ASMSU Senate Meeting Minutes for April 21, 2011

Meeting called to order at 6:03pm

Roll Call:

Review Previous Meeting’s Minutes:

Mohr- Move to approve the minutes for April 14th.

Seconded by Haskell

Public Comment:

Mark Eggensperger- next week is Bobcat Fest, ASMSU always helps out by the senators handing out shirts. We would love volunteers. I heard what went on with hiring in the senate and I am disappointed in the senate. And I don’t think it was appropriate what the senate did, but the vice president and president did well.

Patty McGowan- I really support Cheyenne Stevens and I wrote her reference letter. I would like to encourage you to find it in your heart to give her a second chance.

Presentations:

Kurt Blunck- MSU parking services

I’m the parking manager, and my boss is the chief of police. Normally I come with a presentation but this time I came with questions from you guys. Fee increases- there will be none next year. They will be the same for permits. We’re also not increasing funds next year. Also our basic business model, we are required from law to be self-sufficient and it’s through fines and permit fees. The majority of our money goes to maintenance. Our long term maintenance goes to 2047. We’re going to being overlays, and it’s going to go to about $1 million a year. We serve multiple constituencies and most of the time they conflict each other. Everyone all has to find a place to park here on campus. Generally on campus between 10am-12pm we have 500 spaces open they just aren’t that close to campus. There are many spaces that are empty.

We periodically run a survey to ask students what they want, and we usually have a student representative on p-tech. Shelby Rogala is a great one though. We also come and talk to you guys annually, we talk to RD’s and residence halls. We have parking forums that students have always been welcome to attend to discuss issues they have with parking, but people rarely come. Concrete reform was a student group that formed this past year and we work with them and answer questions. I’ve got email, telephone and by appointment.

We have a long term R and R fund to yearly maintenance. In a few years we will be doing overlays. When we start replacing lots it’s going to go up a lot. This is why we set up money in advance. We don’t have money for additional lots or replacing lots we’re not trying to make parking tickets cover our
revenue. We are looking at making our collection more efficient. We write about 9-10,000 citations a year on average. We aren’t looking to write more. When collections are inefficient as they are right now it is hard.

The parking is not all very close, but there are always spots available. I can’t justify spending more money on a new parking lot when there are plenty of spots. We are looking at a software update in the next year. We are looking at a pay lot on the north side of campus.

We have 5122 permitted spots 134 timed spots. Approximately 8000 permits a year, but not everyone is looking for a spot every day. It is sufficient. We have a very low parker per space ratio in the state.

We want to provide you with the parking services you want that you are willing to pay for. We think we are doing what is good for all of our constituents. We do everything we can with the money we get from permits. On average, we think we struck a good spot on what everyone pays for.

If we think we are going to fill up the lots for events, we reserve those lots for those events and make other parking lots available for those permit holders. The Huffman lot has about 150 spaces per day the antelope lot has about 100 spaces a day. But they are not close as everything else. Also there is another lot by the fish and game on 19th and Lincoln.

We strive to present a fair and balanced spread of lots. Everyone wants to make parking inconvenient to someone else. They say people who live in the dorms shouldn’t need a parking permit or should park in F lot. Most dorm lots have spaces.

We budget to cover our costs and do not receive profit. Our budget includes maintenance, future maintenance, workers, etc. It

We’re here to provide services to the entire MSU community no matter if they are faculty, students, visitors, or events. We have parking available for everyone. Our constituencies tend to conflict.

Traffic flow is not part of parking services. Parking demand is managed by prices; raise the prices and less people use parking services.

Mohr- ticket writing is 8-20% or income? What does the budget for people writing tickets come to?

Kurt- personnel costs usually are a bit more than our revenue. But this covers more than writing tickets. It covers unlocks, plows, maintenance, enforcement. Enforcement is not covered completely by ticket writing.

Roden- what about a carpool lot to encourage carpooling?

Kurt- there is nothing stopping people from carpooling now, but we have not currently thought about having a carpool lot.

Bernard- how would you address such concerns about people’s safety when walking to or from lots at night?
Many years ago when we looked at adding a parking garage, we did a survey on concerns of safety with that. Currently, we haven’t had any attacks on campus going to or from parking lots. This is why we have patrolling and escorts. We found that very few people were concerned about safety with parking and length to walk to a lot. Our services are open 24 hours a day. Officers are glad to provide escorts. I have gotten reports that the escorts take a while. The average is about 4 minutes though. Which seems very good, if we were to try to decrease that, we would need more officers.

Grismer- do you sell more SB permits?

Kurt- yes we do, because there is more SB parking. We now have on our website, and there is an interactive parking map and it shows about what parking availability will be. We hired students and counted spots and times and turned all the information in to a statistician so we have reams of data on it. We did a lot of work on that to see what’s open and when. It’s not an extra half hour to walk a bit farther. Just a few extra minutes.

VP Steffens- thank you for coming in tonight. Is it 8000 permits a year you sell? And the total spots?

Kurt- [restates numbers]

Pres. Bjornson- what about having a different paying system per visitor?

Kurt- this goes to parking demand management. We sell more reserved tickets than we have reserved spots and we have to manage it the best we can. Charging per space in higher demanded spots comes to cost, and we would need a kiosk which comes with many costs or a very pricey automatic system. If parking demand got really high, and we were very short we would look at those options.

PT Dawson- what about a self-sustained pay lot with credit cards?

Kurt- They run $50-100,000 to install them and I don’t quite see a need for it yet. I think it would be harder for those who use parking on campus.

PT Dawson- but to replace the current pay lots?

Kurt- if we looked at a new pay lot on campus we would look into that. It gets very complicated.

Unfinished Business:

Bill 2011-B-08 Committee Incentive Program

Rogala- so there are a few options on this, there really isn’t a need to pass it right now and it’s still not quite right. There has been some talk in exec in the bonus and incentive reviews, it will probably change. And there is the option of cutting the bonus completely. That would be easy and we could strike the entire director bonus section.

French- if we were to postpone it until the fall then we would have ten days before elections again.
Pres. Bjornson- before we used to have very low stipends and bonuses were at a max of 300, and we have substantially increased the stipends, to a point that I believe the goals of the programs insures the transitioning is part of the job and we expect it not something to reward.

Rogala-move to approve.
Seconded by Lawson

Rogala- move to strike section 382-1 through 382-7.
Seconded by Lawson

French- if we strike that whole section, will there be a program for program director of the year reward. Is the award already in place?
PT Dawson- no not currently just a plaque.

Pres. Bjornson- do you want something in the bylaws? There is not currently.
PT Dawson- but every year we chose a program director of the year, it just doesn’t involve money.
16-1-1 (Rogala no, Krueger and Bernard abstain)

Rogala- move to approve
Seconded by French
17-0-1 (Bernard abstains)

Bill 2011-B-09 Resolution Clarification
Krueger move to approve
Seconded by Mohr
18-0-0

Bill 2011-B-10 Stipend Review Composition Clarification
Rogala- I revised it and sent it to apt Krueger. It changes section 3 60-1. It changes it to match section 3 52. It also includes Sen. Roden’s transitioning section. The sponsors are the same as on the old bill.

Roden- I added section 360-1 lines 28-34 in an effort to get input from who is getting transitioned into the spot on how valuable the transitioning was.
Pres. Bjornson- stipend review used to give recommendation on what stipends should be for the following year, and now that this changed there ought to be changes to the stipend duties without a transitional bonus.

Rogala- it doesn’t actually say anything about a transition bonus in that paragraph. But it might be useful to have the feedback from the new program director about the transition for stipend check evaluation.

Pres. Bjornson- I don’t think that is necessary, I think it is the job of the president and vice president.

Bernard- (word clarification)

Rogala- move to approve

Seconded by French

Rogala- friendly amendment to strike lines 28-34 as well as line 18-22 on page three.

Sponsors concur

Approve bill 19-0-0

New Business:

PR Director position employment assessment- Cheyenne Stevens

PT Dawson- Cheyenne will be given three minutes to speak and vice president and president will also speak on why they hired her.

Pres. Bjornson- the committee thought she had a lot of passion. She had some experience from her past school, and she had some great ideas from that and some great new ideas. This is the confirmation process this is a revote. That is why we selected her.

Cheyenne Stevens- good evening, I want to start by saying I am not here to beg for this position. I understand this is very uncomfortable, and I feel this is necessary. The ASMSU mission states, and I feel that my fees paid to ASMSU. On April 1st, I was excited to hear I was hired. I helped hire the marketing specialist. I met new people and started the job. At the time I had not been told that I was still to be appointed by the senate. Three weeks later I was informed I did not receive the job. Upon hearing the news I was confused and hurt, I felt I was successful, and I felt that I was sufficient. I am very involved on campus, and I have to prioritize everything I do. I don’t regret my involvement, but this did take away from my other activities and school work. When I was told that the meeting was confidential and that I just wasn’t confirmed I was very confused. I am currently a temp position in the CE office and I have previously worked in PR before. It has come from my reference. As a fee paying constituent I feel it was unfair, and I hope for more transparency in this HR process. I feel this organization should focus on support and trust rather than mistakes and criticism. I hoped to give ASMSU a positive experience, and I thought I could do well with that. I am sorry that you do not feel that way.

PT Dawson- questions?
Fraser- What are you involved in?

Cheyenne- NECO, QSU, American Indian Council- Powwow and basketball tourney, sustained dialogue.

Bernard- Thank you for giving the speech. How do you best juggle everything that is on your plate?

Cheyenne- it is a continual process and I do struggle with it. And I am continuing to improve on that. As a freshman I had a real problem with that. With a few organizations, I had to prioritize them lower than others. I am here for a reason though.

Rogala- what is your likely hood to be involved in ASMSU further?

Cheyenne- I would still like to be involved with it although it is currently awkward, I would still like to be involved in any outlet.

Floerchinger- would you consider yourself a self-starter?

Cheyenne- yes I feel like I have a lot of motivation and drive which might not always have the right focus point. I think my problem is I have more I want to do than I want to get done.

Floerchinger- do you feel that would get in the way with the PR director position?

Cheyenne- I don’t feel it would. I would be open to input as well.

Vollmer- where would ASMSU be on your priority list? Would you cut anything?

Cheyenne- it’s a paid position. It’s work and I would do the job. Right after school no question.

Vollmer- would you be willing to drop out of clubs?

Cheyenne- yes I would and I have already begun to cut clubs from the beginning of the year. I appreciate your time.

Mohr- move to approve.

Seconded by Bennett

PT Dawson- discussion?

Mariani- having someone come here and explain themselves goes beyond what the normal person would do. Especially after being denied.

Floerchinger- I think we should keep Monday in mind.

PT Dawson- dump truck voting. Yes to approve or a no to not approve. Please no talking.

10-11-0

PT Dawson- motion fails
Resolution 2011-R-13 Stadium Usage

PT Dawson- (read the resolution)

Mariani- this comes personally to me because of lacrosse but I am not only coming at this one sides. I am liaison for club sports, and no one can be outside for a game in the spring because of the snow. They plow the stadium. We realize how important the stadium is for student morale, and football hogs that. It belongs to the school. And just because the club sports do not follow under NCAA.

Krueger – this has been in the works since last October.

French- what happened in the previous meeting?

PT Dawson- slashed what is in the parentheses.

Pres. Bjornson- RSO is a widely used as an acronym. I met with peter fields and it came up and he very much supports this and getting a group to come up with how many uses and he wants details worked out with the students.

West move to approve

Seconded by French

16-0-0

Stipend Review- approval of yearend bonuses

Pres. Bjornson- there is a rule that bylaws are not effective until later. What joey is about to talk about is ok by the bylaws?

VP Steffens-stipend review met this morning for transition bonuses. It is up to senate to approve or disapprove.3,037.60

Fraser- move to approve

Seconded by Vollmer

Krueger- I support the stipend review and trust their verdict

French- can we find out who applied and who received the bonus?

VP Steffens- if senate would like to know specifics, then we would have to completely change procedure. We would have to have each person come in and give a presentation if we were to change this.
Grismer- everything we did early is still fine?
15-0-0

Confirming new hires

VP Steffens- as you know, we have not approved business manager yet. The way ASMSU is structured, the incoming admin has no say in who should be business manager.

BM Thrasher- Brandy, Amanda Diehl, Chad Dawson, Derrick Krueger, Scott Roden and myself in the hiring committee.

PT Dawson- questions?

Steffens- business manager and PR director tonight.

French- move to approve business manager

Seconded by Roden

West- any comments about her from Thrasher or Roden?

BM Thrasher- she has an accounting background. We had a Skype interview, because she is in Ireland as study abroad. She was asking questions before she had already applied. She is very invested already.

Roden- she was very professional and has the qualifications where she can hit the ground running.

16-0-0

VP Steffens- for the PR director position, Bethany Cordell was selected.

Fraser- comments?

Pres Bjornson, Murdock, colleen and myself. When she was selected, she has worked with the mariners and organized events and did PR for that.

Mariani- was she an original applicant?

VP Steffens- no she was not she is currently marketing specialist?

Kolar- why change her position?

VP Steffens- because she already has much experience with pr.

Pres. Bjornson- when we conducted interviews, one question we asked, was if not selected for this position, would they consider another position. PR and marketing should be considered for the same positions.
West- will we have to reconfirm and rehire a marketing specialist?

Pres. Bjornson- no. we already selected one.

Roden- do we have a whole in the marketing position?

Pres. Bjornson- yes but there are people lined up.

Hinkle- move to approve
Seconded by French

PT Dawson-discussion?

16-0-0

VP Steffens- our selection for marketing specialist is Ben Scott. He was an incredible candidate who finished right behind Bethany for that position. He just won two awards for business.

West- move to approve
Seconded by Vollmer

15-0-1 (Floerchinger abstained)

Admin Reports:

Pres. Bjornson- Go Cats! Sen. French asked about the bus. And that was the bus you saw they did receive it. Last Friday I went to the board of regent meeting and it was really sad. We are cut $1 million which will have to come in increases of tuition and cuts. Pres. Cruzado still says the fight is not over. I heard the senate is working to put 12 million back in higher education. My comment was that if tuition was to be increased it should be increased across all campuses, not just UM and MSU. We can’t wait much longer to see how much tuition will be next year. When we know how much we have, that will be budgeting council’s job which I also sit on. I will keep you informed.

The Museum of the Rockies board of trustees’ board meeting was about upgrading the planetarium. There have been may complains about the 22 year old planetarium being out of date.

Fund drive- I asked Ellen for more information. There is 76,000 dollars in. the numbers cross over two fiscal years, and so it is very difficult to decipher.

Dean of students search is down to four and those candidates will be on campus next week Monday through Thursday. There is a special session for students to ask them questions and includes free lunch.

Public comment- Erica Lawson- this is a great opportunity and you should really go and ask questions because they all will answer differently have different agendas

Pres. Bjornson- its 12-1 everyday they are here in the procrastinator theater.
Erica Lawson- the Monday candidate is in sub room 233.

Pres. Bjornson- (reads candidates and the days they will be here and current job titles- available online) move in day for next fall is Wednesday august 24th. I think it would be great for our organization to help out.

VP Steffens- the adventure was a great time. Thank you for coming. I would like to send a thank you card to the leadership institute. I am passing it around. Next year I would like to set the date before the end of this year. ASMSU banquet is next week. Please sign up. Monday the 25th 5:15-6:15 is an open forum about the tobacco free campus initiative.

BM Thrasher- This is my last senate meeting. Thank you for this experience with ASMSU.

PT Dawson- the way we confirm is done the exact same was at ASUM except they bring everyone in and question them during a meeting. Thank you for your hard work this year. And thank you to the people in the audience for coming to the meetings so regularly

Apt Krueger- finance board we were looking for one more application. Finance club and business club members are very interested in that.

Fraser- this will be my last meeting I will be moving

Senate Reports:

Vollmer- I have been working on the “bobcat shuttle” I have been working with karst stage and have numbers. For orientations, we will be running the shuttles on Sundays before they start and one shuttle Monday morning and shuttles all day on Wednesday. In the fall, we won’t be doing trips back to the airport, but will be shuttling to the university.

2800/session mostly for the fall session, and still working on that number. Assuming 15,000 total. We have options for funding. I hope ASMSU can put in a good chunk of that, and with the dean of students and the office of the president and other clubs. Also we will look to local businesses so we would have them buy ad slots for a map and advertisement on it. I think we can definitely do this. We need help for everyone. We need people on the bus to meet people. Especially from MSU. We will have an online presentation system and we will still have emails and phone calls. We would like some senators to commit some time to do this. I have signup sheets for help.

Mariani- how often will they run?

Vollmer- every hour they will run on Sunday before orientation. If ASMSU chose not to fund this at all, it would come to $12 a student to be fully from karst stage.

Roden- Grismer and I met with Stacey Ray, and she wants more involvement from the senate for show ideas and such. She is working on a show for the freshman convocation. She’s looking at artists from across the country and the state also. She wants a stronger relationship with the senate.
West- I met with Eric Dietrich and had a good conversation with him. They are continuing to think of new improvements and such.

Lawson- the voice center is taking steps to remove itself from other organizations so that it does not have political view leanings. They will be working more separately.

Mariani- so parking services is not going to be able to update until 2027?

Rogala- That is the current running plan. And they are basing numbers off what they have to work on now. They also said they would like to come in again after the fall transition.

**Announcements:**

**Adjourn Meeting:**

Krueger- move to adjourn

Seconded by Mohr

**Meeting adjourned at 8:20 pm**