DESERT AND MOUNTAIN CONSERVATION AUTHORITY

MINUTES
of the
GOVERNING BOARD
of the
DESERT AND MOUNTAIN CONSERVATION AUTHORITY

July 17, 2009

I. Call to Order.

The special meeting of the Governing Board of the Desert and Mountain Conservation Authority was called to order by Chair Jim Dodson, on July 17, 2009, at Santa Clarita City Hall, Santa Clarita, at 10:38 a.m.

II. Roll Call.

The roll was called and the following members were present: Jim Dodson, Chair; Richard Gould; Vice-Chair; and Ron Krueper. Quorum present.

Staff present: Paul Edelman, Chief of Natural Resources and Planning; Diane Sacks, Board Secretary.

Members of the Public Present: Mr. Henry Schultz.

III. Approval of Minutes from the meeting of June 11, 2008.

The minutes of meeting November 8, 2007 were submitted for approval.

On motion of Mr. Gould, duly seconded, minutes from the meeting of June 11, 2008 were unanimously adopted.

IV. Public comment on matters not appearing on the Meeting Agenda and within the subject matter jurisdiction of the Authority.

No comments were made on matters not appearing on this meeting agenda or any other matter.

V. Oral report on DMCA Chapter 8 Agreements with Los Angeles County.

A report was given by the Chief of Natural Resources and Planning.

Questions were propounded by the Chair and Mr. Schultz.

Comments were made by the Chief of Natural Resources and Planning.

Questions were propounded by the Chair.

Comments were made by the Chair, Vice-Chair, Mr. Krueper, and the Chief of Natural Resources and Planning.

Questions were propounded by the Chair.

Comments were made by the Chair and the Chief of Natural Resources and Planning.

Questions were propounded by Mr. Krueper.

Comments were made by the Chief of Natural Resources and Planning.

Questions were propounded by the Chair.

Comments were made by the Chief of Natural Resources and Planning.

VI. Oral report on existing DMCA land interests.

A report was given by the Chief of Natural Resources and Planning.

Questions were propounded by the Chair in regard to Antelope Valley and why the title holder is MRCA and not DMCA.

Comments were made by the Chief of Natural Resources and Planning.

Questions were propounded by the Chair as to the need for an agreement.

Comments were made by the Chief of Natural Resources and Planning in regard to financial issue.

Comments were made by Mr. Krueper and the Chief of Natural Resources and Planning in regard to the need for an agreement.

Questions were propounded by the Chair.

Comments were made by the Chief of Natural Resources and Planning.

Comments were made by the Chair requesting the need to move forward to have an

agreement in place.

Questions were propounded by the Chair.

Comments were made by the Chief of Natural Resources and Planning.

Questions were propounded by the Chair in regard to the annual $8,000 paid on the first of January.

Comments were made by the Chief of Natural Resources and Planning.

Questions were propounded by the Chair as to the need for a letter to be written.

Comments were made by the Chief of Natural Resources and Planning indicating the need for a letter to inquire of the status.

Questions were propounded by the Chief of Natural Resources and Planning.

Comments were made by the Chair and the Chief of Natural Resources and Planning in regard to Palmdale City Park.

Comments were made by the Chair in regard to Holcomb Ridge.

Questions were propounded by the Chief of Natural Resources and Planning.

Comments were made by the Chair in regard to the Foothill area concerning energy development.

Comments were made by the Chair, Vice-Chair, Mr. Krueper, and the Chief of Natural Resources and Planning in regard to the Lancaster parcels.

VII. Oral report on the status of Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy grant for pre-acquisition services.

A report was given by the Chief of Natural Resources and Planning.

Comments were made by the Chair and Mr. Krueper.

VIII. Consideration of resolution authorizing a comment letter to Los Angeles County regarding the pre-draft Environmental Impact Report for the AV Solar Ranch One Project (Tract Map No. 071035) in the Fairmont Butte area, unincorporated Antelope Valley.

A report was given by the Chief of Natural Resources and Planning.

Comments were made by the Chair and Vice-Chair in regard to Parcel 23..

Questions were propounded by Mr. Krueper.

Comments were made by the Chair and the Chief of Natural Resources and Planning.

Questions were propounded by Mr. Krueper.

Comments were made by the Chief of Natural Resources and Planning.

Comments were made by the Chair, the Chief of Natural Resources and Planning, and Mr. Krueper in regard to the city mitigation for removal of the Joshua trees.

Questions were propounded by Mr. Krueper.

Comments were made by the Chief of Natural Resources and Planning, and Mr. Krueper.

Questions were propounded by the Chair.

Comments were made by the Chief of Natural Resources and Planning, the Chair, and Mr. Krueper.

Questions were propounded by the Vice-Chair in regard to NextLight Renewable Power, LLC.

Comments were made by the Chief of Natural Resources and Planning, the Chair, the Vice-Chair, and Mr. Krueper in regard to the NextLight fence.

Questions were propounded by the Chair.

Comments were made by the Vice-Chair, Mr. Krueper, and the Chair.

Questions were propounded by the Chief of Natural Resources and Planning.

Comments were made by the Chair.

Questions were propounded by Mr. Krueper.

Comments were made by the Chief of Natural Resources and Planning, and the Chair in regard to Highway 138.

Comments were made by the Chief of Natural Resources and Planning, the Chair, and Mr. Krueper in regard to grading.

Questions were propounded by Mr. Krueper.

Comments were made by the Chief of Natural Resources and Planning, and the Chair.

On motion of the Vice-Chair, duly seconded, Resolution 09-01 was unanimously adopted as amended.

Comments were made by the Chair, Vice-Chair, and Messrs. Schultz and Krueper in regard to the ground water.

IX. Consideration of resolution authorizing a comment letter to Los Angeles County regarding the Draft Environmental Impact Report for Fairmont Butte Motorsports project, in the Fairmont Butte area, unincorporated Antelope Valley.

Questions were propounded by the Chair.

Comments were made by the Chief of Natural Resources and Planning, and the Chair.

Questions were propounded by the Chair.

Comments were made by the Vice-Chair.

On motion of the Vice-Chair, duly seconded, Resolution 09-02 was unanimously adopted as amended.

Comments were made by the Chief of Natural Resources and Planning, the Chair, the Vice-Chair, and Mr. Krueper in regard to the spectator impact.

X. Consideration of resolution authorizing a comment letter to the California Department of Fish and Game and the United States Army Corps of Engineers on the Draft Joint Environmental Impact Statement and Environmental Impact Report for the Newhall Ranch Resource Management and Development Plan and Spineflower Conservation Plan (SCH No. 2000011025)

Comments were made by the Chair, and the Vice-Chair.

Comments were made by the Chief of Natural Resources and Planning in regard to Alternative 7.

On motion of the Vice-Chair, duly seconded, Resolution 09-03 was unanimously adopted.

Comments were made by Mr. Krueper, and the Vice-Chair in regard to Landmark Development.

Questions were propounded by the Chair.

Comments were made by the Vice-Chair, Mr. Krueper, and the Chief of Natural Resources and Planning.

Questions were propounded by Mr. Krueper.

Comments were made by the Vice-Chair.

Questions were propounded by Mr. Krueper.

Comments were made by the Vice-Chair, and Mr. Schultz.

Questions were propounded by the Chair, and the Chief of Natural Resources and Planning.

Comments were made by the Vice-Chair.

Questions were propounded by Mr. Krueper.

Comments were made by the Chief of Natural Resources and Planning, the Chair, and the Vice-Chair.

XI. Consideration of resolution to issue a Notice of Intention to Adopt a Conflict of Interest Code.

Comments were made by the Chief of Natural Resources and Planning, the Chair, the Vice-Chair, and Mr. Krueper.

On motion of the Vice-Chair, duly seconded, Resolution 09-04 was unanimously adopted.

XII. Consideration of resolution supporting HR 1831, Conservation Easement Incentive Act.

Comments were made by the Chair.

On motion of the Vice-Chair, duly seconded, Resolution 09-05 was unanimously adopted.

XIII. Statements, responses, questions or directions to staff pursuant to Section 54954.2(a) of the Government Code.

Questions were propounded by the Chair in regard to Mr. Krueper offering a letter of resignation.

Comments were made by the Vice-Chair, and the Chair in regard to possible replacements.

Questions were propounded by Mr. Schultz.

Comments were made by the Chair, and the Vice-Chair.

Questions were propounded by the Chair in regard to the meeting location, which will continue to be the Santa Clarita City Hall.

Comments were made by the Vice-Chair in regard to active land purchases and Rio Dulce Ranch.

Questions were propounded by the Chair.

Comments were made by the Chief of Natural Resources and Planning.

Request made by the Chair for DMCA Board Members to receive updated maps showing all public lands in the DMCA area.

Comments were made by the Chief of Natural Resources and Planning, the Vice-Chair, and the Chair.

XIV. Announcement of future meeting and adjournment.

Chair announced the next regular scheduled DMCA meeting is in September 2009 at 10:30 a.m. at Santa Clarita City Hall. Exact date to be announced by the Board Secretary.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned by the Chair at 11:54 a.m.

Respectfully submitted:

Joseph T. Edmiston, Hon. ASLA, FAICP
Executive Officer

Approved:

Jim Dodson
Chair