



**MOUNTAINS RECREATION & CONSERVATION AUTHORITY**  
Los Angeles River Center & Gardens  
570 West Avenue Twenty-Six, Suite 100  
Los Angeles, California 90065  
Phone (323) 221-9944 Fax (323) 221-9934

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

**July 8, 2015**

**I. Call to order.**

The special 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 8, 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 (via teleconference); Rorie Skei, Chief Deputy Executive Officer; Jeff Maloney, Chief Staff Counsel; Amy Lethrbridge, Chief of Interpretation; Ken Nelson, Chief of Fire Division; Jeff Jones, Assistant Financial Officer; Paul Edelman, Deputy Director of Natural Resources and Planning; Walt Young, Chief of Operations, and James Yeramian, Staff Services Manager.

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

Mr. Ted Smith, Division Chief of Ventura County Fire Division addressed the Authority.

Comments were made by the Chair.

**IV. Approval of minutes.**

The minutes of June 3, 2015 were submitted for approval.

The minutes of June 3, 2015 were adopted as submitted.

**V. Reports from staff.**

The Authority received oral reports from the Chief of Fire Division; the Chief of Operations; Chief Staff Counsel; the Deputy Director of Natural Resources and Planning; Chief of Interpretation, and Sheryl Lewanda, representing Conejo Recreation and Park District.

**VI. Consent Calendar:**

- (a) Consideration of resolution adopting the MRCA Warrant Disbursements for the period of May 22, 2015 to June 22, 2015.**
- (b) Consideration of resolution authorizing staff to register/vest and purchase properties through [www.bid4assets.com](http://www.bid4assets.com) for the Los Angeles County Treasurer and Tax Collector 2015B online public auction.**
- (c) Consideration of resolution authorizing a deposit of funds into an account with [www.bid4assets.com](http://www.bid4assets.com) to purchase parcels at the Los Angeles County Treasurer and Tax Collector 2015B online public auction.**
- (d) Consideration of resolution authorizing the expenditure of non-Corps associated mitigation funds to acquire properties in the Los Angeles River, Malibu Creek, Antelope Valley, and Santa Clara River watersheds, at the Los Angeles County Tax Collector 2015B online public auction.**
- (e) Consideration of resolution authorizing the expenditure of Coastal Habitat Impact Mitigation Fund to acquire properties in the Santa Monica Mountains coastal zone, at the Los Angeles County Tax Collector 2015B online public auction.**
- (f) Consideration of resolution authorizing the expenditure of Community Facilities District Number 1 funds to acquire properties in the Ballona Creek and Los Angeles River watersheds at the Los Angeles County Tax Collector 2015B online public auction.**
- (g) Consideration of resolution authorizing the expenditure of Santa Monica Mountains Open Space Preservation Assessment District No.1 (Area B) funds to acquire properties in the Beverly Glen watershed, City of Los Angeles, at the Los Angeles County Tax Collector 2015B online public auction.**
- (h) Consideration of resolution authorizing renewal of professional legal services contract with Joe Caves and Associates.**

- (i) **Consideration of resolution authorizing acceptance of conservation easement(s) over portions of APNs 2427-005-022, 032, 033, and 034 (7521 Mulholland Drive), approximately 0.6 acres total, in the Mulholland Drive Scenic Corridor, adjacent to Oakshire Open Space, City of Los Angeles.**
- (j) **Consideration of resolution confirming amended assessments and directing related actions for the Santa Monica Mountains Open Space Preservation Assessment District No. 1, Los Angeles.**
- (k) **Consideration of resolution confirming amended assessments and directing related actions for the Santa Monica Mountains Open Space Preservation Assessment District No. 2, Los Angeles.**
- (l) **Consideration of resolution adopting Engineer's Report, confirming the annual levy of maintenance assessment for fiscal year 2015-2016 and directing related actions for the Santa Monica Mountains Open Space Preservation Assessment District No. 1, Los Angeles.**
- (m) **Consideration of resolution adopting Engineer's Report, confirming the annual levy of maintenance assessment for fiscal year 2015-2016 and directing related actions for the Santa Monica Mountains Open Space Preservation Assessment District No. 2, Los Angeles.**
- (n) **Consideration of resolution ordering levy of special taxes for Fiscal Year 2015-2016 for open space protection and fire prevention within Community Facilities District No. 1, Los Angeles.**
- (o) **Consideration of resolution ordering levy of special taxes for Fiscal Year 2015-2016 for open space protection and fire prevention within Community Facilities District No. 2, Los Angeles.**

On motion of Mr. Daniel, duly seconded, Resolution Nos. 15-99 through 15-113 were unanimously adopted.

## **VII. Public Hearing on the Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority Fiscal Year 2015-2016 budget.**

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

The public hearing commenced at 2:54 p.m.

No public comment was made.

The public hearing closed at 2:55 p.m.

**VIII. Consideration of resolution authorizing acceptance of a grant from the Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy for development of a sustainable park training program for urban youth.**

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

On motion of Mr. Hasenauer, duly seconded, Resolution No. 15-114 was unanimously adopted.

**IX. Consideration of resolution authorizing a contract with Mr. Bruce Saito for consultation services regarding the development of a youth development and job training program for at-risk youth.**

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

Comments were made by the Executive Officer.

On motion of Mr. Hasenauer, duly seconded, Resolution No. 15-115 was unanimously adopted.

**X. 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) *Malibu-Encinal Homeowners Association v. Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority*, Case No. BC431798; (2) *Morris v. City of Los Angeles, et al.*, Case No. BC448511; (3) *Everett v. Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority*, Case No. BC466880; (4) *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, (5) *Friends of the Hastain Trail, et al. v. Coldwater Investments, et al.*, Case No. BC469573; (6) *Prop "A" Protective Association, LLC v. Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority, et al.*, Case No. BS 145771 and related cases; (7) *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;**

**(8) *Denman, et al. v. Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority*; (9) *Perez v. Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority*, and (10) *Smaldino and Simak v. Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority*.**

The Chair convened the closed session at 3:04 p.m.

The Chair reconvened the open session at 3:12 p.m. and announced that instructions were given to staff.

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

The Chairperson announced that the next meeting would be held on August 5, 2015.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 3:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:

Joseph T. Edmiston  
Executive Officer

Approved:

George Lange  
Chairperson