

Minutes

UWF Staff Senate

Meeting

via Google Meet

University of West Florida

August 12, 2025

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

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

Olivia Ashcraft, Chip Chism, Nadya Collins, Sierra Ebert, Zachary Farrington, Ann Gilbar, Ethan Henley, Brooke Karas, Mikey LeFevre, Sarah Madaris, Alex Miller, Keyaundra Mobley, Billy Nelson; Angie Quenan, Monti Stone, Sandra Taylor, Megan Veach, Ivan Zarate Rosas.

Proxy Attendance: N/A

Absent: Stephanie Fenner; Brett Haskell; Pam Weeks.

Guests: Manny Diaz, Jr. – Interim University President; Dr. Clifford Humphrey; Dr. Lane Lambert; Lindsey Hampton.

Administrative Reports

1. Executive Report – Manny Diaz, Jr. – Interim University President.

- a. Upcoming Board of Trustees meeting on Thursday; changed the way we brief our board; we used to get the agenda and if any questions would meet with individual members of the senior staff; changed the format – a little more time intensive now; meetings are now where everyone is in one room that has an item on the agenda and allows time for board members to go through everything on the agenda; allowing them to have questions, comments, clarify anything. The goal is to have our full board meetings and committee meetings a little more efficient. President Diaz invited Staff Senate to let board members know of any items that may affect or need a point of clarification on an item to let board members know; looking forward to dialogue with Staff Senate moving forward.
- b. President Diaz is making his way around campus as his schedule allows and is looking forward to opportunities meeting people on campus; seeing the great things going on here at UWF; so far has had a lot of great feedback.

- c. Senator Ann Gilbar shared her gratitude to President Diaz for visiting the Emerald Coast Campus and meeting with NWFSC President. President Diaz shared the meeting was productive; were able to resolve some items that could be beneficial for both institutions; sharing some space with NWFSC; looking to enhance space for cybersecurity lab in conjunction with NWFSC; also discussed the possibility of enhancing signage on their campus; excited about partnership with NWFSC which will hopefully provide growth. Also had two productive visits the same day to Eglin and Hurlbert; received great feedback from commanding officers and are currently engaging with them to try to enhance the presence of Emerald Coast; will continue to enhance that campus for students and staff as we continue to improve that campus; watching and taking an approach to expand further east.

2. Approval of Minutes and Treasury Report

Motion to approve the June Meeting Minutes.

Motion: Sandra Taylor.

Second by: Zachary Farrington.

Passed unanimously.

Staff Senate Treasurer, Brooke Karas, shared there are no updates to the Treasury Report.

3. Supervisor of Elections

- Sandra Taylor: motion to nominate Olivia Ashcraft for the Communication Officer position.
 - i. Second: Chip Chism.
 - ii. Passed unanimously.
- Motion to accept Olivia as Communication Officer: Zachary Farrington
- Second: Sandra Taylor.
- Passed unanimously.

5. Committee Reports

- Employee Emergency Fund Committee – Staff Senate Treasurer, Brooke Karas, shared there are no new updates.
- ERAP – no updates.
- Hand to Paw –no updates.
- Holidayfest – Ethan Henley – no updates.
- Textbook Scholarship Committee – Sierra Ebert – no updates.

6. New Business

- a. Staff Senate President, Ethan Henley, shared a presentation and reviewed the roles, responsibilities, and expectations of Staff Senate.
- b. Discussion of adjusting the Staff Senate Meeting allotted time to 1 hour as opposed to 90 minutes. The reserved meeting space will remain unchanged.
 - i. Motion: Sierra Ebert.
 - ii. Second: Sandra Taylor.
 - iii. Passed unanimously.
- c. Discussion of Staff Senate Meeting Agenda Amendment to add a new section/placeholder after Administrative Reports for any Guest Speakers. In addition, Staff Senate would extend an invite to campus units that could present services or resources that we could share with constituents.
 - i. Motion: Ann Gilbar
 - ii. Second: Brooke Karas.
 - iii. Passed unanimously.

7. Old Business

- a. N/A

8. Open Forum

- a. Senator, Olivia Ashcraft, shared volunteers are still needed for Argo Arrival.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:36 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- Marisa Elmore