



**MOUNTAINS RECREATION & CONSERVATION AUTHORITY**  
Los Angeles River Center & Gardens  
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Phone (323) 221-9944 Fax (323) 221-9934

**MINUTES  
of the  
GOVERNING BOARD  
of the  
MOUNTAINS RECREATION AND CONSERVATION AUTHORITY**

**May 1, 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 2:00 p.m. on May 1, 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; Walt Young, Chief of Operations; Fernando Gomez, Chief Ranger; David Updike, Chief of Fire Division; Amy Lethbridge, Chief of Interpretation; Tim Miller, Chief of Construction; Cara Meyer, Chief of Special Projects; 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.**

The following members of the public addressed the Authority:

Mr. Thomas Foote, Esq., representing Richard B. Denman and Beth Vidakovits, on matters not on the agenda.

Ms. Liz Goznell, member of the public, on item VII.

**IV. Approval of Minutes.**

The minutes of April 3, 2013 were submitted for approval.

The minutes of April 3, 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 Special Projects; Chief of Construction; Chief of Fire Division; Chief of Operations; Chief of Interpretation, and the Assistant Financial Officer.

**VI. Consent Calendar:**

- (a) Consideration of resolution adopting the MRCA Warrant Disbursements for the period of March 28, 2013 to April 19, 2013.**
- (b) Consideration of resolution authorizing an application to the Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy for a grant from the Conservancy fund for interpretive programs and services.**
- (c) Consideration of resolution authorizing an application to the Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy for a grant of Proposition 84 funds for interpretation of the Upper Los Angeles River and Santa Monica Bay Watersheds, including visitor serving amenities and naturalist led interpretive programs for the public as well as programs specifically designed for disadvantaged youth.**
- (d) Consideration of resolution approving the application for grant funds from the Baldwin Hills Conservancy for Proposition 84 funding for the Park to Playa – Stocker Corridor project.**
- (e) Consideration of resolution authorizing submission of an application to the Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy for a project planning and design grant for the upstream of Pacoima Wash Recreational Greenway to Angeles National Forest.**
- (f) Consideration of resolution authorizing submission of an application to the Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy for a project planning and design grant for the implementation of reaches five and six of the Los Angeles River Master Plan.**
- (g) Consideration of resolution authorizing submission of an application to the Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy for a project planning and design grant for the Griffith Park to El Pueblo de Los Angeles State Historic Park Recreational Trail Corridor.**

- (h) **Consideration of resolution authorizing submission of an application to the Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy for a project planning and design grant for the San Rafael Hills, Verdugo Mountains, and Northeast Los Angeles Openspace, including Arroyo Seco and Verdugo Wash.**
- (i) **Consideration of resolution authorizing submission of an application to the Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy for a project planning and design grant for the Ballona Creek and Ballona Wetlands area from Culver City to the Pacific Ocean, Santa Monica Bay Watershed.**
- (j) **Consideration of resolution authorizing requesting a budget augmentation for grant SMM-84-0879 from the Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy.**
- (k) **Consideration of a resolution authorizing a sole source contract with Jenny Price for contributions to Project 51's Eat, Play, Dance the Los Angeles River project.**
- (l) **Consideration of resolution authorizing acceptance of a conservation easement over an approximately 0.13-acre portion of APN 5577-017-016 (6696 Lakeridge Road), Cahuenga Pass, City of Los Angeles.**
- (m) **Consideration of resolution authorizing a contract to LT Mustardseed Sculpture and Design to supply artistic gates for the Ballona Wetlands Ecological Reserve.**
- (n) **Consideration of resolution authorizing entering into a lease agreement with an adjacent property owner for an unused portion of Marsh Park.**

Item VI(g) was removed from the Consent Calendar.

On motion of Mr. Daniel, duly seconded, Resolution Nos. 13-52; 13-53; 13-54; 13-55; 13-56; 13-57; 13-59; 13-60; 13-61; 13-62; 13-63; 13-64, and 13-65 were unanimously adopted.

**VI(g). Consideration of resolution authorizing submission of an application to the Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy for a project planning and design grant for the Griffith Park to El Pueblo de Los Angeles State Historic Park Recreational Trail Corridor.**

Questions were propounded by Mr. Hasenauer.

Comments were made by the Chief Deputy Executive Officer.

On motion of Mr. Hasenauer, duly seconded, Resolution No. 13-58 was unanimously adopted.

**VII. Presentation on the on-going Park to Playa Regional Trail project connecting the Baldwin Hills to the Pacific Ocean in the Santa Monica Bay Watershed.**

The Authority received an oral report from the Deputy Chief of Urban Projects and Watershed Division.

Questions were propounded by the Chair, the Executive Officer, and Mr. Hasenauer.

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

**VIII. Consideration of resolution adopting FY 13/14 MRCA Workprogram.**

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

Questions were propounded by the Chair and Mr. Hasenauer.

Comments were made by the Chief Deputy Executive Officer.

On motion of Mr. Daniel, duly seconded, Resolution No. 13-66 was unanimously adopted.

**IX. Consideration of resolution authorizing application to the California Coastal Conservancy for an "Explore the Coast" grant for Transit to Trails programs.**

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

Questions were propounded by the Chair.

Comments were made by the Chief of Interpretation.

On motion of Mr. Hasenauer, duly seconded, Resolution No. 13-67 was unanimously adopted.

**X. Consideration of resolution authorizing staff attendance at the Nordic- Baltic seminar on heritage interpretation and the European Association of Heritage Interpretation's international conference, in Sweden, July 12-18.**

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

Questions were propounded by the Chair.

Comments were made by the Chief of Interpretation.

On motion of Mr. Peterson, duly seconded, Resolution No. 13-68 was unanimously adopted.

**XI. Consideration of resolution augmenting the contract with TELACU Construction Management for construction management services for the Marsh Street Park project.**

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

Questions were propounded by the Chair.

Comments were made by the Chief of Special Projects and Mr. Daniel.

Comments were made by the Chief of Special Projects.

On motion of Mr. Hasenauer, duly seconded, Resolution No. 13-69 was unanimously adopted.

**XII. Consideration of resolution supporting AB 1359 (Hernandez).**

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

On motion of Mr. Peterson, duly seconded, Resolution No. 13-70 was unanimously adopted.

**XIII. Consideration of resolution supporting SB 511 (Lieu).**

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

On motion of Mr. Hasenauer, duly seconded, Resolution No.13-71 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*.**

The Chair convened the closed session at 3:07 p.m. and announced that the following item would be discussed: *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*.

The Chair reconvened the open session at 3:39 p.m. and announced that directions were given to staff regarding: *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*.

#### **XV. Announcement of future meetings and adjournment.**

The Chairperson announced that the next meeting would be held on June 5, 2013.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 3:40 p.m.

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Respectfully submitted:

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

Approved:

George Lange  
Chairperson