



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

April 4, 2013

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 2:01 p.m. on April 4, 2013, 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; Paul Edelman, Deputy Director of Natural Resources and Planning; Walt Young, Chief of Operations; Fernando Gomez, Chief Ranger; Jamie Cabral, Chief of Interpretation; Jeff Jones, Assistant Financial Officer; Ana Petrlc, Deputy Chief of Urban Projects and Watershed 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.

IV. Approval of Minutes.

The minutes of March 6, 2013 were submitted for approval.

The minutes of March 6, 2013 were approved as submitted.

V. Reports.

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

VI. Consent Calendar:

- (a) Consideration of resolution adopting the MRCA Warrant Disbursements for the period of February 28, 2013 to March 27, 2013.**
- (b) Consideration of resolution authorizing a budget augmentation to the grant to the Los Angeles Conservation Corps for the Compton Creek–Washington Elementary School Natural Park project.**
- (c) Consideration of resolution requesting a budget modification for SMM-0754 to the Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy.**
- (d) Consideration of resolution authorizing submission of an application to the Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy for a project planning and design grant for the Browns Canyon watershed project, Santa Susana Mountains, Chatsworth area.**
- (e) Consideration of resolution authorizing submission of an application to the Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy for the San Gabriel Mountains Rim of the Valley Trail implementation and Angeles National Forest trail and habitat connections project.**
- (f) Consideration of resolution authorizing submission of an application to the Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy for a project planning and design grant for the Alamos Canyon habitat and trail linkage project, Santa Susana Mountains, Ventura County.**
- (g) Consideration of resolution authorizing submission of an application to the Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy for a project planning and design grant for the Escondido to Ramirez Canyon habitat and trail linkage project, unincorporated Los Angeles County.**
- (h) Consideration of resolution authorizing submission of an application to the Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy for a project planning and design grant for the Little Sycamore to Encinal Canyon Coastal Slope trail zone project, Santa Monica Mountains, unincorporated Los Angeles County.**

- (i) Consideration of resolution authorizing submission of an application to the Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy for a project planning and design grant for the upper Malibu Canyon tributaries project, Santa Monica Mountains, unincorporated Los Angeles County and cities of Calabasas and Agoura Hills.**
- (j) Consideration of resolution authorizing submission of an application to the Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy for a project planning and design grant for the upper Topanga watershed project, Santa Monica Mountains, unincorporated Los Angeles County.**
- (k) Consideration of resolution authorizing submission of an application to the Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy for a project planning and design grant for the Sage Ranch to Santa Susana Pass State Historic Park habitat linkage project, Simi Hills, unincorporated Ventura and Los Angeles counties.**
- (l) Consideration of resolution authorizing submission of an application to the Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy for a project planning and design grant for the Mulholland Drive Scenic Corridor, Santa Monica Mountains, City of Los Angeles.**
- (m) Consideration of resolution authorizing entering into a Memorandum of Understanding with the Ventura County Watershed Protection District for planning and coordination of land acquisition and restoration projects.**
- (n) Consideration of resolution authorizing continuation of Cooperative Management Agreement with the National Park Service, Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy, and California Department of Parks and Recreation.**
- (o) Consideration of resolution authorizing participation in the Conservation Funding Information Network.**

Item VI(m) was removed from the consent calendar.

On motion of Mr. Peterson, duly seconded, Resolution Nos. 13-30; 13-31; 13-32; 13-33; 13-34; 13-35; 13-36; 13-37; 13-38; 13-39; 13-40; 13-41; 13-43, and 13-43(a) were unanimously adopted.

VI(m). Consideration of resolution authorizing entering into a Memorandum of Understanding with the Ventura County Watershed Protection District for planning and coordination of land acquisition and restoration projects.

Questions were propounded by the Chair.

Comments were made by the Chief Deputy Executive Officer.

On motion of Mr. Daniel, duly seconded, Resolution No. 13-42 was unanimously adopted.

VII. Consideration of resolution further authorizing the use of Coastal Habitat Impact Mitigation Funds towards the acquisition of APN 4465-004-045 and 4465-004-084 in the Ramirez Canyon watershed, 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. Hasenauer, duly seconded, Resolution No. 13-44 was unanimously adopted.

VIII. Consideration of resolution authorizing adopting a Youth Employment Plan for the Park to Playa - Stocker Corridor Trailhead project funded by the Los Angeles County Regional Park and Open Space District Tree Planting Grant.

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

Questions were propounded by Mr. Hasenauer.

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

On motion of Mr. Hasenauer, duly seconded, Resolution No. 13-45 was unanimously adopted.

IX. Consideration of resolution authorizing adopting a revised Youth Employment Plan for the Ballona Creek Trail and Bike Path Improvements funded by the Los Angeles County Regional Park and Open Space District.

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

On motion of Mr. Hasenauer, duly seconded, Resolution No. 13-46 was unanimously adopted.

X. Consideration of resolution authorizing the Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority to manage the designated Los Angeles River recreational zone located in the City of Los Angeles and utilize the MRCA Park Ordinance to regulate park and Public Trust Doctrine activities.

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

Comments were made by the Chair and Mr. Hasenauer.

Questions were propounded by the Chair and Mr. Daniel.

Comments were made by the Chief of Operations.

On motion of Mr. Hasenauer, duly seconded, Resolution No. 13-47 was unanimously adopted.

XI. Consideration of resolution declaring results of special tax election and ordering levy of special taxes for fiscal year 2013-14 within Community Facilities District No. 1.

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

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

On motion of Mr. Hasenauer, duly seconded, Resolution No. 13-48 was unanimously adopted.

XII. Consideration of resolution declaring results of special tax election and ordering levy of special taxes for fiscal year 2013-14 within Community Facilities District No. 2.

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

On motion of Mr. Daniel, duly seconded, Resolution No. 13-49 was unanimously adopted.

XIII. Consideration of resolution authorizing the acquisition of APN 2581-013-005 for \$27,500, 2.51 acres, using in lieu mitigation funds, Lopez Canyon, unincorporated Los Angeles County. Negotiators: Joseph T. Edmiston and Linda Caine-Alderman Under consideration: price and terms. (*This item may be heard in closed session pursuant to § 54956.8 of the Government Code.*)

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

Questions were propounded by the Chair and Mr. Hasenauer.

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

On motion of Mr. Hasenauer, duly seconded, Resolution No. 13-50 was unanimously adopted.

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 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) *Everett v. Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority*; (10) *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*; and (11) *Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority v. Coldwater Investments*.

Pursuant to Government Code section 54956.9(b): conference with legal counsel regarding claim of liability and exposure to litigation. Claimant: Burt Whalley.

The Chair convened the closed session at 2:52 p.m. and announced that the following items would be discussed: conference with legal counsel regarding claim of liability and exposure to litigation. Claimant: Burt Whalley and *Ramirez Canyon Preservation Fund v. California Coastal Commission, Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority, Case No. BS129503.*

The Chair reconvened the open session at 3:15 p.m. and announced that the following items were discussed: conference with legal counsel regarding claim of liability and exposure to litigation. Claimant: Burt Whalley and *Ramirez Canyon Preservation Fund v. California Coastal Commission, Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority, Case No. BS129503;*

XV. Announcement of future meetings and adjournment.

The Chairperson announced that the next meeting would be held on May 1, 2013.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 3:16 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:

Joseph T. Edmiston, FAICP, Hon, ASLA
Executive Officer

Approved:

George Lange
Chairperson