



**56th Senate Meeting
February 16th, 2024**

I. Call to Order 2:40 pm

A. Call to Order

B. Roll Call

- Senator McCloskey
- Vice Chair Zaldana
- Senator Frnazini
- Chair Fess
- Vice Chair Wimberly
- Senator Bryant
- Senator Comeux

II. Adoption of Agenda

A. February 16th, 2024

- MOTION PASSES

III. Approval of Minutes

A. February 2nd, 2024

- MOTION PASSES

IV. Administrative Address

A. Administration

- **Dr. Anderson**

- Hello, I want to welcome the Mayor of Pensacola! I know it's been a while since I've been here, but I try to do some as often as I can. The last time I was here, I discussed the NCHC survey. If you received an email, I would like all of you to tame it, help inform our division, and understand the needs of college students. I want to thank anybody on the budget and allocations committee for allocating our funding. I know that was very time-consuming and taxing. They had very difficult decisions to make and had to cut 140,000 from the budget. The Green Fee is moving forward and doing a final vote next week. There has been an increase in bike theft on campus, and it is typically because bikes are not locked or are locked with a chain lock. Please

lock your bike with a U-shaped lock. Please be vigilant. We have a lot of moves going on in the division of spaces. The Dean of Students will be moving temporarily, and a notice will be going out. I know this is a busy time, and I appreciate your hard work.

V. Guest Speaker

A. D.C. Reeves-Mayor of Pensacola

- Hello, thank you for having me. I appreciate your effort to make your university a better place. I know one thing we can relate to is the parking issue. I like questions, and I was a journalist for 11 years. I like hard questions. A little bit about my background: I was born and raised here. Every stage of my life was impactful for what I do today. I graduated from college and came back in 2007, and worked as a sports journalist for 11 years. One thing I am very excited about is that people want to stay here, and they want to be here. This is a great problem to have. It truly is a blessing. Clint Stutor called me. I was serving as his chief of staff, and he invested a large amount of money into downtown. I worked for him for seven years, and I got to impact lives. It was an honor to work for someone who cares about this community. He played a big role in my life and set me up to be able to run for office. I learned to write in journalism, and then I worked for Clint, and then I began a business. I remember I had \$.53 in my bank account the day we opened. Thank goodness, we were very successful. That experience set me up to be where I am now. That set me up to manage and handle a business. I didn't plan for this, but I always tell people to do what they are passionate about because if you don't, you will not be happy, and you won't get where you want to be. I had all of these experiences that were important to me AND set me up to be prepared to run for mayor.
- The American Magic Sailing Team is moving to our port. They are going to be in the America's Cup, the oldest competition in the world. We have been working on leases for them every hour. Pensacola's chances to host a Cup went from 1 in 1 Trillion to 1 in 5. We are very excited about this opportunity. We are working on affordable housing through land development codes. It's not a bad thing to thicken your neighborhood. We are working on Baptist Legacy Hospital being demolished for land. I think that our socio-economic living situation shouldn't be separated. I think we should all live together. I've had some meetings with UWF to partner with the lab as well, hopefully. We are reforming parking. I'm here to make Pensacola the best city we can make it. We will leave the city better than we found it. We are

taking on difficult things because I'm tired of saying, "That's not my job." You have to try to take on things that aren't your "job." We feel like we are urgent and trying to get things done. Thank you again for what you do, but this work matters. You are doing great work.

- **Questions**

- **Chief of Staff Ryan Nolan: How would you like the college to help downtown?**

- **One of the keys to vibrancy downtown is university engagement. This campus is not downtown, but they are always open-minded and engaging downtown. There is more activity to support small businesses and add vibrancy. I appreciate UWF always being open-minded and always having conversations. They are always trying to help.**

- **Senate Pro Tempore Hicks: Favorite accomplishment as mayor?**

- **If we get the leasing signed on Monday, that would be first. Also, employee engagement inside establishments. We have done surveys and asked how we can help, and we have had the largest resume turnout this city has ever seen. We also have to pay people at a competitive wage. We have tried to fix things inside the building, and it's hard, but we are in a better place than were 15 months ago.**

- **FC Eli: Will Pensacola have a flag?**

- **We have had conversations about that, and I would love to. We would just have to execute it well. The contest for the flag is hard, but it can be done.**

- **Chair Bell: What is your goal for 2024 for the homeless?**

- **We have done a couple of things. Sometimes, vagrancy takes the face of homelessness. We have hired two community response specialists, Tom Edmundston, and they are going around and finding opportunities to help. They work through our police department. We have also started funding to help people get back to where they have a family. We have set aside 1.3 million dollars for help with a low-barrier shelter. We have to get people off the street. Gainesville was able to lower visual homelessness by 53%. We think this shelter will help. Affordable housing, fentanyl, and homelessness are**

affecting every city in America. We owe it to our city to be better.

- **FC Ethan- What are you doing about recycling?**
 - **The market needs market to be recycled. Lots of recycling materials were going to the dump anyway. We would have had to up all the bills to keep doing it wrong anyway. This is a hard message to deliver. We have opened facilities to help actually recycle. We only want to isolate the people who are actually recycling. We hit pause on a broken system. This is a complex system with lots of different variables.**
 - **The parking issue is not cost; it's revenue. People do not mind the cost; they want more available spaces. There are more safety features now.**

VI. *Appointments*

A. Lisa Echabor - Senator

- **Hello, I am a junior and a nursing student. Thank you for this opportunity. It has been so good to learn more about SGA. I transferred here, and I was just looking to get into student involvement. I want to understand where our funds go and create more opportunities on campus. It will be really great to work with you all, but I would love to learn and be here with you all.**
- **Questions**
 - **What was your last position at your last SGA?**
 - **At my last SGA, I was the Diversity Chair.**
- **Debate:**
 - **Vice Chair Cohen, In Favor: I think having someone who represents Diversity would be a good asset.**
- **VOTE: YES: 10 NO: 0**
- **APPOINTEE PASSES**

B. Nestor Silva Salazar - Senator

C. Lillian Hebert - Election Commissioner

- **Hello, I was in SGA my freshman year and sophomore year. I was the university affairs chair. I would love to be involved in the election. I have experience with SGA and some of the candidates; I would love to make sure they are all running smoothly and fairly so they can make an impact on campus.**
- **Question: What groups are you a part of?**

- I am apart of NHA and Alpha Gamma Delta, and I am a part of intramural sports.
- Debate:
 - None
- VOTE: YES: 11 NO: 0
- APPOINTEE PASSES

VII. Unfinished Business

- A. None

VIII. New Business

- A. None

IX. Executive Addresses

A. President Range

- Hello, thank you for coming. Hope you enjoyed the mayor. Senators are required to attend one Argo Rally event and one other event. We have everything together. Diversity Week is in two weeks, and we are working on Day at City Hall. I am super excited. Keep elections neutral in SGA.

B. Vice President Montoya

- Congratulations to Lillian and Lisa. This is a reminder that we need quorum and we need to start Senate on time. The Agora Table is coming into play.

C. Chief of Staff Nolan

- We have a signup sheet for Diversity Week; please sign up.

D. Treasurer Brown

- No report.

X. Legislative Addresses

A. Senate Pro Tempore Hicks

- Just a reminder: if you cannot make mandatory events, please let me know 48 hours in advance. I have sign-up sheets for Diversity Week. Please sign up for one event during Diversity Week. Please see me after Senate.

B. Secretary Johnson

- No report

C. Budget & Allocations Committee Chair Pogreba

- Hello everyone! I hope you are all doing well this Friday afternoon. It is nearly midterm season, so ensure you are devoting enough time toward your studies and completing your assignments on time. Since our previous Senate session, we have finished reviewing Annual Budget applications for Registered Student Organizations, Departmental Student Organizations, and several university

departments. I am incredibly thankful for my committee members and advisors, even with great difficulty in deciding on allocations. We will present our first reading of the annual budget bill on March 1st. In other updates, we have allocated \$8,980 in travel grants, most of which were group travel grants. We have the remaining \$6,770 in travel funds and \$3,170.00 in project grants. I do expect each of these numbers to diminish as we are booked with appointments until March 22nd. Remember, all funds are awarded on a first-come, first-serve basis.

D. University Affairs Committee Chair Fess

- No report.

E. Student Affairs Committee Chair Bell

- We have been working on the event in March. Please sign up for Diversity Week.

F. Freshman Committee Chair Jones

- Trivia night is coming up, and we are tabling on Monday for Black History Month.

G. Senate Addresses

- None

XI. Adjournment

A. Standing Committee Report

- If you are for the invitation from Dr. Anderson or the administration, please let them know.

B. Closing Announcements

- None

C. Public Statements

- None

D. Final Roll Call

- Senator McCloskey
- Vice Chair Zaldana
- Senator Franzini
- Chair Fess
- Vice Chair Wimberley
- Senator Bryant
- Senator Comeux

E. Adjourn 3:52 pm

- Motion to adjourn Vice Chair Cohen
- Seconded by Chair Pogreba