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

May 2, 2018  

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 May 2, 2018, at the Conejo Recreation and Park District, 403 West Hillcrest Drive, Thousand Oaks, California.  

The Chief Deputy Executive Officer administered the Oath of Office to Mr. Paul Friedeborn.  

II. Roll Call.  

The roll was called and the following members were present: Paul Friedeborn, Jerome C. Daniel, and George Lange, Chairperson. A quorum was present. The following member was absent: Jim Hasenauer, Vice Chairperson.  

Staff Present: Joseph T. Edmiston, Executive Officer, FAICP, Hon, ASLA; Rorie Skei, Chief Deputy Executive Officer; Sheryl Lewanda, Chief Deputy Financial Officer; Paul Edelman, Deputy Director of Natural Resources and Planning; Jeff Maloney, Chief Staff Counsel; Spencer Eldred, Staff Counsel; Amy Lethbridge, Deputy Executive Officer; Walt Young, Deputy Executive Officer; Cara Meyer, Deputy Executive Officer of Developed Parks; Tim Miller, Deputy Executive Officer of Construction; Ken Nelson, Chief of Fire Division; Maribelle Franco, Deputy Division Chief, and James Yeramian, Board Secretary.  

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 April 4, 2018 were submitted for approval.

A local public agency exercising joint powers of the Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy, the Conejo Recreation & Park District, and the Rancho Simi Recreation & Park District pursuant to Section 6500 et seq. of the Government Code.
The minutes of April 4, 2018 were adopted as submitted.

V. Reports from staff.

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

VI. Consent Calendar:

(a) Consideration of resolution accepting the Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority warrant disbursements for the period of March 16, 2018 to April 12, 2018.

(b) Consideration of resolution authorizing a contract with Aspen Environmental Group for environmental planning services for the Cameron Nature Preserve at Puerco Canyon, unincorporated Los Angeles County.

(c) Consideration of resolution authorizing contract with DCA Drilling and Construction Inc. for water well establishment services for the Cameron Nature Preserve at Puerco Canyon, unincorporated Los Angeles County.

(d) Consideration of resolution authorizing a grant augmentation request to the Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy for 3810-P01-1781, and a grant augmentation request to the San Gabriel and Lower Los Angeles Rivers and Mountains Conservancy, for River Rangers Program Planning.

(e) Consideration of resolution authorizing a grant augmentation request to the Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy for 3810-P01-1775, Upper Los Angeles River Project Planning and Design.

(f) Consideration of resolution authorizing entering into an Amended and Restated Property Access and Use Agreement with Stevenson Ranch Venture LLC for the non-public portion of Pico Canyon Road, unincorporated Los Angeles County.
(g) Consideration of resolution authorizing a contract to Outlook Zone, Inc. for fuel modification services at Trebek Open Space, City of Los Angeles.

(h) Consideration of resolution authorizing a contract to Pepo Weed Abatement, Inc. for fuel modification services at Westridge Canyonback Wilderness Park, City of Los Angeles.

(i) Consideration of resolution authorizing a contract to Natures Image Inc. for fuel modification services at Kenter Canyon property, City of Los Angeles.

(j) Consideration of resolution authorizing a contract to Pepo Weed Abatement, Inc. for fuel modification services at the Sepulveda Pass Open Space property, City of Los Angeles.

(k) Consideration of resolution authorizing a contract to Natures Image Inc. for fuel modification services at Beverly Glen properties, City of Los Angeles.

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

On motion of Mr. Daniel, duly seconded, Resolution Nos. 18-56; 18-57; 18-59; 18-60; 18-61; 18-62; 18-63; 18-64; 18-65; 18-66; 18-67; 18-68; 18-69; 18-70; 18-71; 18-72; 18-73; 18-74; 18-75; 18-76, and 18-77 were unanimously adopted.

VI(c). Consideration of resolution authorizing contract with DCA Drilling and Construction Inc. for water well establishment services for the Cameron Nature Preserve at Puerco Canyon, unincorporated Los Angeles County.

The staff report for this item was presented by the Deputy Executive Officer of Developed Parks.

Questions were propounded by the Chairperson.

Comments were made by the Deputy Executive Officer of Developed Parks.

On motion of Mr. Daniel, duly seconded, Resolution No. 18-58 was unanimously adopted.

VII. Consideration of resolution adopting FY 18/19 MRCA Workprogram.
The staff report for this item was presented by the Deputy Director of Natural Resources and Planning.

Questions were propounded by the Chairperson.

Comments were made by the Chief Deputy Executive Officer.

On motion of Mr. Daniel, duly seconded, Resolution No. 18-78 was unanimously adopted.

VIII. Consideration of resolution authorizing a grant application to the Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy for Proposition 1 funds for Elysian Valley Gateway Park capital improvements, City of Los Angeles.

The staff report for this item was presented by the Deputy Executive Officer of Developed Parks.

On motion of Mr. Friedeborn, duly seconded, Resolution No. 18-79 was unanimously adopted.

IX. Consideration of resolution authorizing entering into an agreement with Foremost Companies (Forestar Chatsworth) to transfer a water tank and temporary grading easement on APNs 2821-019-907; 2819-011-904; 905; 906, and 2819-013-903 for the Deerlake Ranch Project, in exchange for water delivery improvements to adjacent MRCA property, funding for oak tree tank screening, and other compensation, unincorporated Chatsworth area. Negotiators: Joseph T. Edmiston and Peter Vanek. Under consideration: price and terms. (*This item may be heard in closed session pursuant to Section 54956.8 of the Government Code.*)

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

Questions were propounded by the Chairperson.

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

On motion of Mr. Daniel, duly seconded, Resolution No. 18-80 was unanimously adopted.

X. Consideration of resolution authorizing the use of Proposition A and mitigation funds to acquire approximately 18.43 acres (APN 2017-005-033) in Box Canyon, Simi Hills, unincorporated Los Angeles County. Negotiators: Joseph T. Edmiston and Sherry Grigsby. Under consideration: price and terms.
(This item may be heard in closed session pursuant to Section 54956.8 of the Government Code.)

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. 18-81 was unanimously adopted.

XI. Consideration of resolution authorizing a grant of access easement to Los Angeles County Flood Control District for flood control purposes, over a portion of APNs 2865-001-903 and 2865-094-900, Violin Canyon, unincorporated Los Angeles County.

Questions were presented by the Executive Officer.

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

On motion of Mr. Daniel, duly seconded, Resolution No. 18-82 was unanimously adopted.

XII. Consideration of resolution modifying resolution declaring intention to establish Community Facilities District 2018-1 (Santa Susana Mountains) and approving amended and restated description of services and rate and method of apportionment.

Comments were made by Ms. Jeanette Hynson, representing SCI Consulting Group.

On motion of Mr. Daniel, duly seconded, Resolution No. 18-83 was unanimously adopted.

XIII. Public hearing regarding the establishment of Community Facilities District 2018-1 (Santa Susana Mountains).

The Chairperson announced the public hearing for this item at 3:22 p.m.

No public comment was made.

The Chairperson closed the public hearing at 3:25 p.m.

XIV. Consideration of resolution to form Community Facilities District 2018-1 (Santa Susana Mountains).

On motion of Mr. Daniel, duly seconded, Resolution No. 18-84 was unanimously adopted.
XV. Consideration of resolution calling a special tax election for Community Facilities District 2018-1 (Santa Susana Mountains).

On motion of Mr. Daniel, duly seconded, Resolution No. 18-85 was unanimously adopted.

XVI. Consideration of resolution declaring results of special tax election, determining validity of prior proceedings and directing recording of notice of special tax lien for Community Facilities District 2018-1 (Santa Susana Mountains).

The ballot results were announced by the Board Secretary.

On motion of Mr. Friedeborn, duly seconded, Resolution No. 18-86 was unanimously adopted.

XVII. Consideration of resolution supporting Senate Bill 1015 (Allen), an act to add Division 46 (commencing with Section 80200) to the Public Resources Code, relating to climate change.

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

On motion of Mr. Friedeborn, duly seconded, Resolution No. 18-87 was unanimously adopted.

XVIII. Consideration of resolution opposing Assembly Bill 1912 (Rodriguez), an act to amend Section 6508.1 of, to add Sections 6508.2, 20461.1, 20574.1, and 20575.1 to, and to repeal and add Section 20577.5 of, the Government Code, and to amend Section 366.2 of the Public Utilities Code, relating to public agencies, and making an appropriation therefor.

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

Comments were made by the Chief Staff Counsel and the Chief Deputy Financial Officer.

On motion of Mr. Daniel, duly seconded, Resolution No. 18-88 was unanimously adopted.

XIX. 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:
eleven (11). (1) Malibu-Encinal Homeowners Association v. Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority, Case No. BC431798; (2) 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; (3) Prop “A” Protective Association, LLC v. Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority, et al., Case No. BS 145771 and related cases; (4) 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; (5) Denman, et al. v. Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority; (6) Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority v. Berggruen Institute et al.; (7) Sycamore Park Private Community Group, et al. v. Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority and Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy; (8) Fishback v. Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy and Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority; (9) Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority v. GSV Sustainability Partners, Inc.; (10) Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority v. Sycamore Park Beach and Tennis Club, et al., and (11) City of Malibu v. Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy, et al.

Initiation of litigation pursuant to Government Code Section 54956.9(c): Number of cases - 2.


The Chairperson commenced the closed session at 3:45 p.m and announced that the following items would be discussed: Sycamore Park Private Community Group, et al. v. Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority and Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy; Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority v. Sycamore Park Beach and Tennis Club, et al.; City of Malibu v. Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy, et al; Initiation of litigation pursuant to Government Code Section 54956.9(c): Number of cases - 2; Pursuant to Government Code section 54956.95: conference with legal counsel regarding claim made pursuant to the Government Tort Claims Act. Claimant: Julianne Grace Weiss; and Pursuant to Government Code section 54956.95: conference with legal counsel regarding claim made pursuant to the Government Tort Claims Act. Claimant: Manna Dabholkar.
The Chair reconvened the open session at 4:04 p.m. and announced that instructions were given to staff.

XX. Announcement of future meetings and adjournment.

The Chairperson announced that the next meeting would be held on June 6, 2018.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 4:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted: Approved:

Joseph T. Edmiston George Lange
Executive Officer Chairperson