



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**

November 9, 2011

I. Call to Order.

The meeting of the Governing Board of the Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority was called to order by Chairperson George Lange, at 2:02 p.m. on November 9, 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: Ed Hayduk, Jerome C. Daniel, Vice Chairperson, and George Lange, Chairperson. A quorum was present. The following member was absent: Jim Hasenauer.

Staff Present: Joseph T. Edmiston, Executive Officer, FAICP, Hon, ASLA; Rorie Skei, Chief Deputy Executive Officer; Laurie Collins, Chief Staff Counsel; Jeff Maloney, Staff Counsel; Paul Edelman, Deputy Director of Natural Resources and Planning; Fernando Gomez, Chief Ranger; Tim Miller, Chief of Construction; Jamie Cabral, Chief Deputy of Interpretation; Dan Tholund, Chief of Facilities and Maintenance; Barbara Romero, Chief of Urban Parks (via teleconference); Sheryl Lewanda, representing the Conejo Recreation and Park District, and James Yeramian, Staff Services Manager.

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

No members of the public address the Authority.

IV. Approval of Minutes.

The minutes of October 5, 2011 were submitted for approval.

The minutes of October 5, 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: Chief Staff Counsel; Chief Ranger; Deputy Director of Natural Resources and Planning; Chief Deputy of Interpretation; Chief of Construction; Chief of Facilities and Maintenance, and Sheryl Lewanda, Acting Assistant Financial Officer, representing the Conejo Recreation and Park District.

VI. Consent Calendar:

- (a) Consideration of resolution adopting the MRCA Warrant Disbursements for the period of September 29, 2011 to November 2, 2011.**
- (b) Consideration of resolution authorizing amendment to a professional services contract with BlueGreen consulting for construction observation and support services of the 8th Street Park project.**
- (c) Consideration of resolution authorizing the acceptance of funds from the Baldwin Hills Regional Conservation Authority to implement the Construction Document & CEQA phase of the Park to Playa project.**
- (d) Consideration of resolution authorizing a professional services contract with Alta Planning & Design for the Construction Document & CEQA phase of the Park to Playa project.**
- (e) Consideration of resolution authorizing a professional services and sole source contract with SCI Consulting Group.**
- (f) Consideration of resolution authorizing acceptance of the offers to dedicate trail easements associated with Coastal Development Permit Nos. 5-90-1094 (Amezquita) and 5-91-829 (Johnson), incorporated and unincorporated Malibu.**

Item VI(e) was removed from the Consent Calendar.

On motion of Mr. Hayduk, duly seconded, Resolution Nos. 11-137, 11-138, 11-139, 11-140, and 11-142 were unanimously adopted.

VI(e). Consideration of resolution authorizing a professional services and sole source contract with SCI Consulting Group.

Questions were propounded by Mr. Daniel.

Comments were made by the Executive Officer.

On motion of Mr. Daniel, duly seconded, Resolution No. 11-141 was unanimously adopted.

VII. Consideration of resolution authorizing a budget augmentation to the grant to the Los Angeles Conservation Corps for the Compton Creek–Washington Elementary School Natural Park project.

Questions were propounded by Mr. Hayduk.

Comments were made by the Chief of Construction.

Questions were propounded by the Chair.

Comments were made the Chief Deputy Executive Officer, the Executive Officer, and Chief of Urban Parks.

Questions were propounded by Mr. Hayduk.

Comments were made by the Chief of Construction.

On motion of Mr. Hayduk, duly seconded, Resolution No. 11-143 was unanimously adopted.

VIII. Consideration of resolution approving the application of grant funds from the Urban Greening Grant Program under the Safe Drinking Water, Water Quality and Supply, Flood Control, River and Coastal Protection Bond Act of 2006 (Proposition 84) for the Pacoima Wash – El Dorado Park project.

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

On motion of Mr. Daniel, duly seconded, Resolution No. 11-144 was unanimously adopted.

IX. Consideration of resolution authorizing requesting a budget augmentation for grant SMM-0605 from the Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy.

The staff report for this item was presented by the Chief of Construction.

Comments were made by the Chief Deputy Executive Officer.

Questions were propounded by Mr. Daniel.

Comments were made by the Chief of Construction.

On motion of Mr. Hayduk, duly seconded, Resolution No. 11-145 was unanimously adopted.

X. Consideration of resolution confirming staff application for, and authorizing acceptance of, a grant of mitigation funds (I-405 Sepulveda Pass Widening Project, Corps No. SPL-2008-464-PHT) from the Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy for a riparian habitat restoration and creation project in the Bundy Canyon or Ballona Creek watershed.

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

Questions were propounded by the Chair.

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

On motion of Mr. Daniel, duly seconded, Resolution No. 11-146 was unanimously adopted.

XI. Consideration of resolution authorizing the acquisition of APNs 4434-008-004 and 4434-007-002 totaling 42.83 acres in the Topanga Canyon watershed and acceptance of funds from Los Angeles County. *Negotiators: Joseph T. Edmiston and Toni Shewell. Under consideration: price and terms. (This item may be heard in closed session pursuant to Government Code Section 54956.8.*

The staff report for this item was presented by the Chief Staff Counsel.

This item was heard in closed session.

On motion of Mr. Daniel, duly seconded, Resolution No. 11-147 was unanimously adopted.

XII. Consideration of resolution authorizing sale of cellular tower and communication easements at Ritter Ranch, Palmdale. *Negotiators: Joseph T. Edmiston and American Tower Corporation. Under consideration: price and terms. (This item may be heard in closed session pursuant to Government Code Section 54956.8.*

Questions were propounded by Mr. Daniel.

Comments were made by the Chief Staff Counsel.

This item was heard in closed session.

On motion of Mr. Hayduk, duly seconded, Resolution No. 11-148 was unanimously adopted.

XIII. Consideration of resolution authorizing sale of cellular tower and communication easements at Sage Ranch, Simi Valley. *Negotiators: Joseph T. Edmiston and American Tower Corporation. Under consideration: price and terms. (This item may be heard in closed session pursuant to Government Code Section 54956.8.*

Questions were propounded by the Chair.

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

This item was heard in closed session.

On motion of Mr. Daniel, duly seconded, Resolution No. 11-149 was unanimously adopted.

XIV. 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 Conservancy 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) Malibu-Encinal Homeowners Association v. Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority, Case No. BC431798; (5) Estwick v. Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority, Case No. BC434783; (6) Reuben v. Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority; (7) Ramirez Canyon Preservation Fund v. Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy and Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority, Case No. BS127089; (8) Ramirez Canyon Preservation Fund v. California Coastal Commission, Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority and Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy, Case No. BS121820; (9) Ramirez Canyon Preservation Fund v. California Coastal Commission, Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority, Case No. BS129503; (10) Morris v. Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority and Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy; (11) Grant v. Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority; (12) Kaufman v. Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority, and (13) Everett v. Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority.

The Chair convened the closed session at 3:01 p.m. and announced that items XI, XII, XIII, and the matter of *Estwick v. Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority, Case No. BC434783*, would be heard in closed session.

The Chair reconvened the open session at 3:27 p.m. and announced that instructions were given to negotiators regarding items XI, XII, XIII, and the matter of *Estwick v. Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority, Case No. BC434783*.

XIII. Announcement of future meetings and adjournment.

The Chairperson announced that the next meeting would be held on December 14, 2011.

Their being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 3:30 p.m. in memory of Scott Wilson.

Respectfully submitted:

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

Approved:

George Lange
Chairperson