

**University of Central Missouri**  
**Board of Governors**  
**Special Plenary Session**  
**February 24, 2026**

The University of Central Missouri (UCM) Board of Governors convened in a Special Plenary Session on February 24, 2026, at 8:30 a.m. via teleconference. The meeting originated from the Administration Building, Room 204, on UCM's main campus in Warrensburg, Missouri. Board President John Collier presided over the meeting via teleconference. Governors Stephen Abney, Stu Rogers, and Ken Weymuth participated in the meeting via teleconference. In attendance in the Administration Building, Room 204, were Governors Mary Dandurand and Gus Wetzel II; University President Roger Best; General Counsel Lindsay Chapman; Assistant Board Secretary Kristen Plummer; and staff members Mr. Bill Hawley, Dr. Shari Bax, Dr. Cory Wicker, Mr. Justin O'Neal, Mr. Bob Walla, Mr. Alex Greenwood, and Dr. Brenda Moeder.

**Call to Order** - Agenda Item No. 1

Mr. Collier called the meeting to order and asked Ms. Plummer to call the roll. It was determined that a quorum was present to conduct business. Mr. Collier stated Agenda Item No. 6 (UCM Indoor Development Facility at Crane Stadium) would be removed from the agenda and not discussed at this meeting.

**Yeater Hall A&E Design and Related Services** - Agenda Item No. 2

Mr. Bill Hawley, Vice President for Finance and Operations, presented the information in the briefing paper under Tab 1 of the meeting materials to obtain the Board of Governors' approval to award a contract to Hollis and Miller Architects in the amount not to exceed \$3,719,232 for professional architectural and engineering services for the rebuild of the Yeater Hall building (Attachment 1). Mr. Hawley provided an overview of the bid process and stated the university had previously worked with Hollis and Miller Architects.

In response to a question from Mr. Abney, Dr. Shari Bax, Vice President of Student Experience and Engagement, stated that one or more of the Ellis residence halls would likely go out of service following the rebuild of Yeater. President Best explained how this aligns with the campus master plan to focus on decommissioning the residence halls on the east side of campus and moving all of the housing inventory to the west/southwest part of campus. The anticipated completion date for the Yeater rebuild is 2028, which will allow a couple of years for planning and evaluation of occupancy rates at that time. Dr. Bax reported the current occupancy rate for the residence halls is 81%, and 95% for university apartments.

Responding to questions from Ms. Dandurand and Mr. Abney, Dr. Bax stated that the current plans for the rooms in Yeater are suite-style, with the building intended for first-year students. Mr. Weymuth asked whether the estimated number of beds for Yeater was comparable to other residence halls, and Dr. Bax provided bed counts for other residence halls, noting some were above and some were below. Mr. Collier recapped that the project will be funded through university housing funds. President Best clarified that this was correct for the architect, but anticipated that, for the actual construction, some of the funding would also come from debt financing. Mr. Abney noted that when it comes out of housing funds, it actually comes out of

reserves. President Best confirmed that this agenda item should be considered reserve-funded through the housing reserves.

*Ms. Dandurand moved that the Board of Governors approve the award of a contract to Hollis and Miller Architects in the amount not to exceed \$3,719,232 for professional architectural and engineering services for the rebuild of the Yeater Hall building. The motion was seconded by Mr. Weymuth and carried with the following roll call vote:*

<i>Stephen Abney</i>	<i>aye</i>	<i>Mary Dandurand</i>	<i>aye</i>
<i>Stu Rogers</i>	<i>aye</i>	<i>Gus Wetzel</i>	<i>aye</i>
<i>Ken Weymuth</i>	<i>aye</i>	<i>John Collier</i>	<i>aye</i>

**Welcome Center and Utt/Grinstead Building Facelift A&E Design and Related Services - Agenda Item No. 3**

Mr. Hawley presented the information in the briefing paper under Tab 3 of the meeting materials to obtain the Board of Governors' approval to award a contract to Grace Design Studios, LLC, for the Welcome Center Architecture and Engineering Services and Utt/Grinstead Building Facelift Design and Related Services in the amount not to exceed \$2,853,427 for professional services (Attachment 2). Mr. Hawley provided an overview of the bid process and, in response to a question from Ms. Dandurand, confirmed that the bids for the Yeater and Welcome Center projects were considered separately. Mr. Collier asked if the university had worked with Grace Design Studios before, and while the university had not, Mr. Hawley shared that they are one of the largest firms in the world and have very impressive references.

Referencing the briefing paper, Mr. Rogers requested clarification on the 'innovative and cost-effective methods' that were requested to accomplish the objectives of the project. Mr. Justin O'Neal, Associate Vice President for Capital Planning and Facilities Management, explained that it is to ensure modern designs and construction methods are used in the project to make it look like an older building, but achieve it through the design that doesn't cost as much.

Responding to Mr. Abney's request for a breakdown of the funding sources, President Best explained that the funding plan includes approximately \$5 million in donor funding, \$5 million in university reserves, and the remainder in debt financing. Mr. Abney asked whether it would be possible to proceed with just the Welcome Center, not the facelift for Utt/Grinstead. President Best confirmed that this could be done, as the current request was to hire the architect.

*Dr. Wetzel moved that the Board of Governors approve the award of a contract to Grace Design Studios, LLC, for the Welcome Center Architecture and Engineering Services and Utt/Grinstead Building Facelift Design and Related Services in the amount not to exceed \$2,853,427 for professional services. The motion was seconded by Ms. Dandurand and carried with the following roll call vote:*

<i>Stephen Abney</i>	<i>aye</i>	<i>Mary Dandurand</i>	<i>aye</i>
<i>Stu Rogers</i>	<i>aye</i>	<i>Gus Wetzel</i>	<i>aye</i>
<i>Ken Weymuth</i>	<i>aye</i>	<i>John Collier</i>	<i>aye</i>

**Mules National Golf Club - Traditions Renovation - Exhaust Hood** - Agenda Item No. 4

Mr. Hawley presented the information in the briefing paper under Tab 4 of the meeting materials to obtain the Board of Governors' approval to award a contract to The Fagan Company in the amount of \$166,000 to provide all labor, materials, equipment, supplies, insurance, permits fees, and all other items necessary to complete the exhaust hood project at the Traditions Restaurant at Mules National Golf Club as stated in the requested specifications (Attachment 3). Mr. O'Neal provided a status update on the renovation project, anticipating everything to be up and running by June. Mr. Weymuth asked about the timing of the hood installation, and Mr. O'Neal stated that it will be about a 45 day time frame for when the order is placed for it to be installed.

*Mr. Weymuth moved that the Board of Governors approve the award of a contract to The Fagan Company in the amount of \$166,000 to provide all labor, materials, equipment, supplies, insurance, permits fees, and all other items necessary to complete the exhaust hood project at the Traditions Restaurant at Mules National Golf Club as stated in the requested specifications. The motion was seconded by Mr. Rogers and carried with the following roll call vote:*

<i>Stephen Abney</i>	<i>aye</i>	<i>Mary Dandurand</i>	<i>aye</i>
<i>Stu Rogers</i>	<i>aye</i>	<i>Gus Wetzel</i>	<i>aye</i>
<i>Ken Weymuth</i>	<i>aye</i>	<i>John Collier</i>	<i>aye</i>

**Residence Hall Roof Replacement - East and North Ellis** - Agenda Item No. 5

Mr. Hawley presented the information in the briefing paper under Tab 5 of the meeting materials to obtain the Board of Governors' approval to award a contract to DHI Commercial in the amount of \$395,436 to provide all labor, materials, and provisions necessary for the replacement of the roof on the East and North Ellis Residence Halls (Attachment 4). Mr. O'Neal explained the bid process and alternate options. President Best informed the Board that two other residence hall roof replacement projects within his spending authority have been approved, totaling approximately \$985,000 to be spent on university housing roof projects for all three buildings.

*Mr. Abney moved that the Board of Governors approve the award of a contract to DHI Commercial in the amount of \$395,436 to provide all labor, materials, and provisions necessary for the replacement of the roof on the East and North Ellis Residence Halls. The motion was seconded by Ms. Dandurand and carried with the following roll call vote:*

<i>Stephen Abney</i>	<i>aye</i>	<i>Mary Dandurand</i>	<i>aye</i>
<i>Stu Rogers</i>	<i>aye</i>	<i>Gus Wetzel</i>	<i>aye</i>
<i>Ken Weymuth</i>	<i>aye</i>	<i>John Collier</i>	<i>aye</i>

**UCM Indoor Developmental Facility at Crane Stadium** - Agenda Item No. 6

This item was removed from the agenda and was not discussed.

**Other Business** - Agenda Item No. 7

There was no other business.

**Adjournment** - Agenda Item No. 8

Mr. Collier called for a roll call to adjourn the meeting at 9:11 a.m.

<i>Stephen Abney</i>	<i>aye</i>	<i>Mary Dandurand</i>	<i>aye</i>
<i>Stu Rogers</i>	<i>aye</i>	<i>Gus Wetzel</i>	<i>aye</i>
<i>Ken Weymuth</i>	<i>aye</i>	<i>John Collier</i>	<i>aye</i>

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Attachments Listing**

**Attachment No.**

**Attachment Description**

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| 1 | Yeater Hall A&E Design and Related Services   |
| 2 | Welcome Center and Utt/Grinstead Building Facelift A&E<br>Design and Related Services |
| 3 | Mules National Golf Club - Traditions Renovation - Exhaust<br>Hood                    |
| 4 | Residence Hall Roof Replacement - East and North Ellis                                |