

REPORT OF THE BUDGET COMMITTEE

Dr. Donald McIsaac presented the Budget Committee with an Executive Director Report that included four items: (1) the financial audit report for calendar year (CY)1999; (2) status of the supplemental funding request for CY 2000; (3) status of the CY 2000 budget; and (4) status of the proposed 2001 grant application.

The audit for CY 1999 indicates that the Council's financial operations for the year ended in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles. There were no questioned expenditures for CY 1999.

The request for CY 2000 supplemental funding in the amount of \$14,675 was submitted in late July and has not yet been acted on. The funding should be available before the end of the year and will be included in staff considerations of expenditures for the remainder of CY 2000.

The overall status of the CY 2000 budget was discussed by the committee. Staff indicated that firmer numbers for planning expenditures through the end of the year would be available by mid-October for committee review. The Budget Committee will be provided updated estimates by mail prior to the October/November Council meeting.

Planning and submission of the CY 2001 grant application will be at the CY 2000 base funding level of \$1,907,750. The committee discussed details of the proposed CY 2001 budget and highlighted some categories for closer review. Concern was expressed about anticipating increased travel costs due to the expectation of continued higher oil prices and increased committee and staff workloads to implement Council management plans.

The Budget Committee passed a motion which (1) approved the staff's preliminary assessment of CY 2000 expenditures with a more detailed review to follow in mid-October to identify the most beneficial options for fully utilizing the CY 2000 grant and (2) directed the staff to prepare the proposed CY 2001 grant application for submittal to NMFS in general conformity with the figures presented at the meeting and the discussion regarding future travel costs.

The agenda items for Status of the Groundfish Strategic Plan Facilitation Contract and Legislative Update were not discussed as a result of Dave Hanson's attendance at an emergency meeting of the North Pacific Fishery Management Council.

PFMC
09/14/00