



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**

May 6, 2020

I. Call to order.

The special telephonic meeting of the Governing Board of the Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority was called to order by Chairperson George Lange, at 10:09 a.m., on May 6, 2020 via zoom call.

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; Rorie Skei, Chief Deputy Executive 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; 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, Cara Meyer, Deputy Executive Officer of Urban Projects; Melissa Smith, Chief Deputy Financial 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.

No minutes of April 1, 2020 were submitted for approval.

The minutes of April 1, 2020 were adopted as submitted.

Items VIII, IX, and X were considered next in order to accommodate guests on the call.

VIII. Consideration of resolution authorizing a grant to URJ Camp Newman for reconstruction of youth camps destroyed by the Tubbs Fire, City of Santa Rosa.

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

Questions were propounded by Mr. Paranick.

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

A roll-call vote was administered.

On motion of Mr. Paranick, duly seconded, Resolution 20-48 was unanimously adopted.

IX. Consideration of resolution authorizing a grant to the Shalom Institute for reconstruction of youth camps destroyed by the Woolsey Fire, County of Los Angeles.

A roll-call vote was administered.

On motion of Mr. Paranick, duly seconded, Resolution 20-48 was unanimously adopted.

X. Consideration of resolution authorizing a grant to Wilshire Boulevard Temple for reconstruction of youth camps destroyed by the Woolsey Fire, County of Ventura.

A roll-call vote was administered.

On motion of Mr. Paranick, duly seconded, Resolution 20-48 was unanimously adopted.

The regular order of the agenda was resumed.

V. Reports from Staff on Covid-19 response:

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 March 20, 2020 to April 16, 2020.**
- (b) Consideration of resolution authorizing acceptance of the offers to dedicate scenic easements and/or open space easements associated with Coastal Development Permit No. 5-91-436 (BMIF/BSLF Rancho Malibu), incorporated and unincorporated Malibu.**
- (c) Consideration of resolution authorizing a contract to Oakridge Landscape Inc. for fuel modification services at Westridge CanyonBack, City of Los Angeles.**
- (d) Consideration of resolution authorizing entering into license agreements with private parties to construct, maintain, and monitor native toad ponds on APNs 3244-014-908 and -909, 3247-017-900 through -912, and 3247-018-903 with fees paid to MRCA for land use and legal expenses, Marple Canyon, unincorporated Los Angeles County.**
- (e) Consideration of resolution authorizing application to the Los Angeles County Regional Park and Open Space District for Proposition A funds for Santa Monica Mountains habitat and trail acquisitions grants currently awarded to the National Park Service, unincorporated Los Angeles County.**
- (f) Consideration of resolution authorizing: (a) acceptance of either fee title or conservation easements over all or portions of APNs 3244-030-003, 3244-160-026, and 3244-160-062 through 3244-160-067 (approximately 59 acres) from BLC Tesoro LLC; (b) entering into conservation and long term land stewardship agreements, and (c) acceptance of funding to achieve these objectives, San Francisquito Canyon, unincorporated Los Angeles County.**
- (g) Consideration of resolution authorizing the acceptance of approximately 18.17 acres from the Trust for Public Land (APN 3209-008-006) and granting any deed restrictions or conservation easements as necessary, upper Santa Clara River watershed, Soledad Canyon, unincorporated Los Angeles County.**

- (h) **Consideration of resolution authorizing reimbursement to Friends of Griffith Park for funds advanced to escrow for MRCA to acquire APNs 5580-020-012 and 013 adjacent to Griffith Park as such funds are provided by the City of Los Angeles to the MRCA post-acquisition closing.**
- (i) **Consideration of resolution authorizing the acquisition of APN 2386-030-028 in the Dixie Canyon watershed using mitigation funds and acceptance of long-term maintenance fund, City of Los Angeles.**

Items VI(d), VI(f), and VI(g) were removed from the Consent Calendar.

A roll-call vote was administered.

On motion of Mr. Hasenauer, duly seconded, Resolution Nos. 20-38; 20-39; 20-40; 20-42; 20-45, and 20-46 were unanimously adopted.

VI(d) Consideration of resolution authorizing entering into license agreements with private parties to construct, maintain, and monitor native toad ponds on APNs 3244-014-908 and -909, 3247-017-900 through -912, and 3247-018-903 with fees paid to MRCA for land use and legal expenses, Marple Canyon, unincorporated Los Angeles County.

Questions were propounded by Mr. Hasenauer and Mr. Paranick.

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

A roll-call vote was administered.

On motion of Mr. Paranick, duly seconded, Resolution No. 20-41 was unanimously adopted with the caveat to insure that management have a long term obligation.

VI(f) Consideration of resolution authorizing: (a) acceptance of either fee title or conservation easements over all or portions of APNs 3244-030-003, 3244-160-026, and 3244-160-062 through 3244-160-067 (approximately 59 acres) from BLC Tesoro LLC; (b) entering into conservation and long term land stewardship agreements, and (c) acceptance of funding to achieve these objectives, San Francisquito Canyon, unincorporated Los Angeles County.

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

A roll-call vote was administered.

On motion of Mr. Hasenauer, duly seconded, Resolution No. 20-43 was unanimously adopted.

VI(g) Consideration of resolution authorizing the acceptance of approximately 18.17 acres from the Trust for Public Land (APN 3209-008-006) and granting any deed restrictions or conservation easements as necessary, upper Santa Clara River watershed, Soledad Canyon, unincorporated Los Angeles County.

Questions were propounded by the Chair.

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

A roll-call vote was administered.

On motion of Mr. Hasenauer, duly seconded, Resolution No. 20-43 was unanimously adopted.

VII. Consideration of resolution accepting donation of approximately 32 acres (APNs 4434-009-011 and 4434-009-012) in the Santa Maria Canyon watershed, unincorporated Los Angeles County.

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

A roll-call vote was administered.

On motion of Mr. Hasenauer, duly seconded, Resolution No. 20-61 was unanimously adopted.

XI. Presentation on the Upper Los Angeles River and Tributaries Revitalization Plan, as recommended by the Upper Los Angeles River and Tributaries Working Group.

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

Comments were made by Mr. Paranick, the Chairperson, and the Executive Officer.

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.

No closed session was held.

XIII. Announcement of future meetings and adjournment.

Comments were made by Ms. Muñoz.

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

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 11:15 a.m.

Respectfully submitted:

Approved:

Joseph T. Edmiston
Executive Officer

George Lange
Chairperson