



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 5, 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 November 5, 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; Jeff Maloney, Chief Staff Counsel; Laura Radtcliffe, Staff Counsel; Jeff Jones, Assistant Financial Officer; Dash Stolarz, Director of Public Affairs; Tim Miller, Chief of Construction Division; Fernando Gomez, Chief Ranger; Walt Young, Chief of Operations; Cara Meyer, Chief of Special Projects; Amy Lethrbridge, Deputy Executive Officer of Interpretation; Jamie Cabral, Chief of Interpretation; Ana Straabe, Deputy Chief of Urban Projects & Watershed Planning Division; Paul Edelman, Deputy Director of Natural Resources and Planning, Ken Nelson, Chief of the Fire Division, and James Yeramian, Staff Services Manager.

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

No members of the public addressed the Authority.

Item XV was heard next.

XV. Presentation by the City of Angels Fun Ride honoring MRCA Fire Division.

Comments were made by Mr. Hueneman, representing the City of Angels Fun Ride.

Comments were made by the Chief of the Fire Division and Neil Polakovic.

IV. Approval of minutes.

The minutes of December 1, 2014 were submitted for approval.

The minutes of December 1, 2014 were approved as submitted.

V. Reports from staff.

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

VI. Consent Calendar:

- (a) Consideration of resolution adopting the MRCA Warrant Disbursements for the period of September 20, 2014 to October 27, 2014.**
- (b) Consideration of resolution authorizing acceptance of donation of an approximately 81-acre property on Adobe Mountain, APN 3334-020-009, Antelope Valley, unincorporated County of Los Angeles.**
- (c) Consideration of resolution authorizing entering into a professional services contract with the Las Virgenes Unified School District for outdoor education camp at King Gillette Ranch.**
- (d) Consideration of resolution authorizing granting a 10" wide easement to Southern California Edison Company for the construction, maintenance, and operation of overhead and underground electrical supply systems and communication systems over portions of APNs 2821-003-902, 2821-003-903, 2821-003-904, and 2821-002-902, Browns Canyon, Chatsworth.**
- (e) Consideration of resolution adopting a Youth Employment Plan for the Lopez Canyon Park Improvements funded by the Los Angeles County Regional Park and Open Space District.**

- (f) **Consideration of resolution adopting a Youth Employment Plan for the Development/Restoration of Trails in N and NE San Fernando Valley Improvements funded by the Los Angeles County Regional Park and Open Space District.**
- (g) **Consideration of resolution authorizing a contract with APSI Construction Management for construction management services for the Compton Creek Natural Park at Washington Elementary, Phase 2 project.**
- (h) **Consideration of resolution authorizing acceptance of conservation easement(s) over portions of APN 2292-022-014 (3423 Standish Drive), approximately one acre total, adjacent Westridge Canyonback Wilderness Park, in the Mulholland Drive Scenic Corridor, City of Los Angeles.**
- (i) **Consideration of resolution authorizing a comment letter to the Los Angeles Regional Water Quality Control Board regarding a study of the Recreational Use Reassessment (RECUR) of the Engineered Channels of the Los Angeles River Watershed, Part II: Assessment and Staff Recommendations.**
- (j) **Consideration of resolution: (a) authorizing acceptance of a direct dedication of trail easements over APNs 4438-039-014 and 4438-033-012; (b) authorizing the extinguishment of all or portions of existing trail easements on said two parcels contingent upon recordation of adequate replacement of trail easements, and (c) authorizing acceptance of up to 30 acres of fee simple watershed land, Las Flores Canyon, unincorporated Los Angeles County.**

Items VI(b); VI(d); VI(f); VI(i), and VI(j) were removed from the Consent Calendar.

On motion of Mr. Peterson, duly seconded, Resolution Nos. 14-167; 14-169; 14-171; 14-173, and 14-174 were unanimously adopted.

VI(b). Consideration of resolution authorizing acceptance of donation of an approximately 81-acre property on Adobe Mountain, APN 3334-020-009, Antelope Valley, unincorporated County of Los Angeles.

Questions were propounded by Mr. Lange.

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

On motion of Mr. Daniel, duly seconded, Resolution No. 14-168 was unanimously adopted.

VI(d). Consideration of resolution authorizing granting a 10” wide easement to Southern California Edison Company for the construction, maintenance, and operation of overhead and underground electrical supply systems and communication systems over portions of APNs 2821-003-902, 2821-003-903, 2821-003-904, and 2821-002-902, Browns Canyon, Chatsworth.

Questions were propounded by Mr. Hasenauer.

Comments were made by the Staff Counsel and the Chief of Construction.

Questions were propounded by Messrs. Daniel and Hasenauer.

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

On motion of Mr. Hasenauer, duly seconded, Resolution No. 14-170 was unanimously adopted.

VI(f). Consideration of resolution adopting a Youth Employment Plan for the Development/Restoration of Trails in N and NE San Fernando Valley Improvements funded by the Los Angeles County Regional Park and Open Space District.

Questions were propounded by the Chair.

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

On motion of Mr. Daniel, duly seconded, Resolution No. 14-171 was unanimously adopted.

VI(i). Consideration of resolution authorizing a comment letter to the Los Angeles Regional Water Quality Control Board regarding a study of the Recreational Use Reassessment (RECUR) of the Engineered Channels of the Los Angeles River Watershed, Part II: Assessment and Staff Recommendations.

Questions were propounded by the Chairperson.

Comments were made by the Chief of Special Projects.

On motion of Mr. Daniel, duly seconded, Resolution No. 14-175 was unanimously adopted.

- VI(j). Consideration of resolution: (a) authorizing acceptance of a direct dedication of trail easements over APNs 4438-039-014 and 4438-033-012; (b) authorizing the extinguishment of all or portions of existing trail easements on said two parcels contingent upon recordation of adequate replacement of trail easements, and (c) authorizing acceptance of up to 30 acres of fee simple watershed land, Las Flores Canyon, unincorporated Los Angeles County.**

Questions were propounded by Mr. Hasenauer.

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

On motion of Mr. Hasenauer, duly seconded, Resolution No. 14-176 was unanimously adopted.

VII. Presentation and discussion of MRCA Basic Financial Statements and related Federal Single Audit Report for the Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 2013.

The Authority received a report from the Assistant Financial Officer.

Questions were propounded by Mr. Daniel, the Chairperson, and Messers. Hasenauer and Peterson.

Comments were made by the Assistant Financial Officer and the Chief Deputy Executive Officer.

- VIII. Consideration of resolution authorizing acceptance of donation of 13 properties, with a combined acreage of approximately 1.73 acres, APNs 4371-016-024; 4371-017-013; 4371-032-020; 4371-033-008, 010, 014; 4371-039-002; 4371-040-015; 4371-046-004; 4379-032-005; 4380-017-009, 022, and 032 in the Beverly Glen Canyon watershed, acceptance of donation of an approximately 0.15-acre property, APN 5407-002-022, in central City, and payment of property taxes due in the current year for said properties partially using Santa Monica Mountains Open Space Preservation Assessment District No. 1 funds, City of Los Angeles.**

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

Comments were made by the Staff Counsel and the Chief of Operations.

Questions were propounded by Mr. Daniel.

Comments were made by the Chief Staff Counsel.

On motion of Mr. Hasenauer, duly seconded, Resolution 14-177 was unanimously adopted.

IX. Consideration of resolution authorizing acceptance of a donation of APNs 4448-029-026, 027, and 028, and the expenditure of Coastal Habitat Impact Mitigation Fund to partially fund one or more of said donation parcels, Las Flores Canyon, unincorporated Los Angeles County.

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

On motion of Mr. Hasenauer, duly seconded, Resolution No. 14-178 was unanimously adopted.

X. Consideration of resolution authorizing acceptance of six parcels APNs 4452-020-086, 4452-020-101, 4461-009-034, 4461-009-037, 4461-011-024, 4461-018-035 totaling approximately 10.9 acres from the Mountains Restoration Trust, City of Malibu and unincorporated Malibu.

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

Questions were propounded by Mr. Daniel.

Comments were made by the Chief of Operations.

On motion of Mr. Hasenauer, duly seconded, Resolution No. 14-179 was unanimously adopted.

XI. Consideration of resolution authorizing a professional services contract with BlueGreen Consulting for design services for the Caballero Creek and Los Angeles River Confluence Park project.

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

On motion of Mr. Peterson, duly seconded, Resolution No. 14-180 was unanimously adopted.

XII. Consideration of resolution authorizing acceptance of a 300-acre conservation easement over portions of APNs 4455-012-004, 4455-014-037, 4455-014-038, 4455-015-005, 4455-043-003, and 4455-043-007, unincorporated Los Angeles County.

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

Questions were propounded by Mr. Daniel.

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

On motion of Mr. Hasenauer, duly seconded, Resolution No. 14-181 was unanimously adopted.

XIII. Consideration of resolution authorizing entering into a joint powers agreement with the County of Los Angeles.

This item was removed from the agenda.

XIV. Consideration of resolution authorizing entering into a lease with Dell Financial Services for Agency Computer Equipment.

The staff report for this item was presented by the Director of Public Affairs.

On motion of Mr. Hasenauer, duly seconded, Resolution No. 14-182 was unanimously adopted.

XII. 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.

Pursuant to Government Code section 54956.9: conference with legal counsel regarding claim of liability and exposure to litigation. Claimant: Las Virgenes Unified School District.

No closed session was held.

XIII. Announcement of future meetings and adjournment.

The Chairperson announced that the next meeting would be held on December 3, 2014.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 4:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:

Approved:

Joseph T. Edmiston
Executive Officer

George Lange
Chairperson