

House of Representatives General Assembly Meeting Minutes

Monday, September 7, 2026 | 6:01-8:10 p.m.

University Center, Meeting Room 222 | Presiding: Speaker Jayden Alonzo-Estrada | Minutes: Caleb Bishop, Chief of Staff

I. Call to Order

House Speaker Jayden Alonzo-Estrada called the meeting of the Associated Student Government House of Representatives to order at 6:01 p.m.

II. Roll Call and Establishment of Quorum

<i>Representative</i>	<i>Present</i>	<i>Excused</i>	<i>Unexcused</i>
Alonzo-Estrada, Jayden - Speaker	X		
Clark-Scott, Jess - At Large	X		
Holt, Juli - At Large	X		
Ruehmann, James - At Large		X	
Vacant - Representative for Disabled Students			

Quorum was established with three voting members present. Representative Ruehmann was excused, and the Representative for Disabled Students seat was vacant.

III. Approval of the Agenda

The Speaker asked for objections to the agenda. No objections were raised.

Action: The agenda was approved as presented by unanimous consent.

IV. Approval of the Minutes - August 31, 2026

The Speaker asked for objections to the August 31, 2026, meeting minutes. No objections were raised.

Action: The August 31, 2026, minutes were approved as presented by unanimous consent.

V. Public Input

No public input was offered during the designated public-input period.

VI. Officer and Advisor Reports

Chief Financial Officer Guerin Smith - Written Report

- Noted that the previously approved Designers at Mesa request represented approximately 10% of ASG's available funds and that the Student Nurse Association request represented approximately another 8%, or roughly 17% combined.
- Supported the nursing opportunity without recommending a particular House action and reminded representatives that many requests remain, that not every request can be fully funded, and that partial funding may be appropriate.

- Noted that Mock Trial sought support for two events and nearly all travel costs. The Regional and National Competition Fund is less frequently exhausted than the reserve and transportation funds, and the House may suspend the 50% funding limitation for a justified exception.

Senate Leader Logan Wilson - Written Report

- Reported that the Senate passed Expenditure Bill 27-01 for Designers at Mesa at the full \$6,540 request and passed Joint Resolution 27-01 establishing standards for club funding requests.
- Asked House members to become familiar with Joint Resolution 27-01, announced an upcoming Senate appointment for the Art and Design seat, and encouraged recruitment of additional House members before the biennial process.

President Elijah Jaden Lorica

- Reminded members to submit website biographies and headshots to Press Secretary Brooklyn Lee and announced an optional ASG training on September 8 in University Center Meeting Room 222 covering the biennial process, budgets, Robert's Rules, and ASG operations. He also previewed a future Pop and Pups event.
- Reported that Title IX Chairperson Stephanie Rubenstein was seeking ASG members to serve on impartial student hearing panels. Interested members were asked to contact the President for a referral.
- Expressed concern that Expenditure Bill 27-01 for Designers at Mesa received insufficient scrutiny. He stated that he considered but declined to veto it, urged the House to examine budgets, fundraising, prior spending, necessity, student impact, and year-long sustainability, and opposed relying on reserve transfers to correct overly aggressive spending later in the year.

Speaker of the House Jayden Alonzo-Estrada

- Reported that Izzy Cornelison had resigned as Representative for Disabled Students, leaving that seat vacant.
- Introduced Andre Martinez as the candidate for Representative for Student Safety and Mental Health and reminded members to take precautions during the current increase in illness.

VII. Confirmation of Appointed Representative

A. Andre Martinez - Representative for Student Safety and Mental Health

Andre Martinez introduced himself as a first-year criminal justice student emphasizing law-enforcement studies. He described prior service in youth advocacy and mental-health policy, including representing Colorado Senate District 24, vice-chairing a youth mental-health committee, mentoring seven representatives, coordinating engagement with state officials and approximately 45,000 young people, and helping prepare a 55-page policy memorandum. He also described two years of work with the Colorado Department of Law's Peace Officer Standards and Training Division and experience overseeing a \$105,000 conference budget. Martinez said he would apply that policy and budgeting experience to student safety, mental health, and responsible allocation decisions.

Representative Holt supported the appointment based on Martinez's policy and leadership experience. Representative Clark-Scott stated that his qualifications spoke for themselves and welcomed his prospective service.

<i>Voting Member</i>	<i>Vote</i>
Representative Jess Clark-Scott	Yes
Representative Juli Holt	Yes

<i>Voting Member</i>	<i>Vote</i>
Representative James Ruehmann	Excused
Speaker Jayden Alonzo-Estrada	Yes

Action: Andre Martinez was confirmed 3-0 by roll call as Representative for Student Safety and Mental Health; Representative Ruehmann was excused.

Action: Chief Justice Ady Bautista administered the oath of office. Representative Martinez took his seat and was added to the House roll for the remainder of the meeting.

VIII. New Business

A. Expenditure Bill 27-02 - Student Nurse Association

Representative Holt, the sponsor, read Expenditure Bill 27-02, requesting \$5,000 for the Student Nurse Association: \$3,000 from the Student-Controlled Reserve Fund and \$2,000 from the transportation budget. The bill identified 14 students as affected. No objections were raised to the bill's wording or content.

Student Nurse Association presenters described an international clinical experience in Belize for 14 final-semester nursing students. They stated that the November 14-20 trip would provide 40 hours of population-health clinical experience within a 90-hour course and contribute toward the nursing program's 750 required clinical hours. Students would assist interdisciplinary providers in village clinics through intake assessments, health screenings, patient education, prescriptions, dental-health activities, and daily guided reflection.

- Kambia, a nonprofit partner, would coordinate travel, lodging, meals, clinic access, supplies, local transportation, and safety. The traveling team would also include a physician, dentist, pharmacist, translator, EMT, driver, and group coordinator.
- The presenters placed the total cost at approximately \$42,000, or \$3,000 per student, and sought to reduce each student's out-of-pocket cost to approximately \$1,500. They identified a \$15,000 fundraising goal, including an estimated \$1,700 golf-night return and a September 26 fun run. The \$5,000 ASG request represented approximately 17% of the trip cost.
- The trip required at least ten students. If fundraising fell short, the remaining cost would return to the participating students, and some students could withdraw because of cost. The presenters said the ASG allocation would be distributed evenly through Kambia rather than tied to individual line items.
- In response to questions, the presenters said faculty selected Belize because the travel arrangement allowed more clinic time and presented fewer logistical and language barriers. Participation was voluntary among a cohort of approximately 47 to 48 students, and the experience had been offered each semester since fall 2024, subject to student participation and travel conditions.

During House discussion, Representative Holt emphasized the program's educational and clinical value. Representative Martinez asked about the allocation percentages by fund, and the Speaker referred members to the CFO's weekly budget breakdowns.

Action: A motion to open House discussion to public input was adopted.

Senator Darius Washington supported the request, emphasizing that the program would benefit both the participating students and the communities receiving care and that the organization sought only part of its total need.

Action: A motion to close House discussion to public input was adopted.

Speaker Alonzo-Estrada supported the request because it would advance the students' clinical education while providing direct service to people in Belize. No further House discussion was offered.

<i>Voting Member</i>	<i>Vote</i>
Representative Jess Clark-Scott	Yes
Representative Juli Holt	Yes
Representative Andre Martinez	Yes
Representative James Ruehmann	Excused
Speaker Jayden Alonzo-Estrada	Yes

Action: *Expenditure Bill 27-02 passed 4-0 by roll call, allocating \$3,000 from the Student-Controlled Reserve Fund and \$2,000 from the transportation budget to the Student Nurse Association; Representative Ruehmann was excused.*

B. Expenditure Bill 27-03 - Mock Trial Club

Action: *Representative Martinez moved to amend Expenditure Bill 27-03 to the updated version read to the House, requesting \$2,400 from the Regional and National Competition Fund for Mock Trial Club. The amendment was adopted without objection.*

Mock Trial Club President Gavin Peonio presented one combined funding request for the club's November invitational in Tucson, Arizona, and February regional competition in Colorado Springs. He described Mock Trial as a competitive simulated-courtroom program in which one nine-student team prepares both sides of a nationally distributed civil case and participates in four three-hour trial rounds. He emphasized legal analysis, public speaking, professional development, national competition, and representation of CMU.

- The club reported approximately 17 to 18 active participants and planned performance-based tryouts using AMTA judging criteria. The predominantly first-year club met twice weekly, and attendance would inform team selection.
- The presenter reported approximately \$2,000 raised through donations and prior fundraising, with approximately \$500 remaining after registration costs. MavRides had previously been a major fundraising source but could no longer provide the same support.
- Students would provide their own meals, professional clothing, and incidental personal costs. The club planned to use one rental vehicle and one personal vehicle and stated that rental transportation reduced liability and personal-vehicle risk.
- The presenter estimated combined trip costs, excluding food, at approximately \$6,550 and described the two bills' combined request before further amendment as \$4,975. Tucson funding was needed promptly; the Colorado Springs request could be reconsidered after the fall tournament.
- The Tucson invitational had been known since July, and the Colorado Springs regional had been anticipated since the preceding February. Tucson lodging had been booked; Colorado Springs lodging had not. The presenter stated that future fundraising would continue and could reduce the amount requested from ASG in a later year.

During House discussion, the Speaker recognized the value of competition experience but noted that the young team had not yet demonstrated a long record of participation and that the request included no student contribution. Representative Holt and President Lorica discussed the 50% funding guideline and the effect of reducing the request. Representative Martinez proposed delaying the spring request until the House could evaluate participation and progress after the Tucson event.

C. Expenditure Bill 27-04 - Mock Trial Club

To consider the Mock Trial requests together, the Speaker directed that the updated version of Expenditure Bill 27-04 be read. The updated version requested \$1,375 from the Student-Controlled Reserve Fund and \$1,200 from the transportation budget, for an initial fiscal impact of \$2,575.

Action: *A motion to amend Expenditure Bill 27-04 from the originally distributed \$375 version to the updated \$2,575 version was seconded and adopted.*

Discussion focused on the absence of student contributions, the club's immediate need for Tucson travel funds, the importance of the invitational, the cost of a rental vehicle, and whether the gas estimate could be reduced.

Action: *Representative Holt moved to reduce the gas line by \$575, from \$800 to \$225, and to revise the transportation allocation to \$625 and the bill's total fiscal impact to \$2,000. The motion was seconded and adopted.*

Action: *A motion to suspend the applicable funding limitation for Expenditure Bill 27-04 was seconded and adopted.*

<i>Voting Member</i>	<i>Vote</i>
Representative Jess Clark-Scott	No
Representative Juli Holt	Yes
Representative Andre Martinez	Yes
Representative James Ruehmann	Excused
Speaker Jayden Alonzo-Estrada	Yes

Action: *Expenditure Bill 27-04, as amended, passed 3-1 by roll call, allocating \$1,375 from the Student-Controlled Reserve Fund and \$625 from the transportation budget to Mock Trial Club; Representative Ruehmann was excused.*

Action: *After acting on Expenditure Bill 27-04, the House returned to Expenditure Bill 27-03. A motion to table Expenditure Bill 27-03 until November 16, 2026, was seconded and adopted.*

D. House Resolution 27-02 - Amendment to House Resolution 27-01 Biennial Budget Process

Action: *A motion to suspend the rules and read only the title of House Resolution 27-02 was seconded and adopted.*

The Speaker explained that the resolution would amend the biennial presentation process by limiting cosmetic customization of the standardized presentation template while permitting informational photographs, charts, tables, and exhibits. It would also require organizations to document each compensated position, its governing authority, office hours or duties, and requested rate, with additional justification for newly proposed positions.

President Lorica recommended delaying action because the resolution had only just been received and he wanted time for executive and judicial review. He questioned one recital, the lack of an official definition for office hours, inconsistent historical constitution records, and whether compensation was proportionate to work actually performed. The Speaker noted that biennial submissions were due September 25 and that delaying beyond September 14 would sharply limit the resolution's practical effect.

Action: *A motion to enter cross-talk with executive officers was adopted.*

During cross-talk, members considered defining office hours, distinguishing time physically available to students from other organizational duties, and requiring additional evidence when a compensated position exceeded ten hours per week. Representative Martinez supported accountability for paid work but requested clearer language and additional review. The President indicated that he could support a revised measure by September 14 if the proposed amendments were circulated in advance.

Action: *Representative Martinez moved to exit cross-talk. The motion was adopted.*

Action: *Representative Holt moved to table House Resolution 27-02 until September 14, 2026. The motion was seconded and adopted.*

IX. House Discussion

No additional House discussion was offered.

X. Announcements

The Speaker reiterated that the Representative for Disabled Students seat was vacant.

XI. Adjournment

Speaker Alonzo-Estrada adjourned the meeting at 8:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted, Caleb Bishop, Chief of Staff