



MOUNTAINS RECREATION AND CONSERVATION AUTHORITY  
Los Angeles River Center and Gardens  
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Phone (323) 221-8900 Fax (323) 221-9934

**MINUTES**  
*of the*  
**GOVERNING BOARD**  
*of the*  
**MOUNTAINS RECREATION AND CONSERVATION AUTHORITY**

**January 29, 2004**

**I. Call to Order.**

The special meeting of the Governing Board of the Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority was called to order by Chairperson Michael Berger, at 3:07 p.m. on January 29, 2004 at the Conejo Recreation and Park District, 403 West Hillcrest Drive, Thousand Oaks, California.

**II. Roll Call.**

The roll was called and the following members were present: Ed Hayduk, Jerome C. Daniel, George Lange, Vice Chair, and Michael Berger, Chair. Quorum present.

Staff present: Joseph T. Edmiston, FAICP, Executive Officer; Rorie Skei, Chief Deputy Executive Officer; Reva Feldman, Deputy Executive Officer; Laurie Collins, Chief Staff Counsel; Lynn Harris White, Staff Counsel; Paul Edelman, Deputy Director of Natural Resources and Planning; Dash Stolarz, Director of Public Affairs; Walt Young, Chief Ranger and Chief of Operations; Tim Miller, Chief of Construction, and James Yeramian, Board Secretary.

**III. Election of Officers.**

On motion of Mr. Daniel, duly seconded, Mr. Berger was elected Chair.

On motion of the Mr. Berger, duly seconded, Mr. Lange was elected Vice Chair.

**IV. Public testimony on all agenda items and public comment on matters not on the agenda.**

No public comment was made.

**V. Consent Calendar:**

- (a) **Consideration of resolution accepting the Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority warrant disbursements for December 2003.**

- (b) **Consideration of resolution accepting an augmentation of a grant for project planning and design services for the Vista Hermosa Park Project, Los Angeles.**
- (c) **Consideration of resolution confirming the Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority's support for the City of Los Angeles Department of Recreation and Parks application for Proposition 40 Urban Park Act grant funds for the Ascot Hills Park, Los Angeles.**
- (d) **Consideration of resolution accepting a donation of approximately one acre (APNs 4434-033-015, 027, 028) in the Glenview area, Topanga Canyon.**
- (e) **Consideration of resolution authorizing the acceptance of mitigation from the City of Calabasas related to Tract No. 35596, Calabasas.**

At the request of Mr. Hayduk, item V(c) was removed from the Consent Calendar.

On motion of Mr. Daniel, duly seconded, Resolution Nos. 04-01, 04-02, 04-04, and 04-05 were unanimously adopted.

**V(c). Consideration of resolution confirming the Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority's support for the City of Los Angeles Department of Recreation and Parks application for Proposition 40 Urban Park Act grant funds for the Ascot Hills Park, Los Angeles.**

Questions were propounded by Mr. Hayduk.

Comments were made by the Chief Deputy Executive Officer and the Deputy Director of Natural Resources and Planning.

Questions were propounded by Mr. Daniel.

Comments were made by the Chief Deputy Executive Officer and the Deputy Director of Natural Resources and Planning.

On motion of Mr. Hayduk, duly seconded, Resolution No. 04-03 was unanimously adopted.

**VI. Consideration of resolution authorizing acquisition of three properties totaling one acre (APNs 4416-021-041,042 and 043) in Pacific Palisades, using funds from the Santa Monica Mountains Open Space Preservation District No. 2, Los Angeles.**

The Deputy Director of Natural Resources and Planning presented the staff report for this item.

Questions were propounded by Messrs. Daniel and Hayduk.

Comments were made by the Deputy Director of Natural Resources and Planning.

Questions were propounded by Mr. Hayduk.

Comments were made by the Chief Staff Counsel.

Questions were propounded by Messrs. Lange, Daniel, and Hayduk.

Comments were made by the Deputy Director of Natural Resources and Planning.

On motion of Mr. Lange, duly seconded, Resolution No. 04-06 was unanimously adopted.

Mr. Hayduk was noted as voting no.

**VII. Consideration of resolution entering into a project agreement with the Los Angeles County Regional Park and Open Space District to acquire properties in Chapter Agreement No. 2210, Mulholland Gateway Park Additions, Santa Maria Canyon, unincorporated Los Angeles County.**

The Deputy Director of Natural Resources and Planning presented the staff report for this item.

Questions were propounded by Mr. Daniel.

Comments were made by the Deputy Director of Natural Resources and Planning.

On motion of Mr. Daniel, duly seconded, Resolution No. 04-07 was unanimously adopted.

**VIII. Consideration of resolution authorizing (a) entering into a project agreement with the Los Angeles County Regional Park and Open Space District to acquire 28-acres (APNs 2058-017-011 and 016) in La Sierra Canyon; (b) acceptance of funds from other entities for said acquisition, and (c) transferring said property to Los Angeles County.**

The Chief Deputy Executive Officer presented the staff report for this item.

Comments were made by the Deputy Director of Natural Resources and Planning.

Questions were propounded by Mr. Daniel.

Comments were made by the Chief Staff Counsel.

Questions were propounded by Mr. Lange.

Comments were made by the Chief Deputy Executive Officer and the Deputy Director of Natural Resources and Planning.

On motion of Mr. Lange, duly seconded, Resolution No. 04-08 was unanimously adopted.

**IX. Consideration of resolution authorizing an advance of the Fair Oaks-Pardee mitigation fund for project planning in the Upper Santa Clara River watershed, Santa Clarita.**

On motion of Mr. Daniel, duly seconded, Resolution No. 04-09 was unanimously adopted.

**X. Consideration of resolution authorizing issuance of limited obligation improvement bonds and directing related actions for Santa Monica Mountains Open Space Preservation Assessment District No. 1, Los Angeles.**

Comments were made by Mr. Curt DeCrisis, President of CMdC.

Questions were propounded by Chief Staff Counsel.

Comments were made by Mr. DeCrisis.

Questions were propounded by the Chair and Mr. Daniel.

Comments were made by Mr. DeCrisis and the Chief Staff Counsel.

Questions were propounded by Mr. Hayduk.

Comments were made by Mr. DeCrisis.

A roll-call vote was administered.

On motion of Mr. Daniel, duly seconded, Resolution No. 04-10 was unanimously adopted.

**XI. Consideration of resolution authorizing issuance of limited obligation improvement bonds and directing related actions for Santa Monica Mountains Open Space Preservation Assessment District No. 2, Los Angeles.**

Comments were made by Mr. Curt DeCrisis, President of CMdC.

A roll-call was administered.

On motion of Mr. Hayduk, duly seconded, Resolution No. 04-11 was unanimously adopted.

**XII. Consideration of resolution authorizing a sole source contract with the Primacy Group for printing and mailing of public information brochures relative to the cash collection period for Santa Monica Mountains Open Space Preservation District Nos. 1 and 2.**

The Director of Public Affairs presented the staff report for this item.

Comments were made by the Chief Executive Officer.

Questions were propounded by Mr. Hayduk.

Comments were made by the Director of Public Affairs, the Deputy Director for Natural Resources and Planning, and the Chief Deputy Executive Officer.

On motion of Mr. Lange, duly seconded, Resolution No. 04-12 was unanimously adopted

**XIII. Consideration of resolution authorizing a sole source contract with Weber Shandwick for public information services for Santa Monica Mountains Open Space Preservation Districts Nos. 1 and 2.**

The Director of Public Affairs presented the staff report for this item.

Questions were propounded by Mr. Daniel.

Comments were made by the Director of Public Affairs and the Chief Deputy Executive Officer.

Questions were propounded by the Chair.

Comments were made by the Director of Public Affairs and the Chief Deputy Executive Officer.

On motion of Mr. Lange, duly seconded, Resolution No. 04-13 was unanimously adopted.

**XIV. Statements, questions, and directions to staff pursuant to Government Code § 54954.2(a).**

Questions were propounded by Mr. Lange.

Comments were made by the Chief Deputy Executive Officer.

The Authority received a verbal report from the Chief Ranger and Chief of Operations.

Questions were propounded by Mr. Hayduk.

Comments were made by the Chief Ranger and Chief of Operations.

Questions were propounded by Mr. Daniel.

Comments were made by the Chief Ranger and Chief of Operations, the Chief Deputy Executive Officer, and the Deputy Director for Natural Resources and Planning.

The Authority received a verbal report from the Chief of Construction.

Questions were propounded by the Chair.

Comments were made by the Chief of Construction and the Chief Deputy Executive Officer.

The Authority received a verbal report from the Deputy Director of Natural Resources and Planning.

The Authority received a verbal report from the Director of Public Affairs.

Questions were propounded by the Chair.

Comments were made by the Chief Deputy Executive Officer and the Director of Public Affairs.

#### **XV. Closed Session**

**The Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority may hold a closed session on the following items pursuant to Government Code §§ 54956.8 and 54956.9. Confidential memoranda related to these items may be considered during such closed session discussions. Conference with legal counsel. Number of cases: 5. (1) *City of Malibu v. Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority and Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy*; (2) *Bad Tax v. Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority*; (3) *In re Ritter Ranch Development, LLC.*; (4) *Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority v. Soka University of America, and related cross-complaint: Soka University of America v. Santa Monica Mountains***

***Conservancy, and (5) Fuller v. Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority.***

No closed session was held.

**XVI. Announcement of future meetings and adjournment.**

The Chair announced that the next meeting would be held on January 30, 2004.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned by the Chair at 4:32 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:

Approved:

Joseph T. Edmiston, FAICP  
Executive Officer

Michael Berger  
Chair