



MOUNTAINS RECREATION & CONSERVATION AUTHORITY
Los Angeles River Center & Gardens
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MINUTES
of the
GOVERNING BOARD
of the
MOUNTAINS RECREATION AND CONSERVATION AUTHORITY

August 7, 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 August 7, 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: Dan Paranick; Jim Hasenauer, Vice Chairperson, and George Lange, Chairperson. A quorum was present. The following member was absent: Jerome C. Daniel.

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 July 3, 2019 were submitted for approval.

The minutes of July 3, 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 June 14, 2019 to July 18, 2019.**
- (b) **Consideration of resolution authorizing acceptance of the offer to dedicate trail easement associated with Coastal Development Permit No. 05-160 (McKeen), incorporated and unincorporated Malibu.**
- (c) **Consideration of resolution authorizing the acceptance of donation of APN 2819-004-027, approximately 0.1 acres, Browns Canyon, City of Los Angeles.**
- (d) **Consideration of resolution authorizing a contract with SERVPRO of Fallbrook/South Oceanside for post-disaster building cleaning services at Ramirez Canyon Park, City of Malibu.**
- (e) **Consideration of resolution confirming the need for continuing emergency contracting procedures pursuant to Resolution 19-09 in response to the Woolsey Fire, subsequent rainstorms, and related incidents.**
- (f) **Consideration of resolution authorizing a project planning and design grant application to the Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy to develop visitor facilities on dedicated and acquired open space within the former Verdugo Hills golf course property in La Tuna Canyon, City of Los Angeles.**

Items VI(a) and VI(f) were removed from the Consent Calendar.

On motion of Mr. Hasenauer, duly seconded, Resolutions No. 19-120 through 19-123 were unanimously adopted.

VI(a). Consideration of resolution accepting the Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority warrant disbursements for the period of June 14, 2019 to July 18, 2019.

Questions were propounded by Mr. Paranick.

Comments were made by the Deputy Financial Officer.

On motion of Mr. Paranick, duly seconded, Resolution No. 19-119 was unanimously adopted.

VI(f). Consideration of resolution authorizing a project planning and design grant application to the Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy to develop visitor facilities on dedicated and acquired open space within the former Verdugo Hills golf course property in La Tuna Canyon, City of Los Angeles.

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. 19-124 was unanimously adopted.

VII. Consideration of resolution adopting Fiscal Year 2019-2020 MRCA Workprogram.

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

Questions were propounded by the Chair and Mr. Paranick.

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

On motion of Mr. Paranick, duly seconded, Resolution No. 19-125 was unanimously adopted.

VIII. Consideration of a resolution authorizing and approving an \$8 million Revolving Credit Agreement to finance grants and annual operating costs, including the issuance of three promissory notes in the respective amounts of \$3,000,000, \$3,000,000 and \$2,000,000, a Deed of Trust, a Pledge

Agreement, and certain other documents in connection therewith, and authorizing certain related actions.

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

Questions were propounded by Messrs. Hasenauer and Paranick.

Comments were made by the Deputy Financial Officer.

On motion of Mr. Paranick, duly seconded, Resolution No. 19-126 was unanimously adopted.

IX. Consideration of resolution authorizing a grant application to the Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy for Proposition 68 and Proposition 1 funds for River Green project planning and design, Upper Los Angeles River Watershed.

Questions were propounded by Mr. Paranick.

Comments were made by the Chief Deputy Executive Officer.

On motion of Mr. Hasenauer, duly seconded, Resolution No. 19-127 was unanimously adopted.

X. Consideration of resolution authorizing the exchange of an approximately 300-foot-long above ground waterline easement over APN 4455-012-901 to exclusively benefit APN 4455-014-002 with one habitable structure and landscaping at 2831 Stokes Canyon Road in exchange for an access easement and a conservation easement over a minimum 20 acre portion of APN 4455-014-002, Stokes Canyon, unincorporated Los Angeles County.

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. 19-128 was unanimously adopted.

XI. Consideration of resolution establishing a best practices policy for workers' compensation insurance coverage for employees and volunteers pursuant to applicable law.

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

Questions were propounded by Messrs. Hasenauer and Paranick.

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

On motion of Mr. Paranick, duly seconded, Resolution No. 19-129 was unanimously adopted.

XII. Presentation on Los Angeles River Ranger Program Establishment Plan.

The Authority received an oral report by the Urban River Projects Officer.

Questions were propounded by Messrs. Hasenauer and Paranick.

Comments were made by the Executive Officer and the Urban River Projects Officer.

XIII. 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.

The Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority may hold a closed session on the following item pursuant to Government Code § 54956.9(a). Confidential memoranda related to this item may be considered during such closed session discussions. Conference with legal counsel. Number of cases: one (1) *Access Pacific Inc. v. Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority.*

The Chairperson convened the closed session at 4:19 p.m.

The Chairperson reconvened the open session at 4:24 p.m. and announced that the following item was discussed pursuant to Government Code § 54956.9(a). Confidential memoranda related to this item may be considered during such closed session discussions. Conference with legal counsel. Number of cases: one (1) *Access Pacific Inc. v. Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority.*

XIV. 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 4:28 p.m in memory of Robert S. Freidin.

Respectfully submitted:

Approved:

Joseph T. Edmiston
Executive Officer

George Lange
Chairperson