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**ASSOCIATED STUDENTS OF CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY, CHICO
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING MINUTES**

Wednesday, September 16, 2020

2:30 p.m.

Via Zoom

Members Present: Bre Holbert, Jennifer Mendoza, Anthony Ruiz, Ella Snyder, Austin Lopic, Kaylee Biedermann, Tracy Butts, Ann Sherman, Sandy Parsons-Ellis

Members Absent: None

Others Present: Jamie Clyde, Karen Bang (recording), Susan Jennings, Jon Slaughter, Tom Rider, Shar Krater, Sarah Fenton, Hugh Hammond, Katrina Robertson, Katie Peterson, Leah Railey, Curtis Sicheneder, Thang Ho, Anna Paladini, Eric Gallagher, Seghen Hailu, Teresa Clements, Kristin Chelotti, Mark Mooradian, Eliza Miller, Kelsey Torres, Alexander Smith, Kiley Kirkpatrick, Charlie King, Jacqueline Alvarez, Ember Funk, Lauren Lathrop, Nani Teves, Antonia Sanchez, Aaron Davidson, Melinda McCluskey-Wise

- I. **CALL TO ORDER** – The Chair, Holbert, called the meeting to order at 2:33 p.m.
- II. **AGENDA** – Approval of the 9/16/20 regular meeting agenda. **Motion to approve the 9/16/20 regular meeting agenda, as presented (Lopic/Biedermann) 9-0-0 MSC.**
- III. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES** – Minutes of the 9/2/20 regular Board meeting. **Motion to approve Minutes of the 9/2/20 regular Board meeting, as presented (Biedermann/Lopic) 9-0-0 MSC.**
- IV. **ANNOUNCEMENTS** - None
- V. **STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS** – Action Items forwarded to the Board of Directors from the standing committees stand approved unless overturned by a 2/3 + 1 Board action.
 - A. Government Affairs Committee – Mendoza said the 9/9/20 GAC meeting was cancelled due to the fires happening that day. She said they want to bring up resolutions to hopefully encourage and further establish AS relationships to the rest of the University and get that understanding of mutual respect.
 - A. Bell Memorial Union Committee – No meetings held. Biedermann said SFAC has been approved to go forward, but may not happen until spring 2021.
 - B. Associated Students Businesses Committee – Lopic reviewed the items that were approved as well as the items that were discussed at the 9/14/20 meeting.
 1. ASBC Actions of 9/14/20
 - a. Approved the 9/14/20 regular meeting agenda.
 - b. Approved Minutes of the regular meeting of 4/20/20.
 - c. Approved Resolution Establishing Time and Location for Associated Students Businesses Committee Meetings for the academic year 2020-21, as presented.
- VI. **BUSINESS**
 - B. Action Item: Approval of announcement of the Mechoopda Land Recognition Statement directly after calling a meeting to order at all Associated Students Board, Committee and Council meetings. **Motion to approve announcement of the Mechoopda Land Recognition Statement directly after calling a meeting to order at all Associated Students Board, Committee and Council meetings, as presented (Biedermann/Mendoza).** Holbert reviewed the wording with the Board. **9-0-0 MSC.**
 - C. Action Item: Approval of Juneteenth (June 19) as an Associated Students, CSU, Chico paid holiday. **Motion to approve Juneteenth (June 19) as an Associated Students, CSU, Chico paid holiday, as presented (Ruiz/Mendoza).** Ruiz said this has his full support and will hopefully lead the CSU as well as other AS' to incorporate it as well. Holbert said the document presented at the last Board meeting was in diction chosen by the CSSA and noted the document presented today was revised to be CSU, Chico Associated Students and the Resolved statements were changed but still with the same intent. Financial implications for this holiday were discussed and Slaughter said there would be no additional cost because workdays were budgeted for the year. Jennings confirmed that it's one less productive workday, but no additional cost unless someone has to work that day. Consensus was that it should be a paid holiday. Mendoza said for all the resolved and specific lines that refer to continuing to recognize and support the efforts of Black activists and scholars on our campus, she

wants everyone to take that into consideration of how they will apply that not only for this holiday, but continuing throughout the whole year, and how this work can impact the campus. **9-0-0 MSC.** Slaughter asked if we're the first in the state to do this as an AS and Holbert said we are.

- D. Action Item: Approval of Revisions to Associated Students Human Resources Policies #720 – Holidays and Scheduling, and #1150 – Termination. **Motion to approve revisions to Associated Students Human Resources Policies #720 – Holidays and Scheduling, and #1150 – Termination, as presented (Biedermann/Lapic).** Railey said she would add the Juneteenth holiday to the list of holidays. **9-0-0 MSC.**
- E. Information Item: Health Insurance – Clyde said they met with two different broker groups to see what insurance options were available. She said the AS was presented with three options: one to stay with who we currently have, one of switching coverage to a pooled group, with the third option being a self-funded model. She said out of the three models, they are looking to stay currently where we are due to a record low increase of 2%. Clyde said the second option of a pooled group would require us to switch providers, with that number coming in lower than what we're currently at. She noted; however, that they would need to confirm that there are doctors in this area that belong to this group. Regarding the third option, a self-insured model, she said at this point the staff directors decided to remove it as an option because although there is a bit of a decrease, it's not as much of a decrease as option number 2 and comes with more risk. Clyde said recommendations would be provided to the Board regarding staying where we're at, or moving to the pooled group. Biedermann asked who would cover the 2% increase and Clyde said there are two pieces the Board will need to decide. They will first need to decide what option to go with, and then how the percentage of costs will be split between the AS and employees. She said the Board would be provided with costs and multiple split choices. Clyde said traditionally it has been a 50-50 split.
- F. Discussion Item: 6/30/20 Follett Wildcat Store Financials – Jennings reviewed the financials with the Board, noting that in each of the categories they were significantly down because for the most part the store was closed due to the pandemic. Most of the sales made were due to online orders. Overall, the store ended the year at \$3.68 million vs. \$5.2 million in 2019. Holbert asked how many students are purchasing via the Follett website vs. going into the store. Lathrop said their financial year started April 1. She said they've made just over \$1 million so far since April and \$800,000 of that was due to online purchases. She said most of the \$200,000 made in the store mainly started with the start of the semester.
- G. Director of University Affairs Report – Snyder said SAS has been talking about senator compensation, they elected Taryn Burns as Vice Chair, and are talking about forming a task force to discuss the diversity initiatives that were discussed over the summer. She has reached out to the officers and senators to see if they're interested in being a part of the task force. Snyder said SAS will be meeting this Friday at noon and their main discussion will be regarding the senator compensation. Regarding University committees, she said many students have been appointed to multiple University committees and she has attempted to get in contact with all University chairs to assure student membership is filled and provide appropriate support. She requested spreading the word to students that might be interested in sitting on University committees. Applications for the vacant AS positions (Commissioner of Student Organizations and Resources, as well as College of Engineering, Computer Science, and Construction Management Senator) are due tomorrow at noon. Snyder said this week she and Holbert will be attending FASP and EPPC and reviewed the items being discussed at these meetings. Snyder said regarding a reduction or refund of student fees, specifically the IRA fee. If that happens, there would be a refund for students for this semester and a reduction for spring of what they're charged. Biedermann asked what the amount of the IRA fee is and Lapic said it's a fee of \$49, so students would get \$29 back and the fee would become \$20. Ruiz questioned the best way to support fee reduction to the University committees and Snyder said that students can attend the meetings to voice their opinion. She said she would provide them with a list of the various meetings. Mendoza noted these student Board members are students as well and all are interested in fee reductions.
- H. Director of Legislative Affairs Report – Ruiz said LAC has met twice and are trying to be as engaged as possible, even though meeting virtually. He said he and Holbert will be attending CSSA this Saturday and encouraged others to attend. Regarding the Ballot Bowl, Ruiz said Chico State is second to Fullerton at this point. He said Ann Schulte requested the Secretary of State do proportional ranking which means Chico State is actually in first place (Sherman left the meeting at 3:17 p.m.)
- I. University Vice Presidents' Reports – Parsons-Ellis said Student Affairs is focusing on ways to keep students engaged, connected and build community. She noted the Chancellor's announcement that the CSU will be primarily virtual in the spring. She said they will spend the fall engaging students in trying to learn from these

experiences so we can continue to provide good services and improve the way we're connected with the students in the spring. • Parsons-Ellis said the COVID-19 hotline now has five lines and they have a full staff managing and providing case management to students who report, or have tested positive. Butte County's status was discussed and Parsons-Ellis said we'll be staying in the purple category until the number of positive cases drop.

- J. Faculty Representative Report – Butts said she's not currently a faculty member so information she gets is filtered through chairs, faculty members or colleagues. She said one of the big things for her going into the semester is keeping an eye on the Full Time Equivalent (FTE) Student numbers. Originally it was estimated to be at approximately 13,091. She said they're pleasantly surprised to see it's now closer to about 15,500 FTE, which is significant in terms of funding, number of students present, and classes that are met. Butts said she sits on the Enrollment Management Advisory Committee, and the average unit load for students is 14.28, which is up significantly for students. • Butts said this summer a Go Virtual seminar was opened up for 200 faculty which filled up so a second one was provided and had over 100 faculty in attendance. She said they have been trying to communicate the importance of exercising flexibility and grace when possible for both students and themselves. She noted the bottom line is to try to make sure students don't experience any kind of impediments in trying to finish up their degrees. Mendoza asked if there was any sort of acknowledgment of how many hours per class on average that students now have to work on as it now takes a lot more time to finish assignments. Butts said one of the shortfalls is that each faculty knows what is required of their class and amount of time required; however, they don't often have conversations with other faculty across campus to see what their assignments are. She said she hopes that they'll see how things are going and perhaps slow down and even cancel assignments if necessary. Lopic asked if there will be continued online training for faculty and staff to navigate a fully virtual year. Butts said Faculty Development has a slate of activities planned for the year and some departments continue to have weekly meetings to check in regarding issues and strategies.
- K. Executive Director's Report – Clyde thanked Dr. Butts for bringing a different set of eyes and perspective to the Board. She also thanked Parsons-Ellis as she and Student Affairs have been so supportive of the AS and the things that we need. • Clyde said last year's Board approved a \$550,000 capital expenditure for repair of the BMU roof. She said this item was put on hold until we knew a little more about what was happening with the fees. Clyde explained that the roof has been failing for multiple years and since campus is moving forward with placing solar on both the BMU and WREC it has pushed the conversation of the roof repair forward. She said because the roof needs to be repaired before the solar is installed, they will be moving forward with this capital expenditure item. • Clyde said Follett has reached out to her and Jennings regarding how they're interpreting the contract of how the AS gets paid for our commissions for both this year and last year. She said the AS has already closed the books for last fiscal year, and Follett would have paid the 90% of the minimum for last year, which we booked into our revenue. She said Follett is having a problem with this, although they haven't said they won't pay. Clyde said this will be addressed and she doesn't know what it will look like. The dollar amount in question is about \$180,000. This will be brought back to the Board when further information is received. She said we need to be good partners but need to make sure that works on both sides. • Clyde said we're working with the county to possibly set up a contract to provide food service for fire survivors if our services are requested and needed. • Clyde said we are still operating our AO equipment rental, still providing in person internships with CAVE, still operating the pool at limited capacity, and the CDL is functioning with limited numbers. She said we are still moving forward with holding the Voting Center in the BMU auditorium. The WREC study lounge and 2nd story parking structure outdoor WREC exercise center are on hold.
- L. President's Report – Holbert said at the University level, a post and pre-election meeting was held today to talk about how that would look for our campus as we prepare for the elections and then go into the post-election time. • Holbert said she had the opportunity to talk with Chief Dillon of UPD today and said they had a great conversation and she got to express what a lot of students have been feeling. She said they came to a common ground of trying to understand each other's side and know there are still tough conversations ahead. She said he's willing to work with students and push his officers to do the same. • Holbert said she is sitting on a lot of University committees and loves representing students. Holbert said she would be representing students at tonight's Town and Gown meeting.

VII. ANNOUNCEMENTS – Lopic said Happy Wednesday. Snyder reminded that applications for the Commissioner of SOAR and College of ECC Senator positions are due by noon tomorrow.

VIII. PUBLIC OPINION – Peterson read a question from Davidson, "Can you provide an update on the steps the AS has taken as for the full accounting of how student fees are being spent for fall 2020?" She said he wants to express that they have the right to see this accounting of how the fees are being allocated and spent, and wondered

if the Board could provide an update. Peterson said per Davidson, "When fall fees were passed they were only to be for a specific purpose as voted on by the students." Biedermann asked if he's talking about University fees or AS fees, and was told all University fees. Holbert said the AS officers who are in the different financial committees have been working with the University to get these fees back. She said on the AS side, those discussions are rigorous and new to student officers because they haven't really seen how the finances look on the University side; learning as they're going but also trying to be proactive and saying what fees can we start bringing back. She said as mentioned earlier, IRA has been evaluating whether or not students will be getting fees back and are seeing that the IRA fee will be refunded. She said hopefully they will have more conversations to see how to lower fees. Holbert noted that tuition cannot be refunded. She said the fees conversation is definitely an important question and they're still having those conversations. Regarding the AS, Mendoza said they are still working on reimbursement for this semester of the \$49 IRA fee. She said the IRA committee hasn't been able to meet yet as they are still trying to fill student positions on this committee. She suggested if he is interested in joining, to let her know. Ruiz said the AS doesn't have jurisdiction over tuition and University fees. He said it's very complex as to what they actually can and can't do. As far as what officers have been doing, he said they have been advocating for the reduction of at least some University fees, which would be beneficial for the students. Ruiz said AS fees are all overhead costs, we're still paying rent to the University, we still have full-time employees and some student staff, and we do have limited operations. He said we're trying to do the best we can to offer these services virtually to all students. Biedermann said the Student Union fee is under her jurisdiction and knows people are upset the WREC hasn't been open. She said that as Clyde mentioned, they are trying to get exercising equipment to be moved outside, which would give access to students. She said they really are trying to get access and opportunities with the fees they do have access to, to provide options to students. Slaughter said on the AS Chico website (as.csuchico.edu), under About AS, there is a section called, "Where do my fees go?" He said It has been updated to basically illustrate everything the AS is doing this fall in a virtual setting as well as the few things we're still able to do in person. He said it provides a good narrative on both the Activity Fee and Student Union fee. Snyder said the AS doesn't dictate or determinate the tuition or University fees. She said the AS has some form of shared governance with the University where AS committees have faculty, staff, admin that sit on AS committees. She said regarding the University committees, they have student representation on the majority of those committees. Snyder said a lot of the AS officers, as well as students at large sit on those University committees and are able to be that student voice saying they want tuition lowered or they want University fees refunded. She said a lot of them on CFAC are advocating for, and progress has been made for that proposal for reduction/refund of IRA fees. Regarding AS fees, Snyder said if he wants more information regarding that he can go to the website as Slaughter mentioned earlier and can also reach out to Biedermann and Lopic as well. Peterson said on behalf of Davidson, "We don't have jurisdiction to make changes but we also have a right as student leaders to see the financial breakdown for how student fees are spent that we voted on." Peterson said she would share a link with the Board that was provided by Davidson. Holbert said the AS practices transparency and fee information is available. Clyde mentioned financials are also online and available such as year-end reports and audited financials. Biedermann said the Bell Memorial Union Committee oversees the Student Union fee, and the Government Affairs Committee oversees the Activity Fee. She said students are welcome to attend those meetings. Holbert thanked Davidson for his questions and noted the student officers have been discussing a Transparency campaign and will make sure they provide further information to students.

IX. ADJOURNMENT – The Chair, Holbert, adjourned the meeting at 4:02 p.m.