

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

Thursday, July 13, 2021

9:30 a.m.

Via Zoom

Members Present: Duncan Young, Taryn Burns, Kiley Kirkpatrick, Austin Lopic, Olivia Rosso, Tracy Butts, Ann Sherman, Tom Rios

Members Absent: None

Others Present: Jamie Clyde, Karen Bang (recording), Susan Jennings, Tom Rider, Katie Peterson, Sarah Fenton, Hugh Hammond, Thang Ho, Shar Krater, Leah Railey, Katrina Robertson, Eliza Miller

- I. CALL TO ORDER** – The Chair, Young, called the meeting to order at 9:42 a.m.
- II. MECHOOPDA LAND RECOGNITION** – The meeting was started with the reading of the Mechoopda Land Recognition Statement.
- III. APPROVAL OF AGENDA** – Approval of the 7/13/21 Special meeting agenda. **Motion to approve the 7/13/21 Special meeting agenda, as presented (Kirkpatrick/Burns) 7-0-0 MSC.**
- IV. ANNOUNCEMENTS** – None
- V. PUBLIC OPINION** – Limited to items on the agenda, three minutes per speaker, five minutes for entire topic - None
- VI. BUSINESS**
 - A. Information item: Review of Article VIII, Sections 2. And 3., Associated Students Corporate Codes – Restated Bylaws of Associated Students of California State University, Chico** – Young said he would like the Board to review and clarify the language as it relates to some of the situations with officers that were elected this past semester, to assure that the Board is being fair and appropriate, and following the Bylaws requirements. Burns said this is regarding summer training and elected representatives missing any or all of summer training, which could cause them to be removed by the Board. She questioned if this is fair or equitable for those that may have to work, noting that by requiring elected representatives to attend fall training, they may need to miss two weeks of work. She said that If we remove someone, we lose someone most of the semester anyway until someone is appointed. The Board reviewed Section 3. of the Bylaws. Young said currently there's a situation where an officer may have to miss a few days or entire session of training. He questioned if the Board needs to vote to remove this student representative. Dr. Butts requested Item V.G. of the Attendance Policy be pulled up for the Board's review. Burns said per the wording of this item, it could be interpreted that if the student representative gives enough advance notice, they could be excused from training. Dr. Butts disagreed. Kirkpatrick said the Bylaws does not state that absences with cause or excuse are not permitted. Young said his interpretation is that the policy applies underneath, not over the Bylaws, Kirkpatrick said per the policy, the chair of the Board could approve their absence. Kirkpatrick said she's confused about Item G. as it says they can be absent for a list of reasons and could be applied for absences if approved by the Chair. Clyde said yes, based on reasons listed, they can be approved in advance to be absent, including academic, unit bearing, reasons. She said those reasons for being excused can be made in advance. Unexcused absences include jobs. She said that we've had academic internships that students have been excused for. Her understanding is that this is not the case with the officer in question. Kirkpatrick questioned if they were working on business out of town if they'd be excused and Clyde said no, that wouldn't be excused. She said the most common absence is summer school class overseas, and the student doesn't get back until a week before school begins; this would be excused as it's tied to academics. It's considered a pre-determined excuse. Clyde said they run into issues with students' summer jobs causing issues. (Lopic joined the meeting at 9:55 a.m.). She said all scheduled trainings are set up far in advance and students are advised at the time they meet with Miller in one-on-one meetings during the election process, and it's also noted in the election packets, also tied to compensation, so they're aware when they run for a position. Young said he doesn't think it's necessarily just for us to define business as being to not include jobs that pay. He said he doesn't think there's a single position within the AS elected positions that covers living expenses and it's hard to justify students giving up a more lucrative position in the short run. Rosso added that it unfairly affects minorities and under represented groups that need that money. Burns said she was provided with tentative training dates and was able to work around training with her jobs. She said if someone misses all of the trainings, that wouldn't be acceptable. She said "such other leave" could be approved in advance by the chair of the Board. Young said this policy was approved by the Board, that three absences call for an automatic removal. Clyde said the Board has the right to

amend the policy if they feel like some of the pieces need to be adjusted, noting that it does state automatic dismissal. Clyde said she hasn't seen it happen in her six years with the AS but it would always go through the Board to make it official. Clyde said the Bylaws are essentially the rules, the policy is the interpretation and action of the Bylaws. She said students are removed if they miss training in its entirety. She said missing here and there due to sickness, etc., does happen and is a minor piece. She said her understanding for why the Board is meeting today is regarding missing the training in its entirety. Burns referred to Section 3 of the Bylaws regarding voting someone out that doesn't attend and questioned what would happen if the Board didn't vote someone out even if they've missed trainings. Clyde said legally they could do that, but it would certainly open us up for some liability as we're being very selective. She said she wouldn't recommend doing that, and as an organization we have to treat everyone the same and this would also have people questioning our integrity. Burns said newly chosen officers would also miss orientation but would receive the full scholarship for the fall semester. Scholarships were discussed and Miller confirmed that student representatives receive the full scholarship in its entirety, it is not pro-rated. Clyde said in terms of the scholarship piece there are some abilities for making up training and said we can always do more when it comes to training. She explained that the officers struggle without that training and agreed that those that come in later don't receive the same training and don't do as well in their position. She said the AS is complicated, with many policies and procedures. Sherman questioned if this student would be graduating in December and was told that is a separate issue. She asked how much training time would be missed by the officer in question and Peterson said it would be for the entirety because their internship continues until school begins. Sherman said it sounds like the Board is talking about clarity for a policy or procedure regardless of any individual. Burns said yes, that they would like to plan for current and future and noted that this person has chosen to resign anyway. Young said he reached out to the past three years of AS officers and they said this has been a problem historically. Sherman question the current urgency of this, and if they planned on making a change today. Clyde said based on today's discussion regarding equitability and making things better moving forward, if the Board feels comfortable regarding where everything sits, this information could be brought back to the Board for further discussion during the upcoming year, and the policy could be adjusted. Dr. Butts suggested being mindful of the equity issues. She said students may have summer jobs but the other perspective is that although we don't want to preclude people from participating due to their financial situation, they also have a responsibility to the students that they're representing and need training for that work. She also said we have to be mindful that policies are in place for a reason.

Rosso questioned a vacancy due to unit requirements. Miller said as an undergraduate student, candidates need to be enrolled in and earned 9 credits. She said they have run into a couple of instances of students not meeting that minimum. Discussion was held and Miller said students have to maintain certain grades and units while in office, and the "and/or" also includes winter/spring semesters. Young said this is for both running for office and maintaining office. Burns said she'd like to see this brought back to the Board for clarification. Clyde clarified that the 9 unit rule is derived from the Chancellor's Office (CO). She said we have a higher requirement here at Chico State, the CO requires only six units. She noted the previous Board chose to increase the minimum to 9 units. She said we have a high bar for our officers, we show up at CSSA and we're a school that is looked to for leadership. Clyde said they could adjust that down to six units but recommended giving themselves time to go through training and once officers get to know the AS, they would then have the ability throughout the year to make changes for the next year if they choose to do so.

VII. ANNOUNCEMENTS – Burns said Wellcat Prevention Services is moving to where the old Honors Office was, right next to the Hub at University Housing. • Sherman reminded to spread the word to everyone to get their vaccinations. She said onsite vaccination clinics will continue and the Delta variant is becoming a concern. She said young adults are the most resistant to getting the vaccinations and requested the students to be leaders and get the word out so we can all come back safely and not have to pivot again. Rosso questioned campus vaccine requirements and Sherman explained them. Rosso said it's important that AS officers spread the word via social media. • Young said CSSA was this past weekend and Michelle Davis, our Legislative Affairs Commissioner was elected to the Student Trustee search committee. Young was elected to the Internal Affairs Committee and will be serving as Vice Chair of the Audit Committee. He said we have a Chico State student on every CSSA committee. He thanked the Board for attending today's meeting.

VIII. PUBLIC OPINION – Limited to three minutes per speaker, five minutes for entire topic – None

IX. ADJOURNMENT – The Chair, Young, adjourned the meeting at 10:46 a.m.