

Minutes

UWF Staff Senate

Meeting

via in-person and Google Meet

University of West Florida

April 14, 2026

The meeting of the UWF Staff Senate was called to order at 1:30 pm by Staff Senate President Ethan Henley.

Attendance was taken by sign-in of Senators and online participants via Google Meet. The following Senators were present:

Chip Chism, Nadya Collins, Sierra Ebert, Marisa Elmore, Zachary Farrington, Stephanie Fenner, Ann Gilbar, Ethan Henley, Brooke Karas, Mikey LeFevre, Sarah Reid, Alex Miller, Keyaundra Mobley, Billy Nelson, Angie Quenan, Monti Stone, Sandra Taylor, Pam Weeks, Ivan Zarate Rosas.

Proxy Attendance: Natasha Do Prior.

Absent: Olivia Ashcraft; Megan Veach.

Guests: Jen Andrews – Senior Administrative Specialist, Continuing Education.

1. Administrative Reports

- a. No Executive Report.
- b. No HR updates.

2. Guest Speaker

- a. N/A

3. Approval of Minutes and Treasury Report

- a. Motion to approve March minutes: Chip Chism.
- b. Second: Zachary Farrington.
- c. Motion passed unanimously.
- d. Brooke Karas, Staff Senate Treasurer, - there are no updates to the Treasury Report.

4. Supervisor of Elections

- a. Sandra Taylor, Supervisor of Elections – emails have gone out to perspective Senators; received some confirmations; next month we will work on nominating new Senators; this month we are presenting the slate of officers and presenting as is (no changes).
- b. Motion to accept the slate of current officers with no changes for next year:
 - a. Motion: Ann Gilbar
 - b. Second: Pam Weeks

- c. Motion passed unanimously.
- c. Five open Senator positions with elections in June.
- d. E-board slate formal elections will occur next month.

5. Committee Reports

- a. Emergency Fund Committee–No updates.
- b. ERAP- Staff Senate President, Ethan Henley, expressed appreciation to the ERAP Committee: Sandra & Angie for co-chairing and the committee members: Zach, Keyaundra, Ivan, Sierra, Nadya, Billy, Monti, and Marisa. Sandra Taylor shared that we met with University Advancement to look at coordinating ERAP around the same time as the Donor Dinner; also looking to collaborate with University Events to discuss their office overseeing logistics and Staff Senate volunteering; more details to follow.
- c. Hand to Paw- Senator, Alex Miller, - the committee is meeting next Monday for more discussion.
- d. Holidayfest–No updates.
- e. Textbook Scholarship Committee: No updates.

6. New Business

- a. Senator, Pam Weeks, shared a reminder about common fire violations - extension cords, overloaded power strips, power strips that are connected to another power strip, and fire doors being propped open. Power strips may be used but should not be overloaded and must be plugged directly into a wall outlet. Any newly purchased power strips must meet the UL 1363 or UL 1363A listing. Appliances such as microwaves and refrigerators may not be plugged into power strips and must be plugged directly into wall outlets.

7. Old Business

- a. Founders Week – Staff Senate President, Ethan Henley,– reminder about Argo Pantry Food Fight – competing for blingy armadillo; event tomorrow outside building 960.; physical items collected will determine winner.

8. Open Forum

- a. Senator At Large, Chip Chism, – LEAD Project – Argo Pantry payroll deduction campaign; \$1 donation per paycheck; comes out to \$26/year and trying to get as many people to participate; through efforts now 140 people are participating in payroll deduction.
- b. During the meeting, Ethan Henley, Staff Senate President, addressed a recent resolution approved by the Faculty Senate concerning the emergence of hidden camera footage involving university staff members. The resolution was passed to formally acknowledge the incident and clarify that the comments made by the staff in the footage regarding Social Work accreditation and curriculum content did not represent the official views, positions, or practices of the university faculty.

The Faculty Senate emphasized that the staff members in question did not have the authority to speak on behalf of the faculty or the academic curriculum. Furthermore, the resolution affirmed that the programs mentioned are in full compliance with all relevant accreditation standards, as well as state and federal laws. Despite the incident, the Faculty Senate reiterated its profound respect and support for the campus staff and the vital role they play in the university's success.

In closing, President Henley issued a reminder to all staff to remain mindful of professional boundaries during conversations. He stressed that when staff are representing the institution, they must ensure their communication is accurate, objective, and strictly aligned with state and federal legal requirements along with institutional policy, rather than infused with personal opinion.

- c. Senator Pam Weeks asked about the new UWF logo and if the nautilus shell will be removed from the front entrance. Staff Senate Vice President Zachary Farrington—shell still around for secondary academic usage; and the rollout will come out in phases internally; priority will be name badges, logo signatures; looking to implement by next spring.

9. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 2:24 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Angie Quenan – Secretary

Staff Senate Executive Board

President- Ethan Henley

Vice President – Zachary Farrington

Supervisor of Elections- Sandra Taylor

Secretary- Angie Quenan

Treasurer- Brooke Karas

Senator at Large- Chip Chism

Communications- Olivia Ashcraft