

MEMORANDUM TO USMS FINANCE COMMITTEE
FROM THE USMS EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
March 17th, 2004

To: Tom Boak, for immediate distribution to the Finance Committee
From: Doug Church, USMS Treasurer and EC liaison to the Finance Committee

As many of you are aware, two proposals have been circulated to the BOD recently that required their action pursuant to the Professional Management Guidelines in order to take action between conventions to engage personnel that were not budgeted or otherwise provided for during convention. You may review these proposals in their entirety at <http://forums.usms.org/forumdisplay.php?s=&forumid=105>

The votes have now been tallied on the proposals and the BOD has supported the waivers necessary to proceed. The issue now falls to the Finance Committee for Overbudget Approvals pursuant to FOG.

A. The first request pertains to engaging Mary Bolster to assist the EC in the evaluation of the bids for our national publication. As we have seen quite clearly, notwithstanding all of our best efforts and desire to ask the right questions, etc., there are issues that only someone in the business can identify and the potential savings is enormous. The EC is requesting overbudget authorization in the amount of \$2,500 which falls strictly within the Finance Committee's authority pursuant to FOG. This amount will be used to implement a "not to exceed" \$2,500 contract with Ms. Bolster for her professional services as described. The Motion that was approved by the BOD regarding this position and the vote tally is as follows:

Move that, pursuant to Section IX of the Professional Management Guidelines, the USMS Board of Directors approve the waiver of Section III to enable us to engage Mary Bolster to advise the Executive Committee during the evaluation of potential bidders to publish the National Publication.

National Publication Bid Consultant

Yes=33

No=3

Abstain=1

The Executive Committee would ask for your immediate consideration of this over-budget request. The bids are either in hand for the national publication or on their way and the need is at hand for the assistance we seek. If there are questions pertaining to this request, they may be addressed to me for circulation to the EC and we will do our best to provide prompt and complete responses. It is our hope that as we approach this significant issue for USMS that we can find the ways and means to (1) secure the best possible national publication for our members, and, (2) that significant cost savings can be achieved. As you know better than most of our members, the per capita cost of the national publication today consumes a huge portion of our annual budget.