

09.17.03

EXXON VALDEZ OIL SPILL TRUSTEE COUNCIL

Public Meeting
Wednesday, September 3, 2003
11:00 a.m.

EVOS Office
441 West 5th Avenue, Suite 500
Anchorage, Alaska

TRUSTEE COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT:

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE, MR. JAMES W. BALSIGER
National Marine Fisheries Svc: Administrator, AK Region
(Chairman)

STATE OF ALASKA - DEPARTMENT MR. KEVIN DUFFY
OF FISH AND GAME: Commissioner

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE, MR. JOE MEADE
U.S. FOREST SERVICE Forest Supervisor
Forest Service AK Region

TELEPHONICALLY

STATE OF ALASKA - MR. GREGG RENKES
DEPARTMENT OF LAW: Attorney General
State of Alaska

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF INTERIOR: MS. DRUE PEARCE
Senior Advisor to the
Secretary for Alaskan
Affairs,
U.S. Department of Interior

STATE OF ALASKA - DEPARTMENT MS. ERNESTA BALLARD
OF ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION: Commissioner

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1 **TRUSTEE COUNCIL STAFF PRESENT:**

2	MS. GAIL PHILLIPS	Executive Director
3	DR. PHIL MUNDY	Science Director
4	MS. CHERRI WOMAC	Administrative Assistant
5	MS. PAUL BANKS	Administrative Assistant
6	MS. BRENDA HALL	Administrative Assistant
7	MR. ROB BOCHENEK	Data Systems Manager
8	MR. PETER HAGAN	NOAA
9	MS. GINA BELT	U.S. Department of Justice
10	MS. DEDE BOHN	U.S. Geological Service
11	MR. KEN HOLBROOK	U.S Forest Service
12	MR. CRAIG TILLERY	State of Alaska Department of Law
13	MR. DOUG MUTTER	Department of Interior
14	MS. CAROL FRIES	AKDNR

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P R O C E E D I N G S

(On record - 11:04 a.m.)

CHAIRMAN BALSIGER: This is the September 3rd, 2003 meeting of the Exxon Valdez Oil Spill Trustee Council. I'm Jim Balsiger, the administrator for the National Marine Fishery Service in Alaska, the Federal Department of Commerce Trustee and I have agreed to chair this today and it will give me two Fed chairs in a row, so that means, probably, for several fiscal years now I'll be off the hook for chairing.

(Laughter)

CHAIRMAN BALSIGER: Let's see, we have an agenda, do we have any comments on the agenda?

MS. BALLARD: Jim.

CHAIRMAN BALSIGER: Yes.

MS. BALLARD: Can you hear me okay?

CHAIRMAN BALSIGER: I can hear you fine.

MS. BALLARD: Okay. I'm learning how the mute button works on this phone. If we have time at the end I would like to take up the conversation that you just had with us about the chairmanship. I'd like to just talk about maybe making the chairmanship rotation a little easier, a little more effective. It's not time critical, if we run out of time, if everyone's exhausted, I just want to put it on the next agenda, but I'd like to talk about it

1 sometime.

2 CHAIRMAN BALSIGER: Okay. So shall we add
3 that before the possible executive session or just.....

4 MS. BALLARD: I don't care, it doesn't
5 matter to me.

6 CHAIRMAN BALSIGER: Okay. I've added it to
7 my list then.

8 MS. BALLARD: All right. And if people are
9 worn out, just -- we'll wait and do it next time.

10 MS. PEARCE: I have a question. This is
11 Drue. What's our expectation in terms of length of the
12 meeting? I'm asking because of the NFL kickoff on the Mall
13 this week they're shutting down buildings tomorrow
14 afternoon, but this evening they've asked us to be out of
15 parking garages and out of the way, between 5:30 and six.

16 CHAIRMAN BALSIGER: NFL, did you say,
17 football?

18 MS. PEARCE: Yeah. It doesn't make any
19 sense, but don't worry about it.

20 CHAIRMAN BALSIGER: Well, Gail, did you
21 have a thought on the likely duration?

22 MS. PHILLIPS: Well, depending on the
23 debate on the budgets, I thought we probably would be done
24 about 3:00 o'clock. The business would happen before the
25 noon break, we'd do a working lunch, if that's all right

1 with everybody, and go right into the business after
2 everybody gets their lunches, so we should be done by
3 three.

4 MS. PEARCE: I didn't realize we were going
5 to go that late.

6 MS. PHILLIPS: And depending on the debate
7 on the budget it may not last that long.

8 MS. PEARCE: Okay. Well, is the budget an
9 action item today?

10 MS. PHILLIPS: Yes.

11 MS. PEARCE: Okay. I will -- okay.

12 CHAIRMAN BALSIGER: That would have been my
13 guess as well, I guess, other than some of the staff in the
14 audience, I've got the most experience here at the table,
15 but partly because nobody else has been here a lot, it's
16 hard to see how engaged we're likely to become on these
17 issues, so 3:00 o'clock is probably a good guess.

18 Anything else on the agenda?

19 MR. DUFFY: No.

20 CHAIRMAN BALSIGER: If not, can we adopt
21 the agenda? Any objection to adopting the agenda.

22 MR. DUFFY: This is Kevin, move to approve
23 the agenda as amended.

24 MS. BALLARD: May I offer a comment? I
25 don't have the agenda and so if somebody would read it to

1 me. Molly [sic] made an effort to estimate what it would
2 be and made it a booklet for me, but I'm sure I'm in favor
3 of it, I'd just love to have one of you read it out loud.

4 CHAIRMAN BALSIGER: I will read it. I
5 think we decided, not definitively, but at least for this
6 meeting, to publish everything on the Web so people could
7 get it, rather than mail things around, but the agenda
8 consists of a call to order, approval of the agenda and
9 approval of the meeting notes from the last meeting we had
10 on July 24th and 5th. The second item is public comment,
11 which is scheduled for 11:05 and we're slightly past that.
12 The third are Executive Director comments from Ms. Phillips
13 with several items; the first is domain name change, that's
14 on the Website domain name. Second an investment training
15 seminar, designed to smarten up the people on the
16 Investment Working Group, third is the 15th anniversary
17 planning for such an event, because in March of 2004 will
18 be the 15th anniversary of the Trustees. Fourth being
19 staff vacancies and recruitment notice that will be out for
20 data analyst/programmer. The fifth bullet under the
21 Director's comments is the fiscal year '04 Work Plan, and I
22 think we just have a preliminary look at that right now
23 rather than adopting it. The next item is the June 6-8 and
24 August 14th PAC meeting summaries, and Brett Huber, I
25 believe, will be here to present those to us. And the last

1 item is the Restoration Office remodel. And then a working
2 lunch is proposed.

3 The fourth main item on the agenda is a
4 discussion of the NOAA/NOS grant, it's some \$745,000, I
5 believe, was in -- well, it was NOAA's budget and I think
6 there was some question about whether the State wanted to
7 receive that money to help fund Trustee projects, so that's
8 item four. The fifth one is a discussion and approval of
9 the administrative budgets. And these are action items
10 because the Trustee Council runs out of money without
11 approving these budgets at this meeting. And there's four
12 of those, the first one is administrative, second one is
13 data management, the third one is ARLIS and that's ARLIS
14 Library as opposed to Arlis Sturglewski. And the fourth
15 one is science management.

16 And then it suggests that there be a
17 possible executive session before adjournment. And then
18 Ernesta added some logistics about how we might ease this
19 chairmanship transfer so I don't have to tell corny jokes
20 at the starts of all the meetings. And that's it.

21 MS. BALLARD: Thank you. And knowing it's
22 on the Web, I'll put the Web on my computer, I didn't
23 realize it was there, I was counting on the e-mailed stuff.

24 MR. RENKES: This is Gregg Renkes, I just
25 wanted to mention that I joined the call.

1 CHAIRMAN BALSIGER: Okay. Thank you,
2 Gregg. If we're through with the agenda then, we come into
3 the public comment period. So is there anyone on the phone
4 that would like to make a public comment?

5 (No audible response)

6 CHAIRMAN BALSIGER: I hear no one on the
7 phone, so is there anyone in the audience here who would
8 care to make a public comment?

9 MS. OBERMEYER: Mr. Balsiger. Am I
10 pronouncing your name correctly?

11 CHAIRMAN BALSIGER: It's very close, thank
12 you.

13 MS. OBERMEYER: Theresa Obermeyer, and how
14 are you doing, sir?

15 CHAIRMAN BALSIGER: I'm fine, please have a
16 chair and.....

17 MS. OBERMEYER: I wanted to -- I am always
18 motivated by Representative Phillips because she's so
19 marvelous. And so you people are really smart, you hired
20 somebody really nice. And I wanted to just -- and I'm
21 sorry, I'm missing Ms. Ballard, who I really haven't gotten
22 to know. Is Ms. Ballard on line?

23 MS. PHILLIPS: She's on line.

24 MS. OBERMEYER: And Mr. Renkes?

25 MS. PHILLIPS: (Nods in the affirmative)

1 MS. OBERMEYER: And I hope -- I'm going to
2 give you, Gail, two extra copies for them. What this is,
3 ladies and gentlemen, is this is about institutional
4 memory. And, of course, my experiences in Alaska began
5 when there were five of us in 1979 at the University of
6 Alaska that were all locked out of our office. If you'll
7 forgive me, I don't think that much has changed at the
8 university except now it is all military generals that are
9 double, triple and quadruple dippers, if you know the
10 expression.

11 But to just to mention, at that time they
12 literally had printed forms and they called each one of us
13 in separately and they checked off how much they were going
14 to pay each one of us to leave the state. I was the only
15 one -- I looked at them and I walked out, the rest of them
16 packed their bags and got out of here. And, of course,
17 this is what I'm left with. You know what we should do,
18 and I'm not going to do it because I paid for this, is just
19 rip this stuff up. This, ladies and gentlemen, especially
20 for the people -- is Ms. Pearce on line?

21 MS. PHILLIPS: Yes.

22 MS. OBERMEYER: Oh. Drue, good morning, I
23 didn't know you were on line. This, of course, is my three
24 [sic] attempt to be heard by the Ninth Circuit Court of
25 Appeals, beginning with my civil suit against the

1 university. And just to mention, it's about
2 this book. This bound volume that is now tattered and torn
3 because three weeks after my husband's lead case in the
4 Summary of American Law that goes to every testing and
5 licensing issue in our great nation was published [sic].
6 This was published on April 18th, 1986 and you can see the
7 stamp of my civil suit, my not-for-publication ruling by
8 the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit, which was
9 on May 15th, 1986.

10 Let me mention, I didn't even connect these
11 things at the time. Now, I know it's because of this book.
12 But I didn't really -- I didn't focus it on it at all,
13 because I'm a happy person, I didn't really worry about it,
14 but I did have to write a check for \$17,161 and I want my
15 money back. I mean, nothing's changed, look at the
16 records. Now, I've tried -- I've had four attempts to go
17 to the U.S. Supreme Court. In my case it's my good name
18 versus the United States of America. And my husband
19 separately has tried twice to go to the U.S. Supreme Court
20 in his case. It's Thomas S. Obermeyer versus The Alaska
21 Bar Association. I'd be glad to bring those documents.
22 That's why I bring the things that I bring.

23 It's really -- where I live there's nothing
24 fair. There's no decency and there isn't thinking. I
25 could never have imagined. I really remember the date that

1 I -- I decided to just put my own letterhead up because I
2 knew that I was an individual and I was an honest person.
3 But it's kind of the rub of Alaska, it's all -- Alaska is
4 about truth. The Native corporations, the unions, et
5 cetera, et cetera. And it's time now for individual
6 leadership, would be my point. You know, of course,
7 we have a Website, it's right here at the top. I hope and
8 I truly believe that judges and lawyers all over our great
9 nation have downloaded every file in our Website. I'm
10 praying so, because guess what, we're waiting Bar results.
11 You see, my husband has been licensed in a state that has
12 reciprocity with Alaska for 13 years. He was licensed
13 there when I was elected to the Anchorage School Board. I
14 was on the Anchorage School Board from 1990 until 1994.
15 I'm absolutely positive that we don't have fair elections
16 where I live. I'd be glad -- I have a file on my Website,
17 in fact, I have two files, one is about my U.S. Senate
18 races and the other one is about my municipal races.
19 Please download that stuff.

20 You see, I'm motivated when I read that
21 Exxon is playing more games. There is not a practice of
22 law in Alaska, there are a handful of lawyers that have
23 unfathomable amounts of money that are only enriching their
24 private bank accounts, that's the Permanent Fund Board.
25 And when I read that Robin Taylor, the second State

1 Senator, resigned his office to get Eric Wolforth's
2 retirement, because he's the attorney for the Public
3 Employment Retirement System. Can we stop? I mean, it's
4 like -- it's scary to me that everybody caves in. I'd like
5 to, but I can't. I know there isn't a reasonable life
6 because of the things that have gone on and because of my
7 husband's case.

8 So we're again waiting for Bar results. My
9 husband shouldn't of had to take this test. He should have
10 been admitted here by reciprocity 13 years ago.

11 And I just like to come and say hello and
12 explain what could have been possible. I'd like all of us
13 now to get this little book, that is the Todd
14 Communications Directory of Attorneys. I hope the 60-
15 member legislature gets these. I have given out over a
16 hundred of them. That's \$3,500 and I'm not giving them out
17 anymore because what do those people do with them? I have
18 no idea. But I know there is not really a living law in
19 Alaska. There's a lot of nice people and we all deserve
20 better. Let's make sure that that happens now.

21 And, again, forgive me. I mean the last
22 time I came I beat the rap. If you remember I was jailed
23 on June 26th again. I taught at a jail for almost six
24 years, that was McLaughlin, and now I've been jailed five
25 times.

1 I mean, Mr. Ballinger [sic], why? How can
2 this have been possible.....

3 CHAIRMAN BALSIGER: Ms. Obermeyer.....

4 MS. OBERMEYER:with people that have
5 intelligence? I don't understand it. I can truly say I
6 really believe that many others, had they been put through
7 the things my husband and I have been put through, would
8 have responded the same way we have. You see, you cannot
9 quit. I'm an American and I've never done anything
10 unethical. I have had millions of dollars spent on me. Do
11 we know how much -- like, for example, a seven-day jury
12 trial. I have one jury. How much that costs? I have had
13 three non-jury Federal criminal trials. I have had three
14 hearings with the Violent Crimes Compensation Board. I had
15 six kangaroo courts by the Municipal Board of Ethics. I
16 have been defamed to the point of ridiculous, please don't
17 believe in our media.

18 CHAIRMAN BALSIGER: Could you.....

19 MS. OBERMEYER: But it's time for Exxon to
20 pay up.

21 CHAIRMAN BALSIGER:summarize? We
22 appreciate your comments, but.....

23 MS. OBERMEYER: You know, it's really about
24 lawyers and the summary is make sure that -- you don't even
25 have to be in existence and that Exxon pays their bill.

1 You know, it's like they rule all of us and we're the ones
2 that live here.

3 So there's really not a summary because I
4 know the living law, I'm not trying to use or manipulate
5 anyone, I'm simply trying to be what I am. I'm a college
6 administrator with a Ph.D.

7 And, oh, last point. I am a broken record.
8 I live in the only state in the United States that doesn't
9 have a law school. And Gregg, who is on the phone, I hope
10 you'll check, Gregg, because it's such a good summary. And
11 this is in the spring 2003 directory, because -- Todd keeps
12 changing the page because I always bring up this page.
13 This is a summary of the practice of law in Alaska. In
14 this directory it's on page 79. We have 494 in-state --
15 I'm sorry, excuse me. In-state we have 2,263 attorneys,
16 active out of state is 464. We gave our state away to the
17 most powerful law firms in the United States. And then we
18 have in our state that work for Gregg -- Gregg, you only
19 have 465 people working for you. They do high level coffee
20 drinking.

21 And then we have more oil development than
22 the state of Texas.....

23 CHAIRMAN BALSIGER: I wonder if you could
24 wrap up, please.

25 MS. OBERMEYER:where they have 64,000

1 attorneys. Did you get those numbers, sir?

2 CHAIRMAN BALSIGER: I heard them, yes.

3 MS. OBERMEYER: Did you understand what I
4 mean?

5 CHAIRMAN BALSIGER: Yes, ma'am.

6 MS. OBERMEYER: Did you have a question,
7 sir?

8 CHAIRMAN BALSIGER: No, but I think the
9 agenda would require you to summarize and conclude.

10 MS. OBERMEYER: No, I just didn't believe
11 you really understood because I do believe this, sir, you
12 and I are very similar, we're both nice, we're decent,
13 we're Americans and that's what motivates me. You must
14 have read a headline and so you really didn't write the
15 numbers down. And I'm sorry for that. I simply want to
16 make sure you know we have 2,200 in-state attorneys. We
17 have more oil development than the state of Texas, where
18 they have 64,000 attorneys. So I hope you'll think about
19 that.

20 And, then, if any of your colleagues had a
21 question, I'd be glad to field them. Did anyone have a
22 question? Mr. Duffy, a good Irishman?

23 MR. DUFFY: No, ma'am.

24 MS. OBERMEYER: I'm Irish. And, of course,
25 I am Br'er Rabbit in the briar patch. But how could this

1 still be going on? So have a great meeting, I don't really
2 stay too long. I know Gail is being so neat. And, Gail,
3 good luck, I wish you very well. And it's great that you
4 moved to Anchorage, I hope to see you around town.

5 CHAIRMAN BALSIGER: Thank you very much.
6 Any other public comment from this room?

7 (No audible response)

8 CHAIRMAN BALSIGER: And anyone on the
9 phone?

10 (No audible response)

11 CHAIRMAN BALSIGER: If not then we'll
12 conclude public comment.

13 Ms. Womac pointed out to me that I had an
14 old agenda and the new agenda would have had one more item
15 under the Executive Director comments, which would be a
16 discussion of the workshop on the North Pacific Ecosystem
17 Status Report. So with that we come to item three, which
18 is the Executive Director comments. Ms. Phillips, please.

19 MS. PHILLIPS: Thank you, Jim, very much.
20 It's one month that I've been on the job and I just wanted
21 everybody to know that I really love this job, it's been
22 great. It's been a wonderful opportunity to learn so much,
23 try to learn so much so quickly, and I'm just having a
24 really great time. And I want to thank the Trustee Council
25 for the opportunity that you have given me for this.

1 Before I get into my Trustee comments, I do
2 want to make some very important comments about the staff
3 of the Trustee Council. This staff has been absolutely
4 exceptional all during the transition period and since that
5 time. And I just want to express my appreciation very,
6 very much to the entire staff. I don't know what would
7 have happened if you hadn't had such a great group of
8 really dedicated people that wanted to keep the operation
9 going and wanted to keep things in order and on line. And
10 I just wanted to express my appreciation to Phil Mundy, our
11 Science Director, to Rob Bochenek, our Data Management
12 person, to our Administrative assistants, Brenda Hall,
13 Cherri Womac and Paula Banks, they have all done a
14 tremendous job.

15 And one of the thing that I will be doing
16 in the Trustee Council meetings is for those areas that
17 they are the expert on or that they have control over in
18 their jobs, we'll have them doing reports, you won't be
19 listening to just me, but they will be bringing up the
20 points that they are working on. And, so, thank you all
21 the staff. And I hope everybody has a chance to personally
22 express your appreciation to them.

23 We have staff meetings that we discuss a
24 lot of things going on around us and one of the things that
25 came up, not only from the staff, but also from the public,

1 was why we still have a domain name that says oil spill.
2 We're almost 15 years past the oil spill, we are past
3 restoration, we're into research and monitoring and I would
4 like to have the name of our organization -- domain name
5 changed to EVOS rather than oil spill. So it would be
6 EVOS.state@alaska.us. It's easy to do, I've already talked
7 to Rob, our data management person, about making the
8 official change and just wanted to let the Trustee Council
9 know that unless they have great objections to the change,
10 I would like to make that change.

11 CHAIRMAN BALSIGER: Shall we consider that
12 right now? What's the Trustees' thoughts on that? Mr.
13 Meade.

14 MR. MEADE: Gail, I'm fairly new to the
15 Board of Trustees and actually, as you mentioned, the
16 domain name being oil spill. And, of course, we're
17 rounding up here almost to the 15th anniversary of the oil
18 spill. I concur with your thinking, the only question I'd
19 have is EVOS simply is Exxon Valdez Oil Spill; is there a
20 name that would be more pertinent to what our future is and
21 the future investments in research and monitoring or should
22 it, indeed, stay with EVOS? That would be my only
23 question, is that yet a better, more appropriate name, that
24 really speaks to the future?

25 MS. PHILLIPS: I looked for the easiest one

1 rather than having a long, you know, long title.

2 MR. MEADE: Right, I understand.

3 MS. PHILLIPS: Yeah. And since the whole
4 organization is still the Trustee Council.

5 MR. MEADE: EVOS, right.

6 MS. PHILLIPS: Yes. That's why I kind of
7 thought that would be a good one.

8 CHAIRMAN BALSIGER: Any other comments?

9 (No audible response)

10 CHAIRMAN BALSIGER: If not, then I think
11 the sense is that the Trustees are indifferent -- well,
12 maybe in support of, I guess, rather than.....

13 MS. PHILLIPS: Sure. Okay, great. The
14 next item that we want to talk about is our investment
15 training seminar. The Investment Working Group needs to
16 have periodic training in investment policies and I've
17 asked Paula to step up and make comments about the training
18 seminar that we are planning.

19 MS. BANKS: Good morning.

20 CHAIRMAN BALSIGER: Good morning.

21 MS. BANKS: It's Paula Banks for the
22 record, it's B-A-N-K-S. I set up an investment training
23 for September 26th, I've e-mailed everyone inviting the
24 Trustee Council and the Investment Working Group to the
25 training seminar. And, basically, what we're going to be

1 going over is the market scenario and what's expected in
2 the future.

3 O'Leary from Callan Associates is going to
4 be giving the seminar and then after the training we will
5 have a two-hour Investment Working Group meeting where we
6 will discuss the asset allocation policy and the payout
7 schedule for -- because things are changing. In FY06 we're
8 going to a percentage rather than a set schedule, so we're
9 going to be discussing that and we'll bring that to the
10 Trustee Council at the next meeting.

11 Any questions?

12 CHAIRMAN BALSIGER: Any questions for
13 Ms. Banks?

14 MR. DUFFY: Just a question, again, who's
15 doing the training for the investment board?

16 MS. BANKS: I believe it's Michael
17 O'Leary.....

18 MS. PHILLIPS: Michael O'Leary.

19 MS. BANKS:with Callan Associates.

20 MS. PHILLIPS: And he does the Permanent
21 Fund Board. Two of the members of the Permanent Fund Board
22 are on our Investment Working Group. And we're actually
23 piggy-backing on the Permanent Fund Board's meeting, which
24 will be in the next day or so after that or before that.
25 So we got him at a pretty good price because we were able

1 to piggy-back with them.

2 MR. DUFFY: Okay. Thanks, Paula. And that
3 training is here in Anchorage?

4 MS. PHILLIPS: Yes. It'll be in this room.

5 MS. BANKS: Yes, here in this office,
6 starting about 9:00 o'clock. I expect it to go up until
7 one or so and then the Investment Working Group meeting
8 starting around 1:30, going for about two hours.

9 CHAIRMAN BALSIGER: Can you remind me, who
10 is on the Investment Working Group? Ms. Phillips mentioned
11 there were two members from the Permanent Fund.

12 MS. BANKS: Let's see.....

13 MR. RENKES: Mr. Chairman, this is Gregg
14 Renkes.

15 CHAIRMAN BALSIGER: Yes.

16 MR. RENKES: I don't know about the the
17 other folks on the phone, but I'm having a hard time
18 hearing the other person that's talking. I can hear you
19 fine and the other Trustee, but I can't hear whoever you're
20 asking questions.

21 CHAIRMAN BALSIGER: Okay. Ms. Paula Banks
22 is advising us about the scheduling of the Investment
23 Working Group and we'll try to get her amplified a little
24 more, I guess.

25 MR. RENKES: Okay, thanks.

1 MS. BANKS: Sorry about that, Gregg,
2 there's not a microphone at the table, Cherri's getting one
3 now, so -- is that any better?

4 MR. RENKES: Oh, that's a lot better.

5 MS. BANKS: All right. We have Bruce
6 Nessler, Peter Bushre, Gary Bader, Barry Roth, Bob Storer
7 and I believe it would be Gregg Renkes or Craig Tillery.
8 Craig was on the Investment Working Group and I'm not sure
9 if that is going to be continuing or not, and then Jim
10 Balsiger.

11 CHAIRMAN BALSIGER: Okay. I knew I was on
12 it. Unfortunately I won't be able to make that meeting
13 because of an earlier commitment, but I'm glad that this
14 has been arranged.

15 MR. RENKES: When is the date of the
16 meeting? I'm sorry.

17 MS. BANKS: September 26th, it's going to
18 be at the Trustee Council office here in Anchorage. It's
19 going to start around 9:00 in the morning. I will be
20 sending out an e-mail to everyone, too, confirming that.

21 MR. RENKES: Okay. Either Craig or I will
22 be there.

23 MS. BANKS: Okay, great.

24 MS. PHILLIPS: It would be our intent,
25 also, to do periodic training for the Investment Working

1 Group.

2 If there are no further questions of Paula,
3 the next item is the 15th anniversary of the oil spill,
4 which is March 2004. I've asked Cherri to come forward and
5 do a recap of what we kind of did for the 10th anniversary
6 and then we'd just like to get a feel from the Trustee
7 Council as to how much emphasis you want us to place on the
8 15th anniversary, what kind of things you'd like to see
9 done, so we can -- I know that we need to start planning
10 that right away.

11 MS. WOMAC: Hi, my name is Cherri Womac and
12 it's W-O-M-A-C. For the 10th anniversary we produced a
13 video that was about 30 minutes that was shown on PBS and
14 we also sent it out to a number of the Alaska schools. And
15 then any Outside schools that called -- heard about it,
16 called and requested it, we mailed it to them. The
17 workshop that year was about five days, which is a little
18 bit longer than we had done in the past, which is about
19 three. And the first day was dedicated to the scientists
20 and people speaking on projects and the science that's been
21 done, more in a layman's terms. We invited school children
22 to come in and listen and families to bring their kids.
23 And then the next couple of days were more geared towards
24 the scientists and the interaction that we usually have
25 with them.

1 We also had a lot of media that covered the
2 event, leading up to the workshop itself and, the preceding
3 year, they came in and did a lot of filming, interacted
4 with the office and went out, I believe, with some of the
5 different principal investigators to some of the sites that
6 some of the projects were being done.

7 So that's basically what we did. So I
8 don't know for the 15th if you want to go to that extent or
9 to something like we done in the past.

10 CHAIRMAN BALSIGER: Any questions from the
11 Trustees?

12 MR. DUFFY: Mr. Chairman.

13 CHAIRMAN BALSIGER: Mr. Duffy.

14 MR. DUFFY: Cherri, the 30-minute video you
15 did, I should have observed it, but I haven't seen it, what
16 did it specifically focus on? Was it the science or.....

17 MS. WOMAC: It showed the spill and then it
18 showed some of the injured resources or the animals and
19 then it also went to some of the communities and showed how
20 the communities had used money that they had received to
21 upgrade things that had been injured. It was about 30
22 minutes and it ended with -- it's been a couple of years
23 since I looked at it, but it ended on, you know, an upward
24 note as to what had been accomplished over that 10-year
25 period.

1 MR. DUFFY: If I could?

2 CHAIRMAN BALSIGER: Of course.

3 MR. DUFFY: And what sort of a response did
4 you receive from the public on the video, if any?

5 MS. WOMAC: I think we received good
6 comments and I think they felt it was well done and that it
7 did a good overview. It's not -- you know, 10 years in 30
8 minutes is kind of hard to do.

9 MR. DUFFY: Yeah.

10 MS. WOMAC: But we do have extra copies
11 still in the office if you're interested in seeing it
12 sometime.

13 MR. DUFFY: Thank you.

14 MS. BALLARD: Jim, this is Ernesta.

15 CHAIRMAN BALSIGER: Yes, please, Ernesta.

16 MS. BALLARD: As the sort of owner of the
17 responsibility here for oil spill planning and for
18 prevention and response organization in the state, I guess
19 I feel that, if we feel compelled to do something at all, I
20 think we ought to try to make clear to the viewer how much
21 has changed and what the current, both Federal and State,
22 legal expectation and regulatory response has been. I'm a
23 little concerned 15 years later of leaving the impression
24 that the exact set of circumstances that occurred could
25 occur again. There's no question we could have oil spills,

1 we have oil spills every day, but the regulatory system and
2 the legal framework that are in place is vastly different.

3
4 In some parts of the state, I think, that
5 our prevention programs are better than our response
6 programs and then, in other parts of the state, I think
7 differently. In Prince William Sound, I think the
8 prevention program is really outstanding. So I guess I
9 would weigh in that if we feel compelled to do anything
10 that we take advantage of what has changed and communicate
11 that without minimizing the fact that spilling oil is still
12 possible, because human error is always -- you know, we can
13 always have another mistake or another accident, but it
14 would be different than the one that occurred before.

15 CHAIRMAN BALSIGER: Thank you. Any other
16 comments?

17 (No audible response)

18 CHAIRMAN BALSIGER: How do you wish to
19 dispose of this item? It's September, March is only six
20 months away, I guess, so we could make a decision later on
21 as to the level, I guess. It would, perhaps, be useful to
22 see a proposal and budgets, but what's the wishes of the
23 Trustees?

24 MS. BALLARD: My wish is, if it's the wish
25 that something be done, that DEC be given a fairly active

1 role in communicating what the status of oil spill
2 contingency planning is in the state of Alaska. It's not
3 work that I seek right now, but I certainly don't want to
4 present to the public the images of a 15-year-old event
5 without pretty heavy emphasis on what we've done to respond
6 to it.

7 CHAIRMAN BALSIGER: Mr. Meade.

8 MR. MEADE: I guess for me, I take a look
9 at this from an angle of public affairs and marketing and
10 it's 15 years past the oil spill; is there an objective
11 here to be accomplished in a communication outreach
12 initiative? And if it is, it should center around that and
13 so -- in my short time here on the Board, Jim, the most
14 important thing I see us beginning to focus on is a shift,
15 if you will, from where we've been with critical habitat, a
16 shift from where we've been in land acquisition and more
17 focused towards research. Perhaps both short-term research
18 that's important to communities and subsistence users and
19 longer-term research, like the NOAA grant, we'd put into
20 place. So depending on the decision, we may also culminate
21 yet today, it seems if we have an outreach effort it could
22 adhere to the focus that the Board of Trustees looks to see
23 a shift to, as we move into, if you will, this longer-term
24 research and monitoring and what that is telling us and how
25 it is, you know, providing information and science that has

1 merit for the state and for the residents.

2 I'm struggling, I guess, a bit to find out
3 just what we anchor to. I think I'm right where, if I
4 understand Ernesta's plea, it's don't anchor back to the
5 oil spill, that was 15 years ago and so to me it would be
6 important we try to tie ourselves down to or anchor to
7 something that's relevant to where we're moving into the
8 future with the Board of Trustees and investments.

9 CHAIRMAN BALSIGER: Well, this wasn't
10 listed as an action item, but in the sense of this is that
11 we'd like the staff to perhaps outline where this might go
12 so we can consider in October whether we want to spend time
13 on it?

14 MR. MEADE: I think it needs a bit of staff
15 work. So we want to know if there is an objective that we
16 should anchor to, that we wanted to market and communicate
17 it out and then tease out of that what and how we might
18 approach it.

19 CHAIRMAN BALSIGER: So then we have at
20 least two thoughts on that. Ms. Ballard's, where the oil
21 spill has led to different regulatory and legal structure
22 that may offer protections we didn't have back then. And
23 Mr. Meade's point that the emphasis of the Council and
24 spending is money is less on habitat and immediate oil
25 removal, those kinds of things, and more on monitoring and

1 forward looking kinds of research. So if you can work on
2 something that seems to deal with.....

3 MS. PHILLIPS: I will.

4 CHAIRMAN BALSIGER: Thank you.

5 MS. PHILLIPS: Thanks. The next item of
6 discussion is staff vacancies. There have been three
7 resignations in staff over the past about 10 months, I
8 believe. And when I said the existing staff, the current
9 staff, have done a yeoman's job, each one of them took on
10 duties and responsibilities of the three staff people that
11 left this organization. There's one staff person, however,
12 that we just -- we don't have enough hands and minds and
13 eyes to fill that position, and that is an extra person in
14 data management. We are absolutely strapped there and so
15 we made the decision to go ahead and hire a data
16 analyst/programmer, and that will help Rob. Rob is trying
17 to do everything right now and it's just impossible for him
18 to get that all done and we don't have anybody on staff
19 that can take that responsibility on. So we are in the
20 process of putting together recruitment advertisements and
21 sending them out to hire a data analyst/programmer to
22 assist not only with Rob in just the general operation of
23 our administration, but also in the technical aspect of the
24 Work Plan, getting everything from the Work Plan on the
25 computers. And when Rob discusses his budget, a little bit

1 later, he'll go into the detail on that.

2 CHAIRMAN BALSIGER: Any questions on that?

3 (No audible response)

4 CHAIRMAN BALSIGER: I have a comment. So
5 then this vacancy announcement, the recruitment, is
6 basically contingent on the approval of some of these
7 budgets that we're going to get to very shortly.

8 MS. PHILLIPS: We have money in the current
9 budget. Paula, is this correct? We have money in the
10 current budget, it was already budgeted for the data
11 analyst person. The current budget for this year has two
12 people in data management and that position has been vacant
13 now for 10 months.

14 MS. BANKS: (Nods in affirmative)

15 CHAIRMAN BALSIGER: All right.

16 MS. PHILLIPS: Next year's budget will have
17 the approval for two people also.

18 CHAIRMAN BALSIGER: This is too remedial to
19 ask in public, but fiscal year starts October 1; is that
20 correct?

21 MS. PHILLIPS: Right.

22 CHAIRMAN BALSIGER: Thank you. Any
23 questions?

24 MS. PHILLIPS: And we geared the
25 recruitment to start October 1st, so we will actually have

1 a savings in data management, not in gray hairs, but in
2 dollars for 2003.

3 CHAIRMAN BALSIGER: Mr. Duffy.

4 MR. DUFFY: Just on that, Gail, or Paula or
5 whoever, if you had three resignations over the last, did
6 you say 10 months approximately?

7 MS. PHILLIPS: Uh-huh. (Affirmative)

8 MR. DUFFY: Do you have a vacancy factor
9 there or some saved funds from these vacancies that you
10 will be rolling over into the next fiscal year? How do we
11 treat that in the Council process?

12 MS. PHILLIPS: Paula, can you.....

13 MS. BANKS: Those funds lapse.

14 MR. DUFFY: They do lapse?

15 MS. BANKS: Yes.

16 MR. DUFFY: As part of the Federal system?

17 MS. BANKS: Right.

18 MR. DUFFY: September -- end of September,
19 start of October they lapse?

20 MS. BANKS: Right.

21 MR. DUFFY: Okay.

22 CHAIRMAN BALSIGER: But that money doesn't
23 go away, does that go back into.....

24 MS. BANKS: No, it goes back into
25 (indiscernible - away from microphone).....

1 MR. DUFFY: It goes back into the fund,
2 okay. All right. Good.

3 MS. PHILLIPS: Okay?

4 MR. DUFFY: Thanks.

5 CHAIRMAN BALSIGER: So we'll deal with that
6 more directly, I guess, when we get to the budgets.

7 MS. PHILLIPS: To the budget, right.

8 CHAIRMAN BALSIGER: Thank you.

9 MS. PHILLIPS: And I would ask Phil to come
10 forward and do us just a brief update on where we are in
11 the Work Plan. The 2004 Work Plan will be on the agenda
12 for the October meeting, but I'd like him to come and give
13 a brief update on where we are with the process of the
14 projects, et cetera.

15 DR. MUNDY: Thank you, Gail. Mr. Chairman,
16 Trustee Council members, for the record my name is Phil
17 Mundy, I'm the Science Director for the Trustee Council.
18 We are on target to deliver a draft Work Plan to you so
19 that it can be adopted -- considered for adoption on
20 October the 3rd. We received 61 proposals and those
21 proposals have been out for independent peer review. We've
22 had over a hundred volunteer scientists participate in that
23 effort and we've also had our Scientific and Technical
24 Advisory Committee consider each of these 61 proposals and
25 they have formulated recommendations.

1 In addition to that, the Executive Director
2 and I have discussed each of these proposals and formulated
3 a draft recommendation from the Executive Director for you,
4 which is now in your hands and posted on our Website. So
5 the process now is to receive public comment, receive
6 comments from Trustees and from individuals and agencies
7 and then we'll be revising our draft recommendations and
8 delivering them to you in the middle of September for your
9 consideration for adoption in October.

10 Thank you. Those are my comments, Mr.
11 Chairman.

12 CHAIRMAN BALSIGER: Questions from the
13 Trustees?

14 MR. DUFFY: I got a comment.

15 CHAIRMAN BALSIGER: Mr. Duffy.

16 MR. DUFFY: Phil, in that process, just a
17 simple one, so I understand, if you get public comments
18 relative to these 61 proposals in this interim period, do
19 you factor those into your final set of recommendations
20 that comes to Gail, is that how that works, the public
21 input process?

22 DR. MUNDY: Yes, most certainly.

23 MR. DUFFY: And, then, as well, we'll have
24 access to those types of comments when we take our actions
25 in October, we'll be able to look at that information on

1 the Website, I assume, or not?

2 DR. MUNDY: Ordinarily those -- if there's
3 a comment that is really telling and it factors into a
4 change in the decision, that would normally be addressed in
5 the Executive Director's recommendation so that you would
6 see that in your Work Plan, your proposed Work Plan, prior
7 to the October meeting. We have not in the past posted the
8 comments we receive from the public on the Web, that would
9 not be much of an additional expense or problem to do so,
10 if that was your pleasure.

11 MR. DUFFY: Thank you. I wasn't asking for
12 that, I'm just trying to understand the process. So, in
13 October we'll have the benefit of the Scientific and
14 Technical Panel's review, as well as their view and your
15 consultation with the Executive Director and that will be
16 the information we'll use to make our decisions in October?

17 DR. MUNDY: That's correct. And in
18 draft.....

19 MR. DUFFY: And public comment.

20 DR. MUNDY: Yes, that's correct, and in
21 draft you do have most of that now with the exception of
22 what we received in public comments since the draft Work
23 Plan was distributed.

24 MR. DUFFY: Right. I should have said I do
25 have that, I just haven't read it yet, but I will between

1 now and October.

2 DR. MUNDY: Okay.

3 CHAIRMAN BALSIGER: Any other Trustee
4 questions or comments?

5 (No audible response)

6 CHAIRMAN BALSIGER: Then, Dr. Mundy, how is
7 the public aware that this is on the Website, just by them
8 monitoring the Website or has it been -- is there a well
9 advertised note that says take a look because we're
10 interested in your comments?

11 DR. MUNDY: No, we've sent a note by e-
12 mail, notified over 3,000 people who are, you know, on our
13 mailing list and we may have taken other steps of which I'm
14 not aware, but to my knowledge we notified people on the
15 Web. And I can tell you from the telephone calls I've been
16 getting it seems to have been widely understood that it's
17 out there.

18 CHAIRMAN BALSIGER: Thank you. And the
19 second question that I have, I notice on page 9, sort of as
20 a summary of the total amount of money we have and so '04
21 there's roughly \$5,000,000 and '05 it's going to be two and
22 a quarter million and then '06 it's going to be 2,000,000.
23 So I know this isn't exactly a prospective budget item, but
24 could you comment on the impact of the program of having
25 the research over the next two years compared to this

1 year's fund level?

2 DR. MUNDY: Right. The reason that we're
3 bringing up for consideration in the draft, at least,
4 roughly three and a half million dollars worth of proposals
5 for consideration and roughly \$1.5 million in other types
6 of supporting projects, such as administration and science
7 management and so forth, which totals, as you pointed out,
8 Mr. Chairman, about \$5,000,000 roughly, a little above it,
9 is because we're implementing -- this is the first full
10 implementation of the GEM Program. This is the first time
11 that we will have predominantly GEM projects for your
12 consideration and we'll be pursuing primarily GEM
13 activities during FY04.

14 Those activities, some of them are simply
15 one-time research projects and that's the reason that the
16 amount declines in FY05 and FY07. And also lingering oil
17 studies, which are expected to decline in the future, are
18 only budgeted for one year at a time. And the lingering
19 oil studies make up a substantial portion of that \$3.5
20 million, at least in the draft.

21 So we expect to have a substantial amount
22 of flexibility in the future, out years, FY05 and FY06, to
23 continue the implementation of the GEM Program.

24 CHAIRMAN BALSIGER: Okay. Thank you.
25 Thank you very much.

1 MS. PHILLIPS: Okay. Thanks, Phil.

2 CHAIRMAN BALSIGER: That would bring us to
3 the PAC meeting reports.

4 MS. PHILLIPS: The next item, and Brett
5 Huber was not able to be here today, I've asked Paula to
6 give the report on the PAC meetings of June and August
7 14th.

8 MS. BANKS: I contacted Chuck Meacham as
9 well and he was not able to attend either, so I was the
10 lucky one here. The message basically was that the PAC
11 supported the administrative budget as drafted and they saw
12 value in accepting in the NOAA grant. Brett Huber attended
13 both the STAC and the PAC meeting and there were incredible
14 parallels in opinions and recommendations on the proposals
15 and that the PAC supported the STAC recommendations.

16 Let's see. The PAC also supported the
17 Trustee Council in standing firm on the delinquent report
18 policy regarding annual and final reports of PIs that were
19 submitting proposals for FY04 and to stand firm on that
20 policy, not to issue or allocate any funds to those
21 projects of those PIs, you know, who have delinquent
22 reports.

23 MR. MEADE: PIs?

24 MS. BANKS: Public investigator or.....

25 CHAIRMAN BALSIGER: Principal.

1 MS. BANKS: Principal investigator, sorry.
2 The Public Advisory Committee also supported the Council to
3 continue to pursue opportunities under the Reopener Clause.
4 There was a request, however, that -- or they wanted to
5 convey to the Trustee Council the PAC's continuing interest
6 in the Reopener issue and wanted to ask the Trustees if
7 they would like the Public Advisory Committee to deliberate
8 further and make a formal recommendation on this.

9 CHAIRMAN BALSIGER: Could you repeat that?
10 They asked the Trustees.....

11 MS. BANKS: If they would like the Public
12 Advisory Committee to deliberate further, to discuss the
13 Reopener further, and to make any formal recommendations on
14 this or if it was best that they just state that they
15 support that.

16 And, let's see, the Community Involvement
17 Plan was well done. A price tag still needs to be added to
18 that and that criteria needs to be established for a future
19 Community Plan and that the PAC wants and would like to be
20 involved in that process, to continue to be involved with
21 that process.

22 And that was, basically, the specifics, the
23 highlights, that Mr. Huber wanted me to announce to the
24 Trustee Council. So, any questions?

25 CHAIRMAN BALSIGER: Thank you. Are there

1 comments or questions for Ms. Banks from the Trustees?

2 (No audible response)

3 CHAIRMAN BALSIGER: I hear none. Thank you
4 very much.

5 MS. BANKS: Thank you.

6 MS. PHILLIPS: Thanks, Paula. The next
7 item on my comments are Restoration Office remodel. You
8 know, every time a woman enters into a room or into a new
9 house, you got to change the furniture. The first
10 impression I had coming into this office was not very user
11 friendly. You come into the office and you look right into
12 a store room and then look into a records keeping room and
13 you have no clue of where the receptionist is until you
14 walk down a long hall. And so I asked Brenda to work with
15 the building people to try to get us some prices on just
16 remodeling our front entryway as you come through the door,
17 that you walk into a nice receptionist area, rather than
18 storage rooms and a blank hallway.

19 We've gotten prices from the people that
20 have worked on the building, ranging from about \$12,000 for
21 just taking out some walls and putting in a basic space to
22 about \$20,000 if we want them to build built-ins for all
23 the equipment. We have plenty of furniture in this place,
24 we don't need any built-ins built. So I'm thinking just
25 adding a little bit more because, you know, they always

1 come down with a low ball. It would probably cost about
2 \$15,000 to remodel our entryway and make it a nice entryway
3 and a public sitting area, which will do several things.
4 It will take off a lot of congestion from the middle of the
5 work area, it'll make a much nicer and user friendly,
6 visitor friendly, area for people to come into, it would be
7 an area for them to wait if they're maybe going to meet
8 with people or people coming to the meetings. I just feel
9 it would make our whole appearance a lot more professional
10 and a lot friendlier than it is now.

11 CHAIRMAN BALSIGER: Comments from Trustees?

12 MR. MEADE: I guess the only comment I
13 would have, Gail, is do we have very much walk-in traffic?
14 I've only been here a couple of visits, so I really don't
15 have a gauge. Obviously we have these meetings, as we're
16 conducting now held here, so just in that it seems like
17 having a reasonable entrance space, reception and greeting
18 area would be important. I don't know the traffic flow
19 outside of hosting these meetings.

20 MS. PHILLIPS: Yeah. There isn't a lot,
21 but there is some. I know when I first came in I was just
22 totally blown away about where do I go? Where do I go?

23 MR. MEADE: I kind of blindly walked around
24 until I heard somebody, so.....

25 (Laughter)

1 MS. PHILLIPS: Yeah, right. So I would
2 just like to make that better.

3 CHAIRMAN BALSIGER: So the 15,000, is that
4 in one of these budgets we're going to review later?

5 MS. PHILLIPS: Yes. We have money already
6 in the existing budget for 2003 that can cover that, we
7 don't need to require additional funds and it doesn't need
8 to be part of a new budget.

9 CHAIRMAN BALSIGER: So, I guess the obvious
10 question is what was it intended for in the existing budget
11 that it didn't get spent on?

12 MS. PHILLIPS: I think probably salaries on
13 personnel that quit. And Paula will.....

14 MS. BANKS: The Scientific and Technical
15 Advisory Committee did not (indiscernible -- away from
16 microphone)

17 REPORTER: I can't hear you.

18 MS. BANKS: The Scientific and Technical
19 Advisory Committee did not use as much monies as they had
20 anticipated using and so we do have some residual, some
21 monies left over from that, so.....

22 CHAIRMAN BALSIGER: Thank you.

23 MS. BANKS: Okay.

24 MS. PHILLIPS: Okay. Thanks. And the last
25 one on my comments is brief comments from Phil on the North

1 Pacific Ecosystem Status Report. Just brief comments,
2 Phil, if you wouldn't mind.

3 DR. MUNDY: Thank you, Gail. Mr. Chairman,
4 this is Phil Mundy again for the record. We've been
5 participating the last two years in the development of the
6 North Pacific Ecosystem Status Report and we got into this
7 because we were developing a state of the Gulf of Alaska
8 report for the purposes of GEM and found that people were
9 looking to us for a model because they were developing an
10 Ecosystem Status Report for the entire North Pacific. So
11 we felt that it was in our interest to get together with
12 other groups around the Pacific Rim and develop some
13 standards for reporting and see if we could develop some
14 standard measures of ecosystem performance. And this is
15 primarily intended for a general scientific audience and
16 for the public and we hope, particularly, that the natural
17 resource managers will come to take advantage of this
18 report.

19 I have seen a preview of this, it was not a
20 smooth process because we have Koreans and Chinese,
21 Japanese, Russians, people from the United States and
22 Canada all sitting down, and Mexico at this time, all
23 sitting down trying to figure out what we can use for
24 common measures for ecosystem performance. We're finding
25 some patterns that are very familiar to everyone and also

1 some evidence that we've had a substantial change in the
2 climate, which everyone can agree on, or mostly agree on.
3 And that these bodes probably some negative changes for
4 salmon managers and optimistically some positive changes
5 for people who are worried about things like Stellar sea
6 lions.

7 So that's where we are on that.

8 CHAIRMAN BALSIGER: Any comments or
9 questions?

10 (No audible response)

11 CHAIRMAN BALSIGER: Dr. Mundy, this other
12 group that you mentioned, you didn't say PICES, but that is
13 the connection?

14 DR. MUNDY: Yes, Mr. Chairman, I'm sorry,
15 that is the -- the group that is facilitating putting all
16 these people together is the North Pacific Marine Science
17 Organization is their formal name and their nickname, their
18 acronym, which as near as I can tell really doesn't stand
19 for anything, is P-I-C-E-S, PICES.

20 CHAIRMAN BALSIGER: And I think I saw
21 somewhere in one of these budget sheets that we have a
22 contract with PICES for some \$26,000 or whatever pursuing
23 us.

24 DR. MUNDY: Sixteen.

25 CHAIRMAN BALSIGER: Sixteen thousand?

1 DR. MUNDY: Sixteen six, 16.6.

2 CHAIRMAN BALSIGER: So, is that money that
3 PICES gave us to do this or is that what we're providing to
4 support the PICES Project?

5 DR. MUNDY: That's money that we're
6 providing to support PICES, primarily in terms of meeting
7 support and a contribution towards putting together the
8 report itself.

9 CHAIRMAN BALSIGER: Thank you. Ms.
10 Phillips, anything else on your items?

11 MS. PHILLIPS: Thank you, Phil. No, that
12 concludes my remarks.

13 CHAIRMAN BALSIGER: Thank you. I noticed
14 that I actually skipped over one of the items, agenda item
15 number one, which was the approval of the meeting notes for
16 July 24th and 25th. And I also see that I have two or
17 three copies here, so does that mean I was supposed to have
18 distributed these or does everyone have them?

19 MS. PHILLIPS: I think they were on
20 everybody's discs.

21 CHAIRMAN BALSIGER: In that case, can we
22 consider these for adoption?

23 MR. DUFFY: Mr. Chairman, I've looked them
24 over, I would move to adopt the minutes from July 24th.

25 CHAIRMAN BALSIGER: Thank you. Is there a

1 second?

2 MS. BALLARD: I'll second it, this is
3 Ernesta.

4 CHAIRMAN BALSIGER: Moved and seconded. Is
5 there any opposition to adopting the July 24th and 25th
6 notes?

7 (No audible response)

8 CHAIRMAN BALSIGER: Hearing no opposition,
9 those are adopted. That should move us to the agenda to
10 the point where it says working lunch is provided. I see
11 it's very close to 12:00 o'clock, so we could -- if the
12 food is here we could take 15 or 20 minutes and come back
13 and start the agenda again.

14 MS. PHILLIPS: That would be great.

15 CHAIRMAN BALSIGER: Okay.

16 MR. RENKES: You're going to work through
17 lunch or take a break for lunch?

18 CHAIRMAN BALSIGER: I think we're going to
19 take 15 minutes or so, Mr. Renkes, and then intend to work
20 while we're finishing the lunch in order to get done with
21 this as soon as we can.

22 MR. RENKES: Okay. Well, you're making me
23 hungry.

24 MS. PHILLIPS: So Drue can go to her
25 football games or something.

1 MS. PEARCE: Not going to a game, it's that
2 they're closing down the Mall and they want us out of the
3 building. I'm trying to figure out if I could possibly
4 call in from my cell phone, although my reception isn't
5 that great, which is what I'm worried about.

6 MR. MEADE: Well, Drue, I've been back in
7 D.C. and lived through the snow low and the furlough and,
8 you know, snowflakes close the city down and now I
9 understand the NFL closes the city down.

10 MS. PEARCE: At this time it did.

11 CHAIRMAN BALSIGER: Okay. So we should
12 reconvene, I guess, approximately 12:15 if that suits the
13 Trustees.

14 (Off record - 12:00 p.m.)

15 (On record - 12:26 p.m.)

16 CHAIRMAN BALSIGER: While a couple of
17 people still finish their cookies, let's see if we can
18 start with the agenda. We finished the first three full
19 items, the next one, which is an action item, is the
20 NOAA/NOS grant. Ms. Phillips.

21 MS. PHILLIPS: Thank you. I'm going to ask
22 Paula again to come up and give the details on the NOAA/NOS
23 grant. We do have a grant that has been offered to us, we
24 need an action by the Trustee Council to either accept or
25 not accept that grant. It will affect the budget whether

1 or not we accept it or not, and I'll have Paula present the
2 details.

3 MS. BANKS: As you all have heard and I've
4 been trying to kind of piece together what has happened in
5 the past to lead up to having the opportunity to accept the
6 NOAA grant. And I believe at the last Trustee Council
7 meeting the Trustee Council was skeptical about accepting
8 the grant without information on really what that meant,
9 that perhaps there might be strings attached. And so the
10 development of, you know, what's been happening since then
11 is that the grant is now at Fish and Game, it has been kind
12 of massaged, reworked, the application process has been
13 submitted and the grant is available to us.

14 There was some concern about receipt
15 authority, Federal receipt authority. EVOS has \$100,000 in
16 Federal receipt authority for FY04. Receipt authority is
17 something that can be requested as we go along. I've been
18 discussing that with Department of Fish and Game -- let me
19 grab my notes on this here. Margie Ridgeway, which handles
20 the receipt authority and the monies for Fish and Game.
21 EVOS is now under the same BRU as the Commissioner's office
22 and there has been some discussion that there may be some
23 additional receipt authority through the Commissioner's
24 office that we'll be able to utilize. In addition to that,
25 we can request more receipt authority.

1 The receipt authority works on the State
2 fiscal year, while we work on the Federal fiscal year, it
3 ends June 30th. And so those monies for that receipt
4 authority that we have, we'll utilize and expend a certain
5 amount of monies within that time frame, well, then new
6 receipt authority begins as of July 1st, which is still our
7 FY04. It's rather complicated, but the bottom line and the
8 answer from headquarters was it can be done. So the money
9 is there, it's supplementing our administrative budget,
10 which gets our data management and allows us additional
11 monies to help us streamline what we've got going on now so
12 that, in the future, things will level out and we'll be
13 able to save money in the long run.

14 It's \$745.1 thousand to be expended over a
15 three-year period. The first year, in FY04, we have
16 budgeted in 248.3 thousand and it has been anticipated to
17 be utilized in all the administrative budgets, the 100
18 budget, the data management budget and the science
19 management budget by taking a portion of salaries and
20 shifting it over to spending it -- or using the NOAA funds,
21 spending those NOAA funds on those items. And each one of
22 us, Phil and Rob, will go through our budgets and it will
23 show and reflect what we anticipate using that budget on or
24 those monies for.

25 Are there any questions?

1 CHAIRMAN BALSIGER: Questions or comments
2 from the Trustees?

3 MR. DUFFY: I just have to add to what she
4 said in terms of -- and I'm sure that Gail is familiar with
5 this process, but in terms of receipt authority, if we
6 choose to accept this grant and within the State system
7 annually we get receipt authority and then we can spend
8 Federal money up to that authority. If we hit that cap or
9 get close to it, you need legislative approval for
10 additional Federal receipt authority. In the interim, when
11 the Legislature is not in town, there is a Legislative
12 Budget Audit Committee, we would need to take that request
13 to increase our Federal receipt authority to them for
14 approval. She is right that Kevin Brooks in his shop has
15 indicated to me that we can get that accomplished if we
16 move forward on this grant, so I don't think there's an
17 administrative hurdle that we can't overcome fairly easily
18 for receipt of this money if we choose to take it.

19 MS. BALLARD: Jim, this is Ernesta. I
20 think I was the one that was the most baffled by this and I
21 remain baffled at a grant which materializes with no
22 apparent application where we fill in the paperwork after
23 the fact and is available for general administrative
24 purposes. There are many agencies that would love to get
25 their hands on that kind of money. I just still need to

1 understand a little bit better how it is that EVOS is in
2 the grant application and receipt business in competition,
3 perhaps, with others. It just -- it's a bit embarrassing
4 to me to have the budget depth that EVOS HAS and be in
5 receipt of basically \$750,000 of money which has no
6 apparent purpose other than to underwrite daily operations.
7 I need to understand it better.

8 MS. PHILLIPS: I would like to call Phil
9 Mundy up to answer that question.

10 CHAIRMAN BALSIGER: Dr. Mundy, please.

11 MS. PHILLIPS: Thanks. Paula, just go
12 ahead and stay there. Okay. Thanks.

13 DR. MUNDY: Thank you, Gail, thank you,
14 Mr. Chairman, members of the Council. For those of you on
15 the telephone, this is Phil Mundy speaking. I would take
16 issue with Commissioner Ballard's characterization of the
17 money as for no apparent purpose. While we were not able
18 to pinpoint the specific origin of the money within what
19 they're calling now inside the Beltway, the plus-up
20 process, that is the add-on process. I'm certain that it
21 came out of our efforts over the last four years to work
22 with development of the Integrated and Sustained Ocean
23 Observing System, which has come out of the National Ocean
24 Research Leadership Committee, NOLRC, which is a Cabinet
25 level group of administrators which had been tasked by the

1 Executive Branch with bringing together the marine science
2 programs in the United States and coordinating them and
3 creating some efficiencies to save monies in these areas.
4 The GEM Program has been cited as an example for coastal
5 ocean observing programs nationally and internationally, so
6 we are well known.

7 The reason that the money is going into
8 administration is because of the financial nature of the
9 Trustee Council. And we had some trouble explaining this
10 to the National Oceans Service, who is administering the
11 money for us. We don't write checks here at the Trustee
12 Council, we have to do business through agencies and
13 through contracts. So what they apparently had in mind at
14 the Coastal Services Center of National Oceans Service,
15 which is NOAA, was that we would go out, purchase some
16 buoys, charter some ships, take some observations. We told
17 them that the quickest way we could do that would be to put
18 money into our administrative program, freeing up money
19 that would have otherwise been spent not on observing
20 systems, but on all of the things that we do to make it
21 possible to have those observing systems out there.

22 So, in essence, we are applying this across
23 our different contracts in order to free up money that can
24 then be put into the GEM Program, into the observing
25 system. So, as a consequence of putting this \$248,000 into

1 administration this year and into administrative support
2 services that we distinguish from administration, we will,
3 thereby, have \$248,000 to apply directly to the GEM Program
4 and we'll be \$248,000 closer to implementing the GEM
5 Program at the end of this year. And I'm saying 248
6 because we have split the total amount and applied it over
7 a three-year period, using roughly the same amounts of
8 funds from the NOS grant in each of those three years.

9 CHAIRMAN BALSIGER: Thank you, Dr. Mundy.
10 Were you able to identify any legislative history or floor
11 comment that suggest that -- I agree with Trustee Ballard
12 that it would be really useful to be able to show that it
13 just didn't show up out of the blue and it was something we
14 tried to get and there was some thought behind it.

15 DR. MUNDY: I'm sorry, Mr. Chairman, I do
16 not have that information. We made several attempts to get
17 that information and so far we've not been successful.

18 CHAIRMAN BALSIGER: Okay. Thank you.
19 Ms. Ballard, any other comments on that?

20 MS. BALLARD: No, thanks. Thanks, Phil.

21 CHAIRMAN BALSIGER: Thanks a lot, Phil.
22 Mr. Duffy.

23 MR. DUFFY: Phil, that was a good
24 explanation, I understand. So if you're going to use this
25 money for the internal workings of the organization that

1 frees up money relative to the GEM Program. The projects
2 that we would consider funding relative to that would be
3 projects that we would look at in October; is that how this
4 all fits together?

5 So, in other words, the type of activities we'll be doing
6 we'll look at in October with this freed-up money?

7 DR. MUNDY: Mr. Chairman. Yes,
8 Commissioner Duffy, that's correct.

9 MR. DUFFY: Okay, thank you.

10 CHAIRMAN BALSIGER: So I believe that we
11 need a motion on this in order to include this -- we need a
12 motion to accept this to work it into our budget as
13 indicated.

14 MR. MEADE: Jim, I'll so move. The comment
15 before I make that motion, though, is I was going to
16 validate what my observation is and it's really a win/win,
17 we have an opportunity here, through the efforts with the
18 staff and with NOAA, to have a grant that's going to
19 basically offset our administrative costs so we can put
20 more of our tangible EVOS resources into project outcomes.
21 And those outcomes are yet subject to our -- as a new Board
22 of Trustees, a reflective Board, being able to provide
23 leadership in and address. Nothing is cast in stone at
24 this point, there's a lot of flexibility in being able to
25 craft the associated infrasusaries [sic] in GEM as we look

1 at the October package; is that correct?

2 CHAIRMAN BALSIGER: That's my
3 understanding.

4 MR. MEADE: With that I so make a motion
5 that we accept the grant as discussed.

6 CHAIRMAN BALSIGER: Is there a second?

7 MR. DUFFY: I'll second that.

8 CHAIRMAN BALSIGER: And to be clear, this
9 does not necessarily mean that we're approving the
10 subsequent budgets we're going to look at that contains
11 parts of this NOS money, we're going to look at those
12 individually, but right now we've agreed that we'll accept
13 the grant.

14 Any other comments from the Council?

15 (No audible response)

16 CHAIRMAN BALSIGER: Is there any objection
17 to the motion?

18 (No audible response)

19 CHAIRMAN BALSIGER: If not, then we have
20 moved to accept the NOS grant. And thank you, Dr. Mundy,
21 for that explanation. Even though it was fairly simple, it
22 helped me a lot to understand this offset and it was a
23 useful concept.

24 MR. MEADE: I might also just acknowledge,
25 too, Mr. Chairman, that I applaud the diligent efforts of

1 the staff. I know coming from an agency that is often
2 looking for alternative funding sources, as well as from
3 some non-profit background, it takes a lot of due diligence
4 to be able to find and finesse those types of opportunities
5 and it simply expands our ability to what we have --
6 flexibilities and now due in October we've got all the more
7 flexibility to do more opportunity to help make a benefit
8 for folks associated to our role.

9 CHAIRMAN BALSIGER: Thank you.

10 MS. PHILLIPS: Mr. Chairman.

11 CHAIRMAN BALSIGER: Ms. Phillips.

12 MS. PHILLIPS: The next action item for the
13 Trustee Council to take up is discussion and approval of
14 administrative budgets. And I will call each one of the
15 budget items to the table and have the person that is
16 working most closely with them run through, give you a
17 preliminary outline of what that budget is and run through
18 the budgets with you answering any questions that anybody
19 may have on each one. So I'm going to ask Phil to come up
20 first and we'll take up the science management budgets,
21 budget number 630 and 630A.

22 CHAIRMAN BALSIGER: So, just to clarify,
23 we're skipping, for the moment, the administrative and data
24 management and ARLIS and going to Dr. Mundy.

25 MS. PHILLIPS: Right.

1 CHAIRMAN BALSIGER: Okay, thanks.

2 DR. MUNDY: Mr. Chairman, if I may again,
3 for the people on the telephone, this is Phil Mundy
4 speaking. The science management and lingering oil
5 programs is going to be budgeted at a level of about
6 \$640,000 in our request for FY04. And we have the lead on
7 the program today because we have, in essence, taken a
8 program that was a restoration program, an oil spill
9 damages program, if you will, an oil spill restoration
10 program and we're transitioning it into a long-term
11 research and monitoring program to help us understand the
12 fate of injured species. In so doing we had to change the
13 procedures and the approaches to doing business
14 substantially. And for that reason we separated out this
15 budget that we call scientific management from the 100
16 budget and this contains three people, the science
17 coordinator position, this contains a data analyst/computer
18 programmer position and it contains an administrative
19 assistant position. And my salary is not covered under
20 this, it's in the 100 budget being considered part of the
21 sort of overhead, if you will, of operating the program.

22 Now, what we do in the science management
23 program, our challenge was to figure out how to move from a
24 paid peer reviewed system, a system where we basically were
25 processing a very large number of proposals, 150, 160

1 proposals per cycle. And we're trying to replace that with
2 a more National Science Foundation style review process
3 where the reviewers are not paid and we're processing a
4 relatively smaller number of proposals in any given time
5 frame.

6 So the science management budget here
7 basically relates to the three parts of our annual cycle,
8 that is, the invitation for proposals, which typically
9 comes out in February, the receipt and processing of those
10 proposals, including the peer review, which normally takes
11 place from May through August, and then the preparation of
12 the draft Work Plan and the subsequent invitation and the
13 cycle continues through that process of invitations,
14 proposals, draft Work Plan throughout the year.

15 In the process of preparing the invitation
16 we consult the public and we also consult the scientific
17 community and use our subcommittees, so you'll see the
18 Scientific and Technical Advisory Committee and the
19 subcommittees featured in this budget. One of their roles
20 is to advise us on what to ask for next, what do we need to
21 conduct the program in the coming fiscal year. We also
22 incorporate public comment in that.

23 In the proposal process, data management is
24 featured prominently because we have automated the process
25 substantially and a good deal of our proposal/peer review

1 process is done now directly on the Web, where people don't
2 submit paper reviews or even e-mail reviews, they simply
3 log on to our Website and enter their peer review of the
4 document. This has saved us a lot of time and effort. The
5 STAC is also heavily involved in the review of the
6 proposals. Every proposal has a primary and secondary STAC
7 reviewer.

8 We also receive lingering oil proposals and
9 those lingering oil proposals are processed somewhat
10 differently in that they are still part of the, very much,
11 the Restoration Program and also are relevant to concerns,
12 litigation, sensitive concerns, such as the Reopener. We
13 have those processed by a Lingering Oil Subcommittee, which
14 is chaired by Dr. Bob Spies, and Dr. Bob Spies is under
15 contract to us to provide peer review services for those
16 proposals and to otherwise provide peer review services
17 during the balance of the year, such as conducting a
18 workshop or two for us to decide what we're going to do in
19 the subsequent season.

20 In the preparation of the draft Work Plan,
21 following a review of the proposals, the Scientific and
22 Technical Advisory Committee develops a recommendation
23 which is then goes directly to the Executive Director, who
24 makes her recommendation on that.

25 So this is sort of the background on the

1 scientific management program under GEM. We have two
2 pieces here, the 630 and the 630A. And 630A is just simply
3 we've backed out personnel, travel and contractual costs
4 from the original 630 budget into a portion that we propose
5 that the NOS grant pay for, so that's the distinction
6 between the two. You'll find in the 630 budget only the
7 science coordinator's salary is covered and in the 630A
8 you'll find a portion of the data analyst/computer
9 programmer position and the administrative assistant.

10 So, Mr. Chairman, Executive Director
11 Phillips, that's my report.

12 CHAIRMAN BALSIGER: Thank you. Comments or
13 questions? Mr. Meade.

14 MR. MEADE: Following our last discussion,
15 Phil, the one thing that stands out to me in accepting the
16 grant, we also then need to be sure we're enhancing or
17 accomplishing a certain set of monitoring expectations. I
18 presume your budget here that you've proposed, builds in
19 and is responsive to the interest that NOAA has in seeing
20 that we've been able to incrementally increase some
21 research monitoring effects?

22 DR. MUNDY: Mr. Chairman, in response to
23 Mr. Meade's question, that's correct, that's exactly what
24 we've done.

25 CHAIRMAN BALSIGER: Other Trustee questions

1 or comments on budgets?

2 MR. DUFFY: Yeah.

3 CHAIRMAN BALSIGER: Mr. Duffy.

4 MR. DUFFY: Dr. Mundy, the question I have
5 is, I got a full set of tables here, but on one it talks
6 about the -- I think it's Dr. Bob Spies' position, it's
7 contractual at \$95,000 and then some general
8 administration. Is that a permanent full-time position?
9 How do you consider that contract, is it -- could you
10 describe the nature of that to me a bit, please?

11 DR. MUNDY: Yes. Mr. Chairman, the
12 contractual, which is handled by the Department of Natural
13 Resources as our contracting agent, is a personal services
14 contract for which we do have a detailed budget and
15 basically the service provided by Dr. Spies are also backed
16 up by his own staff at his firm, Applied Marine Sciences,
17 we may receive some help in terms of data processing when
18 we need it. We may receive some clerical support, such as
19 scheduling meetings, scheduling workshops. This will cover
20 travel for some workshop participants if we're dealing with
21 a lingering oil issue. So this is a contractual amount
22 that is used to pay for a broad ranges of goods and
23 services that are related to the lingering oil spill
24 investigations and Dr. Spies' management of those lingering
25 oil spill investigations.

1 MR. DUFFY: Thank you.

2 MS. BALLARD: Jim, this is Ernesta. On
3 that same subject, as I recall at our April meeting, we
4 expressed a mutual frustration that we don't yet have the
5 sort of summary report from Dr. Spies that would show what
6 we've actually learned. Will this \$95,000 get us there or
7 will that take more than this?

8 CHAIRMAN BALSIGER: Dr. Mundy.

9 DR. MUNDY: Mr. Chairman, thank you. This
10 \$95,000 really does not bear on that specific report.
11 There's a separate contractual item that you'll be
12 considering on October the 3rd, you'll be asked to approve
13 on October the 3rd, which will provide that document. That
14 document, however, is not expected to be produced, at least
15 not in a form other than draft, before about September of
16 next year.

17 MS. BALLARD: The synthesis, is that what
18 we're talking about?

19 DR. MUNDY: Yes, the synthesis project that
20 Bob Spies is involved in. This money, and I should have
21 pointed it out earlier, this \$95,000 is for an amount not
22 to exceed. I don't believe that in the last two years Dr.
23 Spies has actually spent all the money that he might have
24 spent on our behalf in this capacity. But this, again,
25 this budget item is simply for chairing the Lingering Oil

1 Subcommittee and providing goods and services relevant to
2 managing that part of the program.

3 MS. BALLARD: Jim, I have a number of other
4 questions, shall I just go on?

5 CHAIRMAN BALSIGER: Yes, please, go ahead,
6 Ms. Ballard.

7 MS. BALLARD: Gail or Phil, could you
8 explain how travel for all of the various committees is
9 compensated? This travel budget is enormous by the
10 standards that we're accustomed to elsewhere in the State.
11 And I know it's based on previous experience, so you must
12 have a pretty good idea of where it will all be spent.

13 DR. MUNDY: Yes, the language, Commissioner
14 Ballard. Sorry, Mr. Chairman, if I may?

15 CHAIRMAN BALSIGER: Yes, please.

16 DR. MUNDY: Commissioner Ballard, the
17 language in our detailed project description uses terms up
18 to for amounts. These amounts are normally not exceeded.
19 We use a workshop process in that we -- one of our
20 challenges is to bring together scientists and members of
21 the public and people from communities all around the spill
22 area, you know, to work on various aspects of the program.
23 We use a workshop environment, a workshop process for that.
24 We're bringing in our principal investigators who have
25 existing contracts with us, normally their costs would be

1 borne by their project and we would not pay those. On the
2 other hand, if we brought in someone from a community or a
3 scientist who is not working for us or a scientist who is
4 working for us but who has not budgeted for that activity
5 or was not asked originally to do that activity, then we
6 would cover their travel costs and per diem only.

7 So basically we -- this is based on past
8 experience, it is based on what we've done in the past.
9 This year of FY2003 was quite unusual in many respects, as
10 I believe everyone knows, and we really didn't engage in a
11 workshop process to the extent that I had hoped that we
12 would. In the next three years as we do our research and
13 we get ready to make some long-term funding decisions on
14 monitoring at the end of FY2006 we'll be needing to bring
15 together a lot of people and to discuss the programs. And
16 then I would expect after that three-year period that the
17 number of workshops that we would be conducting would
18 decrease.

19 MS. PHILLIPS: I might just add, also,
20 Commissioner Ballard, that the travel expenses covers the
21 STAC, the Science Technological Committee. Also all the
22 expenses of travel for the Public Advisory Committee and
23 every other year the Public Advisory Committee outreach to
24 another community in the spill area, so those travel costs
25 are considerable just in themselves.

1 CHAIRMAN BALSIGER: Thank you. Ms.
2 Ballard.

3 MS. BALLARD: Well, I won't belabor all of
4 them, because others may want to ask, but on a much smaller
5 scale there's a consulting or some other sort of a contract
6 with somebody named Dede Bohn or D. Bohn. Who is this and
7 what is this coordinate workshop item?

8 CHAIRMAN BALSIGER: Dr. Mundy.

9 DR. MUNDY: Mr. Chairman, thank you.
10 Commissioner Ballard, that's with Dede Bohn, who is within
11 the Department of Interior, U.S.G.S. and she is a long-time
12 liaison between Department of Interior and our program, who
13 over the years has proven highly expert in helping us to
14 capture the results from our workshop, that is when we
15 bring people together and we have an exchange of ideas it's
16 very important for us to get that into a useful format and
17 to get it out to all the people who need to use it. And
18 rather than hiring a profession facilitator, in the past
19 it's been our practice to ask Dede Bohn to handle it for
20 us. We're hoping that in the course of doing our workshops
21 in FY2004 that Dede will provide that same service for us.

22 MS. BALLARD: Gail, as a matter of
23 observation, then, if you are, in fact, being able to --
24 because you had staff turnover, it might be a skill set
25 that you would want to consider for the Council if what

1 Phil says is true and that much of the work of the next
2 three years is going to be in this workshop format, this
3 might be a skill we ought to have in-house.

4 MS. PHILLIPS: Yes. Thanks.

5 MS. BALLARD: I guess, Jim, I don't have
6 any other questions. I'll say again, the level of ability
7 to spend money to get results at EVOS is, at this moment,
8 in contrast, rather stark contrast, to the level at the
9 State, so it's kind of difficult not to sort of gasp when
10 one looks at these opportunities. I realize that EVOS is
11 ongoing and is engaged over many years and has now a good
12 approach to soliciting the stakeholder input and everything
13 else, but it's kind of eye popping, I must say.

14 CHAIRMAN BALSIGER: Thank you. Any other
15 Trustee comments?

16 (No audible response)

17 CHAIRMAN BALSIGER: I have just a couple of
18 comments and questions. I looked at the travel as well and
19 I'm a fan of participation in scientific meetings, but it
20 kind of stands out when you have Seoul, Korea, Vancouver,
21 Washington, D.C. several times. So you said this year was
22 unusual, Dr. Mundy, would you expect that that same level
23 of foreign travel would be involved in the '04 budget?

24 DR. MUNDY: Mr. Chairman, there is one
25 foreign trip that I know of, but that is not to be paid for

1 by EVOS, it would involve my time. It's to be paid for by
2 the U.S. GOOS Steering Committee. I'm the EVOS Trustee
3 Council representative to that PICES meeting in Seoul,
4 Korea in October, but I'm also the representative of the
5 U.S. GOOS Steering Committee to the meeting. And the U.S.
6 GOOS Steering Committee has agreed to pick up the cost of
7 that travel.

8 The rest of the travel really falls into
9 the category of building the peer review base for the peer
10 review program, that is, getting people to sign up for our
11 peer review database. The scientific meetings are a broad
12 variety of scientific meetings that we attend, and those
13 are where they are. So sometimes they do involve
14 international travel. But the idea has been, particularly
15 in the last two years, is to make the contact, build the
16 visibility for the program so that when we call on these
17 people, we drop in out of the sky and we say would you give
18 us four hours of your time or would you give us eight hours
19 of your time to do a peer review for our program that
20 they'll be sympathetic to the GEM Program because they know
21 what it is and they know what we're trying to do. And we
22 found a lot of acceptance in the scientific community for
23 the idea of a long-term monitoring program.

24 And also that they will, in fact, step up
25 to the plate and donate their time and give us a peer

1 review. We used about 220 volunteer peer reviewers just in
2 the last two cycles. And would expect to continue that in
3 the future.

4 CHAIRMAN BALSIGER: Okay. Thank you. And
5 just some picky things perhaps, but on one of these pages
6 it says AO support is 32K, but then it also says that the
7 AOS annual budget is roughly 200,000 with the balance
8 contributed by a grant from NOS. So is this the NOS grant
9 that comes to the Trustee Council that pays to money AOS
10 above the 32,000 that's paid out of the normal EVOS budget?

11 DR. MUNDY: No, Mr. Chairman, that is
12 another separate NOS grant, that doesn't have anything to
13 do with our NOS grant.

14 CHAIRMAN BALSIGER: I see, thank you. You
15 mentioned that detailed budgets are available for Dr.
16 Spies' contract. I don't know if I need the details, but I
17 think it would be useful to have at least an explanation of
18 some of the things that you gave us orally here so that it
19 would be easier for us to understand and explain where that
20 \$95,000 goes. And I don't know if you can do that at this
21 meeting before we vote on it or what the other Trustees
22 think about it. Maybe the explanation was enough, but I
23 think it's useful for the record to know -- to be able to
24 point to those things, so we understand what that 95,000 is
25 for.

1 DR. MUNDY: Mr. Chairman, I can provide
2 that information in a spreadsheet, however, the narrative
3 for that would take a little longer. I can incorporate
4 that into our --we have a detailed write-up on each of our
5 budgets and I can incorporate that at your request into
6 that write-up and provide that to you. It would take a few
7 days however.

8 CHAIRMAN BALSIGER: Okay. And, let's see,
9 I guess we're moving towards adoption of this as a budget
10 and if we do that, do you view that as -- I don't know if
11 this is for the Executive Director or you, do you view that
12 as approval also of hiring the science coordinator or
13 approval of that position or don't you think you need our
14 approval for the science coordinator? What's the approach
15 to that?

16 MS. PHILLIPS: Mr. Chairman, I didn't want
17 to make any recommendations to the Trustee Council on staff
18 until I had been here for a little while and can really, in
19 depth, evaluate the staffing needs, so we don't -- although
20 there's a budget item in there for that, I will -- after I
21 have a good handle on what our needs are for staffing I
22 would come back to the Trustee Council.

23 CHAIRMAN BALSIGER: Okay. But by adopting
24 this budget we would be then setting aside the money that
25 would fund that position should you decide to come back and

1 ask approval for hiring that position.

2 MS. PHILLIPS: Right.

3 CHAIRMAN BALSIGER: Okay. Thank you. Any
4 other comments from the Trustees?

5 MR. MEADE: Jim, I only have one comment or
6 maybe I should be more formal, Mr. Chairman. And it's just
7 an observation at this point, so I don't want it to come
8 across in any other form other than just intuitive, but I
9 also think I'm hearing some of the same questioning from
10 Commissioner Ballard, and that's just to be sure that we're
11 really focusing on a bias for results, that -- and I'm not
12 wanting to imply that there's anything but that here. My
13 urging is to ensure that we're really providing for
14 impacted communities and residents in the state of Alaska
15 some long-term benefit and outcome from what it is that
16 EVOS has been established to do. And if the most efficient
17 and the most effective and peer review process to do that
18 is the foreign travel and the costs for the participatory
19 engagement then that is what we should do, but I really
20 feel it's important that we ensure that that is the right
21 investment, the efficient investment to be sure that we're
22 maximizing the outcome of these very important resources to
23 gains to the impacted communities and to residents of the
24 state of Alaska. So, not being familiar enough yet with
25 the operation, the day-to-day operation and the purpose in

1 approach, I really can't scrutinize other than just to urge
2 that we be sure we are as, you know, as individuals
3 supported through both taxes and EVOS settlement, that
4 we're really focusing on gaining results in the most
5 efficient and effective manner.

6 Commissioner Ballard, I assume that kind of
7 touches on some of your same apprehensions and I guess I'm
8 sharing that same feeling in wanting to be sure that we're
9 -- that we are scrutinizing this, that we don't want to tie
10 your hands, we really do want to do the work that EVOS has
11 been set up to do, but being new, I yet can't scrutinize,
12 in my own mind, and be confident that it's occurring, other
13 than I do know that the costs do -- you know, as a Federal
14 employee it's surprising to me the amount of flexibility
15 that we have here with EVOS in comparison with the agency I
16 work for. But if that's what we need to do the job that
17 we've been essentially chartered to do, then that's what we
18 should be doing. I just urge we be efficient about it.

19 MS. BALLARD: Joe, I appreciate your
20 support there and I guess ultimately, and perhaps at the
21 next meeting when we look at the Work Plan, we will have to
22 go over for the new Trustees, which are the majority of us,
23 the relationship between the long-term monitoring goals of
24 GEM and its alliance with the global scientific community
25 and exactly what Joe just described, and that's the

1 communities and the people of the state of Alaska that
2 depend on the resources. And I'm having a lot of trouble
3 with that connection, you all know that, it's not the first
4 time I said it. We'll just motor along and get to that
5 next meeting, I guess.

6 MR. MEADE: Yeah, I mean, in concept, if
7 I'm to reply, I'm in support of GEM, from what I've been
8 briefed is to contain. I just want to be sure it is
9 relevant for impacted communities, relevant for Alaska and
10 relevant for our charter.

11 CHAIRMAN BALSIGER: Thank you. I think
12 those are good comments from both of you. I had a similar
13 feeling, of course, the reason I wanted to ask Dr. Mundy
14 some of the questions, and he has all the right answers.
15 And we don't want to generate more paper, he probably could
16 have written it all down and we'd have a larger notebook,
17 but there's a balance between providing enough information
18 so we're comfortable and being able to recognize that those
19 goals are being met.

20 MS. PHILLIPS: Mr. Chairman.

21 CHAIRMAN BALSIGER: Ms. Phillips.

22 MS. PHILLIPS: I just wanted to bring to
23 everyone's attention that you did have a two-page document,
24 a spreadsheet, from Bob Spies on his -- the budget
25 proposal. You should each have that and then I would

1 request that Phil do a narrative on that. If you don't
2 have it -- Cherri, would you make copies for everybody,
3 please?

4 CHAIRMAN BALSIGER: It's quite possible I
5 had it, but I missed then.....

6 MS. PHILLIPS: Okay, thanks.

7 CHAIRMAN BALSIGER:so that would be
8 great.

9 MS. PHILLIPS: And then we will provide a
10 narrative.

11 MS. BALLARD: Mr. Chairman.

12 CHAIRMAN BALSIGER: Yes, Ms. Ballard.

13 MS. BALLARD: Gail, next time when we send
14 the pieces out by e-mail, I am perfectly happy to download
15 them, but if we could have each one numbered in some way,
16 then Cherri can kind of do a check before the meeting and
17 say, do you have all of these items? It was a little hard
18 this time to tell what we actually had because they kept
19 coming.

20 MS. PHILLIPS: Sure.

21 MS. BALLARD: And I don't mind that, I'm
22 happy to be the printer of last resort here in the
23 department, but.....

24 MS. PHILLIPS: We'll do that and being this
25 was our first meeting where we did not send out the great

1 big -- mail out the great big notebooks to everybody. We
2 will do that and make sure that we got everybody on track.
3 It will save quite a bit of money in postage if we do it
4 this way.

5 MR. MEADE: Mr. Chairman, I'll also follow
6 Commissioner Ballard's remarks there. It was very helpful
7 for me to get it electronically, I applaud that. For me
8 not reading hardcopy I prefer digital communication, but it
9 would be helpful to maybe have some protocols, we were
10 receiving things as late as this morning, it was difficult
11 for me with the rest of my work to be able to pull those
12 down, read them and feel as though I had what I needed to
13 be prepared to come today, so maybe in future we should set
14 some protocol for when the package in its entirety is
15 distributed by, so we're not getting it at the last minute.
16 Not, again, to criticize because I know we were getting the
17 information out and I rather have it than not but, you
18 know.

19 MS. PHILLIPS: Sure. Yeah, that's a good
20 point.

21 CHAIRMAN BALSIGER: Any further comments?

22 (No audible response)

23 CHAIRMAN BALSIGER: This budget, 04630 and
24 630A contains quite a few details about participation in
25 workshops, support of AOS, personnel salaries and if

1 there's no questions on that, we're in position to have a
2 motion to approve that part of the budget for fiscal '04.

3 MR. MEADE: I'll be pleased to make a
4 motion to so support. And it's because I do support the
5 broad goals of GEM. Again, I just ask that we do be
6 thinking of that efficiency and relevancy to impacted
7 communities. With that I'd make a motion that we accept
8 the budget as submitted.

9 MS. PEARCE: I would second that.

10 CHAIRMAN BALSIGER: We have a motion, and
11 it is seconded, to adopt the budgets for the 04630 and 630A
12 as submitted and explained here. Is there any opposition
13 to that motion?

14 (No audible response)

15 CHAIRMAN BALSIGER: Hearing none, that
16 budget is adopted. Ms. Phillips.

17 MS. PHILLIPS: Thank you very much,
18 Mr. Chairman. I would call, then, Paula next to do the
19 administrative budget, which is budget number 100.

20 Thank you, Phil.

21 MS. BANKS: For the benefit of those on
22 line, this is Paula Banks again. I'd like to start out,
23 Mr. Chairman, by saying that we have made great efforts to
24 reduce our budget from last year and the previous year's.
25 In the proposal summary page, on page 1 of that, you can

1 see in the past eight years we've gone from 3.4 million
2 down to 863,000, which is a huge, huge difference. Last
3 year in FY03 we had 1.1 million for the project total for
4 the admin budget, for 100. We had reductions in travel,
5 we've had reductions in printing costs, postage. We have
6 eliminated one position, the admin manager position, and
7 shifted nine months of Cherri Womac's salary to science
8 management budget, which part of that grant will help
9 absorb some of that cost.

10 The staff that the admin budget supports is
11 the Executive Director position, the Science Director
12 position. We have a vacant position, which is the Program
13 Director position, which will be determined later on, but
14 we have budgeted it just to give us that flexibility if we
15 do fill that position. The administrative assistant for
16 Cherri Womac, like I said, nine months of that wage has
17 been shifted to the science management budget, three months
18 of which will be paid for by the admin budget. Brenda
19 Hall, that full-time position, will be paid for by this 100
20 budget. My position, administrative assistant position, my
21 wage is paid out the general administration that is
22 generated by the project total, so it's not really included
23 in the cost, but it is kind of in the long run.

24 The travel costs, the Public Advisory
25 Committee last year had its own project, it was a Project

1 1700, it was part of the 100 budget, but it had been
2 separated out. This year what we've done is we've just
3 combined it all giving us more flexibility for travel.
4 This last year we had a field trip that we had budgeted the
5 year before and so by combining these budgets, like I said,
6 it gives us more flexibility.

7 And then under contractual, just the
8 basics, running of the office. We've got the FY2003 audit
9 contract, which is the bulk of that contractual expense and
10 then just the basic running of the office, postage,
11 parking, printing publications, desktop publications,
12 equipment maintenance, staff training, transcription
13 services, so on and so forth. And then the office supplies
14 and equipment. And, basically, that's it for that.

15 Then we got the U.S.G.S. through the
16 Department of Interior, covers our lease, there's an
17 expense in there of 141.2. There is no -- or just a small
18 amount of general administration included in that and
19 that's for Bruce Nesslage, the Federal Budget Officer and
20 Doug Mutter, the Public Advisory Committee Regional
21 Environmental Assistant.

22 And that's it.

23 CHAIRMAN BALSIGER: Thank you. Any
24 comments or questions?

25 MR. DUFFY: Yeah.

1 CHAIRMAN BALSIGER: Mr. Duffy.

2 MR. DUFFY: Just off the top of my head.
3 Paula, did the PAC, that group, the expenditures on an
4 annual basis, have they been fairly steady the last few
5 fiscal years or have they gone down or up or can you
6 comment on that? I was just curious. I know I'm a
7 supporter of that process, I was just wondering how their
8 budget has been over the last few years, fluctuating up or
9 down or steady or.....

10 MS. BANKS: Right. It depends on the
11 number of meetings and the number of Public Advisory
12 Committee members that attend the meetings. There is some
13 fluctuation to that, like last year we spent 8.8, you know,
14 \$8,000 on travel. Last year being FY02. FY03 we spent
15 somewhat more monies on that because of the field trip and
16 other things, so depending on what involvement. I see that
17 what we are going to be doing is having more community
18 involvement. There was some talk about the Public Advisory
19 Committee maybe wanting to go out to some of the
20 communities and do some outreach there and so, you know,
21 that cost would increase slightly and that's why there was
22 a slight increase to 20,000. I think it's a total of 20.2
23 or something like that.

24 MR. DUFFY: Yeah, total 20,000. But you're
25 not seeing a dramatic increase in expenditures for that

1 effort?

2 MS. BANKS: No, absolutely not, no.

3 MR. DUFFY: Okay. All right.

4 MS. BANKS: No. As a matter of fact, we've
5 tried to streamline and reduce costs as much as possible.

6 MS. BALLARD: Mr. Chairman.

7 CHAIRMAN BALSIGER: Yes, please.

8 MS. BALLARD: How does that process work,
9 Paula? If the Public Advisory Committee wants to have an
10 outreach trip, how do they gain approval? Do they have to
11 submit a budget request to the office there, to us? How
12 does that work?

13 MS. BANKS: No. What we did is if there's
14 a meeting or, you know, they're requesting travel, that
15 request has to go through the Executive Director. The
16 Executive Director then at that point would approve that.
17 Generally an estimate of travel costs would be presented to
18 her before she was -- you know, to make her recommendation
19 or approval on recommending approval for that. Does that
20 make sense?

21 MS. BALLARD: Yeah, sort of. There must be
22 some parameters, some guidelines, some planning that
23 happens.

24 MS. BANKS: There are a couple of meetings
25 that the Public Advisory Committee will be having actual

1 in-person meetings and those things have been budgeted in
2 for that, but by combining the Public Advisory Committee
3 and the 100 budget travel, it gives us a little more
4 flexibility. If that's the direction the Public Advisory
5 Committee is wanting to go with more community outreach
6 and, basically, the discretion of the Executive Director.

7 MS. BALLARD: Thanks.

8 CHAIRMAN BALSIGER: So on that topic, it
9 sounds as if the Executive Director believes she has the
10 ability to meld these different categories, so if you have
11 45,000 for travel and 150 for contractual, do you feel a
12 need to stay within those budget categories or can you
13 combine them together and using your wisdom redistribute it
14 to travel and contractual arrangements? And when we do the
15 audit, does it look at the way you spent the money relative
16 to the budget that was put forward or only to the bottom
17 line?

18 MS. PHILLIPS: I believe in speaking with
19 the auditor that they look at the bottom line to make sure
20 that we are within those parameters. However, I think the
21 flexibility that Paula was talking about is melding the
22 travel budget for the PAC with the travel budget for the
23 100 budget, not changing categories as much as melding
24 those two travel budgets, so we can have flexibility there.
25 But definitely -- I believe with the Memorandum of

1 Agreement the PAC is required to meet several times per
2 year.

3 MS. BANKS: There's four meetings.

4 MS. PHILLIPS: Four meetings per year, so
5 that is under -- there's a limitation there or there's an
6 expectation there from the Memorandum of Agreement that
7 they do meet in public and that we -- this budget has to
8 cover those costs.

9 CHAIRMAN BALSIGER: Well, thank you. My
10 question was probably out of order, but I was curious and I
11 wasn't sure another place to ask it as to whether you --
12 you know, in the Federal government we have object classes,
13 so if you have certain amount scheduled for travel, you
14 can't buy pencils with it and I was wondering if you felt
15 the same obligation to stay within these categories in your
16 budget or not and whether the auditors look at that.

17 MS. PHILLIPS: Yeah, I would do my best to
18 stay within those categories just because that's the way I
19 also look at budgeting.

20 CHAIRMAN BALSIGER: Any other Trustee
21 comments?

22 MS. BALLARD: Yes, I have one more,
23 Mr. Chairman, just an information comment. I cannot easily
24 understand the difference between the multi-Trustee agency
25 summary and the Trustee agency summary. I see it has

1 something to do with Fish and Game, but I don't get the
2 guiding principle.

3 MS. BANKS: If I may, Mr. Chairman?

4 CHAIRMAN BALSIGER: Yes, please, Ms. Banks.

5 MS. BANKS: The multi-Trustee agency
6 summary is a summary of all of the projects or all of the
7 components of the 100 budget. ADF&G, the 702.5 thousand
8 and then the Department of Interior for the lease and then
9 Bruce Nesslage's support and Doug Mutter's support. And
10 what the multi-Trustee summary is, is it basically does
11 that, summarizes all of those into one spreadsheet, so it's
12 on one sheet. So if you look at the page 2 of 10, it's got
13 the Alaska Department of Fish and Game, it has that
14 separated out, the 702.5 and that would be going through the
15 Department of Fish and Game to administer, whereas the 100
16 and what is it 60,000 would be going through the Department
17 of Interior to administer.

18 MS. BALLARD: So we don't have a separate
19 page on that, we just subtract it out?

20 MS. BANKS: There is a separate page on
21 that, that is page 7 of 10.

22 MS. BALLARD: I'm sorry, I guess I missed
23 it when I was.....

24 MS. BANKS: That's okay.

25 MS. BALLARD: Oh, I see. And then do those

1 all add back to the original total?

2 MS. BANKS: Yes, they do.

3 MS. BALLARD: Okay.

4 MS. BANKS: If you look on the very front
5 page, the multi-Trustee agency summary, 1 of 10, up at the
6 very top, almost in the center of the page you have ADF&G
7 702.5 and then further to the right you have Department of
8 Interior, it says 160.8.

9 MS. BANKS: Uh-huh.

10 MS. BANKS: You total those two together
11 and you'll come out with 863.3.

12 MS. BALLARD: 863.3

13 MS. BANKS: Right, if you add in the GA.

14 MS. BALLARD: Okay, thanks.

15 MS. BANKS: You're welcome.

16 CHAIRMAN BALSIGER: Any other comments?

17 (No audible response)

18 CHAIRMAN BALSIGER: One more from me then,
19 I think it is remarkable it went from a \$3.4 million
20 administrative budget to 860,000, but part of that is
21 because some of these salaries have moved to different
22 pages and so it's -- we don't really know how much it's
23 changed. It didn't go away just because the NOS grant is
24 paying for it, for example. Is that correct?

25 MS. BANKS: No. That is correct. However,

1 the staff, and I'm guessing at this point, but I believe we
2 had a staff of 15, 16, I know we reduced that dramatically
3 and we're down to just a few of us, so.....

4 CHAIRMAN BALSIGER: Thank you. I
5 appreciate.....

6 MR. MEADE: And liaison positions, pretty
7 much, have been phased out as I was briefed as well, is
8 that.....

9 MS. BANKS: That is correct.

10 MR. MEADE: Okay.

11 CHAIRMAN BALSIGER: And then on this, as
12 the last one, it identifies two vacant positions, if we
13 adopt this are we -- is it your understanding that we're
14 approving your recruitment and hiring of these two or are
15 we setting aside funds again in this case just like the
16 other one?

17 MS. PHILLIPS: That is my understanding,
18 that we're setting aside the funds, just earmarking those,
19 in case.....

20 CHAIRMAN BALSIGER: With the expectation in
21 this case.

22 MS. PHILLIPS: With the expectation, but as
23 of this point I have not made any judgments nor
24 recommendations yet to you folks.

25 CHAIRMAN BALSIGER: Thank you.

1 MR. DUFFY: So just to clarify, so that
2 will fall in the category that Ms. Phillips described where
3 she wants to spend some time taking a look at staffing
4 loads.....

5 MS. PHILLIPS: Yes.

6 MR. DUFFY:responsibilities and then
7 come back to us with any recommendations on positions. So
8 within that if you decided you wanted to move forward on
9 filling on one of those two or both of those positions you
10 would talk to the Trustee Council?

11 MS. PHILLIPS: Right.

12 MR. DUFFY: Okay. Thanks.

13 MS. BANKS: Mr. Chairman, if I may?

14 CHAIRMAN BALSIGER: Ms. Banks.

15 MS. BANKS: There was -- I see an error on
16 here, the vacant position for Executive Director, it should
17 be Phillips on that spot.

18 MS. PHILLIPS: Yea.

19 (Laughter)

20 CHAIRMAN BALSIGER: Well, I was waiting for
21 her to come back and ask for approval to fill that.

22 MS. PHILLIPS: But I was looking at that
23 salary there, too, you know.

24 MR. DUFFY: I assume that salary has
25 been.....

1 (Laughter)

2 CHAIRMAN BALSIGER: Any other Trustee
3 comment?

4 (No audible response)

5 CHAIRMAN BALSIGER: If not, are we prepared
6 to adopt the 040100 administrative budget?

7 MR. DUFFY: I would move to adopt the
8 040100 budget.

9 MR. RENKES: I second.

10 CHAIRMAN BALSIGER: Moved and seconded to
11 adopt the 0100 with the explanations we've received. Is
12 there any opposition to that?

13 (No audible response)

14 CHAIRMAN BALSIGER: Hearing none, the
15 040100 budget as presented here is adopted. Ms. Phillips.

16 MS. PHILLIPS: Thank you, Paula. I would
17 call Phil to come back and present the ARLIS budget. And
18 that would be number 4055.

19 MR. MEADE: Mr. Chairman, just for point of
20 clarification for myself. As I read through the ARLIS
21 submittal, I thought we had reached a decision in a recent
22 Trustee Council meeting on supporting this request. I
23 remember coming in discussing the need for additional
24 library service with the 15th-year anniversary. Is this
25 just a validation of that or what was it that -- if we

1 could have clarification as to what it was we reviewed in
2 the past, that would help me as well.

3 CHAIRMAN BALSIGER: Thank you. Dr. Mundy.

4 DR. MUNDY: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. My
5 recollection is by no means complete and I'd call on Cherri
6 Womac to listen to this and add if she has additional
7 comments, is that the Trustee Council approved in concept
8 the addition of a librarian's services for the purposes of
9 handling increased library traffic during the 15th
10 anniversary and that that part of it has been approved. I
11 will be reporting on the base budget plus that addition for
12 FY04. And I see, for the people on the telephone, Cherri
13 Womac is nodding that that seems to be correct.

14 CHAIRMAN BALSIGER: So did you have more on
15 the ARLIS Library or is that it?

16 MS. PHILLIPS: Go ahead.

17 DR. MUNDY: Mr. Chairman, I was just going
18 to -- again, you've been given the details in writing, what
19 I wanted to do is just briefly provide some background.
20 That in the early days of the Natural Resource Damage
21 Assessment and Restoration Program we had an enormous
22 challenge in keeping track of information. We had tens of
23 thousands of pages of information and data coming out of
24 projects, some of which was for litigation and then later
25 on was for restoration. And so we had a task and actually

1 had in-house librarians to take care of that. Over time
2 control of that information has been transferred to the
3 ARLIS system and we have joined and made a contribution for
4 a librarian, and that's Carey Hoba, to acknowledge our
5 stake in the ARLIS system and the amount of utilization we
6 do put on that.

7 In addition, as we've mentioned, they're
8 adding .75 FTE, nine months of another librarian because of
9 the expected increase in the traffic related to the 15th
10 anniversary of the oil spill. The FY04 project total is
11 161,000.

12 That's my report, Mr. Chairman.

13 CHAIRMAN BALSIGER: Any comments from the
14 Trustees? Mr. Meade first.

15 MR. MEADE: Yes, thank you. Dr. Mundy, I
16 just wanted to acknowledge to the Trustees as I have been
17 over to ARLIS as well recollect the discussion we had at a
18 prior meeting. I really find great merit and value for a
19 lasting legacy for the documentation of what's occurred
20 over the past 14 years captured there. And I think that
21 should be a legacy that we should support and be able to
22 take advantage of as, I would assume, you would see it
23 linking up pretty importantly to some of your outcomes as
24 you go through with implementation of GEM, so it seems to
25 me that this relationship with the library, both its hard

1 copy as well as its digital repositories will be invaluable
2 for researchers, academicians and students into the future
3 as they look back over the tenure of elements that have
4 been managed by this Board of Trustees. If I have
5 captured, you know, correctly what the facility is about
6 and what our support to that is, it seems like an excellent
7 relationship.

8 MS. PEARCE: Mr. Chairman.

9 CHAIRMAN BALSIGER: Ms. Pearce.

10 MS. PEARCE: Thank you. Unfortunately
11 they're clearing our parking garage, I have to go move my
12 truck, it'll take me probably 10 minutes to be back on line
13 on the cell phone. I wonder if you could defer the vote on
14 this one, go ahead and discuss the next one and then I'll
15 be back on line and we can do the vote.

16 CHAIRMAN BALSIGER: All right. Well, let
17 me ask. Do the Trustees find that an acceptable procedure
18 to excuse Ms. Pearce for 10 minutes.

19 MR. RENKES: Sure.

20 CHAIRMAN BALSIGER: Okay, we'll excuse you
21 for 10 minutes, Ms. Pearce, and wait for you to come back
22 to vote.

23 (Ms. Pearce goes off line)

24 MR. DUFFY: Can we continue asking
25 questions on this one?

1 MS. PHILLIPS: Mr. Chairman, if I could
2 make one comment also?

3 CHAIRMAN BALSIGER: Ms. Phillips.

4 MS. PHILLIPS: On the ARLIS Library, I went
5 over to the ARLIS meeting the other morning, their general
6 board meeting with all the different libraries and they are
7 in the process now of getting ready for the move into the
8 new facility, which is the old University of Alaska
9 Library. When the new University of Alaska Library comes
10 on line which is occurring right now, the ARLIS Library
11 will be moved into the old section and it'll give
12 considerably more space and better work environment over
13 there than what we have today, it's going to be absolutely
14 a wonderful facility.

15 CHAIRMAN BALSIGER: Mr. Duffy has a
16 question. It sounds like Ms. Pearce is interested this, so
17 I'm wondering if she wants -- I don't know what her
18 interest is, whether she's supportive or not or just
19 curious, but I wonder if we shouldn't wait on this until
20 she's back on line.

21 Mr. Duffy, what was the nature of your
22 question?

23 MR. DUFFY: My question had to do is you
24 got this -- and I just want to be clear and understand how
25 this works. You've got these founding members that pay for

1 the annual operation of the library, which I'm a supporter
2 of this library concept for sure. And in the narrative you
3 describe public access and how the facility is used. Is
4 anyone restricted from using this and/or if people who
5 aren't a founding agency come in and want information are
6 they required to pay a fee to be able to participate in
7 this resource or not?

8 CHAIRMAN BALSIGER: Dr. Mundy or Ms.
9 Phillips.

10 MS. PHILLIPS: Just from my own experience,
11 no, that they don't have to pay a fee to go in and use it.
12 They need a library card and as a user they are -- a card
13 is created for them, but it's not a pay-type thing. A lot
14 of the private sector business, whether they be the
15 sciences or whatever in town go use that for background
16 information for specific jobs, et cetera.

17 CHAIRMAN BALSIGER: Dr. Mundy.

18 DR. MUNDY: Yes, Mr. Chairman, I would add
19 to that that the founders also get additional services that
20 ultimately translate into reduced costs for them. For
21 example, copying, location of documents, search services
22 and so forth, personal services from the librarians that
23 amount to in-kind reduction in costs for the operation.

24 MR. DUFFY: Okay. Yeah, I just was looking
25 for an affirmation of that's how the process works. So,

1 for example, any member of the public who had a library
2 card and wanted to come in and look at something that
3 happened in Prince William Sound or shorebirds or
4 something, has access. Similarly, if someone from the
5 Department of Environmental Conservation wants to access
6 the catalogues and look up information there's no
7 restricted access. Or the Department of Natural Resources,
8 any of those people are free just like members of the
9 public to access this information.

10 MS. PHILLIPS: Right.

11 MR. DUFFY: Okay.

12 MS. PHILLIPS: And much of it is on line
13 and they're putting more and more of it on line as they go
14 along, but also because it is a combination of so many
15 different libraries there's a huge amount of historical
16 value there that is all in one place now, not just the
17 spill.

18 MR. DUFFY: Okay.

19 CHAIRMAN BALSIGER: I have a couple of
20 questions. Do we have any idea what the total ARLIS budget
21 is and what fraction EVOS is being asked to pick up?

22 DR. MUNDY: Mr. Chairman, I do not. I do
23 know that the Executive Director attends board meetings for
24 ARLIS and is privy to that information and that this budget
25 was prepared in view of that information. However, I do

1 not have that specific information with me.

2 MS. PHILLIPS: I will find it out.

3 CHAIRMAN BALSIGER: And I understand the
4 logic behind, more or less, doubling the '03 budget to
5 accommodate the 15th year anniversary expected increase in
6 traffic in '04, but that same budget increases in '05 and
7 '06 which will be the 16th year and the 17th year, so
8 wouldn't, prospectively, we expect our contribution to go
9 down in '05 and '06?

10 DR. MUNDY: Mr. Chairman, without
11 commenting on the expectation, because expectations in that
12 regard, I would say that we are commenting here only on the
13 FY04 budgets. It's my understanding that in terms of all
14 of the administrative budgets, since we are in the process
15 of planning and shaping the program and working under the
16 direction of a new Executive Director, it's my
17 understanding that these are FY04 budgets. I understand
18 that ARLIS has submitted some requests for out years, but
19 we are not considering those at this time.

20 CHAIRMAN BALSIGER: Thanks.

21 MS. PHILLIPS: Good answer.

22 MS. BALLARD: Mr. Chairman.

23 CHAIRMAN BALSIGER: Yes, please, Ms.
24 Ballard.

25 MS. BALLARD: The employees whose resumes

1 are included, are these employees who have been selected by
2 the management at the library and who are dedicated to our
3 work or are they selected by us? Or by you, Kevin, I guess
4 they're your employees theoretically.

5 CHAIRMAN BALSIGER: We're kind of thrown,
6 Ms. Ballard, because I don't believe we have resumes. We
7 must not have downloaded enough.

8 MS. PHILLIPS: They're in the back of your
9 packet, for Carey Hobba and Celia Rosen.

10 DR. MUNDY: Mr. Chairman, I can respond to
11 that.

12 MR. DUFFY: Yeah, I would appreciate it if
13 Phil would respond to that.

14 CHAIRMAN BALSIGER: Dr. Mundy.

15 DR. MUNDY: Okay. Carey Hobba has long been
16 associated with the oil spill office and moved -- it's my
17 understanding, and I'm by no means a complete historian
18 here, it's my understanding that Carey moved with the
19 collection, more or less. And she has long been dedicated
20 to our work at the library, although she does fulfill other
21 purposes there, including being a supervisor.

22 Celia Rosen is a Fish and Game employee and
23 a librarian who is also expert in the oil spill and
24 restoration documents. Celia is a specialist in the fish
25 and game area and is highly familiar with the work that was

1 done on fish and wildlife in the restoration program, under
2 the oil spill program.

3 MS. BALLARD: So who makes the
4 determination about the assignment of their daily work and
5 evaluates their performance and who's responsible for them?

6 DR. MUNDY: Mr. Chairman.

7 CHAIRMAN BALSIGER: Dr. Mundy.

8 DR. MUNDY: Commissioner Ballard, Celia
9 Rosen, to the extent that she's -- the .75 FTE, since she's
10 obligated under this contract, would be answering to Carey
11 Hoba for oil spill responsibilities. Carey Hoba answers to
12 the Executive Director to the extent that she's funded
13 under this contract.

14 (Ms. Pearce back on line)

15 MS. BALLARD: To the Executive Director
16 being Gail or being the Executive Director of the library?

17 DR. MUNDY: No, the Executive Director
18 being Gail.

19 MS. BALLARD: Okay.

20 MS. PHILLIPS: And, Ernesta, we include her
21 in our staff meetings when we have staff meetings and she
22 is considered one of the staff of EVOS.

23 MS. BALLARD: Okay, thanks.

24 MS. PEARCE: This is Drue, I'm back on.

25 CHAIRMAN BALSIGER: Okay, thank you, Drue.

1 We have continued -- in spite of your recommendation, we
2 have continued to discuss the library project. Did you
3 have some questions or comments on that?

4 MS. PEARCE: No, I don't. I'm very
5 familiar with ARLIS and very supportive.

6 CHAIRMAN BALSIGER: Is there any other
7 comment on -- let's see, this is 040550.

8 MR. RENKES: This is Gregg Renkes.

9 CHAIRMAN BALSIGER: Yes, please, Gregg.

10 MR. RENKES: I'm not questioning the
11 expenditure, I think it's a good thing, but just so that I
12 understand as we look at the constraints on funding, and
13 this has come up with Trustee Ballard's comments in the
14 past. You know, we cannot -- I continue to try to
15 understand what is an appropriate expense for the Trustee
16 Council and what's an inappropriate expense when it comes
17 to funding the activities of other agencies. And I should
18 probably just have another conversation with Craig about
19 this, but in this instance we're funding activities that
20 would not otherwise be funded by other State agencies; is
21 that right?

22 CHAIRMAN BALSIGER: Ms. Phillips.

23 MS. PHILLIPS: Gregg, to a point that is
24 correct, however, with the Memorandum of Understanding and
25 Memorandums of Agreement that created EVOS we must keep

1 these public records. And we have a legal requirement to
2 maintain all the records of all the functions that we're
3 doing here. And I believe that is one of the differences
4 in us having ARLIS as part of our organization versus
5 another State agency that may not be required to do so.

6 MR. RENKES: So we're just paying our share
7 that reflects the core responsibility of the Trustees?

8 MS. PHILLIPS: That's correct.

9 MR. RENKES: Okay, that's all. I don't
10 want to drag it out, I just wanted to understand that.

11 CHAIRMAN BALSIGER: Well, on that point, it
12 was part of the reason I asked if we knew the overall
13 budget, which would help us be comfortable with the fact
14 that we're paying our share. I don't need that today,
15 but.....

16 MS. PHILLIPS: I will get that for you.

17 CHAIRMAN BALSIGER: Anything else on the
18 ARLIS budget?

19 (No audible response)

20 CHAIRMAN BALSIGER: If not, are we prepared
21 to adopt that budget?

22 MR. DUFFY: I move to approve to Project
23 Number 040550, the ARLIS.

24 MR. MEADE: I second that.

25 CHAIRMAN BALSIGER: Moved and seconded, is

1 there any opposition to adopting 040550, the ARLIS budget?

2 (No audible response)

3 CHAIRMAN BALSIGER: Hearing none, that's
4 adopted. Ms. Phillips.

5 MS. PHILLIPS: Okay. Thanks. And I would
6 ask Rob to come up and present the last budget, which is
7 the data management budget.

8 MR. BOCHENEK: This is Rob Bochenek, B-O-C-
9 H-E-N-E-K. And before I go into the 040455 budget I'd like
10 to kind of give you guys a background into data management,
11 basically discuss some of the responsibilities, duties and
12 also aspirations of our kind of section of EVOS.

13 To quote the NRC review of the GEM Program,
14 the data produced by GEM will be the legacy of the program
15 and it's very important that the information that is
16 collected is archived and stored correctly. And that
17 information is collected in a manner in which we are able
18 to integrate it with other information and also provide
19 access to it.

20 Basically there are two responsibilities
21 for data management, one is to the GEM Program and the
22 other one is to EVOS, the Trustee Council Office in support
23 of technological endeavors. First, I'd like to kind of
24 break down basically what data management needs to do for
25 the GEM Program itself.

1 Data management is charged with creation of a data system
2 and this data system is working to work with principal
3 investigators to ensure that the information they collect
4 is collected in the manner in which it can be absorbed into
5 a centralized computing system. Once the information is
6 collected and absorbed into a centralized computing system,
7 policy makers, scientists and the public will be able to
8 access the information.

9 We are able to do this through the GEM data
10 policy, which is a living document which dictates standards
11 on data collection and also mandates that researchers
12 submit their information to the GEM data manager. Stemming
13 from the GEM data policy is GEM data plans, which are
14 individual working agreements between PIs, made between the
15 PI and the data manager, to ensure that they're collecting
16 information correctly and describing it with the correct
17 metadata. The idea is to, of course, amass this large
18 quantity of information, we're going to be collecting
19 information over the next hundred years if GEM is to kind
20 of proceed as it's going right now.

21 This is very critical that in the start up
22 of GEM that these standards be set up and kind of -- well,
23 these standards need to be defined by working with other
24 agencies, in addition to other efforts which are occurring
25 on a national level to do kind of the same thing that GEM

1 is doing. And Phil Mundy discussed a little bit of this
2 with the IOOS, which is the Integrated Oceanographic
3 Observing System, and these are efforts which are occurring
4 down in the Lower 48 right now to organize and centralized
5 oceanographic information. This is going to be a
6 distributed network of information in the sense that
7 there's going to be different localities holding large
8 sources of information. They're going to be heterogenous
9 in that they don't require any agency or any specific data
10 archival location to conform with any type operating
11 systems or any type of computer hardware or any type of
12 data collection format. It's kind of a Utopic view of the
13 future of information technology and it's something that's
14 probably going to come to fruition within the next six to
15 eight years. It's very important that GEM and efforts like
16 AOS work with these other systems coming up on line so that
17 when they do come on line we can easily plug into them.

18 Another responsibility of GEM data
19 management is basic technological support of the EVOS staff
20 and this includes network administration, database
21 administration and also user support. And I know you're
22 all familiar with -- there's a lot of viruses and so forth
23 going around right now, this is a pretty serious
24 responsibility in order to ensure a secure network and also
25 kind of technological environment. In addition to serving

1 as a network administrator and database administrator, data
2 management must also provide the programmatic structure to
3 support the automating of certain staff positions that have
4 been lost due to attrition. This is specific to Sandra
5 Schubert's position as Program Director. And, basically, a
6 lot of her duties after her leaving the organization last
7 May have been automated into dynamic Web applications so
8 that as a result of that generally it doesn't require
9 virtually any staff work in order to facilitate her
10 responsibilities.

11 As of now we are in a semi-automated state
12 with the review and proposal kind of administration
13 process. We're looking in the spring of this year to fully
14 automate it so that we will have a proposal, the RFP when
15 PIs are deciding to attempt to get funding from EVOS that
16 they will log into our Website, create a profile and then
17 submit their entire proposal on line and this will reduce
18 administrative workload even more. Let's see. Yeah,
19 basically I will go now into the 040455 budget. And on the
20 personnel, it looks like we're asking for a \$97,200 and
21 that's including the NOS grant. Nine months of the
22 analyst/programmer position that we're planning on hiring
23 coming October 1st will be subsidized by the NOS grant.
24 The other three months, I think, is going into the
25 administrative budget. It's actually figured in here as

1 personnel and I think there's kind of a typo here, because
2 it should be in the admin budget and it looks like it's in
3 here also, but it shouldn't be. Is that true?

4 DR. MUNDY: It's in the admin budget.

5 MR. BOCHENEK: It's in the admin budget.
6 Well, it's represented here, it shouldn't be. So.....

7 MR. DUFFY: Would you cover that issue
8 again, Rob, so we're clear?

9 MR. BOCHENEK: Okay. If you look under the
10 personnel we have 151,200.

11 CHAIRMAN BALSIGER: That's fiscal year '03.

12 MR. BOCHENEK: Yeah, excuse me, 97,200.
13 And if you look on the second page of the budget, the
14 vacant position, analyst/programmer III, as in 18(a), it
15 says for monthly costs 5.6. It doesn't look like we have a
16 breakdown for FY03. This is not the current budget.
17 That's too bad. Well, we're going to have to go from the
18 budget justification, I'm sorry.

19 MR. DUFFY: Rob, I think you're okay here,
20 it looks like it lays out properly to me, proceeding
21 through these, because you got 97,000 in personnel and this
22 is for FY04 and then on the second page you have the data
23 systems manager, 12 months and the analyst/programmer three
24 months for 97.2.

25 MR. BOCHENEK: Right. Now, the months

1 budgeted for the analyst/programmer III should be -- nine
2 months of it should be taken up by the NOS grant and three
3 months should be taken up by the admin budget.

4 MR. DUFFY: I got it.

5 MR. BOCHENEK: And I wish Paula was
6 here.....

7 MS. PHILLIPS: Paula, would you come in,
8 please and join Rob at the desk there.

9 MR. BOCHENEK: Yeah, I want to know if you
10 can verify is three months of the analyst/programmer
11 position III going to be covered under the admin budget or
12 no? Or is it just the nine months for the NOS grant? I
13 heard you reference three months of it is going to be under
14 the admin budget.

15 MS. BANKS: For the analyst/programmer
16 position?

17 MR. BOCHENEK: Uh-huh (Affirmative)

18 MS. BANKS: I was referring to Cherri
19 Womac's position.

20 MR. BOCHENEK: Oh, I thought I heard you
21 reference that.

22 MR. DUFFY: It's okay, we just want to
23 clarify it so we know what we're approving.

24 MR. BOCHENEK: Yeah, I would like to
25 clarify it also.

1 MR. DUFFY: It's not a big deal.

2 MS. BANKS: I'm sorry. And, Mr. Chairman,
3 in the 040630A budget, which is the support -- the NOS
4 grant support for the science management budget, you see
5 under the personnel costs that the analyst position, nine
6 months of that position will be covered under that budget.

7 MR. BOCHENEK: So for three months, this is
8 correct then?

9 MS. BANKS: That is correct.

10 MR. BOCHENEK: Okay. I'm sorry, Mr.
11 Chairman, it's confusing. And the personnel budget also
12 includes my total salary, none of that is going to be
13 covered under the NOS grant.

14 Travel is \$19,200 and that's comprised of
15 office data management staff travel to Juneau, Fairbanks
16 and various data conferences and meetings. That's to meet
17 with other data managers and kind of network and also
18 ensure that our data standards are in line with theirs, so
19 that when our system comes on line that we can
20 intercommunicate.

21 There's a \$13,000 allotment for Data
22 Management Subcommittee meeting travel and this includes a
23 group of experts in the field of data management from
24 around the nation and people who represent efforts like
25 IOOS and GOOS and other agencies to come in in order to

1 make sure that our data management standards are, of
2 course, in line also.

3 CHAIRMAN BALSIGER: So on that point, are
4 we paying -- who is the subcommittee that travels for 13,
5 we're not paying the travel for the other people coming in.

6 MR. BOCHENEK: Excuse me?

7 CHAIRMAN BALSIGER: You have a \$13,000
8 budget for Data Subcommittee; is that a subcommittee only
9 in the Trustee Council staff here?

10 MR. BOCHENEK: No, no.,

11 CHAIRMAN BALSIGER: So we're paying the
12 travel of everyone?

13 MR. BOCHENEK: We're paying the travel of
14 experts in the field to come to -- it will be a workshop,
15 for instance.

16 CHAIRMAN BALSIGER: Thank you.

17 MR. BOCHENEK: Contractually we have \$8,000
18 and that's to cover training. And training in the
19 technology field is fairly expensive, it runs around \$1,500
20 to \$2,000 per week. Training is very important for IT
21 professionals in order to ensure that they keep their
22 skills honed and also to kind of immerse themselves in new
23 technology that's emerging. I know you guys are well aware
24 that it seems like every week something new is coming out,
25 something new fangled and better and it's very important

1 that we keep on the cutting edge in terms of development of
2 this data, because this is the cutting edge.

3 Commodities, \$20,600, \$10,000 of that is to
4 software upgrades and licenses, which is just general
5 maintenance to ensure that we stay legal within the
6 restrictions of licensing guidelines. And then \$2,600 for
7 tapes for tape backup just to ensure that our data is
8 robustly secured and also that we keep our integrity. And
9 then \$8,000 is going to a Linux development server. Right
10 now we are specifically a Windows based network
11 administration, but we will be moving towards an open
12 source platform, which is a more scientific structure, so
13 we're going to be testing some of that equipment here
14 pretty soon.

15 CHAIRMAN BALSIGER: Any questions,
16 comments?

17 I'm staying away from whether Microsoft is scientific or
18 not.

19 (Laughter)

20 MR. DUFFY: I've actually got a couple.

21 CHAIRMAN BALSIGER: Okay, Mr. Duffy.

22 MR. DUFFY: Thanks. You talked, Rob, in
23 your presentation about your goal of submitting proposal on
24 line, I assume that all comes with a database. What's your
25 time frame for getting that accomplished, is that going to

1 happen this fiscal year?

2 MR. BOCHENEK: Yes, yes, I think by the
3 beginning of the next proposal cycle that it should be
4 functioning. This proposal cycle we automated certain
5 aspects of the proposal process and created an intranet
6 system for inneroffice use. Basically we weren't able to
7 -- we didn't have enough time to really test the system,
8 but it seems to be working and we generated -- basically
9 the entire draft Work Plan was generated from a database by
10 the click of a button. And that was fairly successful and
11 I think that with a little bit of development time and a
12 little bit of this off time occurring before the next
13 proposal cycle that we can easily get this system up and
14 running and actually tested to ensure that it's going to be
15 viable.

16 MR. DUFFY: Okay. And just quickly, moving
17 from a Windows based system to this open source platform
18 you talked about.

19 MR. BOCHENEK: Yes.

20 MR. DUFFY: Does that inhibit accessibility
21 by the other agencies that participate?

22 MR. BOCHENEK: It actually augments
23 accessibility. Open source platforms are much more readily
24 accessible, especially database systems. We're going to
25 keep a Windows based system for all kind of administrative

1 duties, dealing with interoffice file sharing, e-mail and
2 so forth, but our scientific data itself is going to be
3 stored on a Linux/Unix based system.

4 MR. DUFFY: Okay. And one more question,
5 to the extent that we get these insidious worms and stuff
6 coming through our systems, are you tied into the State's
7 system.....

8 MR. BOCHENEK: I am.

9 MR. DUFFY:where you're sharing
10 information and then doing appropriate firewalls and stuff
11 through the State system?

12 MR. BOCHENEK: Yes. Yes, we are behind the
13 State firewall, but I don't know if you had had some
14 experience in the past, but the State firewall really isn't
15 as robust as.....

16 MR. DUFFY: Fire window.

17 MR. BOCHENEK: Yes, I agree.

18 (Laughter)

19 MR. BOCHENEK: And we're actually -- and
20 due to that we have a firewall device and we're going to
21 install our own here.

22 MR. DUFFY: Okay, thanks. Thank you, Mr.
23 Chairman.

24 CHAIRMAN BALSIGER: Mr. Meade.

25 MR. MEADE: Inside that fire window that

1 you described, as you move towards open source, one aspect
2 I'd ask you to be sure and be considering, I'm sure you
3 probably already are, and that is the Section 508
4 accessible requirements to that data as well since you have
5 made such an important point of the information being a
6 future for GEM and how we will be able to interact both
7 with our work forces within the agencies, within our
8 citizen groups, but also the public at large. Section 508
9 ensures that we design that system and structure to be sure
10 adaptive devices can gain access, we just wouldn't to
11 neglect to keep that in your thinking.

12 CHAIRMAN BALSIGER: Mr. Meade, would that
13 be Section 508 of a particular law?

14 MR. MEADE: Yeah, Section 508 of the Voc
15 Rehabilitation Act.

16 CHAIRMAN BALSIGER: Thank you.

17 MR. MEADE: I'm sure that Rob is familiar
18 with the requirements therein. And while we're in a
19 Microsoft platform we have no problem achieving that, it's
20 when we go to the Linux server that I shudder.

21 MR. BOCHENEK: Yeah. The idea with the
22 Linux server is, of course, that that is the back end of
23 the system and that you begin to put layers on top of that
24 and those layers, of course, can be Microsoft layers. And
25 the idea is just for the data archiving that Linux is a

1 much more robust environment. Even on the back end of
2 Microsoft their servers are Unix.

3 CHAIRMAN BALSIGER: Mr. Duffy, please.

4 MR. DUFFY: Thank you. One more. In this
5 data subcommittee that you talked about, you talked about a
6 potential workshop and you talked about accessing database
7 managers with expertise nationally. Are you not able to
8 find the expertise within this.....

9 MR. BOCHENEK: No, there are local
10 individuals that we're interested in having work with --
11 like there was a -- I was hired on in October and at that
12 time there was the initialization of a Data Management
13 Subcommittee and that committee has not really me being new
14 to the job and attrition of, at that time, current data
15 manager, Bob Walker, and then as a result of this proposal
16 process. And a lot of the data system development has been
17 put on hold and other duties more pressing as kind of
18 registration of these proposals, covering the Program
19 Director position and just basically getting this draft
20 Work Plan out has not allowed any work to be done in data
21 management. Also a lot of getting the network up to scale,
22 basically five servers I've purchased and installed and
23 configured them and I'm still not a fully network secure
24 environment as we stand right now. And what needs to
25 happen is either I need to stop sleeping and not really

1 going home or we need to hire someone to assist in those
2 duties so that we can kind of focus on these higher level
3 endeavors.

4 But back to the Data Subcommittee meeting,
5 we're going to be bringing that -- getting that group
6 together. Of course, it's going to include people from
7 U.S.G.S, Fish and Wildlife Service, DEC, a couple names
8 like Carol Fries, Russell Kinube, like to have them
9 involved. Jay Johnson from Fish and Wildlife Service, but
10 then there's some other individuals who are outside of the
11 state, such as Steve Hankin of the IOOS, Integrated
12 Oceanographic Observing System Steering Committee, that we
13 want to definitely have him invited and some other
14 individuals too. If we could get representatives from UAF
15 also, they have a pretty serious data center started up
16 there, maybe Buck Sharpton and Lyn McNutt and Karen Natts
17 and individuals like that.

18 MR. DUFFY: Just to follow up.

19 CHAIRMAN BALSIGER: Yes, go ahead.

20 MR. DUFFY: Rob, I'd just encourage you to
21 the extent that there's that kind of expertise in state, in
22 any of the Trustee agencies or others or the university
23 system, I would encourage you to rely on that expertise to
24 the extent you can to help you do your job.

25 MR. BOCHENEK: Yes.

1 CHAIRMAN BALSIGER: Any other questions or
2 comments?

3 (No audible response)

4 CHAIRMAN BALSIGER: I have one perhaps.
5 Are all the IT functions of the office, then, your
6 responsibility, e-mail, computers that won't turn on and
7 all that kind of stuff?

8 MR. BOCHENEK: Excuse me?

9 CHAIRMAN BALSIGER: Computers that won't
10 boot up and stuff, that's all your problem?

11 MR. BOCHENEK: Yeah, everything is covered
12 by me.

13 MS. PHILLIPS: New Executive Director's
14 unfamiliar with.

15 MR. BOCHENEK: I mean, that might not seem
16 like a fairly -- there's a lot of responsibilities and I
17 know that you're well aware that they're generally
18 specialized, either they're developers, they're database
19 administrators, they're network administrators or they're
20 user support technicians. We're a small staff here, but
21 because we're trying to leverage technology to do a lot
22 more of the duties that used to be covered by 10 staff
23 members, those responsibilities for Internet technologists,
24 like myself, are -- getting over my head, the system is
25 beginning to boil over and we're right on -- we seem to be

1 always on the brink of some catastrophe but it hasn't
2 occurred yet. So I don't know if I'm doing a really good
3 job or if I'm just getting really lucky.

4 CHAIRMAN BALSIGER: Thanks. Anything else?

5 (No audible response)

6 CHAIRMAN BALSIGER: If not, I believe.....

7 MR. MEADE: Jim.

8 CHAIRMAN BALSIGER: Mr. Meade.

9 MR. MEADE: To follow up, you've a couple
10 of times highlighted the workload, pace and the challenge,
11 does this budget -- is the analyst in this budget, is that
12 going to bring more than the band-aid that you're needing
13 to be able to get in front of the challenge?

14 MR. BOCHENEK: Well, I think that GEM data
15 management is probably one of the most important aspects --
16 maybe I have a very -- what I'm trying to think of?

17 MR. MEADE: Pollyanna view?

18 MR. BOCHENEK: Yeah, right. Exactly. But
19 I think GEM data management is going to be one of the most
20 important aspects of the GEM Program in the sense that want
21 people to be able to access and use the information that we
22 harvest from these projects. And if we're unable to access
23 the information I think that GEM has really failed, you
24 know, we don't want this information to be collected and
25 then put on someone's shelf as kind of a token, we want to

1 provide a common centralized location where people can come
2 to and access this information. Policy makers, commercial
3 fishing, you know, scientists and also the public. In
4 addition to that we need to start thinking about building
5 data products from the data. It's one thing to get a
6 streaming line of data or a series of salinity measurements
7 or, you know, taxonomic troll information, scientists are
8 very interested in that, but it's also very, very important
9 to produce data products from this information so that the
10 commercial fishing industry can use this information, a lot
11 of managers can be able to access it and determine whether
12 or not quotas and so forth can be raised or lowered, we
13 want to be able to provide an easy gateway and mechanism to
14 produce data products.

15 MR. MEADE: I really like your vision and I
16 see it as incredibly important connection to where GEM is
17 going to go if GEM is going to really be a legacy, as you
18 outlined in your opening couple of statements. I guess the
19 question is, does this get you -- you're struggling with
20 the workload that you've got, and I don't mean -- I mean
21 that with sincerity that you've got a large task and
22 challenge ahead, is this going to help you or is this going
23 to perpetuate the same workload and challenge?

24 MR. BOCHENEK: Well, I think that we don't
25 want to grow too big, too fast and to be honest I don't

1 think that we're going to see the entire GEM data system
2 come into, you know, become a physical entity for probably
3 four to five years. And a lot of research and development
4 needs to be put into structuring it correctly. If it's not
5 structured correctly it's going to fail in 10 years, it's
6 something that needs to persist for a lot longer than that.
7 And the biggest most important thing is making sure this
8 system can plug into these larger systems that are coming
9 on line in the Lower 48 right now and can intercommunicate
10 with them. And we'd much rather wait an additional year or
11 two to get full functionality and full scale ability out of
12 a system then we would just to produce some flashy product
13 in three years or two years.

14 Does that answer your question?

15 MR. MEADE: Well, I, again.....

16 MR. BOCHENEK: Oh, I'm sorry, well, I also
17 see GEM data management growing. I think that, for
18 instance, it took me around nine months to actually figure
19 what I was supposed to do and now I'm feeling like I have a
20 firm grasp on what needs to be done. And in order to
21 impart that information upon additional assistants is going
22 to be difficult and it's going take time, I think that if,
23 for instance, I was to hire an additional programmer, two
24 programmers, that might not -- that might be more of a
25 negative effect than a positive effect. And so I think

1 that this needs to kind of come on gradually and maybe next
2 year's budget you'll see and it might be a lot bigger and
3 hopefully then you'll support it, we'll see.

4 MR. MEADE: But this is going to be a help
5 get to you the tools you need to do the job you have --
6 that Gail's asked you to do and.....

7 MR. BOCHENEK: Yes. Oh, yeah, I think that
8 products from GEM data management will not just double with
9 the additional staff person but will quadruple. The reason
10 why is I and the additional assistant will be able to focus
11 on things instead being spread too thin.

12 MR. MEADE: Good. That's what I was
13 looking to hear, is this going to get you out of the
14 circumstances of constantly feeling spread too thin and
15 having the data at some level of this.

16 MR. BOCHENEK: Right. That's one of the
17 things, I think, that is really important, that's really
18 been neglected lately is the GEM Data Management Plan and
19 actually dealing with the interesting stuff, which is the
20 information being produced by GEM.

21 MR. MEADE: Well, keep the vision up there,
22 I like it.

23 MR. BOCHENEK: Right.

24 CHAIRMAN BALSIGER: Thank you.

25 MS. BALLARD: Mr. Chairman, this is

1 Ernesta.

2 CHAIRMAN BALSIGER: Yes, please, Ms.
3 Ballard.

4 MS. BALLARD: The transmission has become
5 very garbled, I don't know if that's the case for Drue and
6 for Gregg.

7 MR. RENKES: Little background noise for
8 me, but I can still hear pretty well.

9 MS. BALLARD: Okay.

10 CHAIRMAN BALSIGER: I believe that Drue
11 dropped her cell phone in an aquarium some place.

12 MS. BALLARD: That's the way it sounded.

13 MS. PEARCE: It's raining.

14 (Laughter)

15 (Off record comments)

16 CHAIRMAN BALSIGER: Any other comments on
17 the data management budget?

18 (No audible response)

19 CHAIRMAN BALSIGER: If not, we're in a
20 position to accept it or what's your pleasure?

21 MS. PHILLIPS: Thanks, Rob.

22 MR. DUFFY: Mr. Chairman, I'd move to
23 approve Project Number 040455, data management and
24 information transfer budget for Federal fiscal year 04.

25 CHAIRMAN BALSIGER: Is there a second?

1 MR. MEADE: I'd be pleased to second that.

2 CHAIRMAN BALSIGER: So we have a motion
3 made and seconded to approve the data management budget,
4 040455, as presented and explained to us. Any opposition?

5 (No audible response)

6 CHAIRMAN BALSIGER: Hearing none we will
7 approve that. All the budgets are approved.

8 I believe we've completed the action items.
9 We have two things left on the agenda, one is the proposed
10 discussion of the chairmanship, which we can do. And the
11 other is the potential need for an executive session that
12 might address financial, personnel or litigation issues.
13 What's the pleasure of the Council in terms of the order of
14 those or the need for the executive session?

15 MR. DUFFY: Mr. Chairman, if I could?

16 CHAIRMAN BALSIGER: Mr. Duffy.

17 MR. DUFFY: I would suggest that we
18 entertain a discussion of the chairmanship issue, as
19 requested by Commissioner Ballard, number 1, and number 2,
20 I would encourage the Trustee Council to consider an
21 executive session for a short period of time, I know from
22 the State's perspective there is some potential litigation
23 related issues that we would like to discuss.

24 CHAIRMAN BALSIGER: Thank you. Is that
25 okay with other Council members?

1 MR. MEADE: It's okay with me, I'd just
2 like to ask Drue, being that she's the one on the East
3 Coast, four hours behind us, you know, if we were to, you
4 know, perhaps curtail the chairperson discussion to the
5 next session that probably wouldn't hurt us and it might
6 give Drue a bit of an evening. So I just throw it out
7 there and ask Drue for any input.

8 CHAIRMAN BALSIGER: We're at your whim,
9 Drue.

10 MS. PEARCE: My whim is to get out of this
11 rain storm. Actually, if you wouldn't mind doing that, I
12 would appreciate it, it would help me.

13 CHAIRMAN BALSIGER: So doing that would be
14 to put on the agenda for the October 3rd meeting a
15 discussion of chairmanships and the way we rotate or don't
16 rotate them I guess. And instead, with an appropriate
17 motion, we'd go into an executive session.

18 MS. PEARCE: That is correct. And we won't
19 make you chair again.

20 CHAIRMAN BALSIGER: Yeah.

21 MR. DUFFY: Mr. Chairman, I'd like to move
22 that we proceed to executive session.

23 CHAIRMAN BALSIGER: And that motion would
24 include the need for it because it's a litigation.....

25 MR. DUFFY: Litigation and personnel

1 matters.

2 CHAIRMAN BALSIGER: Thank you. Is there a
3 second?

4 MS. BALLARD: Second.

5 CHAIRMAN BALSIGER: The motion is made and
6 seconded to go into executive session for the purpose of
7 personnel and litigation issues, so we'll do that as soon
8 as we.....

9 MS. PHILLIPS: Maybe take a one or two
10 minute break and then.....

11 CHAIRMAN BALSIGER: Do we have to do
12 something different to the phone to get.....

13 MS. PHILLIPS: We will and then we'll have
14 to clear the room.

15 (Off record - 2:07 p.m.)

16 (On record - 2:59 p.m.)

17 CHAIRMAN BALSIGER: We need a motion to
18 come back into session.

19 MR. DUFFY: I move to come back into public
20 session.

21 MS. BALLARD: Second.

22 CHAIRMAN BALSIGER: Any opposition?

23 (No audible response)

24 CHAIRMAN BALSIGER: If not, then we're back
25 in public session having concluded the executive session

1 where we discussed personnel and litigation issues. Now,
2 we have a question from Council member Ms. Ballard about
3 what the nature of the resolution that was faxed down. So,
4 Paula, can you tell us what that is?

5 MS. BANKS: The resolution is to approve
6 the expenditure or the allocation for the Restoration Funds
7 for the administrative budgets that were previously
8 approved, the admin budget, the 0100, the science
9 management budget, the 04630, the data management budget,
10 the 0455, and the ARLIS budget, 04550.

11 CHAIRMAN BALSIGER: And the 04360A.

12 MS. BANKS: And it addresses the NOAA grant
13 fund separately.

14 MR. DUFFY: Mr. Chairman, we acted as a
15 Trustee Council individually on each of these budget items,
16 do we need to act once again on the resolution or do we
17 just sign concurring with our previous actions? I don't
18 know how we do that.

19 MS. PHILLIPS: Maybe, Cherri, do you have
20 -- can you give us some background on that?

21 MS. WOMAC: I don't know, because I haven't
22 dealt with that (indiscernible - away from microphone) I
23 believe that this way that the court requested, so that's
24 why it needs the signatures.

25 CHAIRMAN BALSIGER: It needs the signatures

1 clearly but do we need a motion to adopt this whole
2 resolution is the question, I guess.

3 MR. MEADE: I make a motion that if we so
4 need a motion that we motion to so do the motion if it's
5 needed. So moved.

6 MR. DUFFY: And I'll second that motion as
7 needed, Mr. Chairman.

8 CHAIRMAN BALSIGER: Okay. Ms. Banks,
9 before we vote did you want to.....

10 MS. BANKS: Mr. Chairman, I believe in the
11 past that there was resolutions that were adopted in the
12 past for the appropriation and allocation of funds.

13 CHAIRMAN BALSIGER: By motion?

14 MS. BANKS: Yes.

15 CHAIRMAN BALSIGER: Okay. So in that case,
16 Mr. Meade, we have determined that we need this motion so
17 take that as the appropriate motion and seconded by Mr.
18 Duffy. Is there any opposition to the adoption of the
19 resolution by the Trustees?

20 (No audible response)

21 CHAIRMAN BALSIGER: Hearing none we will
22 adopt this resolution and we'll affix our signatures to it.

23 Is there any other business?

24 MR. MEADE: I have none.

25 CHAIRMAN BALSIGER: On the phone, any other

1 business?

2 MR. RENKES: Nope, none here.

3 MS. BALLARD: Not for me.

4 MS. PEARCE: Nope.

5 CHAIRMAN BALSIGER: Then, thank you very
6 much for hanging on the phones, I know that's hard even
7 though that saves a trip, it's still a pain to listen all
8 afternoon, so I appreciate your attentiveness. Just in
9 closing, I also thank the staff that stepped up and made
10 this transition pretty smooth, I think that was great. I
11 appreciate and applaud the effort, so thank you very much.

12
13 And we'll be adjourned. Now, I have to
14 have a motion to adjourn, probably.

15 MS. BALLARD: So moved.

16 CHAIRMAN BALSIGER: Moved.

17 MR. DUFFY: I second with one comment. I'm
18 encouraged to hear the remarks from the new Executive
19 Director about your working relationship with the staff and
20 I look forward to participation in this process.

21 CHAIRMAN BALSIGER: Any opposition to
22 adjourn?

23 (No audible response)

24 CHAIRMAN BALSIGER: Hearing none, we're
25 finished. See you on October 3rd.

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(Off record - 3:03 p.m.)

1 C E R T I F I C A T E

2 UNITED STATES OF AMERICA)
3 STATE OF ALASKA) ss.

4 I, Joseph P. Kolasinski, Notary Public in and for
5 the state of Alaska and reporter for Computer Matrix Court
6 Reporters, LLC, do hereby certify:

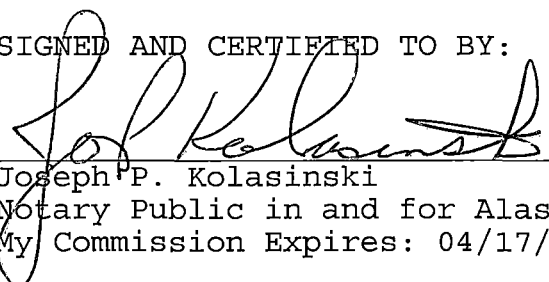
7 THAT the foregoing pages numbered 4 through 124
8 contain a full, true and correct transcript of the Exxon
9 Valdez Oil Spill Trustee Council's Meeting recorded
electronically by me on the 3rd day of September 2003,
commencing at the hour of 11:04 a.m. and thereafter
transcribed by me to the best of my knowledge and ability.

10 THAT the Transcript has been prepared at the
request of:

11 EXXON VALDEZ TRUSTEE COUNCIL, 451 W. 5th
12 Avenue, Suite 500, Anchorage, Alaska 99501;

13 DATED at Anchorage, Alaska this 13th day of
14 September 2003.

15 SIGNED AND CERTIFIED TO BY:

16 
17 Joseph P. Kolasinski
18 Notary Public in and for Alaska
19 My Commission Expires: 04/17/04

