

MOBIUS Executive Committee  
Meeting Minutes via conference call  
February 22, 2008

Members Present: Sharon Bostick, Richard Coughlin, Valerie Darst, Beth Fisher, Becky Kiel, Sharon McCaslin, Wendy McGrane, Julia Schneider, Stephanie Tolson.

Guests: Gary Allen

- I. The conference call began at 9:05AM. Julia Schneider asked Beth Fisher to review the three separate FY09 draft budgets for discussion so the committee could decide which budget to recommend. Beth Fisher stated that she has been working with MOREnet to revise the budget figures for FY08. Wendy McGrane asked her to give highlights for each budget. The three budgets have been based on a 15%, 17½ % and 20% increase. Beth stated that there is \$125,000 which has not been spent in addition to the MOBIUS reserves. She is recalculating what the institutional assessments would be and has talked to George Rickerson about the assessment formula. The port charges were based on 5 licenses and if the institutions had 25 or more licenses the charges are changed. Beth is trying to calculate what the average per license cost would be when the institution has over 18 port charges. She has taken the base for 2008 and multiplied that by the % of increase. The unit license cost in FY08 is figured by the base fee divided by 5. Beth discussed how she calculated the unit maintenance cost for the institutions that have more than 5 licenses. There were 867 licenses last year. This year there are 863 licenses. The cost for the additional 4 licenses needs to be spread out among the institutions. Solver is not working. It was based on the number of licenses each institution had and when institutions changed licenses it was not deleted from Solver so it wouldn't balance evenly. Beth continued to review all three scenarios in depth and answer questions from the committee. MOBIUS had received state funding in the past. SLU left MOBIUS and we lost their dollars. The University of Missouri is carrying the bulk of the organization. Beth has been in discussions with Joe Ford about working with MOBIUS to review the financial situation with his primary focus on the Financial Plan and the Strategic Plan. Beth discussed using the \$125,000 left from this year to help offset the expenditures that the University of Missouri is paying. Wendy McGrane asked if Joe Ford's expenses have been included in the budget. Beth indicated that those expenditures have not been included in any of the budget scenarios. Richard Coughlin suggested completing a revised budget later on after the assessments have been decided. Stephanie Tolson commented that the group should decide on the budget first and then discuss Joe Ford consulting. Wendy McGrane suggested that MOBIUS needs to look for long term solutions. Sharon Bostick, Becky Kiel and others agreed. Sharon McCaslin suggested using the \$125,000 to drop the 15% to 8% for assessments. There was more discussion on how much the University of Missouri was paying in assessments. The group decided to discuss this with

Council members at the March meeting. Sharon Bostick stated that the committee needs to better understand the particulars before making any decision. Becky Kiel suggested garnering more legislative support for MOBIUS. Gary Allen commented that his office has been absorbing the funding for the last 2 years. He went on to say that although the University system is committed to supporting MOBIUS, MOBIUS is getting into a difficult financial situation and needs more sound financial footing. Beth stated that all campuses do pay membership fees. Stephanie Tolson stated that her institution does not expect to use MOBIUS without increased costs. Beth Fisher has heard comments from legislatures wondering why the state should be funding independent institutions. She shares with them how well all the educational member institutions work together and what a hardship it would be if the smaller schools had to run their own servers. Becky Kiel stated that her institution could not support their own system and receive all the benefits associated with MOBIUS. Julia Schneider commented on the concern for support for the Help Desk.

- II. A motion was made by Beck Kiel to accept the budget plan that added one staff member to the Help Desk. The motion was seconded by Stephanie Tolson and the motion passed.
- III. Valerie Darst made a motion not to include the \$125,000 in the percentages and that it be placed in reserves to be used at a later time. Sharon Bostick seconded the motion and the motion passed.
- IV. The Executive Committee gave Beth Fisher the approval to proceed scheduling Joe Ford to discuss the Financial Plan and the Strategic Plan. Beth commented that Joe will try and come to the Council meeting on February 29, 2008 but will most likely come to the next Executive Committee meeting March 28, 2008.
- V. Beth discussed Agency. III wanted to know where we were regarding Agency. MOBIUS needs to let them know by March 1, 2008 if we are going to cancel. If we continue, III would start implementation September 2008. Twenty-five percent of the project costs are due now. Beth was concerned about what other options MOBIUS had and could we get an extension. She suggested moving forward with Agency. MOBIUS will need to get approval to spend the LSTA funds before they can be spent. If we cancel Agency MOBIUS would need to re-submit for funding. Stephanie Tolson suggested going ahead and submitting for funding now. The group agreed that this was not enough time to make an informed decision and should be discussed at the Council meeting on February 29, 2008. Julia Schneider will disseminate the information to Council members, then discuss at the Council meeting, then give Council a week after the meeting to review with a decision being made by March 15, 2008.
- VI. The meeting concluded at 10:20AM.

Respectfully submitted by:  
Susan Hatfield  
February 25, 2008