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

November 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 2:03 p.m., on November 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; James Latham, Acting Chief Ranger; Jeff Maloney, Chief Staff Counsel; Paul Edelman, Deputy Director of Natural Resources and Planning; Tim Miller, Chief of Construction; Spencer Eldred, Staff Counsel; Jamie Cabral, Deputy Executive Officer of Interpretation; Walt Young, Chief of Operations; Sheryl Lewanda, Acting Assistant Financial Officer; Cara Meyer, Chief of Urban Projects, 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:

Jess Thomas, representing Old Agoura Homeowners Association.

IV. Approval of minutes.

The minutes of October 7, 2015 were submitted for approval. The minutes of October 7, 2015 were adopted as submitted.
V. Reports from staff.

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

VI. Consent Calendar:

(a) Consideration of resolution adopting the MRCA Warrant Disbursements for the period of September 28, 2015 to October 22, 2015.

(b) Consideration of resolution authorizing acceptance of the offers to dedicate scenic easements and/or open space easements associated with Coastal Development Permit Nos. 5-90-525 (Winograd), 5-90-553 (Pacific World Development), 4-01-123 (Kaplan), 5-89-957 (Jameson), 5-90-1137 (Maysels) and 5-90-327 (Javid), incorporated and unincorporated Malibu.

(c) Consideration of resolution authorizing grant application to the Urban Waters Small Grants Program under the United States Environmental Protection Agency for Pacoima Wash-El Dorado Park.

(d) Consideration of resolution authorizing a contract with Oakridge Landscape, Inc. for maintenance services at select locations along the Ballona Creek bike path.

(e) Consideration of resolution authorizing entering into a Chapter 8 Agreement with Los Angeles County Treasurer and Tax Collector to acquire parcels removed from the 2015A public auction.

(f) Consideration of resolution authorizing a contract with GSV Sustainability Partners, Inc. for installation of water saving measures at Ramirez Canyon Park.

(g) Consideration of resolution approving entering into a lease with Dell Computers, Inc. In an amount not to exceed $50,000.

(h) Consideration of resolution authorizing acceptance of a donation of a 6.64 acre property (APN 4464-024-015) off of Latigo Canyon Road, Malibu, County of Los Angeles.
(i) Consideration of resolution authorizing acceptance of a fee simple donation of a portion of APN 5442-009-018 totaling approximately 4.70 acres, 1753 Blake Avenue, City of Los Angeles.

(j) Consideration of resolution authorizing the expenditure of discretionary funds to conduct due diligence environmental sampling prior to acceptance of dedication parcels and open space from Tentative Tract No. 52866, Dayton Canyon, Incorporated and Unincorporated City of Los Angeles area.

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

On motion of Mr. Daniel, duly seconded, Resolution Nos. 15-165 through 15-169, and 15-71 through 15-174 was unanimously adopted.

VI(f). Consideration of resolution authorizing a contract with GSV Sustainability Partners, Inc. for installation of water saving measures at Ramirez Canyon Park.

Questions were propounded by the Chairperson Mr. Daniel.

Comments were made by the Chief Staff Counsel.

On motion of Mr. Hasenauer, duly seconded, Resolution No. 15-170 was unanimously adopted.

VII. Consideration of resolution authorizing entering into a project agreement with the Los Angeles County Regional Park and Open Space District for the acquisition of APN 2017-005-033 totaling approximately 18.43 acres in Box Canyon, Chatsworth, City of Los Angeles.

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

Questions were propounded by the Chairperson and Mr. Peterson.

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

On motion of Mr. Hasenauer, duly seconded, Resolution No. 15-175 was unanimously adopted.

VIII. Consideration of resolution authorizing entering into a project agreement with the Los Angeles County Regional Park and Open Space District using
Proposition A 5th Supervisorial District Excess Funds to acquire open space properties in said District.

On motion of Mr. Hasenauer, duly seconded, Resolution No. 15-176 was unanimously adopted.

IX. Consideration of resolution reappointing Jim Hasenauer as Public Member.

Comments were made by the Chief Staff Counsel.

On motion of Mr. Peterson, duly seconded, Resolution No. 15-177 was adopted.

Mr. Hasenauer was noted as recusing himself from the vote.

X. Consideration of resolution authorizing acceptance of a donation of fee simple or conservation easement interest in an approximately 20-acre portion of APN 2061-023-002, Linderon and Triunfo Creek watersheds, City of Agoura Hills.

On motion of Mr. Peterson, duly seconded, Resolution No. 15-178 was unanimously adopted.

XI. Consideration of resolution authorizing (a) acceptance of funding from the City of Los Angeles and (b) awarding a grant for the benefit of the Laurel Canyon Association for the acquisition of APN 5562-006-020, and approximately 17 acre open space property in the City of Los Angeles.

Questions were propounded by Mr. Daniel and the Executive Officer.

Comments were made by the Chief Staff Counsel.

On motion of Mr. Hasenauer, duly seconded, Resolution No. 15-179 was unanimously adopted.

XII. Consideration of resolution authorizing a contract with Omega Contractors for construction of the Canyonback Restoration project.

On motion of Mr. Hasenauer, duly seconded, Resolution No. 15-180 was unanimously adopted.
XIII. Consideration of resolution authorizing application to the California Coastal Conservancy for an “Explore the Coast” grant for a Puerco Canyon pilot camping program.

Questions were propounded by Mr. Daniel.

Comments were made by the Chief of Urban Projects.

On motion of Mr. Peterson, duly seconded, Resolution No. 15-181 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: nine (9). (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, and (9) LADWP v. Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority, et al., Case No. BC582732.


The Chair convened the closed session at 3:08 p.m. and announced that the following item would be discussed: Pursuant to Government Code section 54957.6 – Authority Designated Representative Chief Deputy Financial Office Lewanda: Salary Schedules and Fringe Benefits for Employees.
The Chair reconvened the open session at 3:34 p.m. and announced that instructions were given to staff regarding the following item: Pursuant to Government Code section 54957.6 – Authority Designated Representative Chief Deputy Financial Office Lewanda: Salary Schedules and Fringe Benefits for Employees.

XV. Announcement of future meetings and adjournment.

The Chairperson announced that the next meeting would be held on December 2, 2015.

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

Respectfully submitted: Approved:

Joseph T. Edmiston George Lange
Executive Officer Chairperson