University of Central Missouri
Board of Governors
Special Plenary Session
September 18, 2026

The University of Central Missouri (UCM) Board of Governors convened in a Special Plenary Session on September 18, 2026, at 12:11 p.m. in the Elliott Student Union, Room 235, on UCM's main campus in Warrensburg, Missouri. Board President Stephen Abney presided over the meeting. Others participating in the meeting from Union 235 were Governors John Collier, Stu Rogers, Gus Wetzel II, and Ken Weymuth; University President Roger Best; General Counsel Lindsay Chapman; and Assistant Board Secretary Kristen Plummer. Governor Dandurand was unable to participate in the meeting and was excused.

Call to Order - Agenda Item No. 1

Board President Abney called the meeting to order and determined a quorum was present to conduct business.

University President Best reported that preparations to issue bonds for university projects have been underway since the spring semester, with plans for a fall issuance. However, with interest rates steadily increasing over the last few months, he expressed concern about issuing bonds at current rates for a 20-year period. President Best recommended the Board remove Agenda Item No. 2 - Issuance of General Obligation Bonds from the agenda.

Governor Collier moved that the Board of Governors amend the agenda to remove Agenda Item No. 2 - Issuance of General Obligation Bonds. Governor Wetzel seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

Issuance of General Obligation Bonds – Agenda Item No. 2

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

Appointment of University Treasurer – Agenda Item No. 3

Following Wilbert Hawley's departure from the university, President Best recommended that the Board of Governors appoint Ms. Kristi Harms, Associate Vice President for Budget and Planning, as the University Treasurer for Fiscal Year (FY) 2027. President Best stated this would return to the university's prior practice of designating the budget director for the role.

Governor Collier moved that the Board of Governors appoint Ms. Kristi Harms as the University Treasurer on the FY 2027 slate of Board officers. The motion was seconded by Governor Weymuth and carried unanimously.

Other Business – Agenda Item No. 4

With the bond issuance consideration removed from the agenda, President Best stated that many of the previously presented projects had debt-funding components, and without that funding, it would be difficult to move forward on those projects. President Best recommended that the Board suspend work on the previously Board-approved contracts for the Yeater Hall Rebuild and the Welcome Center and Utt/Grinstead Building Facelift until the Board provides further direction on how to move forward with those projects.

Governor Collier moved that the Board of Governors suspend work on the previously Board-approved contracts for the Yeater Hall Rebuild and the Welcome Center and Utt/Grinstead Building Facelift until the Board provides further direction. The motion was seconded by Governor Rogers and carried unanimously.

Adjournment – Agenda Item No. 5

Governor Rogers made a motion for adjournment. The motion was seconded by Governor Collier and carried unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 12:17 p.m.