



**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**

**August 6, 2014**

**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 August 6, 2014, 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: 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; Laura Ratcliffe, Staff Counsel; Jeff Jones, Assistant Financial Officer; Amy Lethbridge, Deputy Executive Officer of Interpretation; Fernando Gomez, Chief Ranger; Ana Straabe, Deputy Chief of Urban Projects & Watershed Planning Division; Walt Young, Deputy Executive Officer, and Chris Trumpy, Program Analyst and Acting Board Secretary.

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

No members of the public addressed the Authority.

**IV. Approval of minutes.**

The minutes of July 7, 2014 were submitted for approval.

The minutes of June 7, 2014 were approved as submitted.

**V. Reports from staff.**

The Authority received oral reports from the Staff Counsel; Chief Ranger; the Deputy Chief of Urban Projects & Watershed Planning Division; the Deputy Executive Officer of Interpretation; the Executive Officer, and the Assistant Financial Officer.

**VI. Consent Calendar:**

- (a) Consideration of resolution adopting the MRCA Warrant Disbursements for the period of June 25, 2014 to July 25, 2014.**
- (b) Consideration of resolution approving the application to the Los Angeles County Regional Park and Open Space District for the Fifth Supervisorial District competitive grant program for Towsley Canyon Park infrastructure improvements.**
- (c) Consideration of resolution approving the application to the Los Angeles County Regional Park and Open Space District for the Fifth Supervisorial District competitive grant program for Mentryville water line infrastructure improvements.**
- (d) Consideration of resolution approving the application to the Los Angeles County Regional Park and Open Space District for the Fifth Supervisorial District competitive grant program for Marge Feinberg Rim of the Valley Trail infrastructure improvements.**
- (e) Consideration of resolution approving the application to the State Coastal Conservancy Climate Ready competitive grant program for Caballero Creek-Los Angeles River Confluence Park.**
- (f) Consideration of resolution authorizing entering into a Memorandum of Understanding with Los Angeles County Flood Control District for Marsh Park Phase II.**
- (g) Consideration of resolution approving a contract with GrowthPoint Global Inc. for a prefabricated building for the Compton Creek Natural Park at Washington Elementary School project.**
- (h) Consideration of resolution authorizing legal services contract with Blank Rome, LLP.**

- (l) Consideration of resolution authorizing entering into an Interagency Memorandum of Understanding with the County of Los Angeles, the Third Supervisorial District, and other entities for continued collaboration on the Santa Monica Mountains Fire Safe Alliance.**

Items VI(b), VI(e) ,and VI(g) were removed from the Consent Calendar.

On motion of Mr. Daniel, duly seconded, Resolution Nos. 14-120; 14-122; 14-123; 14-125; 14-127, and 14-128 were unanimously adopted.

- VI(b). Consideration of resolution approving the application to the Los Angeles County Regional Park and Open Space District for the Fifth Supervisorial District competitive grant program for Towsley Canyon Park infrastructure improvements.**

Questions were propounded by the Chair.

Comments were made by the Chief Deputy Executive Officer.

On motion of Mr. Hasenauer, duly seconded, Resolution No. 14-121 was unanimously adopted.

- VI(e). Consideration of resolution approving the application to the State Coastal Conservancy Climate Ready competitive grant program for Caballero Creek-Los Angeles River Confluence Park.**

Questions were propounded by the Chair.

Comments were made by the Deputy Chief of Urban Projects & Watershed Planning Division.

On motion of Mr. Peterson, duly seconded, Resolution No. 14-124 was unanimously adopted.

- VI(g). Consideration of resolution approving a contract with GrowthPoint Global Inc. for a prefabricated building for the Compton Creek Natural Park at Washington Elementary School project.**

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

Questions were propounded by the Chair.

Comments were made by the Deputy Chief of Urban Projects & Watershed Planning Division and the Chief Deputy Executive Officer.

On motion of Mr. Hasenauer, duly seconded, Resolution No. 14-126 was unanimously adopted.

**VII. Consideration of resolution approving the final FY 2014-2015 budget of the Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority.**

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

Questions were propounded by Mr. Daniel.

Comments were made by the Assistant Financial Officer.

On motion of Mr. Hasenauer, duly seconded, Resolution No. 14-129 was unanimously adopted.

**VIII. Consideration of resolution accepting funds from the Santa Monica Bay Restoration Foundation for maintenance work at the Ballona Wetlands Ecological Reserve.**

The staff report for this item was presented by the Deputy Chief of Urban Projects & Watershed Planning Division.

Questions were propounded by Mr. Daniel.

Comments were made by the Staff Counsel and the Executive Officer.

On motion of Mr. Hasenauer, duly seconded, Resolution No. 14-130 was unanimously adopted.

**IX. Consideration of resolution authorizing a grant of Proposition 84 funds to Pacoima Beautiful for interpretive programming at 8th Street park along the Pacoima Wash Greenway in the City of San Fernando and City of Los Angeles.**

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

Questions were propounded by the Chair and Mr. Daniel.

Comments were made by the Deputy Executive Officer of Interpretation.

On motion of Mr. Hasenauer, duly seconded, Resolution No. 14-131 was unanimously adopted.

**X. Consideration of resolution authorizing acceptance of conservation easements totaling approximately 42 acres over portions of Tract Numbers 52824-1, 52824-2, 52824-3 and 52824-4, and acceptance of processing funds, in San Gabriel Canyon, City of Azusa, Los Angeles County.**

The staff report for this item was presented by the Project Analyst and Acting Board Secretary.

Questions were propounded by the Executive Officer.

Comments were made by the Project Analyst and Acting Board Secretary.

The Executive Officer recommending amending the resolution to make the acceptance of the easements conditional upon receipt of processing funds.

On motion of Mr. Hasenauer, duly seconded, Resolution No. 14-132 was unanimously adopted as amended.

**XI. Consideration of resolution authorizing acceptance of a conservation easement from Los Angeles County over APNs 4471-004-903 and 4471-004-905, upper Zuma Canyon watershed, unincorporated Los Angeles County.**

The staff report for this item was presented by the Project Analyst and Acting Board Secretary.

Questions were propounded by Mr. Daniel, Mr. Hasenauer, and the Chair.

Comments were made by the Project Analyst and Acting Board Secretary.

This item was postponed to a later date.

**XII. Consideration of resolution authorizing assignment of right to apply for Specified Excess Funds to Northeast Trees for the acquisition of Mount Olympus/Flattop property, City of Los Angeles.**

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

On motion of Mr. Hasenauer, duly seconded, Resolution No. 14-134 was unanimously adopted.

**XIII. 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: ten (10). (1) *Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy and Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority v. City of Malibu*, Case No. SC092212 and related actions; (2) *Malibu-Encinal Homeowners Association v. Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority*, Case No. BC431798; (3) *Morris v. City of Los Angeles, et al.*, Case No. BC448511; (4) *Everett v. Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority*, Case No. BC466880; (5) *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, (6) *Friends of the Hastain Trail, et al. v. Coldwater Investments, et al.*, Case No. BC469573; (7) *Prop "A" Protective Association, LLC v. Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority, et al.*, Case No. BS 145771 and related cases; (8) *Los Angeles County Regional Park and Open Space District, The Trust for Public Land, et al. v. City of Whittier, Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority, et al.*, Case No. BS146670 and related cases; (9) *Ball v. Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority*, Case No. BC530090, and (10) *Friedman v. King Gillette Ranch, et al.*, Case No. BC540277.

No closed session was held.

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

The Chair announced that the next meeting would be held on September 10, 2014.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 3:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:

Approved:

Joseph T. Edmiston  
Executive Officer

George Lange  
Chairperson