

# PUBLIC

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING MINUTES

**HELD ON:** 30 August 2024  
**TIME:** 1.00 to 3.30pm  
**LOCATION:** Cullen Room or Online via Zoom

### BOARD OF DIRECTORS

|                            |  |
|----------------------------|--|
| Bryson Constable (BC)      | President, Chair – joined in person          |
| Benjamin (Ben) Hines (BH)  | Vice President – joined in person            |
| James Dwyer (JD)           | Honorary Treasurer – joined in person        |
| Julia Lim (JL)             | Honorary Secretary – joined in person        |
| Grace Porter (GP)          | Director – joined in person                  |
| Grace Wallman (GW)         | Director – joined in person                  |
| Sargun Saluja (SS)         | Director – joined in person                  |
| Ethan Floyd (EF)           | Director – joined in person                  |
| Georgia Zhang (GZ)         | Director – apology for this meeting          |
| Phan Vu (PV)               | Director – joined in person                  |
| Shirley Zhang (SZ)         | Director – joined in person                  |
| David Wright (DW)          | Senate-Appointed Director – joined online    |
| Tiffany Donnelly (TD)      | Senate-Appointed Director – joined in person |
| Nazanin (Naz) Sharifi (NS) | Immediate Past President – absent            |

### GUESTS

**Chris Watts** Program Director, University Infrastructure (UI) – left meeting at 1.32pm

### USU STAFF

|                      |   |
|----------------------|---|
| Michael Bromley (MB) | CEO – joined online   |
| Jane Coles (JC)      | Director of Marketing, Membership and Communications – joined in person |
| Jess Reed (JR)       | COO – joined in person  |
| Michelle Tonge (MT)  | CFO and Director of Corporate Services – joined in person               |
| Sam Trodden (ST)     | Director of Student Experience – joined in person                       |
| Geraldine Roffe (GR) | Governance Coordinator/Asst. Board Secretary – joined in person         |

## 2. Opening

### 2.1 Online attendance zoom link

### 2.2 Welcome and Acknowledgement to Country

The meeting opened at 1.15pm with Bryson Constable (BC) Chairing the meeting.

BC made an acknowledgement to Country and thanked everyone for joining.

### 2.3 Apologies and Leaves of Absence

The Board **NOTED** attendance as follows:

**Present:** Bryson Constable (BC), Benjamin (Ben) Hines (BH), James Dwyer (JD), Julia Lim (JL), Grace Porter (GP), Grace Wallman (GW), Sargun Saluja (SS), Ethan Floyd (EF), Phan Vu (PV), Shirley Zhang (SZ), SAD's - David Wright (DW), Tiffany Donnelly (TD), Michael Bromley (MB), Jane Coles (JC), Jess Reed (JR), Michelle Tonge (MT), Sam Trodden (ST)

**Apology:** Georgia Zhang (GZ), was an apology for this meeting.

**Absences:** Nazanin Sharifi (NS).

| RESOLUTION  |              | RB#81/24 |
|---|--------------|----------|
| It was RESOLVED that the Board of Directors move out of 'In Camera' to 'Out of Camera.' |              |          |
| Proposed: BC  | Seconded: BH | Carried  |

Honi Soit joined the meeting at 2.52pm.

## 9.0 OUT OF CAMERA: Public Minutes of the Ordinary Board Meeting held 26 July 2024

### 9.1 Draft Board Meeting Minutes – Public – 26 July 2024

| RESOLUTION  |              | RB#28/24 |
|---|--------------|----------|
| It was RESOLVED that the Board accept the Public Minutes of the Ordinary Board Meeting held 26 July 2024. |              |          |
| Proposed: JD  | Seconded: SZ | Carried  |

### 9.2 Review Public Action Items from Out of Camera Session Public – 26 July 2024

There were no action items from out of camera from last mtg.

## 10.0 Finance Report

MT took the finance report as read. USU had a stronger month in July. Stronger outlet sales, as there was one (1) additional trading day than same period in 2023. Strong month of investment income. Partly out of our control, as managed by investment portfolio managers.

### 10.1 Q2 Reforecast

BC asked on the performance of USU investments managed by Koda. The return has been better than expected and are we on trend for the longer term, or is it consistently as expected. MT advised she'll reach out to Victoria.

**Action Item: MT has reached out to Victoria at Koda to provide that clarify and that view.**

BC asked if there were any questions. There were none.

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| <b>RESOLUTION</b>  |              | <b>RB#29/24</b> |
| It was RESOLVED that the Board note and accept the Finance Report. |              |                 |
| Proposed: JD   | Seconded: BH | Carried         |

## 11.0 Executive Reports

### 11.1 Honorary Secretary Report

JL took her report as read.

PULP enjoyed Issue 16, with Issue 17 out soon.

C&S had a very long and productive meeting, due to new clubs coming on board. So much going on behind the scenes in this space.

JL advised should any Director want to engage on input into the Board Charter, please contact her.

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| <b>RESOLUTION</b>   |              | <b>RB#30/24</b> |
| It was RESOLVED that the Board note and accept the Honorary Secretary Report. |              |                 |
| Proposed: JD  | Seconded: PV | Carried         |

### 11.2 Honorary Treasurer Report

JD thanked MT for all her help with finances.

BC noting MB dropping off the meeting at 3pm.

**Action item: For Directors to advise JD whether they'd like to join the formal financial training which has been pushed back. If any Directors want to join any of those initiatives.**

BC investment review discussion thanked JD for this.

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| <b>RESOLUTION</b>   |              | <b>RB#31/24</b> |
| It was RESOLVED that the Board note and accept the Honorary Treasurer Report. |              |                 |
| Proposed: JD  | Seconded: PV | Carried         |

BC asked Directors if they had any questions on the financial training item.

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| <b>RESOLUTION</b>  |              | <b>RB#32/24</b> |
| It was RESOLVED that the Board note and accept the Financial Training for Directors. |              |                 |
| Proposed: BC   | Seconded: GP | Carried         |

### 11.3 Vice President Report

BH spoke to the Incorporation item and was pleased to see we are on schedule for consideration for Incorporation. Will manage the risk for the organisation on governance.

BH – constitutional arrangements are still with the USyd. BC and BH are meeting with them soon.

BH good to see SULLS have passed their constitutional amendments with regards to the USU.

BH still working on the working party structural reviews to effectively and efficiently run these. Should any Director wish to engage with these working parties, please connect with BH.

BC thanked BH for the work he has been doing on Incorporation, consultations are ongoing and thorough.

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| <b>RESOLUTION</b>   |              | <b>RB#33/24</b> |
| It was RESOLVED that the Board note and accept the Vice President Report. |              |                 |
| Proposed: JD  | Seconded: JL | Carried         |

President to hand over Chair of meeting to BH.

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| <b>RESOLUTION</b>   |              | <b>RB#34/24</b> |
| It was RESOLVED that the President hand over the chair of the meeting to the Vice President, so President can present his report. |              |                 |
| Proposed: BC  | Seconded: GP | Carried         |

### 11.4 President Report

BC presented a summary of content of the President Report. Wanted to thank JC and her team for all the work for the 150 Celebrations. Appreciation for all the work Marlow Hurst has done, as all of his tours have been booked out.

Important student unionism event on campus on Wednesday night was great.

Divestment working group – BC and other six (6) stakeholders have been asked by USyd to form a group on Divestment Working Group for the university. To provide USU Board on recommendations on how USU can engage USyd on the review on defence, security and other ESG frameworks. Will engage with other Directors for their input.

Inter-Union dialogue, ARC, Activate, UNSW, UTS, and other groups to meet to meet every trimester to share what other student unions are engaging on.

EF asked a question relating to the working group and items for discussions from meeting this morning. BC advised he is unable to divulge any of the confidential information but will circulate a comprehensive email on scope of works.

**Action item: EF asked a question relating to the working group and items for discussions from meeting this morning. BC advised he is unable to divulge any of the confidential information but will circulate a comprehensive email on scope of works.**

|  |              |                 |
|--|--------------|-----------------|
| <b>RESOLUTION</b>  |              | <b>RB#35/24</b> |
| It was RESOLVED that the Vice President hand the chair of the meeting back to the President. |              |                 |
| Proposed: BH   | Seconded: JD | Carried         |

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| <b>RESOLUTION</b>  |              | <b>RB#36/24</b> |
| It was RESOLVED that the Board note and accept the President Report. |              |                 |
| Proposed: JL   | Seconded: SZ | Carried         |

## 12.0 Verbal Portfolio Reports

Move to verbal portfolio updates and keep portfolio relevant to USU sense.

GP would like to bring up Student Safety Conference Working Group who met recently. Looking at recommendations from Onor Nottle (2023). If any Directors are interested in joining the Working Party, please email GP on this. GP thanked ST and her team for all the great work.

EF spoke to the Disabilities portfolio. Bit of a spike in report disability space in Manning lift. Being unoperational and is disappointing. USU to speak to UI.

JR advised we've been working with the lift provider. The lift is in process of being repaired but parts will be shipped from Italy, which will take time.

EF commented there are no sensory spaces or disability spaces had no signage. Operations/Student Experience. DIAP update. There may be a massive cut in essential services and there is a statement being drafted as SRC. EF invited to cosign this document with BC's authority.

BC wanted to shout out GW on DIAP work.

SS verbally updated her portfolio.

EF spoke to the Ethnocultural portfolio where there is lots happening in this space. Formally ask if an item can come to USU Board next month. BC asked if this is a query for the USU Board. EF advised this will need to be checked and will revert to BC.

EF then spoke to the Queer portfolio. Connecting with the LGBTQI at USyd.

BC thanked EF for proactivity on all of this work in the portfolios.

SZ spoke to the International Portfolio and has met with SS, ST and team to discuss detail of international festival. SZ has also extended an invitation to attend the ISRC from NSW. Will meet with BC on this next week.

BC thanked SZ and SS for input into making the international student event which will happen later this year a great one for USU.

BC asked if there were any other business before questions and answers from Honi Soit. There were none.

Honi Soit asked if there are any plans to refurbish the Abercrombie café.

There were no other questions.

Meeting closed at 3.19pm.