

## ASSOCIATED STUDENTS BUSINESSES COMMITTEE

*This meeting was facilitated both in-person and via an online Zoom format.*

**Wednesday, October 4, 2023**

**3:30 p.m.**

**BMU 205**

**Members Present:** Johnathan Montes, Jaiden Grivette, Jesse Martin, Anita Barker, Michelle Korte, Stacie Corona, Megan Odom

**Members Absent:** None

**Others Present:** Curtis Sicheneder, Karen Bang, (recording), Katrina Robertson, Tom Rider, Kyle Alsberry, Steve Novo, Hugh Hammond Kendra Wright, Corinne Knapp, Windy Van Dam, Keith Crawford, Amanda Dubner, Brooke McCall

- I. **CALL TO ORDER** – The Chair, Montes, called the meeting to order at 3:30 p.m.
- II. **MECHOOPDA LAND RECOGNITION:** The meeting began with the reading of the Mechoopda Land Recognition Statement.
- III. **AGENDA** – Approval of the 10/4/23 regular meeting agenda. **Motion to approve the 10/4/23 regular meeting agenda, as presented (Grivette/Corona) 7/0/0 MSC.**
- IV. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES** – Minutes of the 5/1/23 and 5/8/23 regular meetings. **Motion to approve the minutes of the 5/1/23 and 5/8/23 regular meetings, as presented (Corona/Barker) 5/0/2 MSC.**
- V. **ANNOUNCEMENTS** – Montes welcomed everyone and introductions were made.
- VI. **PUBLIC OPINION** – Limited to items on the agenda, three minutes per speaker, five minutes for entire topic – None
- VII. **BUSINESS**
  - A. **Action Item: Approval of Resolution for Establishing Time and Location for Associated Students Businesses Committee Meetings for the academic year 2023-24 – Motion to approve Resolution for Establishing Time and Location for Associated Students Businesses Committee Meetings for the academic year 2023-24, as presented (Grivette/Martin) 7-0-0 MSC.**
  - B. **Discussion Item: Local Agency Investment Fund for quarter ending 6/30/23** – Robertson explained and reviewed this quarterly report with the committee. She noted no risk is involved with these investments.
  - C. **Discussion Item: 6/30/23 Auxiliary Activities Fund Capital Expenditure Report** – Robertson explained that this report is provided quarterly and reviewed with the committee. She noted there were no expenditures during the fourth quarter of 2022-23.
- VIII. **AUXILIARY BUSINESSES DIRECTOR REPORT** – Rider explained that AS Dining has been struggling over the past few years due to the pandemic, inflation, shutdown of Whitney Hall, etc. He said he reached out to a third part contractor, Chartwells, who has a Master Sponsorship Agreement (MSA) with the Chancellor's Office. He said a proposal from them was received late last semester

and ASBC voted to checking into a relationship with a third-party contractor. He said Chartwells representatives are on campus today and a public forum was held this morning. They also met with our stakeholders, such as University Housing, Career Center, Athletics, Basic Needs, etc. He said these meetings were held in order for Chartwells to hear what this campus needs, as well as ask their own questions. Another proposal regarding a comprehensive Dining Services program will be provided by them now that they've received additional information about this campus. They also had lunch at Éstom Jámani and introduced more folks involved with dining on campus. Student centered focus groups have also been held and additional conversations will continue to be held. Rider said Chartwells contracts with San Jose State and CSU Stanislaus and he and Montes will be going to these campuses to see what their dining operations look like as well as to see what these campuses like/don't like regarding working with Chartwells. Rider said at this morning's Open Forum, members of campus confirmed the importance of what Dining Services has been doing regarding working with local businesses as well as our commitment to sustainability. Montes said there was a lot of good communication at this morning's Open Forum. Barker questioned the decision-making process and Rider said he'll gather the information, it will be discussed at ASBC and ASBC will make a recommendation to the Board for their vote. He said they will try to finalize this in time for the Board to make a decision in December. That would then give 8 months to work on the transition and Chartwells would start taking over Dining Services in the fall of 2024. Sicheneder said we would be the tenth campus in the CSU system to go with Chartwells if this goes forward. Rider said he has reached out to other campuses, and rush deals caused some issues. They suggested taking the time to dig into the contract and make sure the details are correct, which Rider said he'd prefer doing. He noted that no one he spoke to said they wouldn't contract with Chartwells again, they just cautioned to take our time and get everything in writing. Rider explained the two types of models for payment and explained the Flat Fee model and Profit and Loss model (based on percentages). Discussion was held. • Rider noted two key Dining Services positions that are currently open: Concessions Supervisor and Butte Station Supervisor. He also said the Nettleton repairs are nearly done. Rider said Wildcat Preview Day is on 10/14/23. He said the National Association of College & University Food Services (NACUFS) yearly survey begins on October 16 and runs through the end of November. He explained NACUFS, as well as the survey. Rider said the annual Bug Night at Éstom Jámani will be on 10/26/23. The Halloween meal night will be on 10/31/23. Rider said 250 staff and faculty attended the Staff/Faculty Appreciation Lunch at Éstom Jámani last month and this will be done again next semester. Meal costs were discussed and it was noted that the general public could also eat at that location. Corona said she was at CSU, Stanislaus recently for a conference and said their food was very good, and great service was provided. Martin asked if Chartwells would be subcontracting others to come in and work for them and Rider said our cooks would become Chartwells employees. Montes said they're bringing money to invest and expand, and develop our Dining Services more, noting they bring a big pocketbook. Rider said it would be a 13 to 15-year contract and explained the process further. He noted they can make dramatic improvements due to their funding ability. Sicheneder said AS employees would become Chartwells employees and said that in some of the retail areas, Chartwells could partner with local partners or national brands. Montes said Chartwells claims to work with over 300 schools in the nation, with 10 in California. Grivette asked if this would increase dining costs for students and Rider said not necessarily; he wasn't sure about catering but said everything should remain pretty consistent.

- IX. CHICO STATE WILDCAT STORE DIRECTOR REPORT** – Novo provided background on how Follett works with the AS, noting a percentage of every purchase in the bookstore is given to the AS. He said Follett has been running this store for 9 years. Novo said he is working on the Access Program, which would allow professors to have textbooks available day one for their students and costs would be lumped in with student tuition costs. He said they're look at the "opt out" feature as it provides the best deals for students. Discussion was held regarding the process. He said this would include good discounts for textbooks for students and hopes to have it activated in January 2024. He noted that of the 14 bookstores Follett runs in the CSU, that most are already on this program. He further explained that surveys show that nationwide, about 20% of students get better grades when they have their books on the first day of classes. Novo said Wildcat Preview is on Saturday,

10/14/23 and Wildcat Weekend is 10/12 through 10/14/23. He said these are very busy times for the bookstore and explained coupons for purchases in the bookstore that will be available.

- X. INTERIM EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR REPORT** – Sicheneder presented an organizational chart of the AS Board and the three committees and provided an overview of what each committee is responsible for. • Sicheneder said campus labor negotiations are going on through the CSU system and noted this affects our businesses if there is a strike. He explained how Rider is preparing Dining Services in case of a strike. Montes said the whole CSU system is going through this, not just Chico State.
- XI. CHAIR REPORT** – Montes thanked Grivette and Martin for joining this committee and said one more student for ASBC is scheduled to be approved at Monday's Board meeting.
- XII. ANNOUNCEMENTS** – Barker said Athletics held their Athletics Hall of Fame for the first time in four years and acknowledged all the AS Dining group and Hammond's group. She said it was fantastic, food was great, ambiance was great, and it was a great partnership with the AS.
- XIII. PUBLIC OPINION** – Limited to three minutes per speaker, five minutes for entire topic – None
- XIV. ADJOURNMENT** – The Chair, Montes, adjourned the meeting at 4:26 p.m.