



**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**

**February 4, 2015**

**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 February 4, 2015, 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; Fernando Gomez, Chief Ranger; Tim Miller, Chief of Construction; Paul Edelman, Deputy Director of Natural Resources and Planning; Ken Nelson, Chief of Fire 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. Rick Denman, member of the public, on matters not on the agenda.

**IV. Approval of minutes.**

The minutes of January 7, 2015 were submitted for approval.

The minutes of January 7, 2015 were approved as submitted.

**V. Reports from staff.**

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

**VI. Consent Calendar:**

- (a) Consideration of resolution adopting the MRCA Warrant Disbursements for the period of December 25, 2014 to January 25, 2015.**
- (b) Consideration of resolution assigning the right to apply for First Supervisorial Specified Excess Funds to Watershed Conservation Authority for the Rio Hondo Trailhead Acquisition project.**
- (c) Consideration of resolution assigning the right to apply for Second Supervisorial Specified Excess Funds to Los Angeles Neighborhood Land Trust for the Washington Avenue Tot Lot project.**
- (d) Consideration of resolution authorizing acceptance of donation of a 5.06-acre property, APN 679-0-181-115, Thousand Oaks, County of Ventura.**
- (e) Consideration of resolution authorizing augmentation of contract for legal services with the Law Offices of Tim Yaryan.**
- (f) Consideration of resolution authorizing amendment to Malibu Coastal Development Permit Application No. 07-087, Lechuza Beach Public Access Improvements Project, East Sea Level Drive, West Sea Level Drive, and Broad Beach Road, City of Malibu.**

*[Items VI(e) and VI(f) were removed from the Consent Calendar]*

On motion of Mr. Daniel, duly seconded, Resolution Nos. 15-19; 15-20; 15-21, and 15-22 were unanimously adopted.

- VI(e). Consideration of resolution authorizing augmentation of contract for legal services with the Law Offices of Tim Yaryan.**

Questions were propounded by the Chair.

Comments were made by the Chief Staff Counsel.

On motion of Mr. Hasenauer, duly seconded, Resolution No. 15-23 was unanimously adopted.

**VI(f). Consideration of resolution authorizing amendment to Malibu Coastal Development Permit Application No. 07-087, Lechuza Beach Public Access Improvements Project, East Sea Level Drive, West Sea Level Drive, and Broad Beach Road, City of Malibu.**

Comments were made by Mr. Hasenauer.

On motion of Mr. Hasenauer, duly seconded, Resolution No. 15-24 was unanimously adopted.

**VII. Consideration of resolution authorizing application for membership and payment of related membership dues to the California Special Districts Association.**

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

Questions were propounded by Mr. Daniel and the Chair.

Comments were made by the Assistant Financial Officer.

On motion of Mr. Hasenauer, duly seconded, Resolution No. 15-25 was unanimously adopted.

**VIII. Consideration of resolution authorizing a grant application to the Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy for project planning and design of the Los Angeles River with particular focus on the Los Angeles River Ecosystem Restoration Feasibility Study Area.**

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

On motion of Mr. Daniel, duly seconded, Resolution No. 15-26 was unanimously adopted.

**IX. Consideration of resolution authorizing a Memorandum of Understanding with the City of Los Angeles for personnel services.**

On motion of Mr. Hasenauer, duly seconded, Resolution No. 15-27 unanimously adopted.

**X. Consideration of resolution authorizing acceptance of donation of approximately 23 acres of land in the San Rafael Hills (APN's 5659-023-001; 5659-023-008; and 5659-025-004), Glendale.**

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

Questions were propounded by the Chair.

Comments were made by the Chief Deputy Executive Officer.

On motion of Mr. Hasenauer, duly seconded, Resolution No. 15-28 was unanimously adopted.

**XI. 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: fourteen (14). (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; (10) *Friedman v. King Gillette Ranch, et al.*, Case No. BC540277; (11) *Denman, et al. v. Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority*; (12) *Perez v. Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority*; (13) *Smaldino v. Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority, et al.*, and (14) *Simak v. Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority*.

The Chairperson convened the closed session at 3:14 p.m. to discuss *Malibu-Encinal Homeowners Association v. Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority*, Case No. BC431798 and *Denman, et al. v. Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority*.

The Chairperson reconvened the open session at 3:33 p.m and announced that instructions were given to staff.

**XII. Announcement of future meetings and adjournment.**

The Chairperson announced that the next meeting would be held on March 4, 2015.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 3:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:

Joseph T. Edmiston  
Executive Officer

Approved:

George Lange  
Chairperson