



MOUNTAINS RECREATION & CONSERVATION AUTHORITY
Los Angeles River Center & Gardens
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MINUTES
of the
GOVERNING BOARD
of the
MOUNTAINS RECREATION AND CONSERVATION AUTHORITY

July 6, 2011

I. Call to Order.

The regular meeting of the Governing Board of the Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority was called to order by Chairperson George Lange, at 2:00 p.m. on July 6, 2011, 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: Jim Hasenauer; Ed Hayduk; Jerome C. Daniel, Vice Chairperson, and George Lange, Chairperson. A quorum was present.

Staff Present: Joseph T. Edmiston, FAICP, Hon, ASLA (via teleconference); Rorie Skei, Chief Deputy Executive Officer; Laurie Collins, Chief Staff Counsel (via teleconference); Jeff Maloney, Staff Counsel; Walt Young, Chief Ranger; Amy Lethbridge, Chief of Interpretation; Dan Tholund, Chief of Facilities and Maintenance; Paul Edelman, Deputy Director for Natural Resources and Planning, and James Yeramian, Staff Services Manager.

III. Public Testimony on all agenda items and public comment on matters not on the agenda.

No public testimony was given.

IV. Approval of Minutes.

The minutes of March 2, 2011; April 6, 2011, and May 4, 2011 were submitted for approval.

The minutes of March 2, 2011; April 6, 2011, and May 4, 2011 were approved as submitted.

V. Reports from Staff:

(a) Legal;

- (b) Ranger Services;**
- (c) Natural Resources and Planning;**
- (d) Interpretation;**
- (e) Developed Resources;**
- (f) Construction;**
- (g) Facilities and Maintenance;**
- (f) Finance.**

The Authority received oral reports from the following members of staff: Staff Counsel; Chief Ranger; Deputy Director for Natural Resources and Planning; Chief of Interpretation; Chief of Facilities and Maintenance, and Sheryl Lewanda of the Conejo Recreation and Park District representing the Assistant Financial Officer.

VI. Consent Calendar:

- (a) Consideration of resolution adopting the MRCA Warrant Disbursements for the period of May 25, 2011 to June 28, 2011.**
- (b) Consideration of resolution confirming amended assessments and directing related actions for the Santa Monica Mountains Open Space Preservation Assessment District No. 1, Los Angeles.**
- (c) Consideration of resolution confirming amended assessments and directing related actions for the Santa Monica Mountains Open Space Preservation Assessment District No. 2, Los Angeles.**
- (d) Consideration of resolution adopting Engineer's Report, confirming the annual levy of maintenance assessment for fiscal year 2011-2012 and directing related actions for the Santa Monica Mountains Open Space Preservation Assessment District No. 1, Los Angeles.**
- (e) Consideration of resolution adopting Engineer's Report, confirming the annual levy of maintenance assessment for fiscal year 2011-2012 and directing related actions for the Santa Monica Mountains Open Space Preservation Assessment District No. 2, Los Angeles.**

On motion of Mr. Daniel, duly seconded Resolution Nos. 11-89; 11-90; 11-91; 11-92, and 11-93 were unanimously adopted.

VII. Consideration of resolution authorizing approval of application for Statewide Park Program grant funds for the following projects: Franklin/Ivar Park, Pacoima Wash – El Dorado Park, and Marsh Park.

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

Questions were propounded by Mr. Hayduk.

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

On motion of Mr. Hasenauer, duly seconded, Resolution No. 11-94 was unanimously adopted.

VIII. Consideration of resolution authorizing entering into a Project Agreement with the Los Angeles County Regional Park and Open Space District for the acquisition of the Laurel Canyon – Mulholland Properties project, Laurel Canyon, City of Los Angeles.

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

Questions were propounded by the Chair and Mr. Daniel.

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

On motion of Mr. Hayduk, duly seconded, Resolution No. 11-95 was unanimously adopted.

IX. Consideration of resolution authorizing a grant application to Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy for acquisition and improvements at Elephant Hill, El Sereno, City of Los Angeles.

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

Questions were propounded by Messrs. Hasenauer and Hayduk.

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

On motion of Mr. Hasenauer, duly seconded, Resolution No. 11-96 was unanimously adopted.

X. Consideration of resolution authorizing application to Urban Greening for Sustainable Communities Program for Restoration and Public Access improvements at Elephant Hill, El Sereno, City of Los Angeles.

The staff report for this item was presented by the Deputy Director for Natural Resources and Planning

On motion of Mr. Daniel, duly seconded, Resolution No. 11-97 was unanimously adopted.

XI. 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: thirteen (13). (1) *Santa Monica Mountains and Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority v. City of Malibu, and related litigation*; (2) *City of Malibu v. California Coastal Commission, Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy and Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority, Case No. BS121650*; (3) *City of Malibu v. California Coastal Commission, Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy and Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority, Case No. BS12922*; (4) *Friends of Temescal Pool v. Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy and Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority, Case No. BC405252*; (5) *Malibu-Encinal Homeowners Association v. Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority, Case No. BC431798*; (6) *Estwick v. Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority, Case No. BC434783*; (7) *Reuben v. Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority*; (8) *Ramirez Canyon Preservation Fund v. Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy and Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority, Case No. BS127089*; (9) *Ramirez Canyon Preservation Fund v. California Coastal Commission, Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority and Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy, Case No. BS121820*; (10) *Ramirez Canyon Preservation Fund v. California Coastal Commission, Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority, Case No. BS129503*; (11) *Morris v. Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority and Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy*; (12) *Grant v. Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority*, and (13) *Kaufman v. Mountains Recreation and Conservation (two cases)*.

Pursuant to Government Code section 54956.95: conference with legal counsel regarding claim made pursuant to the Government Tort Claims Act. Claimant: Danny Everett.

The Chair convened the closed session at 3:12 p.m. to discuss the matters of *City of Malibu v. California Coastal Commission, Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy and Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority, Case No. BS121650*, and *City of Malibu v. California Coastal Commission, Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy and Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority, Case No. BS12922*.

The Chair reconvened the open session at 3:26 p.m. and announced that instructions were given to Counsel regarding said matters listed above.

XII. Announcement of future meetings and adjournment.

The Chair announced the next meeting would be held on August 3, 2011.

Their being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 3:27 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:

Approved:

Joseph T. Edmiston, FAICP, Hon, ASLA
Executive Officer

George Lange
Chairperson