

NEWHALL RANCH HIGH COUNTRY RECREATION AND CONSERVATION AUTHORITY

*A PUBLIC ENTITY OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA EXERCISING JOINT POWERS OF THE COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES, THE CITY OF SANTA CLARITA AND THE SANTA MONICA MOUNTAINS CONSERVANCY
PURSUANT TO GOVERNMENT CODE SECTION 6500 ET SEQ.*

MINUTES of the GOVERNING BOARD of the

NEWHALL RANCH HIGH COUNTRY RECREATION and CONSERVATION AUTHORITY

November 14, 2007

I. Call to Order.

The special meeting of the Governing Board of the Newhall Ranch High Country Recreation and Conservation Authority was called to order by Michael Berger, at 11:04 a.m. on November 14, 2007 at Santa Clarita City Hall, 23920 Valencia Boulevard, Santa Clarita, California.

II. Administration of Oath of Office.

Deputy Executive Officer Rorie Skei administered the Oath of Office to Governing Board Members.

III. Roll Call.

The roll was called and the following members were present: Kenneth Puskamp, City of Santa Clarita; Michael Berger, Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy; Richard Gould, City of Santa Clarita; Jerome Daniel, Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy; Russ Guiney, Los Angeles County Department of Parks and Recreation; Greg Warrick, Center for Natural Lands Management; Paul Novak, 5th District Supervisor Michael Antonovich and; Mark Subbotin, Newhall Land Company. Quorum present.

Staff present: Rorie Skei, Deputy Executive Officer; Paul Edelman, Deputy Director of Natural Resources and Planning; Laurie Collins, Chief Staff Counsel; Frances Dea, Board Secretary.

Members of the Public Present: Corey Harpole, Newhall Land Company; Matt Carpenter,

Newhall Land Company; and Mike Mendez, Newhall Land Company.

IV. Election of Officers.

On motion of Greg Warrick, duly seconded, Paul Novak was unanimously nominated as Chair of Newhall Ranch High Country Recreation and Conservation Authority.

On motion of Mr. Guiney, duly seconded, Greg Warrick was unanimously nominated as Vice-Chair of Newhall Ranch High Country Recreation and Conservation Authority.

V. Public comment on agenda items or any other matter.

No comments were made on agenda items or any other matter.

VI. Consideration of resolution adopting Procedural and Operational Policies.

Comments were made by Ms. Rorie Skei in regard to the Newhall Ranch High Country Recreation and Conservation Authority's mailing address.

On motion of Mr. Gould, duly seconded, the Governing Board unanimously adopts staff recommended action on the Authority's mailing address.

On motion of Mr. Gould, duly seconded, Resolution 07-01 was unanimously adopted.

VII. Consideration of resolution adopting a Conflict of Interest Code pursuant to Fair Political Practices Commission (FPPC) Regulation 18730 (2 California Code of Regulations 18730).

On motion of Mr. Gould, duly seconded, Resolution 07-02 was unanimously adopted.

Questions were propounded by Mr. Novak.

Comments were made by Ms. Collins in regard to filing opening statements.

VIII. Consideration of resolution adopting an Initial Workprogram.

The discussion was opened and led by Ms. Skei.

Questions were propounded by Mr. Berger in regard to cooperative services.

Comments were made by Ms. Skei in regard to the lead agency for cooperative services.

On motion of Mr. Pulskamp, duly seconded, Resolution 07-03 was unanimously adopted.

IX. Consideration of resolution adopting an Initial Budget.

The discussion was opened and led by Ms. Skei.

Comments were made by Ms. Skei in regard to establishing a cash contribution to the Newhall Ranch High Country Recreation and Conservation Authority.

Comments were made by Ms. Collins in regard to Liability Insurance for the Governing Board Members.

Comments were made by Mr. Berger in regard to insurance coverage extending from other Governing Board entities.

Comments were made by Ms. Collins.

Comments were made by Ms. Skei.

Comments were made by Mr. Berger.

Staff recommended adjusting the Initial Budget for Insurance Coverage and to allow the Executive Office to augment the initial budget.

On motion of Mr. Daniel, duly seconded, an amendment to Resolution 07-04 was unanimously adopted.

On motion of Mr. Berger, duly seconded, Resolution 07-04 was unanimously adopted.

X. Discussion of the Newhall Ranch trail/open space dedication.

Discussion was opened and led by Mr. Mark Subbotin of Newhall Land Company on the status of Newhall Ranch trail.

Questions were propounded by Mr. Pulskamp in regard to the completion and opening of Newhall Ranch trail.

Comments were made by Ms. Skei in regard to the projected time frame for the opening of Newhall Trail.

Questions were propounded by Mr. Gould in regard to an endowment fee for the trail.

Comments were made by Mr. Subbotin and Ms. Skei in regard to funding for trail maintenance.

Questions were propounded by Mr. Daniel and Mr. Edelman in regards to the use and width of the Newhall trail.

Comments were made by Mr. Subbotin and Mr. Mendez from Newhall Land Company.

XI. Discussion of the Westridge open space dedication.

The discussion on the Westridge open space dedication was opened and led by Mr. Subbotin.

Comments were made by Ms. Skei in regard to services to be provided for the open space parcel.

Questions were propounded by Ms. Skei in regard to the Westridge trailhead.

Comments were made by Mr. Subbotin and Mr. Harpole in regard to the length of the Westridge trail.

Questions were propounded by Mr. Gould in regard to the location of Westridge trailhead.

Comments were made by Mr. Subbotin and Mr. Harpole in regard to the location of the trailhead and parking area.

Comments were made by Mr. Gould and Mr. Novak.

Questions were propounded by Mr. Pulskamp.

Comments were made by Mr. Subbotin and Ms. Skei in regard to signage for the trailhead.

Mr. Novak requested that staff report on CUP and Traffic and Safety issues at the next meeting in regard to Westridge Trail.

XII. Consideration of resolution authorizing staff to develop a Memorandum of Understanding and Cooperative Management Agreement between the Newhall Ranch High Country Recreation and Conservation Authority and the Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority for operation and management of designated open space properties and trails in the Westridge and Newhall Ranch Specific Plan areas.

The discussion was opened and led by Ms. Skei.

Comments were made by Ms. Skei in regard to developing a Memorandum of Understanding.

On motion of Mr. Daniel, duly seconded, staff recommendation of developing a Memorandum of Understanding for the Newhall Ranch High Country Recreation and Conservation Authority was unanimously adopted.

Comments were made by Mr. Subbotin.

Comments were made by Mr. Pulskamp.

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

Mr. Novak requested that at the next Newhall Ranch High Country Recreation and Conservation Authority meeting the following items be agendized:

1. Directors Liability Insurance
2. Discussion of Trail in High Country
3. Status of the Westridge Trail.
4. Status of the Memorandum of Understanding.

XIV. Establishment of a regular meeting time and place, an announcement of future meeting.

Comments were made by Ms. Skei in establishing a meeting date, place, and time for the Authority.

Comments were made by Ms. Collins.

The regular meeting was established to be the first Thursday of each December.

Comments were made by Mr. Gould in regard to establishing City of Santa Clarita as the regular meeting place.

The next regular annual meeting will be December 4, 2008 at 11:00 a.m.

XV. Adjournment.

The meeting was adjourned by Mr. Novak at 11:49 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted:

Approved:

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

Chairperson