



**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**

**December 7, 2016**

**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 December 7, 2016, 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; Paul Edelman, Deputy Director of Natural Resources and Planning; Fernando Gomez, Chief Ranger; Tim Miller, Assistant Deputy Executive Officer of Construction; Jamie Cabral, Chief of Interpretation; Walt Young, Chief of Operations; Ana Straabe, Deputy Chief of Urban Projects and Watershed Division; Ken Nelson, Chief of Fire Division; Spencer Eldred, Staff Counsel; Oscar Victoria, Staff Counsel; Sheryl Lewanda, Assistant Financial Officer, and James Yeramian, Board Secretary.

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

The following member of the public addressed the Authority:

Mr. Rick Denman, member of the public, on Item XIV(6).

**IV. Approval of minutes.**

The minutes of October 27, 2016 were submitted for approval.

The minutes of October 27, 2016 were adopted as submitted.

#### **V. Reports from staff.**

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

#### **VI. Consent Calendar:**

- (a) Consideration of resolution accepting the Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority warrant disbursements for the period of October 21, 2016 to November 17, 2016.**
- (b) Consideration of resolution confirming entering into a funding agreement with the California Coastal Commission for the development of lower cost visitor serving coastal amenities at Cameron Nature Preserve, Puerco Canyon, unincorporated Los Angeles County.**
- (c) Consideration of acceptance of title to APN 4460-007-900, Malibu.**
- (d) Consideration of resolution authorizing acceptance of a donation of approximately 9.06 acres, APN 619-0-110-045, Simi Valley, Ventura County, California.**
- (e) Consideration of resolution authorizing entering into a professional services contract with the Las Virgenes Unified School District for outdoor education camp at King Gillette Ranch.**

Items VI(a); VI(b); VI(e), and VI(d) were removed from the Consent Calendar.

On motion of Mr. Hasenauer, duly seconded, Resolution No. 16-183 was unanimously adopted.

- VI(a). Consideration of resolution accepting the Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority warrant disbursements for the period of October 21, 2016 to November 17, 2016.**

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. 16-181 was unanimously adopted.

**VI(b). Consideration of resolution confirming entering into a funding agreement with the California Coastal Commission for the development of lower cost visitor serving coastal amenities at Cameron Nature Preserve, Puerco Canyon, unincorporated Los Angeles County.**

Questions were propounded by Mr. Hasenauer and Mr. Daniel.

Comments were made by the Executive Officer.

On motion of Mr. Hasenauer, duly seconded, Resolution No. 16-182 was unanimously adopted.

**VI(d). Consideration of resolution authorizing acceptance of a donation of approximately 9.06 acres, APN 619-0-110-045, Simi Valley, Ventura County, California.**

Questions were propounded by the Chair.

Comments were made by Staff Counsel.

On motion of Mr. Hasenauer, duly seconded, Resolution No. 16-184 was unanimously adopted.

**VI(e). Consideration of resolution authorizing entering into a professional services contract with the Las Virgenes Unified School District for outdoor education camp at King Gillette Ranch.**

Questions were propounded by Mr. Hasenauer and the Chair.

Comments were made by the Chief of Interpretation and the Chief Deputy Executive Officer.

On motion of Mr. Hasenauer, duly seconded, Resolution No. 16-185 was unanimously adopted.

**VII. Consideration of resolution authorizing: (a) entering into project agreement with Los Angeles County Regional Park and Open Space district to acquire the approximately 96-acre Old Topanga property, (b) adopting a Youth Employment Plan, and, (c) acquisition of said property, City of Calabasas.**

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

Questions were propounded by the Chair.

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

On motion of Mr. Hasenauer, duly seconded, Resolution No. 16-186 was unanimously adopted.

**VIII. Consideration of resolution authorizing acceptance a donation of approximately 33 acres, APN 2057-027-003 and a portion of APN 2057-027-009, in Triunfo Canyon, Westlake Village.**

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

On motion of Mr. Hasenauer, duly seconded, Resolution No. 16-187 was unanimously adopted.

**IX. Consideration of resolution adopting a revised Youth Employment Plan for Compton Creek Natural Park at Washington Elementary, Phase 2 funded by the Los Angeles County Regional Park and Open Space District.**

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

Questions were propounded by Mr. Daniel.

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

On motion of Mr. Hasenauer, duly seconded, Resolution No. 16-188 was unanimously adopted.

**X. Consideration of resolution authorizing a grant to the Community Partners for the VerdeXchange 2017 Conference.**

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

Questions were propounded by the Chair.

Comments were made by the Executive Officer and Mr. Daniel.

On motion of Mr. Hasenauer, duly seconded, Resolution No. 16-189 was unanimously adopted.

**XI. Consideration of resolution authorizing entering into an agreement with the Trust for Public Land to accept a conservation easement totaling approximately 10.2 acres over portions of APN 5571-025-042 in Curson Canyon watershed and authorizing acceptance of said conservation easement, 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 Mr. Hasenauer.

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

On motion of Mr. Daniel, duly seconded, Resolution No. 16-190 was unanimously adopted.

**XII. Consideration of resolution authorizing potential amendments to Deerlake Ranch and related Deerlake Highlands agreements, Devil and Browns Canyon watersheds, unincorporated Los Angeles County.**

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

This item was removed from the agenda.

**XIII. Consideration of resolution authorizing acceptance of fee simple open space, conservation easements, and trail easements from Vesting Tentative Tract Map Nos. VTT-73714-SL (APNs 2026-001-017, 019) and VTT-73814-SL (APN 2026-001-135) alongside Bell Creek, and entering into agreements as necessary, West Hills, City of Los Angeles.**

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

Comments were made by the Chief Deputy Executive Officer.

On motion of Mr. Hasenauer, duly seconded, Resolution No. 16-192 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) 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; (4) Prop "A" Protective Association, LLC v. Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority, et al., Case No. BS 145771 and related cases; (5) 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; (6) Denman, et al. v. Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority; (7) Geffen v. Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority; (8) Sycamore Park Private Community Group, et al. v. Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority and Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy, and (9) Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy, et al. v. Southern California Edison.**

**Pursuant to Government Code section 54956.95: Conference with legal counsel regarding claim made pursuant to the Government Tort Claims Act. Claimant: Ida Levey.**

**Pursuant to Government Code section 54956.95: conference with legal counsel regarding claim made pursuant to the Government Tort Claims Act. Claimant: Mark McReynolds.**

The Chairperson commenced the closed session at 4:03 p.m. and announced that the following items would be discussed: Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy, et al. v. Southern California Edison, Pursuant to Government Code section 54956.95: Conference with legal counsel regarding claim made pursuant to the Government Tort Claims Act. Claimant: Ida Levey, and Pursuant to Government Code section 54956.95: conference with legal counsel regarding claim made pursuant to the Government Tort Claims Act. Claimant: Mark McReynolds.

The Chairperson reconvened the open session at 4:18 p.m. and announced that the following items were discussed: Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy, et al. v. Southern California Edison, Pursuant to Government Code section 54956.95: Conference with legal counsel regarding claim made pursuant to the Government Tort Claims Act. Claimant: Ida Levey, and Pursuant to Government Code section 54956.95:

conference with legal counsel regarding claim made pursuant to the Government Tort Claims Act. Claimant: Mark McReynolds.

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

The Chairperson announced that the next meeting would be held on January 4, 2016.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 4:21 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:

Joseph T. Edmiston  
Executive Officer

Approved:

George Lange  
Chairperson