



**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**

**February 5, 2020**

**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 February 5, 2020 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: Irma R. Muñoz; Dan Paranick; Jim Hasenauer, Vice Chairperson, and George Lange, Chairperson. A quorum was present.

Staff Present: Joseph T. Edmiston, Executive Officer, FAICP, Hon; Sheryl Lewanda; Chief Deputy Financial Officer; Paul Edelman, Deputy Director of Natural Resources and Planning; Jeff Maloney, Chief Staff Counsel; Amy Lethbridge, Deputy Executive Officer of Outreach and Engagement; Walt Young, Deputy Executive Officer of Operations; Tim Miller, Deputy Executive Officer of Construction; Melissa Smith, Chief, Division of Policy and Legislation; Fernando Gomez, Chief Ranger; Ken Nelson, Chief of Fire Division; Brian Baldauf, Chief of Park Development; Sarah Rascon, Urban River Projects Officer; Elena Eger, Special Counsel; Maribelle Franco, Deputy Chief of Developed Resources, Marc Shores, Information Systems Technician, and James Yeramian, Staff Services Manager.

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

The following members of the public addressed the Authority:

Ms. Suellen, representing Studio City for Quiet Skies, on matters not on the agenda.  
Ms. Heidi McKay, member of the public, on matters not on the agenda.

**IV. Approval of minutes.**

The minutes of January 8, 2020 were submitted for approval.

The minutes of January 8, 2020 were adopted as submitted.

**V. Reports from staff.**

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

**VI. Consent Calendar:**

- (a) Consideration of resolution accepting the Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority warrant disbursements for the period of December 13, 2019 to January 16, 2020.**
- (b) Consideration of resolution authorizing investment of MRCA monies in the Ventura County Treasury.**
- (c) Consideration of resolution authorizing acceptance of donated conservation easements on APNs 4380-003-009 and 010 in Beverly Glen Canyon, City of Los Angeles.**
- (d) Consideration of resolution authorizing a contract with Choux Choux, Inc. for catering for outdoor camp at King Gillette Ranch, unincorporated Los Angeles County.**

Item VI(c) was removed from the agenda.

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

On motion of Mr. Hasenauer, duly seconded, Resolution No. 20-01 and 20-04 were unanimously adopted.

- VI(b). Consideration of resolution authorizing investment of MRCA monies in the Ventura County Treasury.**

Questions were propounded by Mr. Paranick.

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

On motion of Mr. Paranick, duly seconded, Resolution No. 20-02 was unanimously adopted.

**VII. Consideration of resolution reappointing Jim Hasenauer as Public Member.**

On motion of Mr. Paranick, duly seconded, Resolution No. 20-05 was unanimously adopted.

**VIII. Consideration of resolution authorizing a grant to Outward Bound Adventures for construction of Sunset Ridge Connector Trail, Unincorporated Los Angeles County.**

The staff report for this item was presented by the Chief of Park Development.

Comments were made by Mr. Ken Preston, representing Outward Bound Adventures.

Questions were propounded by Ms. Muñoz.

Comments were made by Mr. Preston and Mr. Hasenauer.

On motion of Mr. Hasenauer, duly seconded, Resolution No. 20-06 was unanimously adopted.

**IX. Consideration of resolution authorizing an application to the Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy for a grant of General Funds for Woolsey Fire Restoration, Safety and Recovery projects.**

Questions were propounded by Mr. Paranick.

Comments were made by the Chief of the Fire Division and the Executive Officer.

On motion of Mr. Hasenauer, duly seconded, Resolution No. 20-07 was unanimously adopted.

**X. Consideration of resolution authorizing an application to the Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy for a grant of Proposition 68 funds for vegetation management, fire prevention and resilience activities.**

On motion of Mr. Hasenauer, duly seconded, Resolution No. 20-08 was unanimously adopted.

**XI. Consideration of resolution supporting AB 1922 (Rivas).**

The staff report for this item was presented by the Urban River Projects Officer.

On motion of Mr. Hasenauer, duly seconded, Resolution No. 20-09 was unanimously adopted.

**XII. 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: six (6). (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.; (5) Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority v. Morrison, et al.; and (6) Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority v. Southern California Edison.*

**Pursuant to Government Code § 54956.9(d)(2): Conference with legal counsel regarding claim made pursuant to the Government Tort Claims Act. Claimants: Williams Alvarez Molineros, Mayra Alvarez Morales, Jhosselin Guajaca and Mariajose Guajaca.**

The Chairperson commenced the closed session at 3:43 p.m. and announced that the following item would be discussed: *Sycamore Park Private Community Group, et al. v. Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority and Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy.*

The Chairperson commenced the open session at 3:54 p.m. and announced that instructions were given to staff.

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

Comments were made by Ms. Muñoz.

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The Chairperson announced that the next meeting would be held on March 4, 2020.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 3:55 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:

Approved:

Joseph T. Edmiston  
Executive Officer

George Lange  
Chairperson