



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

September 10, 2014

I. Call to order.

The special 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 September 10, 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, 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 Skej, Chief Deputy Executive Officer; Jeff Maloney, Chief Staff Counsel; Jeff Jones, Assistant Financial Officer; Amy Lethrbridge, Deputy Executive Officer of Interpretation; Ranger James Latham, Ranger; Ana Straabe, Deputy Chief of Urban Projects & Watershed Planning Division; Ken Nelson, Chief of Fire Division; Melissa Cartelli, Associate Government Program Analyst; Tim Miller, Chief of Construction; Paul Edelman, Deputy Director of Natural Resources and Planning, and James Yeramian, Staff Services Manager.

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

The following member of the public addressed the Authority:

Mr. Rick Denman, representing himself, on matters not on the agenda.

IV. Approval of minutes.

The minutes of August , 2014 were submitted for approval.

The minutes of August 8, 2014 were approved as submitted.

V. Reports from staff.

The Authority received oral reports from the Chief Staff Counsel; Ranger Latham; Chief of Fire Division; the Deputy Director of Natural Resources and Planning; Deputy Executive Officer of Interpretation; Chief of Construction, and the Assistant Financial Officer.

VI. Consent Calendar:

- (a) Consideration of resolution adopting the MRCA Warrant Disbursements for the period of July 26, 2014 to August 31, 2014.**
- (b) Consideration of resolution approving the MRCA updated salary schedule as of July 7, 2014.**
- (c) Consideration of resolution authorizing acceptance of funds from the City of Santa Clarita to acquire properties at the Los Angeles County Treasurer and Tax Collector 2014A Public Auction, and authorizing subsequent transfer of said properties to the City of Santa Clarita.**
- (d) Consideration of resolution authorizing the ability to register/vest and purchase properties at the Los Angeles County Treasurer and Tax Collector 2014A Public Auction.**
- (e) Consideration of resolution authorizing the creation of an Auction Trust Account with the Los Angeles County Treasurer and Tax Collectors office to purchase parcels at the 2014A Public Auction.**
- (f) 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.**
- (g) Consideration of resolution authorizing a professional services contract with Ninyo & Moore for geotechnical services for the Milton Street Park project.**

Items VI(a), VI(b) and VI(f) were removed from the Consent Calendar.

On motion of Mr. Peterson, duly seconded, Resolution Nos. 14-137;14-138; 14-140, and 14-141 were unanimously adopted.

VI(a). Consideration of resolution adopting the MRCA Warrant Disbursements for the period of July 26, 2014 to August 31, 2014.

Questions were propounded by Mr. Daniel.

Comments were made by the Assistant Financial Officer.

On motion of Mr. Peterson, duly seconded, Resolution No. 14-135 was unanimously adopted.

VI(b). Consideration of resolution approving the MRCA updated salary schedule as of July 7, 2014.

Questions were propounded by Mr. Daniel.

Comments were made by the Assistant Financial Officer.

On motion of Mr. Peterson, duly seconded, Resolution No. 14-136 was unanimously adopted.

VI(f). 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.

Questions were propounded by the Chair.

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

On motion of Mr. Peterson, duly seconded, Resolution No. 14-140 was unanimously adopted.

VII. Consideration of resolution authorizing: (a) acceptance of a portion of APN 2819-010-013 from Presidio Chatsworth Partners, LLC ("Presidio"); (b) granting of grading easement over a portion of APN 2819-011-904 to Presidio; (c) acceptance of dedication of additional fee title and/or conservation easement interests from Presidio, and (d) amendment of promissory note held by MRCA, Browns Canyon, unincorporated Los Angeles County.

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

The resolution was amended to include APN 2819-011-006.

Questions were propounded by Messrs. Daniel and Peterson.

Comments were made by the Chief Staff Counsel.

On motion of Mr. Daniel, duly seconded, Resolution No. 14-142 was unanimously adopted.

VIII. Consideration of resolution preliminarily authorizing renewal of and modifications to two promissory notes for the purposes of two operating lines of credit.

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

Comments were made by Sheryl Lewanda, representing the Conejo Recreation & Park District.

Questions were propounded by the Chair and Mr. Peterson.

Comments were made by the Chief Staff Counsel.

On motion of Mr. Daniel, duly seconded, Resolution No. 14-143 was unanimously adopted.

IX. Consideration of resolution approving expenses related to and reimbursement of same when the MRCA participates in incidents where a local, State, or Federal disaster has been declared.

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

On motion of Mr. Daniel, duly seconded, Resolution No. 14-144 was unanimously adopted.

X. Consideration of resolution adopting Tax-Advantaged Bonds Post-Issuance Compliance Procedures.

The staff report for this item was presented by Sheryl Lewanda, representing the Conejo Recreation & Park District.

On motion of Mr. Daniel, duly seconded, Resolution No. 14-145 was unanimously adopted.

XI. Consideration of resolution authorizing a grant of Proposition 84 funds to Anahuac Youth Sports Association for interpretive programming at Marsh Park, City of Los Angeles.

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

On motion of Mr. Peterson, duly seconded, Resolution No. 14-146 was unanimously adopted.

XII. Consideration of resolution authorizing a grant of Proposition 84 funds to the Compton Junior Posse for interpretive programming at Compton Creek Natural Park at Washington Elementary, City of Compton.

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

Questions were propounded by Mr. Daniel.

Comments were made by the Deputy Executive Officer of Interpretation.

On motion of Mr. Peterson, duly seconded, Resolution No. 14-147 was unanimously adopted.

XIII. Consideration of resolution authorizing amendment to a professional services contract with Alta Planning & Design for the Construction Document & CEQA phase of the Park to Playa project.

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

Questions were propounded by the Chair and the Executive Officer.

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

On motion of Mr. Daniel, duly seconded, Resolution No. 14-148 was unanimously adopted.

XIV. Consideration of resolution authorizing: (a) entering into an agreement to acquire conservation easements and fee simple parcels by 8149 Willow Glen Drive contingent upon the Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy waiving its first right of refusal on APN 5565-026-900; (b) acceptance of conservation easements on APN 5565-026-015, and (c) acceptance of APNs 5565-026-003 and 5565-027-010, Laurel Canyon, City of Los Angeles.

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

Questions were propounded by the Chair and the Executive Officer.

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

On motion of Mr. Daniel, duly seconded, Resolution No. 14-149 was unanimously adopted.

XV. Consideration of resolution authorizing application to the Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy for a project planning and design grant for the Eastern Simi Hills – Upper Los Angeles River Watershed area.

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

The resolution was amending to increase the dollar amount to \$75,000.

On motion of Mr. Peterson, duly seconded, Resolution No. 14-150 was unanimously adopted.

XVI. Consideration of resolution amending Resolution No. 13-148 regarding the Agua Dulce – State Route 14 Wildlife Corridor Project Proposition A grant application, unincorporated Los Angeles County.

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

On motion of Mr. Peterson, duly seconded, Resolution No. 14-151 was unanimously adopted.

XVII. 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)*Kaplan v. State of California, et al.*, Case No. BC520639; (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.

The Chairperson convened the closed session at 3:24 p.m. to receive a summary of all cases listed above.

The Chairperson re-convened the open session at 4:01 p.m. and announced that direction was given to staff.

XVIII. Announcement of future meetings and adjournment.

The Chair announced that the next meeting would be held on October 1, 2014.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 4:02 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:

Approved:

Joseph T. Edmiston
Executive Officer

George Lange
Chairperson