



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

November 6, 2013

I. Call to order.

The 481st 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 November 6, 2013, at the Conejo Recreation and Park District, Community Room, 403 West Hillcrest Drive, Thousand Oaks, California.

II. Roll Call.

The roll was called and the following members were present: Larry Peterson; Jim Hasenauer; 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; James Latham, Acting Chief Ranger; Jeff Maloney, Chief Staff Counsel; Jeff Jones, Assistant Financial Officer; Paul Edelman, Deputy Director of Natural Resources and Planning; Melissa Guerrero, Project Analyst, and James Yeramian, Staff Services Manager.

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

The following member addressed the Authority:

Mr. Don Pinkerton, member of the public, on item X.

IV. Approval of Minutes.

The minutes of October 2, 2013 were submitted for approval.

The minutes of October 1, 2013 were approved as submitted.

V. Reports.

The Authority received oral reports from the following members of staff: Chief Staff Counsel; Acting Chief Ranger; Deputy Director of Natural Resources and Planning; the Chief Deputy Executive Officer; the Project Analyst, and the Assistant Financial Officer.

VI. Consent Calendar:

- (a) Consideration of resolution adopting the MRCA Warrant Disbursements for the period of September 23, 2013 to October 27, 2013.**
- (b) Consideration of resolution authorizing a professional services contract with MIG, Inc., for design services for the Pacoima Wash Greenway - El Dorado Park project.**
- (c) Consideration of resolution authorizing granting easements to the County of Los Angeles for the construction, maintenance, and operation of culverts and drains over a portion of APN 4453-003-902, along Schueren Road, unincorporated Los Angeles County.**
- (d) Consideration of resolution authorizing a grant application to the California Coastal Commission Whale Tail grant program for MRCA interpretive programs.**
- (e) Consideration of resolution authorizing a comment letter to United States Army Corps of Engineers regarding the Los Angeles River Ecosystem Restoration Feasibility Study along 11 miles of the Los Angeles River.**
- (f) Consideration of resolution authorizing the acceptance of conservation easements on APNs 2425-015-030, 031, 032, 033 and 034 on Multiview Drive in the Cahuenga Pass area, City of Los Angeles.**
- (g) Consideration of resolution awarding a contract to Bard Catering for food services related to Outdoor Education Camp at King Gillette Ranch.**

On motion of Mr. Daniel, duly seconded, Resolution Nos. 13-124 through 13-130 were unanimously adopted.

- VII. Consideration of resolution authorizing: (a) entering into a project agreement with the Los Angeles County Regional Park and Open Space District to acquire APNs 4472-018-007, 4472-023-007 and 008, 4472-024-005, 007 and 008,**

4473-004-002 and 003 totaling approximately 416 acres in the Decker Canyon watershed; (b) entering into an agreement with the Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy for the use of specified state funds, and (c) acquisition of said parcels.

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 and the Chair.

Comments were made by Mr. Hasenauer.

On motion of Mr. Daniel, duly seconded, Resolution No. 13-131 was unanimously adopted as amended..

VIII. Consideration of resolution authorizing the use of Coastal Habitat Impact Mitigation Funds to acquire APNs 4472-018-007, 4472-023-007 and 008, 4472-024-005, 007 and 008, 4473-004-002 and 003 totaling approximately 416 acres in the Decker Canyon watershed.

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

On motion of Mr. Hasenauer, duly seconded, Resolution No. 13-132 was unanimously adopted.

IX. Consideration of resolution: (a) authorizing the acquisition of APN 4465-004-045, approximately 56 acres in Ramirez Canyon, using Coastal Habitat Impact Mitigation Funds, Proposition A funds, and funds from the State Coastal Conservancy; (b) alternatively authorizing a grant of said funds as applicable to the Trust for Public Land for the acquisition of said parcel, and (c) authorizing entering into a Project Agreement with the Los Angeles County Regional Park and Open Space District for said acquisition via Assignment and Assumption Grant Agreement, unincorporated Los Angeles County.

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. Hasenauer, duly seconded, Resolution No. 13-133 was unanimously adopted.

- X. Consideration of resolution authorizing the acquisition of APNs 2821-003-012 and 013 totaling approximately 80 acres in the Browns Canyon watershed using Proposition A funds and non-Corps related mitigation funds, unincorporated Chatsworth area.**

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

On motion of Mr. Hasenauer, duly seconded, Resolution No. 13-134 was unanimously adopted.

Comments were made Mr. Don Pinkerton.

- XI. Consideration of resolution approving the application, assurances, and application submission for grant funds and authorizing entering into a grant agreement with the State Coastal Conservancy to acquire APN 4465-004-045 in Ramirez Canyon and acceptance of said grant funding, unincorporated Malibu area.**

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

On motion of Mr. Hasenauer, duly seconded, Resolution No. 13-135 was unanimously adopted.

- XII. Consideration of resolution opposing the proposed Hidden Creeks Estates Project (CPC-2005-6656-AD-GPA-ZC-CU-DA-ZAD/VTT-68724/ENV-2005-6657-EIR), and, in the event that a project is approved, conditionally authorizing the acceptance of trail easements, conservation easements, and fee simple open space related to the project, Browns Canyon watershed, Chatsworth and Porter Ranch areas.**

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

On motion of Mr. Hasenauer, duly seconded, Resolution No. 13-136 was unanimously adopted.

- XIII. Consideration of resolution authorizing assignment of right to apply for 1st Supervisorial District Specified Proposition A Excess Funds (Big 5 – LA River)**

to the Amigos de los Rios for the La Plaza de Cultura Y Artes Outdoor Improvements Project, City of Los Angeles.

This item was postponed to a later date.

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: eleven (11). (1) *Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy and Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority v. City of Malibu*, and related actions, Case No. SC 092212; (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) *Everett v. Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority*; (10) *Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority v. City of Whittier, Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors, Los Angeles County Regional Park and Open Space District, et al.*, Case No. BS136211, and related cases, and (11) *Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority v. Coldwater Investments*.

Pursuant to Government Code section 54956.9: conference with legal counsel regarding claim of liability and exposure to litigation. Claimants: (1) Aaron Friedman and (2) Kris Song.

The Chair convened the closed session at 2:47 p.m. and announced that the following items would be discussed: *Ramirez Canyon Preservation Fund v. Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy and Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority, Case No. BS127089* and conference with legal counsel regarding claim of liability and exposure to litigation. Claimants: (1) Aaron Friedman and (2) Kris Song.

The Chair reconvened the open session at 3:03 p.m. and announced that direction was given to staff regarding the following items: *Ramirez Canyon Preservation Fund v. Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy and Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority, Case No. BS127089* and conference with legal counsel regarding claim of liability and exposure to litigation. Claimants: (1) Aaron Friedman and (2) Kris Song.

XV. Announcement of future meetings and adjournment.

The Chair announced that the next meeting would be held on December 4, 2013.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 3:04 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:

Approved:

Joseph T. Edmiston
Executive Officer

George Lange
Chairperson