

# House of Representatives General Assembly Meeting Minutes

Monday, September 14, 2026 | 5:58-6:33 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 5:58 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              |                |                  |
| Martinez, Andre - Student Safety and Mental Health | X              |                |                  |
| Ruehmann, James - At Large                         | X              |                |                  |

Quorum was established with all five voting members present.

## **III. Approval of the Agenda**

*Action:* Representative Clark-Scott moved to remove Nathan McWilliams's confirmation item from the agenda. The motion was seconded and adopted.

*Action:* The agenda, as amended, was approved by unanimous consent.

## **IV. Approval of the Minutes - September 7, 2026**

The Speaker asked for objections to the September 7, 2026, meeting minutes. No objections were raised.

*Action:* The September 7, 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**

### **President Elijah Jaden Lorica**

- Expressed full support for House Resolution 27-02 while noting that he had several minor questions for discussion.
- Reported that the Senate fully funded the \$5,000 Student Nurse Association request and had tabled the Mock Trial funding measures for further consideration. He invited representatives to attend Senate meetings to observe their discussions.

- Directed newly confirmed representatives to Press Secretary Brooklyn Lee for website headshots and biographies.
- Announced Pops and Pups for September 15 from 3:00-5:00 p.m. in the plaza, weather permitting, featuring soda and puppies from Happy Little Rescue.

#### **Chief Financial Officer Guerin Smith**

No report was given.

#### **Chief of Staff Caleb Bishop**

- Reported that the ASG website was being reorganized to add a drop-down menu for meeting minutes and that the same records would remain available on the R drive.
- Invited members to email him with website or records questions.

#### **Speaker of the House Jayden Alonzo-Estrada**

- Reported that several representative candidates were moving through the appointment process, including two candidates expected the following week.
- Planned to introduce representatives to biennial materials and examples before the formal budget meetings so that procedures and documents would be familiar in advance.

### **VII. Confirmation of Appointed Representatives**

#### **A. Triston Rogers - Representative for Student Athletes**

Triston Rogers described his work as a CMU admissions ambassador, lifelong participation in sports, and pursuit of a firefighting career. He emphasized teamwork, communication, leadership, and accountability and said he wanted student-athlete perspectives represented in ASG while also serving the broader student body. He committed to listening, speaking up, and putting in the necessary work.

#### **B. Jamal Bragg - Representative for Minority Students**

Jamal Bragg introduced himself as a sophomore mechanical engineering major interested in student government and service beyond himself. Drawing on his experience as a minority student, he said he wanted minority students to feel seen, heard, safe, and respected and wanted CMU to feel welcoming to everyone.

#### **C. Zaira Garcia - Representative At Large**

Zaira Garcia identified herself as a political science major and criminal justice minor who also served as the Greek Council representative. She wanted to represent students beyond Greek life, emphasized the importance of minority representation, and connected the upcoming biennial process to maintaining access to higher education for students facing financial barriers.

#### **House Discussion and Roll-Call Votes**

No questions were posed to the candidates. After the candidates left the room, Representative Clark-Scott described them as strong choices with time to learn and grow into leadership. Representative Holt raised no objections and expected them to be good additions as they learned the process. Representative Martinez described them as enthusiastic and eager to represent students. The Speaker confirmed that each candidate understood the additional time commitment required during biennial meetings.

**Triston Rogers - Roll-Call Vote**

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

**Action:** Triston Rogers was confirmed 5-0 by roll call as Representative for Student Athletes.

**Jamal Bragg - Roll-Call Vote**

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

**Action:** Jamal Bragg was confirmed 5-0 by roll call as Representative for Minority Students.

**Zaira Garcia - Roll-Call Vote**

| <i>Voting Member</i>            | <i>Vote</i> |
|---------------------------------|-------------|
| Representative Jess Clark-Scott | Yes         |
| Representative Juli Holt        | Yes         |
| Representative Andre Martinez   | Yes         |
| Representative James Ruehmann   | Yes         |

| <i>Voting Member</i>          | <i>Vote</i> |
|-------------------------------|-------------|
| Speaker Jayden Alonzo-Estrada | Yes         |

**Action:** *Zaira Garcia was confirmed 5-0 by roll call as Representative At Large.*

**Action:** *Rogers, Bragg, and Garcia were invited to take their seats and participate in discussion. Because the oath of office was not administered, they did not exercise voting privileges at this meeting and were scheduled to be sworn in at the next House meeting.*

### **VIII. New Business**

#### **A. 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 made and adopted.*

Speaker Alonzo-Estrada explained that House Resolution 27-01 established the biennial timeline and required financial worksheet, compensation information, and presentation materials. House Resolution 27-02 would clarify those procedures and establish consistent standards for reviewing compensated positions.

- Organizations would be required to use the provided presentation template without changing its colors, background, fonts, slide size, layout, or order or adding decorative images, animations, or transitions. Informational photographs, charts, tables, and similar exhibits could be placed in designated content areas.
- The resolution would define office hours, duty hours, and their combined compensated hours. A stipend equivalent to no more than \$10 per hour for no more than 10 compensated hours per week would be presumed reasonable when the position met the stated student-status, mission-impact, and documentation requirements; requests above either threshold would require additional justification.
- Organizations requesting compensation would submit position-by-position information with the completed budget worksheet to the Speaker and CFO by September 25. The material would be available to the House and at each organization's biennial meeting but would not need to appear in the presentation and could not be used to reduce a rubric score merely because it was omitted from the slides.

President Lorica asked how the ban on decorative images differed from permission to add photographs. The Speaker explained that photographs or designs would be allowed when they documented attendance, programming, expenditures, or another substantive claim rather than serving as decoration.

Discussion then focused on compensation. The Speaker explained that office hours cover sanctioned work in designated spaces, duty hours cover mission-related work elsewhere, and compensated hours combine the two. He stated that requests would be evaluated against each organization's governing documents and that compensation information would be provided separately by September 25 so presentations could remain within the allotted time.

Representative Ruehmann asked how the separate compensation material would relate to House voting. The Speaker clarified that the House would vote on an organization's total allocation and could amend that total after reviewing the supporting line items and compensation breakdown. Newly confirmed Representative Rogers emphasized that compensation should remain tied to the organization's constitution and the budget approved during biennial review. CFO Smith noted that defining duty hours would prevent legitimate

work outside the office from automatically becoming uncompensated, and the Speaker confirmed that post-biennial constitutional changes would not increase the ASG allocation already approved.

Representative Martinez asked whether stipends would cover only office hours and how duty hours could be compensated if not included in governing documents. The Speaker answered that the resolution allows office and duty hours to be evaluated together as compensated hours, but unsupported duty hours would not be funded. CFO Smith emphasized that the House ultimately approves an overall annual allocation; organizations use line items and documented duties to justify the requested total. No amendments were offered.

**House Resolution 27-02 - Roll-Call Vote**

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

***Action:** House Resolution 27-02 passed 5-0 by roll call.*

**IX. House Discussion**

No additional House discussion was offered.

The Speaker stated that he would prepare a biennial training packet for the representatives.

**X. Announcements**

Representative Ruehmann offered a "Go Broncos" announcement.

**XI. Adjournment**

Speaker Alonzo-Estrada adjourned the meeting at 6:33 p.m.

*Respectfully submitted, Caleb Bishop, Chief of Staff*