



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

July 2, 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 2:01 p.m., on July 2, 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; Jeff Jones, Assistant Financial Officer; Amy Lethbridge, Deputy Executive Officer of Interpretation; Fernando Gomez, Chief Ranger; Paul Edelman, Deputy Director of Natural Resources and Planning; Tim Miller, Assistant Deputy Executive Officer; Walt Young, Deputy Executive Officer; Cara Meyer, Chief of Special Projects; Leslie Chan, Special Projects Director; Liz Jennings, Project Analyst; Jeff Smachtenberger, Ranger, 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 June 2, 2014 were submitted for approval.

The minutes of June 2, 2014 were approved as submitted.

V. Reports from staff.

The Authority received oral reports from the Chief Staff Counsel; Chief Ranger; Ranger Schmachtenberger; the Deputy Director of Natural Resources and Planning, the Deputy Executive Officer of Interpretation; the Chief of Special Projects; the Assistant Deputy Executive Officer, and the Assistant Financial Officer.

VI. Consent Calendar:

- (a) Consideration of resolution adopting the MRCA Warrant Disbursements for the period of May 27, 2014 to June 24, 2014.**
- (b) Consideration of resolution confirming amended assessments and directing related actions for the Santa Monica Mountains Open Space Preservation Assessment District No. 1, Los Angeles.**
- (c) Consideration of resolution confirming amended assessments and directing related actions for the Santa Monica Mountains Open Space Preservation Assessment District No. 2, Los Angeles.**
- (d) Consideration of resolution adopting Engineer's Report, confirming the annual levy of maintenance assessment for fiscal year 2014-2015 and directing related actions for the Santa Monica Mountains Open Space Preservation Assessment District No. 1, Los Angeles.**
- (e) Consideration of resolution adopting Engineer's Report, confirming the annual levy of maintenance assessment for fiscal year 2014-2015 and directing related actions for the Santa Monica Mountains Open Space Preservation Assessment District No. 2, Los Angeles.**
- (f) Consideration of resolution authorizing renewal of professional legal services contract with Joe Caves and Associates.**
- (g) Consideration of resolution authorizing acceptance of an approximately 2.69-acre conservation easement and processing funds over portions of APNs 2836-003-010, 017, 018, 019, 2836-002-038, and 047 in Soledad Canyon, Santa Clarita.**

- (h) Consideration of resolution authorizing acceptance of an approximately 2.29-acre conservation easement dedication and processing funds over a portion of APN 4455-011-013 in Stokes Canyon, unincorporated Los Angeles County.**
- (i) Consideration of resolution authorizing a support letter to California Coastal Commission on Los Angeles County Local Implementation Plan No. LCP-4-LAC-14-0109-4 (Santa Monica Mountains Local Implementation Plan).**
- (j) Consideration of resolution authorizing entering into a license or easement agreement for the use of APN 4457-005-911 by Earthship Productions, Inc. for ingress and egress over a portion of Puerco Canyon Motorway, unincorporated Los Angeles County.**
- (k) Consideration of resolution authorizing an application to the Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy for a grant of Proposition 40 funds for interpretation of land, air, and water resources, including visitor serving amenities and naturalist led interpretive programs for the public as well as programs specifically designed for disadvantaged youth.**
- (l) Consideration of resolution authorizing an application to the Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy for a grant of Proposition 84 funds for interpretation of the 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.**
- (m) Consideration of resolution ordering levy of special taxes for Fiscal Year 2014-2015 for open space protection and fire prevention within Community Facilities District No. 1, Los Angeles.**
- (n) Consideration of resolution ordering levy of special taxes for Fiscal Year 2014-2015 for open space protection and fire prevention within Community Facilities District No. 2, Los Angeles.**

Item VI(i) was removed from the agenda.

On motion of Mr. Hasenauer, duly seconded, Resolution Nos. 14-96; 14-97; 14-98; 14-99; 14-100; 14-101; 14-102; 14-103; 14-105; 14-106; 14-107; 14-108, and 14-109 were unanimously adopted.

VII. Public Hearing on the Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority Fiscal Year 2014-2015 budget.

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

No public comment was made.

VIII. Public hearing on concerns raised by members of the public regarding the Franklin Ivar Park Project.

The staff report for this item was presented by the Executive Officer; the Chief of Special Projects, and the Project Analyst.

Questions were propounded by the Chair.

Comments were made by the Chief of Special Projects.

Questions were propounded by Ms. Naima Hazelton, member of the public.

The Authority received an oral presentation by Ms. Hazelton.

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

IX. Consideration of resolution authorizing acceptance of a conservation easement over APN's 500-0-291-455, 500-0-291-475, 637-0-070-340 and maintenance funding, Arroyo Simi, City of Simi Valley.

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. 14-110 was unanimously adopted.

X. Consideration of resolution adopting the 2014 Updated Greater Los Angeles County Integrated Regional Water Management Plan.

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

On motion of Mr. Hasenauer, duly seconded, Resolution No. 14-111 was unanimously adopted.

XI. Consideration of resolution authorizing the acceptance of 1.2 acres (APNs: 4221-024-907, 4221-024-908, 4221-024-909, 4221-024-910) from the Baldwin Hills Regional Conservation Authority.

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

On motion of Mr. Hasenauer, duly seconded, Resolution No. 14-112 was unanimously adopted.

XII. Consideration of resolution authorizing a contract with W & N Luxor Construction, Inc. for construction of Ballona Creek-Milton Street Park.

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

Questions were propounded by Mr. Hasenauer.

Comments were made by the Chief of Special Projects.

On motion of Mr. Hasenauer, duly seconded, Resolution No. 14-113 was unanimously adopted.

XIII. Consideration of resolution authorizing entering into a Joint Powers Agreement with the City of Moorpark.

This item was removed from the agenda.

XIV. Consideration of resolution authorizing a Memorandum of Understanding with the Audubon Youth Environmental Stewards, a program of the Palos Verdes/South Bay Audubon Society for adoption of portions of the Los Angeles River Greenway, Los Angeles.

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

Questions were propounded by Mr. Hasenauer.

Comments were made by the Deputy Executive Officer of Interpretation.

On motion of Mr. Hasenauer, duly seconded, Resolution No. 14-114 was unanimously adopted.

XV. Consideration of resolution supporting Santa Monica Mountains (Hillside Ordinance Zone) Wildlife Corridor Ordinance (CF 14-0518 Koretz), City of Los Angeles.

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

On motion of Mr. Daniel, duly seconded, Resolution No. 14-115 was unanimously adopted.

XVI. Consideration of resolution augmenting legal services agreement with Tim Yaryan, attorney at law, not to exceed an additional \$9,000.

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

Questions were propounded by Mr. Daniel.

Comments were made by the Executive Officer.

On motion of Mr. Hasenauer, duly seconded, Resolution No. 14-116 was unanimously adopted.

XVII. Consideration of resolution authorizing entering into a Project Agreement with the Los Angeles County Regional Park and Open Space District and to acquire APN 4434-008-007 AND 4434-001-004 comprised of 37 acres in the Santa Maria and Garapito subwatersheds of Topanga Canyon, unincorporated Los Angeles County.

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

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. 14-117 was unanimously adopted.

XVIII. Consideration of resolution authorizing the acquisition of an approximately 8-acre parcel (APN 4448-029-022) in Las Flores Canyon using Proposition A funds, unincorporated Los Angeles County. Negotiators: Joseph T. Edmiston; Celine Rickards; Michelle Hennesy, and Manon Hennesy Under consideration:

price and terms. (This matter may be heard in closed session pursuant to Government Code Section 54856.8.)

This item was heard in closed session.

On motion of Mr. Hasenauer, duly seconded, Resolution No. 14-118 was unanimously adopted.

XIX. Consideration of resolution authorizing entering into a Social Project Agreement with the County of Los Angeles.

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

On motion of Mr. Hasenauer, duly seconded, Resolution No. 14-119 was unanimously adopted.

XX. 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.

Conference With Legal Counsel: Significant exposure to litigation pursuant to subdivision (b) of Section 54956.9. Number of potential cases: 1

The Chairperson convened the closed session at 3:45 p.m. and announced that the following items would be discussed: Agenda Item XVIII and Conference With Legal Counsel: Significant exposure to litigation pursuant to subdivision (b) of Section 54956.9. Number of potential cases: 1

The Chairperson reconvened the open session at 3:52 p.m. and announced that the following items had been discussed: Agenda Item XVIII and Conference With Legal Counsel: Significant exposure to litigation pursuant to subdivision (b) of Section 54956.9. Number of potential cases: 1

XXI. Announcement of future meetings and adjournment.

The Chair announced that the next meeting would be held on August 6, 2014.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 4:08 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:

Approved:

Joseph T. Edmiston
Executive Officer

George Lange
Chairperson