



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**

October 2, 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 October 2, 2019 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 Irma R. Muñoz.

II. Roll Call.

The roll was called and the following members were present: Irma R. Muñoz; Dan Paranick; Jim Hasenauer, Vice Chairperson, and George Lange, Chairperson. A quorum was present.

Staff Present: Rorie Skei, Chief Deputy Executive Officer; Jeff Maloney, Chief Staff Counsel; Basem Mosaad, Deputy Financial Officer; Paul Edelman, Deputy Director of Natural Resources and Planning; Cara Meyer, Deputy Executive Officer of Urban Projects; Melissa Smith, Chief, Division of Policy and Legislation; Tim Miller, Deputy Executive Officer of Construction; James Latham, Acting Chief Ranger; Ken Nelson, Chief of Fire Division; 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 September 2, 2019 were submitted for approval.

The minutes of September 2, 2019 were adopted as submitted.

V. Reports from staff.

Comments were made by Ms. Muñoz.

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 August 16, 2019 to September 12, 2019.**
- (b) **Consideration of resolution authorizing a professional services contract with SWA Group, Inc. for Reseda Park pre-improvement planning, City of Los Angeles.**
- (c) **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.**
- (d) **Consideration of resolution authorizing signing a Letter of Intent with relevant public agencies to develop a Los Angeles River Park Partnership that unifies efforts throughout the 100 acres of public open space at Taylor Yard, City of Los Angeles.**
- (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 the expenditure of Community Facilities District Numbers 1 , 2016-1, and private funds to acquire properties in the eastern Santa Monica Mountains/Hollywood Hills area, City of Los Angeles, at the Los Angeles County Tax Collector 2019A public auction.**
- (g) **Consideration of resolution authorizing the expenditure of Santa Monica Mountains Open Space Preservation Assessment District No.2 (Area G) funds to acquire properties in Woodland Hills, Tarzana, and**

Encino, City of Los Angeles, at the Los Angeles County Tax Collector 2019A public auction.

- (h) **Consideration of resolution authorizing the expenditure of funds from Proposition A to acquire properties in the Northeast Los Angeles Hilltops areas, City of Los Angeles, at the Los Angeles County Tax Collector 2019A public auction.**
- (i) **Consideration of resolution supporting the addition of Mexican elderberry and Toyon to the City of Los Angeles Protected Tree Ordinance.**

Items VI(c), VI(d) and VI(i) were removed from the Consent Calendar.

On motion of Mr. Hasenauer, duly seconded, Resolution Nos. 19-132; 19-133; 19-136; 19-137; 19-138, and 19-139 was unanimously adopted.

VI(c). 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 the Chair and Ms. Muñoz..

Comments were made by the Chief of Outreach and Engagement.

On motion of Mr. Hasenauer, duly seconded, Resolution No 19-134 was unanimously adopted.

VI(d). Consideration of resolution authorizing signing a Letter of Intent with relevant public agencies to develop a Los Angeles River Park Partnership that unifies efforts throughout the 100 acres of public open space at Taylor Yard, City of Los Angeles.

Questions were propounded by the Chair.

Comments were made by the Chief Staff Counsel.

On motion of Mr. Hasenauer, duly seconded, Resolution No. 19-135 was unanimously adopted.

VI(i). Consideration of resolution supporting the addition of Mexican elderberry and Toyon to the City of Los Angeles Protected Tree Ordinance.

Questions were propounded by the Chair.

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

On motion of Ms. Muñoz, duly seconded, Resolution No 19-140 was unanimously adopted.

VII. Receive and File the Fiscal Year 2017-18 Annual Audit Report.

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

Comments were made by Ms. Muñoz.

VIII. Consideration of resolution authorizing acceptance of a donation of approximately 4.62 acres, APN 3370-017-014, Antelope Valley, unincorporated Los Angeles County.

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

Questions were propounded by Ms. Muñoz and the Chairperson.

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

On motion of Mr. Hasenauer, duly seconded, Resolution No. 19-141 was unanimously adopted.

IX. Consideration of resolution approving an application to the California Natural Resources Agency for reconstruction of youth camps affected by the Woolsey and Tubbs Fires.

Questions were propounded by the Chair and Mr. Paranick.

Comments were made by the Chief Deputy Executive Officer.

On motion of Mr. Hasenauer, duly seconded, Resolution No. 19-142 was unanimously adopted.

- X. Consideration of resolution amending Resolution No. 17-100 to authorize acceptance of the fee simple donation of APNs 2826-020-025, 026 and 029 in Whickham Canyon comprising approximately 45 acres and entering into an agreement with Preservation Strategies, Inc. and Lennar Homes for the sale of in lieu fee habitat credits on Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority-owned property, unincorporated Los Angeles County. *(This item may be heard in closed session pursuant to the Government Code § 54956.8. Negotiators: Joseph T. Edmiston and Robert Devogelaere. Under consideration: price and terms.)***

This item was heard in closed session.

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. 19-143 was unanimously adopted.

- XI. Consideration of resolution authorizing 1) entering into a Project Agreement with the Los Angeles County Regional Park and Open Space District, 2) entering into a grant agreement with the Wildlife Conservation Board, 3) use of mitigation funds and acceptance of private funds for said acquisition and option payment, 4) acquisition of APNs 2821-008-031 and 035 approximately 261 acres, and 5) entering into an option agreement as necessary, Mormon and Browns Canyon, unincorporated Los Angeles County. *(This item may be heard in closed session pursuant to the Government Code § 54956.8. Negotiators: Joseph T. Edmiston and Craig Campbell. Under consideration: price and terms.)***

This item was heard in closed session.

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

Questions were propounded by Mr. Paranick and the Chairperson.

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

On motion of Mr. Hasenauer, duly seconded, Resolution No. 19-144 was unanimously adopted.

XII. Discussion on 2019 legislative summary.

The Authority received an oral report by the Chief, Division of Policy and Legislation.

Questions were propounded by Ms. Muñoz and Mr. Paranick.

Comments were made by the Chief, Division of Policy and Legislation.

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: five (5). (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; (4) Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority v. GSV Sustainability Partners, Inc., and (5) Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority v. Morrison, et al.

Initiation of litigation pursuant to Government Code Section 54956.9(c). Number of cases: 1

Pursuant to Government Code § 54956.9(d)(2): Conference with legal counsel regarding claim made pursuant to the Government Tort Claims Act. Claimants: Mariam Varosyan and Eliza Makichyan.

Pursuant to Government Code § 54956.9(d)(2): Conference with legal counsel regarding claim made pursuant to the Government Tort Claims Act. Claimant: Norma Gonzalez.

Pursuant to Government Code Section 54956.8 - Conference with Real Property Negotiators:

- 1. Properties: APN 4379-032-900
MRCA Negotiator: Joseph T. Edmiston
Property Negotiator: Grant Loosvelt
Under Negotiation: Price and terms of payment**

The Chair convened the open session at 4:05 p.m.

The Chair reconvened the open session at 4:38 p.m. and announced instructions were given to staff.

XIV. Announcement of future meetings and adjournment.

The Chairperson announced that the next meeting would be held on September 6, 2019.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 4:03 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:

Approved:

Joseph T. Edmiston
Executive Officer

George Lange
Chairperson