



**MOUNTAINS RECREATION & CONSERVATION AUTHORITY**  
Los Angeles River Center & Gardens  
570 West Avenue Twenty-Six, Suite 100  
Los Angeles, California 90065  
Phone (323) 221-9944 Fax (323) 221-9934

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

**May 2, 2012**

**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 May 2, 2012, 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, Executive Officer, FAICP, Hon, ASLA; Rorie Skei, Chief Deputy Executive Officer; Dan Tholund, Chief of Facilities and Maintenance; Jewel Johnson, Ranger; Fernando Gomez, Chief Ranger; Jeff Jones, Assistant Financial Officer; Dave Updike, Chief of Fire Division; Jeff Maloney, Staff Counsel; Laurie Collins, Chief Staff Counsel; Walt Young, Chief of Operations; Paul Edelman, Deputy Director of 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 members of the public addressed the Authority.

**IV. 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) *Ramirez Canyon Preservation Fund v. Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy and Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority, Case No. BS127089*; (6) *Ramirez Canyon Preservation Fund v. California Coastal Commission, Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority and Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy, Case No. BS121820*; (7) *Ramirez Canyon Preservation Fund v. California Coastal Commission, Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority, Case No. BS129503*; (8) *Morris v. Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority and Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy*; (9) *Grant v. Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority*; (10) *Everett v. Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority*; (11) *Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority v. City of Whittier, Matrix Oil Co. and related entities, Los Angeles County Regional Park and Open Space District and the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors*; (12) *Zusser Company, Inc. v. Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority*, and (13) *Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority v. Coldwater Investments*.

Pursuant to Government Code section 54956.9(a): conference with legal counsel regarding claim made pursuant to the Government Tort Claims Act. Claimant: Zusser Company, Inc.

Pursuant to Government Code section 54956.9(b): conference with legal counsel regarding claim made pursuant to the Government Tort Claims Act. Claimant: Garrett Zelen.

The Chair convened the closed session at 2:04 p.m. to discuss *Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority v. Coldwater Investments* and conference with legal counsel regarding claim made pursuant to the Government Tort Claims Act. Claimant: Garrett Zelen.

The Chair reconvened the open session at 2:51 p.m. and announced that instructions were given to negotiators *Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority v. Coldwater Investments* and conference with legal counsel regarding claim made pursuant to the Government Tort Claims Act. Claimant: Garrett Zelen.

**V. Approval of Minutes.**

The minutes of April 4, 2012 were submitted for approval.

The minutes of April 4, 2012 were approved as submitted.

**VI. 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 Ranger; Ranger Jewel Johnson; Chief of Fire Division; Chief of Interpretation; Chief of Facilities and Maintenance; Deputy Director of Natural Resources and Planning, and the Assistant Financial Officer.

**VII. Consent Calendar:**

- (a) Consideration of resolution adopting the MRCA Warrant Disbursements for the period of March 30, 2012 to April 26, 2012.**
- (b) Consideration of resolution authorizing acceptance of a grant from the Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy and authorizing an application to the Conservancy for additional funding to produce a short documentary about the early history of efforts to preserve the Santa Monica Mountains for use at the Santa Monica Mountains Interagency Visitor Center at King Gillette Ranch and for other public service purposes.**
- (c) Consideration of resolution authorizing acceptance of a conservation easement over an approximately 18 acre portion of APN 4378-003-022, Nalin Drive, Hoag Canyon, City of Los Angeles.**

Item V(c) was removed from the Consent Calendar.

On motion of Mr. Hasenauer, duly seconded, Resolution Nos. 12-48 and 12-49 were unanimously adopted.

**V(c). Consideration of resolution authorizing acceptance of a conservation easement over an approximately 18 acre portion of APN 4378-003-022, Nalin Drive, Hoag Canyon, City of Los Angeles.**

Questions were propounded by Mr. Daniel.

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

On motion of Mr. Hasenauer, duly seconded, Resolution No. 12-50 was unanimously adopted.

**VIII. Presentation on management of the newly acquired Big Tujunga Canyon park property.**

The Authority received an oral report from the Chief of Operations.

Questions were propounded by Messrs. Hayduk and Daniel.

Comments were made by the Chief of Operations.

**IX. Consideration of resolution authorizing MRCA staff participation in the World Ranger Congress.**

The staff report for this item was presented by Ranger Jewel Johnson.

Questions were propounded by Messrs. Hasenauer and Daniel.

Comments were made by the Assistant Financial Officer.

On motion of Mr. Hayduk, duly seconded, Resolution No. 12-51 was unanimously adopted.

**X. Consideration of resolution authorizing acceptance of an augmentation of Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy grant CF-1020 and of said funding for riparian habitat restoration in Lopez Canyon, San Gabriel Mountains, unincorporated Los Angeles County.**

On motion of Mr. Hayduk, duly seconded, Resolution No. 12-52 was unanimously adopted.

**XI. Consideration of resolution authorizing an application to the Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy for a project planning and design grant for Elephant Hill Open Space, El Sereno.**

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

Comments were made by the Chief Staff Counsel.

On motion of Mr. Hayduk, duly seconded, Resolution No. 12-53 was unanimously adopted.

**XII. Consideration of resolution adopting FY 12/13 MRCA Workprogram.**

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

Questions were propounded by Mr. Hayduk.

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

On motion of Mr. Hasenauer, duly seconded, Resolution No. 12-54 was unanimously adopted.

**XIII. Consideration of resolution directing and authorizing the Executive Officer to take actions necessary to create one or more community facilities districts.**

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

Questions were propounded by Messrs. Hasenauer and Hayduk.

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

On motion of Mr. Hayduk, duly seconded, Resolution No. 12-55 was unanimously adopted.

**XIV. Consideration of resolution (a) authorizing a request to the Los Angeles County Regional Park and Open Space District to add APNs 3210-003-006, 3210-004-012, 3210-010-010, 3210-010-011, 3210-011-015, 3210-011-016, 3210-011-022, 3210-012-024, 3210-012-025, 3210-012-026, 3210-013-030, 3210-013-031, 3210-013-032, 3210-013-034, 3210-013-035, 3210-013-036, 3210-013-044, 3210-013-045, totaling 1158 acres, to Project Agreement 58A1-09-2202; (b) requesting augmentation of said Project Agreement to increase grant amount for property acquisition, and (c) authorizing fee simple**

**or conservation easement acquisition of the subject parcels, Agua Dulce Canyon, unincorporated Los Angeles County. Negotiators: Joseph T. Edmiston and Albinis Markevicius. Under consideration: price and terms. (This item may be heard in closed session pursuant to the Government Code § 54956.8).**

On motion of Mr. Daniel, duly seconded, Resolution No. 12-56 was unanimously adopted.

**XV. Consideration of resolution authorizing the use of Coastal Habitat Impact Mitigation Fund to acquire 13.9 acres (APN 4456-037-008) abutting Piuma Road in the Cold Creek watershed contingent on approval by the Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy.**

Questions were propounded by Mr. Daniel.

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

On motion of Mr. Hasenauer, duly seconded, Resolution No. 12-57 was unanimously adopted.

**XVI. Consideration of resolution supporting SB 1201 (De Leon).**

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

Questions were propounded by Mr. Hasenauer.

Comments were made by the Executive Officer.

On motion of Mr. Hasenauer, duly seconded, Resolution No. 12-58 was unanimously adopted.

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

The Chairperson announced that the next meeting would be held on June 6, 2012.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 4:03 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:

Approved:

MRCA Minutes  
May 2, 2012  
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Joseph T. Edmiston, FAICP, Hon, ASLA  
Executive Officer

George Lange  
Chairperson