

MRS Finance and Budget Committee Report

The MRS Finance and Budget Committee met on September 3, 2026, to address committee governance, financial reporting transparency, fiscal planning, and event expenditure controls.

1. Committee Leadership & Governance

- **Leadership Vacancies:** Randy Hicks stepped down from committee leadership, leaving open leadership positions that require formal filling.
- **Term Staggering & Continuity:** To prevent loss of institutional knowledge during Treasurer transitions, the committee recommends multi-year staggered terms for the Chair and Vice-Chair.
- **Bylaws Review:** The committee will review society bylaws to establish clear policies for replacing committee leaders.

2. Fiscal Year Definition & Budget Status

- **Calendar Year Alignment:** The committee recommends aligning the MRS fiscal year with the calendar year (January–December) rather than the ACR fiscal year (July–June). Dues collection peaks between September and December, making a calendar year framework a more accurate reflection of available revenues.
- **Budget Approval Timing:** Aligning with the calendar year enables the Treasurer to present an annual budget in January or February after six months in office, rather than immediately upon taking position.
- **Pending Budget Status:** The proposed 2025–2026 budget was not formally voted on or approved at the May Annual Meeting due to incomplete financial data. It remains pending final reconciliation.

3. Financial Oversight, Reporting & Reconciliation

- **Expense Documentation:** Current bank statements lack itemized transaction details for debit card expenditures. The committee mandates that explicit rules be set requiring itemized receipts and companion documentation for all disbursements.
- **Monthly Reconciliations:** Accounting entries must be reconciled monthly against receipts rather than relying solely on raw bank statements.
- **Reimbursement Deadlines:** A hard submission deadline of June 1 is established for all ACR and annual meeting reimbursement requests.
- **Accounting Standards & Auditing:** Accounting firm Lewis & Knoff (Tina) manages reporting. If management compliance with reporting expectations fails to improve, the committee will evaluate pursuing an external audit.

4. Membership Strategy as Financial Foundation

- **Revenue Driver:** Membership growth is the single most critical driver of society financial stability.
- **Committee Mandate:** Every committee will be required to include membership outreach and retention on its regular meeting agendas.
- **Targeted Outreach:** Non-member radiologists will be organized by geographic region and practice affiliation for targeted recruitment drives.
- **Leadership Alignment:** Confirming committee leadership (including Harvey Yee as Membership Chair) is required to execute membership strategy.

5. Reserve & Investment Holdings

- **Vanguard Investment Review:** Society reserve funds currently reside in a Vanguard index account yielding approximately 1% interest.
- **Reallocation Proposal:** The Finance and Budget Committee will review higher-yielding, conservative interest-bearing investment options and present formal recommendations to the Board.

6. Event Cost Management (ACR Meeting & Fellows Dinner)

- **Attendance Policy Enforcement:** Unfunded expansion of the Fellows Dinner list has generated cost and venue capacity issues.
- **Policy Proposal:** The committee will draft and present a strict attendee and cost-control policy for Board adoption prior to event scheduling. Once approved, rules regarding funded attendees cannot be altered without Board consent. Deviations from policy require a commitment to fund additional attendees.

Immediate Action Items

1. **Submit Expense Policy Guidelines:** Draft explicit expense reporting standards and deliver them to executive staff.
2. **Review Attendees Policy Document:** Ralph Lieto will share the previously drafted Fellows Dinner attendee policy with Mark DeLano for Board re-submission.
3. **Evaluate Reserve Accounts:** Assess current returns on Vanguard reserves and propose alternative investment vehicles to the Board.
4. **Draft Calendar Fiscal Year Proposal:** Formalize the proposal to align the fiscal calendar with the calendar year.