"It was easy to follow Wenstrom's lead," Hennessy said.

Although negotiations with the State Historical Society have not gone well, Hennessy said it's important for the name to also pass in the Senate and become official.

"It's imperative that we have a short, descriptive, marketable and accurate name," said Hennessy. "It's absolutely imperative."

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

## Name should not ruin years of cooperation

## To the Editor:

The Williston area community has much to be proud of in its support of the history of the confluence area of the Missouri and Yellowstone rivers. You have set the standard in North Dakota on how to develop community support and involvement in the promotion and preservation of local history and heritage.

It is because of this energy and enthusiasm that the state's history agency, the State Historical Society of North Dakota, has enjoyed partnering with area residents over the years to interpret and promote the rich and unique history of the Confluence area.

This is one of the reasons why we were so disappointed in the story that appeared in your Thursday edition about the legislative action concerning the name that was selected for the new history center being built at the confluence.

As a one-time resident of Williston and former chairman of the Friends of Fort Union, I have a special enthusiasm and appreciation for the outstanding success the community has achieved in developing and promoting the history of the area. But that also makes it all the more disappointing when stories like Thursday's article appear.

The State Historical Society has worked hard with the community in developing this interpretive center at the confluence. There have been honest differences of opinion regarding what it should be named. But it does no one any good to hurl false charges about what this agency has or has not done in regard to this project.

The legislative bill in question, HCR 3047, would change the name of the center from the Missouri-Yellowstone Confluence Interpretive Center to what some local supporters want to call it, the Yellowstone-Missouri Discovery Center. The assertion by bill supporters is that this is something they have earned because they have funded the center.

The record about this project needs to be made clear. The center's cost, including the development of exhibits, is a little over \$2 million (this does not include another nearly \$1 million for the reconstruction of the Infantry barracks at nearby Fort Buford State Historic Site). The 8,500-square foot confluence center is being built through a combination of local, state and federal funding. Williston-area residents have been superb in their financial commitment to this project, raising \$252,000 as their local contribution. This represents about 15 percent of the project's total cost, and is the local match that was required for the \$1 million TEA-21 federal grant approved in early 1999 that launched this effort. We have also used the TEA-21 program with similar success at several other sites, including the Pembina State Museum, Fort Abercrombie and Fort Totten.

The state's Congressional delegation secured much of the confluence center's funding, and all of us are deeply grateful for their strong support. The Williston community's extensive contacts with the delegation were vital in helping make that funding happen, and we certainly appreciate that work.

The state's commitment has included a mix of financial support and an extensive staff effort on the part of the State Historical Society. In the development of the project over the past few years, several employees of this agency have spent countless hours working with the Congressional delegation and the Williston community in providing them with detailed information and answering many questions, as well as selecting the name we believe is best for the center. As recently as Nov. 6, when we hosted a community meeting in Williston to gather public input on exhibit ideas for the facility, no comments were made stating any concerns about that name.

All four of the State Historical Society's divisions have been actively involved in the details, from environmental reviews and construction design to budget management and exhibit development – hardly a mere “semantic tap dance” in terms of describing our level of professional commitment and involvement. The State Historical Society also has the long-term financial and staff responsibility for operating and maintaining it. With that responsibility, we believe, goes the selection of a name that conforms to the standards used for naming the other historic sites throughout the state that we are entrusted to manage.

The issue here should not be who has earned the “right” to name the center. It is about trust, respect and cooperation. It is about working together for the common good of a project that will significantly enhance the understanding of the key role the confluence area played in the westward expansion of the United States. In making this project a reality, local, state and federal cooperation has always been imperative. This cooperation requires compromises on the part of everyone involved. It also involves respect for each other, which we believed was breached when this legislation was introduced in the North Dakota House of Representatives without our knowledge and after production of the signs for the center had already begun.

We do not want something like the name of this center to damage the many years of partnership and cooperation we have enjoyed with the Williston area community and the bright future that lies ahead in telling the story of the rich history of your region.

I encourage anyone who is interested in a more detailed explanation about why we chose the name we did for the center to contact me, either by phone or email. I will be happy to provide this for you.

**Rick Collin**  
Communications Director  
State Historical Society of North Dakota  
(701) 328-2666  
rcollin@state.nd.us

## FAX TRANSMITTAL COVER SHEET

Please Deliver To:

Urgent

DATE: 3/20/03 TIME: 11:07 a.m. CT  
NAME: Rep. Derran Solberg  
COMPANY: HCR 3047  
FAX NUMBER: 328-1997

SENT BY:

Greg W. Hennessy  
Hennessy Law Office, P.C.  
417 1st Ave E, PO Box 756  
Williston, ND 58802-0756  
PHONE: (701) 572-8296  
FAX: (701) 572-9181

TOTAL PAGES INCLUDING COVER SHEET: 3

## MESSAGE:

If you can supplement the committee record before  
the vote I enclose the Friends of Ft. Union Ft. Buford  
unanimous vote of 9/24/02 for the name in  
HCR 3047. The three Keogh, Strinden, & Olson who  
Claudia said support SHS, all voted in favor,  
contrary to her misrepresentation (p. 2, 3 F).  
Their only issue is threat to future budget. You  
have the exhibits that Collin misrepresented  
the public meetings on name ever took place.  
Do we have Stan & Andrisc votes? Keogh  
F.S. Friends membership is 600+.

CONFIDENTIALITY NOTICE: The document(s) accompanying this fax contain(s) confidential information which is legally privileged. The information is intended only for the use of the intended recipient named above. If you are not the intended recipient, you are hereby notified that any disclosure, copying or distribution of telecopied information is strictly prohibited. If you have received this fax in error, please notify us immediately by telephone to arrange for return of the original documents to us.

**Minutes of Friends of Fort Union Meeting, Sept. 24, 2002**

Present: Frank Keogh, Andy Banta, Randy Kane, Greg Hennessy, Dean Strinden, Leon Olson, Chuck Stahaker, Lois Rennerfeldt, Tom Wilder, Dave Finders.

Meeting began at 8 p.m. Minutes of last meeting were approved as submitted.

Treasurer's Report - Checking account: \$36,163.33. Friends have received \$6,400.80 for barracks furnishings, \$15,688.70 -CD. CDs at ASB: 43,460.53, and \$37,520.54. There is also a CD at First National Bank worth \$40±.

**Old Business**

- A. North Star Caviar (Hennessy) - Because of low water and over-harvest concerns, Fish and Game is possibly going to cut the snag limit for both sites to 2,000 paddlefish total, instead of 3,000. The Friends question the rationale, but have no real 'authority' to contradict it. Unsure of what will be the result of such an action, but will probably just have to ride it out. Perhaps the Friends could cut a deal with the Montana side for a portion of their quota, but this is unclear. Caviar bidding is weak at this time.
- B. Confluence Development (Hennessy) - Construction at Confluence is a little behind schedule, but contractors are working ahead in other areas, and feel confident. One agency concern is a lack of funds to fabricate exhibits. There will be a meeting Nov. 6 in Williston with the historical society to discuss this and strategize.
- C. State Historical Society (Johnson) - At Fort Buford, archeologists have dug 20 of the 3 planned 40 1x1-meter pits. They have uncovered a portion of the wall connecting barracks to mess hall, and located the south wall with breezeway. They have located all four corners of the barracks. Artifacts of interest include lead type, which may indicate the presence of a printing press. Have also found hundreds of spent primers for 45/70 cartridges. Randy Kane was shown a piece of Sixth Infantry insignia.

Lead barracks architect Frank Kratky has some preliminary sketches, which he will show at Sept. 30 meeting in Bismarck.

Insurance issue regarding Friends groups was discussed. The Friends of the Former Governors Mansion had questions regarding insurance needed while doing a fundraiser. The attorney general's office deems this unnecessary, if this is a one-time annual event. Hennessy requested the attorney general's opinion.

Chuck Stahaker reported that a man in Spokane, Washington, has offered to give the Historical Society a 275-page journal from Leighton and Jordan, which is a daily listing of expenses. It belonged to his grandfather, who moved one of the houses off the military reservation after the auction, and found it in the attic. Owner requests that journal be made available to scholars. Randy Kane wanted to know about progress on interior of Brotherton House. Chris said agency has approved more finish work inside, but that exhibits and furnishings are in the planning stages.

- D. Confluence Future (Banta, Hennessy) - Landowners on the Missouri and Yellowstone seem to be cooperating with conservation groups seeking to preserve the visuals of the area from encroachment. A Montana conservancy group is leading the way now, which is both acceptable and encouraging to the Friends, who are willing to supply some nominal funds to project. Looks like a good situation for all. Friends participation is conditional on a willing seller, and public hunting and fishing access.

#### New Business

- A. Board Member Replacement (Hennessy) - Discussion on who to name to two openings. Members who have suggested names are encouraged to approach those people and see if they are interested.
- B. Theodore Roosevelt Sept. Replacement (Banta) - New superintendent search could take from four to six months.
- C. Special Events (Kane) - The *Living History Weekend* went well, with plenty of reenactors and good weather. The Muzzle Loaders made a gun rack for the southwest bastion. Some 1500 visitors came out. Last Bell Tour only attracted 80 people; this may have been due to confusion over the news release. Need to reevaluate this. Tour itself was a good one. *Blacksmith Workshop* on Sept. 14 was a real success. Smiths Guy Pontoriero and John LaRoche taught nine people in advanced and basic classes. The weather was good, and about 100 visitors were on site to watch.
- D. WSC Funding Request (Hennessy) - The college honor society is selling ads again for placemats, which are used in some local restaurants. Friends are willing to contribute \$50 and match a \$50 donation from the Association, but they want to know what restaurants use these. None of the Board have seen them used locally.
- E. Northwest Arts Council/Makoche Concert Funding Request (Hennessy) - Makoche is presenting two concerts (Grand Forks and Williston) featuring 15 of its recording artists. Concert in Williston is planned for Nov. 16. The theme is Lewis and Clark, and music they might have played, heard, or been familiar with. Greg proposed a \$1000 contribution to help sponsor the \$15 K event. Frank Keogh made the motion, Tom Wilder seconded it, and Friends approved the motion.
- F. Visitor Center Naming Rights (Hennessy) - According to Chris Johnson, the State Historical Society has chosen the name, Missouri-Yellowstone Confluence Interpretive Center. Greg prefers the name Yellowstone-Missouri Discovery Center, and listed his reasons. Chris said if Greg wants to influence Meri Paaverud's decision, he should talk to him soon. Resolution passed unanimously to name the building Yellowstone-Missouri Discovery Center; Tom Wilder made the motion, and Dave Finders seconded it.

Leon Olson asked if anyone knew how long it will take to get the interpretive center name on the North Dakota maps and signage. Chris Johnson said that the state has started discussions with the Department of Transportation about that.

Andy Banta asked if there was a local meeting planned to discuss progress at the Confluence. Frank Keogh said that Meri has announced a November 6 meeting. Andy mentioned a Montana-sponsored kickoff event in 2005 for Lewis and Clark entering Montana. He is working to coordinate Corps II appearance up here at the same time.

Meeting was adjourned at 9:16 p.m.