



**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**

**June 4, 2014**

**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 June 4, 2014, 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: Larry Peterson; Jerome C. Daniel, Vice Chairperson, and George Lange, Chairperson. A quorum was present. The following member was absent: Jim Hasenauer.

Staff Present: Rorie Skei, Chief Deputy Executive Officer; Jeff Jones, Assistant Financial Officer; Paul Edelman, Deputy Director of Natural Resources and Planning; Jeff Maloney, Chief Staff Counsel; Tim Miller, Assistant Deputy Executive Officer; Jamie Cabral, Chief of Interpretation; Ana Petrlc, Deputy Chief of Urban Projects and Watershed Division; James Latham, Ranger, 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 May 7, 2014 were submitted for approval.

The minutes of May 7, 2014 were approved as submitted.

**V. Reports from staff.**

The Authority received oral reports from the Chief Staff Counsel; the Deputy Director of Natural Resources and Planning; the Deputy Chief of Urban Projects and Watershed Division; the Chief of Interpretation, the Assistant Deputy Executive Officer, and the Assistant Financial Officer.

**VI. Consent Calendar:**

- (a) Consideration of resolution adopting the MRCA Warrant Disbursements for the period of April 28, 2014 to May 26, 2014.**
- (b) Consideration of resolution ordering the making of amended assessments under Part 10 of Division 10 of the California Streets and Highways Code for the Santa Monica Mountains Open Space Preservation Assessment District No. 1, Los Angeles.**
- (c) Consideration of resolution ordering the making of amended assessments under Part 10 of Division 10 of the California Streets and Highways Code for the Santa Monica Mountains Open Space Preservation Assessment District No. 2, Los Angeles.**
- (d) Consideration of resolution initiating proceedings for and of intention to levy annual maintenance assessments for fiscal year 2014-2015 and directing related actions for the Santa Monica Mountains Open Space Preservation Assessment District No. 1, Los Angeles.**
- (e) Consideration of resolution initiating proceedings for and of intention to levy annual maintenance assessments for fiscal year 2014-2015 and directing related actions for the Santa Monica Mountains Open Space Preservation Assessment District No. 2, Los Angeles.**
- (f) Consideration of resolution preliminarily approving amended assessment, ordering hearing protests and directing related actions for the Santa Monica Mountains Open Space Preservation Assessment District No. 1, Los Angeles.**
- (g) Consideration of resolution preliminarily approving amended assessment, ordering hearing protests and directing related actions for the Santa Monica Mountains Open Space Preservation Assessment District No. 2, Los Angeles.**

- (h) Consideration of resolution authorizing a contract to LT Mustardseed Sculpture and Design to supply artistic fencing for the Franklin/Ivar Park project.**

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

On motion of Mr. Daniel, duly seconded, Resolution Nos. 14-80; 14-81; 14-82; 14-83; 14-84, and 14-87 were unanimously adopted.

Items VI(f) and VI(g) were considered simultaneously.

- VI(f). Consideration of resolution preliminarily approving amended assessment, ordering hearing protests and directing related actions for the Santa Monica Mountains Open Space Preservation Assessment District No. 1, Los Angeles.**

- VI(g). Consideration of resolution preliminarily approving amended assessment, ordering hearing protests and directing related actions for the Santa Monica Mountains Open Space Preservation Assessment District No. 2, Los Angeles.**

Questions were propounded by Mr. Peterson.

Comments were made by the Chief Staff Counsel and the Assistant Financial Officer.

On motion of Mr. Peterson, duly seconded, Resolution Nos. 14-85 and 14-86 were unanimously adopted.

- VII. Consideration of resolution adopting the Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority Fiscal Year 2014-2015 Preliminary Budget.**

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

On motion of Mr. Peterson, duly seconded, Resolution No. 14-88 was unanimously adopted.

- VIII. Consideration of resolution authorizing a contract to supply artistic tiles for Marsh Street Park Project.**

The staff report for this item was presented by the Deputy Chief of Urban Projects and Watershed Division.

On motion of Mr. Peterson, duly seconded, Resolution No. 14-89 was unanimously adopted.

- IX. Consideration of resolution authorizing a Memorandum of Understanding with the Audubon Youth Environmental Stewards, a program of the Palos Verdes/South Bay Audubon Society for stewardship of sections of the Los Angeles Greenway, Los Angeles.**

This item was postponed to a later date.

- X. Consideration of resolution accepting donation of approximately 80 acres of land in the Santa Clarita Woodlands area, APN's 2826-014-052 and -053, Santa Susana Mountains.**

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

Questions were propounded by the Chair.

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

On motion of Mr. Daniel, duly seconded, Resolution No. 14-91 was unanimously adopted.

- XI. Consideration of resolution authorizing the use of mitigation funds to acquire APN 648-0-270-325, conditionally from Ballona Ecosystem Education Project, comprised of approximately 118 acres on the north slope of Chatsworth Peak, unincorporated Ventura County. Negotiators: Joseph T. Edmiston and Rex Frankel. Under consideration: price and terms. (*This matter may be heard in closed session pursuant to Government Code Section 54856.8.*)**

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

Questions were propounded by Mr. Daniel.

Comments were made by the Chief Deputy Executive Officer.

On motion of Mr. Daniel, duly seconded, Resolution No. 14-92 was unanimously adopted.

- XII. Consideration of resolution conditionally authorizing the exchange of an approximately 1.2- acre area with an existing horse rink either in fee simple or easement and an easement for ingress and egress over a historic dirt road on APN 4456-013-904 for an approximately 13-acre fee simple portion of APN 4456-037-037, Dark Canyon watershed, 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. Peterson, duly seconded, Resolution No. 14-93 was unanimously adopted.

**XIII. Consideration of resolution authorizing the acceptance of a donation of either fee simple or conservation easement interests in APN 4455-058-004 of approximately 12 acres, Stokes and Cold Creek Canyon watersheds, 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 Mr. Daniel.

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

On motion of Mr. Peterson, duly seconded, Resolution 14-94 was unanimously adopted.

**XIV. Consideration of resolution authorizing the acceptance of a donation of APNs 2031-015-001 and 2031-001-006 totaling 22.8 acres, with partial consideration of agency campground use for the Girl Scouts of America, El Escorpion Canyon, unincorporated Los Angeles County.**

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

Comments were made by the Assistant Deputy Executive Officer.

Questions were propounded by Mr. Daniel.

Comments were made the Chief Deputy Executive Officer.

On motion of Mr. Daniel, duly seconded, Resolution No. 14-95 was unanimously adopted.

**XV. 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: nine (9). (1) *Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy and Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority v. City of Malibu*, Case No. SC092212 and related actions; (2) *Malibu-Encinal Homeowners Association v. Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority*, Case No. BC431798; (3) *Morris v. City of Los Angeles, et al.*, Case No. BC448511; (4) *Everett v. Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority*, Case No. BC466880; (5) *Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority v. City of Whittier, Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors, Los Angeles County Regional Park and Open Space District, et al.*, Case No. BS136211, and related cases, (6) *Friends of the Hastain Trail, et al. v. Coldwater Investments, et al.*, Case No. BC469573; (7) *Prop "A" Protective Association, LLC v. Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority, et al.*, Case No. BS 145771 and related cases; (8) *Los Angeles County Regional Park and Open Space District, The Trust for Public Land, et al. v. City of Whittier, Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority, et al.*, Case No. BS146670 and related cases; (9) *Ball v. Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority*, Case No. BC530090.**

No closed session was held.

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

The Chair announced that the next meeting would be held on July 2, 2014.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 3:24 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:

Approved:

Joseph T. Edmiston  
Executive Officer

George Lange  
Chairperson