I. Call to Order/Roll-Call/Quorum

Quorum was met with 14 representatives present and the meeting was called to order at 7:02 p.m.

II. Swearing in of Representatives

None

III. Singing of the OSU Alma Mater

The Alma Mater was sung by everyone present.

IV. Approval of Minutes from Wednesday January 11th, 2012

Speaker Pro Tempore: I move to approve the minutes
Representative Van Bossuyt: Second
Representative Van Bossuyt: Question

A voice vote was taken to approve the minutes. The motion passed.

V. Standing Committee Reports

Ways and Means
Representative Van Bossuyt: We’ll meet after this meeting anyone in the house that wants to be on the committee for the night we’ll put you in. We’re hearing a few funding requests if you want to hear about that.

VI. Joint Committee Reports

Joint Committee of Congressional Correspondence
Speaker Hatlen: The senate did not meet yesterday so there isn’t a report.
VII. Delegate Reports

Representative Robb arrived at 7:07 p.m.

Representative Robb: I’d like to have all members of the appropriations and budget committee after this meeting to come see me. We need to schedule a meeting time and hold them regularly.

Representative Struthers: I’m chairing the relationship committee of OSA and ASOSU. We decided to postpone reporting our findings because senate didn’t meet this week. We’ll report next week in the senate and house we’ll have the report and the committee will introduce a joint bill next week also.

VIII. Old Business & Second Readings

JB-71.01 "Bill to eliminate suspensions during impeachment trials"

Representative Van Bossuyt: I move to table JB-71.01

Representative Brantley: Second

Representative Van Bossuyt: I think we should let the senate have crack at this based on the words we heard last meeting looking at them looking to edit it. It would be good to have them do it first, I suggest we table this and give the senate chance to do it. Its not a pressing issue but we should address it this term.

Representative Struthers: I was asked to table this tonight. One of the sponsors is in Portland for a school event and he asked me to table it.

Speaker Pro Tempore: Wouldn’t we send it to committee straight off. Send it to a committee set asid to review it.

Representative Van Bossuyt: I’d take that as a friendly ammendment to table it.

Chris Van Drimmelen: It would probably go to the student government committee.

Speaker Hatlen: Wouldn’t that need to be referred to that committee from the senate?
Chris Van Drimmelen: You can refer it to them I don’t see any reason why you couldn’t.

Speaker Hatlen: Lets table this and then vote on referring it to the committee.

Representative Powell: spoke with Alvarez and I think there are some changes that can be made outside of a committee I would agree with tabling it.

Representative Van Bossuyt: Call to question on tabling this.

A voice vote was taken to table JB-71.01. The motion passed.

IX. New Business

Representative Van Bossuyt: I move that this body formally request the honorable first Speaker of the ASOSU House of Representatives Mr. Paul Aljets come before this body to discuss the history of the current constitution. Further request that the 2nd Speaker of the House, the honorable Drew Hatlen, personally convey the invitation. Further the date of Mr. Aljets’s visit shall correspond with the first reading of the forthcoming bill to submit constitutional amendments to the student body, or as closely as possible with Mr. Aljet’s schedule.

Representative Struthers: Second

Speaker Hatlen: To clarify are you moving we wait until Mr. Aljets its available to introduce this bill?

Clerk Wolff: “I move that this body formally request the honorable first Speaker of the ASOSU House of Representatives Mr. Paul Aljets come before this body to discuss the history of the current constitution. Further request that the 2nd Speaker of the House, the honorable Drew Hatlen, personally convey the invitation. Further the date of Mr Aljets’s visit shall correspond with the first reading of the forthcoming bill to submit constitutional amendments to the student body, or as closely as possible with Mr. Aljet’s schedule.”

Representative Van Bossuyt: Maybe to introduce this next week. I don’t want to hold the bill in first reading but I’d like Aljets to come as close as possible to discuss the original
architecture of the Constitution. He was the primary author of the Constitution and knows the history of why it is what it is today.

Speaker Pro Tempore: Doesn’t Paul live in Ohio?

Representative Van Bossuyt: No

Representative Robb: I believe this would be very valuable in this discussion with a possible Constitutional amendment. Hearing from the actual author, his interpretation of what he wrote would be valuable.

Representative Van Bossuyt: Mr. Aljets is a scholar of Constitutional law among other things. He might be able to help us craft what we want to see happen in the future.

Representative Powell: I have a question to the intent. Is it to inform the body or to persuade the body?

Representative Van Bossuyt: To inform.

Speaker Hatlen: We will vote on this motion.

A voice vote was taken. The motion passed.

Representative Struthers: Do we have an update on the potential new lawyer?

Representative Van Bossuyt: I yield the floor to Amelia Harris.

Amelia Harris: Ok, can I talk now? So last week everyone should’ve gotten the lawyer proposal. Does anyone need another copy?

Representative Van Bossuyt: Has it been modified?

Amelia: No it’s the same as last week.

Representative Swalko: When will it be modified?

Amelia: I’m waiting for your input before I change it at all. I am hoping that you all have taken some time to look over it if I could get feedback now or later on what you think of it I’m able to meet with you or to take comments right now.

Representative Swalko: I talked to some international buddies, my European friends. They said they really don’t need a lawyer for any of this. They went through so many of these visas stuff before they got to the United States. That what they told me.
Representative Robb: I’m not sure if it was asked but how often is the legal services used? How often does someone brings fourth some of the things this addresses?

Amelia: Currently we don’t keep track of who asks for the information because its strictly that we don’t offer that service but ISAS keeps track of the referals to the local immigration lawyer in town. Its about 5 or 10 per week that get referred to one person so its probably around 10-20.

Representative Brantley: Last week we asked for a rough dollar amount. Do you have that?

Amelia: I haven’t gotten that yet. Its with all the snow it was a very busy. I will work on that.

Representative Van Bossuyt: If the demand is not there is a secondary function this lawyer can perform for the students that might be necessary?

Amelia: We’re looking into that. But it really depends on if you’re asking if we hire this person can they do something else?

Representative Van Bossuyt: Correct

Amelia: We’ll just lower their number of hours.

Representative Van Bossuyt: Can we do that based on the yearly contract? How does the contract look for the current lawyers?

Amelia: The current contracts are yearly.

Representative Van Bossuyt: I think it would be something good to look into if we can ask them to do something in addition if there isn’t as much demand as we expect. So we don’t have an expensive person waiting around.

Representative Swalko: Who do you think this will target? Do you have any idea of the international group in terms of being the Asian, Saudi Arabian, Europeans. How do you differentiate who’s getting that kind of service?

Amelia: This is not directly at an ethnicity or racial group this is for all students. Through the survey we can tell it’s in need for all. We don’t keep track of all the Saudi students that
need that. It’s not appropriate in this issue. We can say that it would benefit those who face a lot of visa questions about what happens if they get a DUI and if they’re on visa.

Representative Swalko: Have you got any word for a translator? How would that tie in?

Amelia: We have not worked on that.

Representative Swalko: My European friends say they don’t need that either. They’re pretty fluent in English.

Amelia: Definitely the lawyer themselves wouldn’t be bilingual but we do have in our office of advocacy a person who speaks Chinese fluently and he can help with that who are not able to understand English. We can look into that for this.

Representative Powell: I’m wondering the questions that are included on the survey if the international students know if they want to seek the advice about their visa status where do international students go to speak to about these issues? There’s no international attorney. Is there anyone they see or does INTO have someone with that knowledge?

Amelia: Currently the only place on campus for international students in general go to international students advising services, ISAS. That’s where they have advisors who help with visas. They’re not able to advise on legal matters and they’re referred to someone in town.

Representative Van Bossuyt: I’m wondering when we can see a full packet with the questions we’ve asked last week and now this week?

Amelia: It’ll be covered in the budget packet. I can send you a personal email.

Representative Van Bossuyt: No, I was just wondering when it would come out.

Representative Swalko: You just said recently this entire thing is for all students. But that’s confusing to me because it’s mainly for the international group.

Amelia: I think that this immigration lawyer we’re really trying to see what that’ll look like. I’m not sure these issues affect all students in direct ways but the immigration lawyer would be able to advise students. It doesn’t go to just international students to the US. It’s the US international students also. We want to make sure those questions are asked.
Speaker Pro Tempore: I studied abroad and when I met a lot of other people abroad. It’s good for people going out of the country like what do I do if I get in trouble in Europe. It’s a lot of people going out of the country as well.

Representative Van Bossuyt: Could we have it as part of the job description to provide advise to students going to other countries? For someone that wants to go work in Canada or Indonesia? Would that be something this lawyer could handle?

Amelia: Yeah, I think that would be fanstastic.

Speaker Hatlen: If you have any other questions I’m sure you could email Amelia. What’s your email?

Amelia: asosu.services@oregonstate.edu

X. Speaker’s Announcements

Speaker Hatlen: I’ve passed around an office hours sign in sheet for tentative office hours when you plan to serve those. Educational activities committee, I still need two volunteers for that if you have the extra time to do that we need someone. They’re ready to proceed on without our representation in that. Lastly I spoke with SIFC and they’re budget season is going to be ahead of schedule this year. Traditionally we have the SIFC budget joint session open hearing usually the first week of spring term. They’re projecting they’ll be ready February 29. I’m going to call an informal joint session with you guys and then send out a formal notice to hear the SIFC budget. Make sure you keep that date free and clear we need high attendance and you folks to be aware of the budgeting process.

Representative Powell: When was that again?

Speaker Hatlen: February 29 it’s a Wednesday. We’ll be hosting the senate. The place is to be determined its earlier than I thought for the joint session I’ll find a different venue than our 211 room.

XI. House Comments
Speaker Pro Tempore: Regarding the joint session, it didn’t go very long last year but it’s usually quite timely. I would plan to block out 2-3 hours for the meeting.

Representative Struthers: Comment on that, I recommend maybe the lounge. See if KBVR can come in, I don’t think we’ve had them televised before.

Representative Robb: The SIFC will be happening earlier that means everyone in appropriations and budget really needs to talk with me so we can get our meetings together so we can work on our packet for both house and senate.

Speaker Hatlen: SIFC will begin their budget hearings starting in February and they’ll meet every Thursday at 6.

Representative Powell: I have an announcement, I’m in the process of working on 2 bills that would change the structure of the legislative branch. The first would change our bicameral body to unicameral and the second would create constituencies for this unicameral body. There will be a provision included to provide compensation for the legislators. If you have any input on the bills you can talk to me after the meeting or email me back. I’m going to work with other congress people about getting inputs into the bill and campus leaders. I’ve talked to a few people from the house and senate. Thank you.

Representative Van Bossuyt: I’d urge anyone that works on such bill to look at the last decade for constitutional changes we’ve been that way before and the reasons we’ve changed to and from that to get historical perspective. It would be good to read the old minutes and see why it is the way it is today.

Representative Powell: Chris sent me the old constitutions and statutes.

Representative Van Bossuyt: Have you had a time to look at the minutes from 2004-2008? Especially look at what happened when we had a unicambral chamber.

Speaker Hatlen: Do we have any gallery comments?

XII. Gallery Comments

None

XIII. Adjournment
Representative Brantley: I move to adjourn.

Representative Van Bossuyt: Second

Acclamation occurred and the meeting adjourned at 7:32 p.m.