



**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**

**July 3, 2019**

**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 July 3, 2019 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: Jerome C. Daniel; Jim Hasenauer, Vice Chairperson, and George Lange, Chairperson. A quorum was present. The following member was absent: Dan Paranick.

Staff Present: Joseph T. Edmiston, Executive Officer, FAICP, Hon; Rorie Skei, Chief Deputy Executive Officer; Jeff Maloney, Chief Staff Counsel; Sheryl Lewanda, Chief Deputy Financial Officer; Paul Edelman, Deputy Director of Natural Resources and Planning; Cara Meyer, Deputy Executive Officer of Urban Projects; Tim Miller, Deputy Executive Officer of Construction; Jamie Cabral, Chief of Interpretation; James Latham, Acting Chief Ranger; Ken Nelson, Chief of Fire Division; Angelica Ochoa, Staff Counsel, Sarah Rascon, Urban River Projects Officer; Melissa Smith, Chief Administrative Officer, and James Yeramian, Staff Services Manager.

**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 June 5, 2019 were submitted for approval.

The minutes of June 5, 2019 were adopted as submitted.

**V. Reports from staff.**

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

**VI. Consent Calendar:**

- (a) **Consideration of resolution accepting the Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority warrant disbursements for the period of May 17, 2019 to June 13, 2019.**
- (b) **Consideration of resolution ordering levy of special taxes for Fiscal Year 2019-2020 for open space protection and fire prevention within Community Facilities District No. 1, Los Angeles.**
- (c) **Consideration of resolution ordering levy of special taxes for Fiscal Year 2019-2020 for open space protection and fire prevention within Community Facilities District No. 2, Los Angeles.**
- (d) **Consideration of resolution ordering levy of special taxes for Fiscal Year 2019-2020 for wildlife corridor & open space protection and fire prevention within Community Facilities District No. 2016-1, Los Angeles.**
- (e) **Consideration of resolution ordering levy of special taxes for Fiscal Year 2019-2020 for wildlife corridor & open space protection and fire prevention within Community Facilities District No. 2016-2, Los Angeles.**
- (f) **Consideration of resolution ordering levy of special taxes for Fiscal Year 2019-2020 within Community Facilities District No. 2015-1 (Sterling West Hills), Dayton Canyon, City of Los Angeles.**
- (g) **Consideration of resolution amending Resolution No. 18-150 additionally authorizing the fee simple sale of a less than 0.1-acre portion of APN 5570-021-905 and fee simple acceptance of an equal or**

**greater area of APN 5570-024-063 to address an encroachment from 7721 Firenze Avenue, Briar Summit Open Space Preserve, City of Los Angeles.**

- (h) Consideration of resolution authorizing a grant to Community Nature Connection for the Youth Leadership Series.**
- (i) Consideration of resolution authorizing a grant to Community Nature Connection for the development and operation of the Community Training Institute for the Protection and Interpretation of our parks and watersheds.**
- (j) Consideration of resolution authorizing a contract with Community Nature Connection for the operation of residential outdoor education programs for the Las Virgenes Unified School District.**
- (k) Consideration of resolution authorizing a contract with Community Nature Connection for operation and management of the William O. Douglas Outdoor Classroom.**
- (l) Consideration of resolution authorizing application to the Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy for Proposition 40 and 50 funds for the interpretation of land, air and water resources and coastal wetlands protection.**
- (m) Consideration of resolution authorizing a grant to Community Nature Connection for continuation of MRCA interpretive programs, community engagement and advocacy.**
- (n) Consideration of resolution authorizing a contract augmentation with Hardy & Harper, Inc. for asphalt paving at Joughin Ranch.**
- (o) Consideration of resolution confirming the need for continuing emergency contracting procedures pursuant to Resolution No. 19-09 in response to the Woolsey Fire, subsequent rainstorms, and related incidents.**

Items VI(j), VI(l), and VI(n) were removed from the Consent Calendar.

On motion of Mr. Hasenauer, duly seconded, Resolution Nos. 19-90; 19-91; 19-92; 19-93; 19-94; 19-95; 19-96; 19-97; 19-98; 19-100; 19-102, and 19-104 were unanimously adopted.

**VI(j). Consideration of resolution authorizing a contract with Community Nature Connection for the operation of residential outdoor education programs for the Las Virgenes Unified School District.**

Questions were propounded by the Chair.

Comments were made by the Chief Deputy Financial Officer.

On motion of Mr. Hasenauer, duly seconded, Resolution No. 19-99 was unanimously adopted.

**VI(l). Consideration of resolution authorizing application to the Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy for Proposition 40 and 50 funds for the interpretation of land, air and water resources and coastal wetlands protection.**

Questions were propounded by the Chair.

Comments were made by the Executive Officer.

On motion of Mr. Hasenauer, duly seconded, Resolution No. 19-101 was unanimously adopted.

**VI(n). Consideration of resolution authorizing a contract augmentation with Hardy & Harper, Inc. for asphalt paving at Joughin Ranch.**

Questions were propounded by the Chair.

Comments were made by the Deputy Executive Officer of Urban Projects.

On motion of Mr. Hasenauer, duly seconded, Resolution No. 19-103 was unanimously adopted.

The staff reports for items VII through X were presented by the Director of Public Affairs.

A public hearing was opened from 3:17 to 3:22 for said items.

No members of the public addressed the Authority.

**VII. Public Hearing and consideration of resolution adopting Engineer's Report, confirming the annual levy of maintenance assessment for fiscal year 2019-2020 and directing related actions for the Santa Monica Mountains Open Space Preservation Assessment District No. 1, Los Angeles.**

On motion of Mr. Hasenauer, duly seconded, Resolution No. 19-105 was unanimously adopted.

**VIII. Public Hearing and consideration of resolution adopting Engineer's Report, confirming the annual levy of maintenance assessment for fiscal year 2019-2020 and directing related actions for the Santa Monica Mountains Open Space Preservation Assessment District No. 2, Los Angeles.**

On motion of Mr. Hasenauer, duly seconded, Resolution No. 19-106 was unanimously adopted.

**IX. Public Hearing and consideration of resolution confirming amended assessments and directing related actions for the Santa Monica Mountains Open Space Preservation Assessment District No. 1, Los Angeles.**

On motion of Mr. Hasenauer, duly seconded, Resolution No. 19-107 was unanimously adopted.

**X. Public Hearing and consideration of resolution confirming amended assessments and directing related actions for the Santa Monica Mountains Open Space Preservation Assessment District No. 2, Los Angeles.**

On motion of Mr. Hasenauer, duly seconded, Resolution No. 19-108 was unanimously adopted.

**XI. Consideration of a resolution adopting a local debt policy.**

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

Questions were propounded by Mr. Hasenauer.

Comments were made by the Executive Officer.

On motion of Mr. Hasenauer, duly seconded, Resolution No. 19-109 was unanimously adopted.

**XII. Consideration of resolution approving the FY 2019-2020 preliminary budget of the Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority.**

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

Questions were propounded by Mr. Hasenauer.

Comments were made by the Chief Deputy Financial Officer.

On motion of Mr. Hasenauer, duly seconded, Resolution No. 19-110 was unanimously adopted.

**XIII. Consideration of resolution adopting a Procurement Policy governing the purchase of supplies and equipment and contracting for goods and services.**

The staff report for this item was presented by the Deputy Executive Officer of Urban Projects.

Questions were propounded by Messrs. Daniel and Hasenauer.

Comments were made by the Deputy Executive Officer of Urban Projects and the Executive Officer.

On motion of Mr. Hasenauer, duly seconded, Resolution No. 19-111 was unanimously adopted.

**XIV. Consideration of resolution approving and adopting the updated MRCA Salary Schedule, including coastal projects special counsel position and changes required for minimum wage increase.**

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

On motion of Mr. Hasenauer, duly seconded, Resolution No. 19-112 was unanimously adopted.

**XV. Consideration of resolution authorizing a grant application to the Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy for a grant of Greenhouse Gas Reduction funds for the Regional Forest and Fire Capacity Grant Program.**

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

On motion of Mr. Hasenauer, duly seconded, Resolution No. 19-113 was unanimously adopted.

**XVI. Consideration of resolution authorizing a grant application to the Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy for a grant of General Funds for Woolsey Fire Recovery and Restoration.**

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

On motion of Mr. Hasenauer, duly seconded, Resolution No. 19-114 was unanimously adopted.

**XVII. Consideration of resolution authorizing a legal services contract with Joseph Caves and Associates.**

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

Comments were made by Mr. Daniel.

On motion of Mr. Hasenauer, duly seconded, Resolution No. 19-115 was unanimously adopted.

**XVIII. Consideration of resolution accepting a grant of Proposition 68 funds from the Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy for pre-improvement planning for the Coastal Slope Trail Public Works Plan, unincorporated Los Angeles County and City of Malibu.**

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

On motion of Mr. Hasenauer, duly seconded, Resolution No. 19-116 was unanimously adopted.

**XIX. Consideration of resolution authorizing: (a) the acquisition of APNs 4438-017-008, 011, 012 and 4438-036-001 (approximately 46 acres) using mitigation funding, and (b) acceptance of private funds for said acquisition, Old Topanga Canyon area, unincorporated Los Angeles County. Negotiators: Joseph T. Edmiston and Tryon Sisson. Under consideration: price and terms. (This matter may be heard in closed session pursuant to Government Code Section 54956.8.)**

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

On motion of Mr. Hasenauer, duly seconded, Resolution No. 19-117 was unanimously adopted.

**XX. Consideration of resolution authorizing (a) applying to the California Department of Conservation's Working Lands and Riparian Corridors Program, (b) entering into a grant agreement with the Department of**

**Conservation, (c) and accepting Department of Conservation's Proposition 68 funds.**

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. 19-118 was unanimously adopted.

**XXI. 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: four (4). (1) Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority v. Berggruen Institute et al,; (2) Sycamore Park Private Community Group, et al. v. Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority and Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy; (3) Fishback v. Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy and Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority, and (4) Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority v. GSV Sustainability Partners, Inc.***

No closed session was held.

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

The Chairperson announced that the next meeting would be held on August 7, 2019.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 3:54 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:

Approved:

Joseph T. Edmiston  
Executive Officer

George Lange  
Chairperson