

The University of Central Arkansas Board of Trustees convened at 10:00 a.m., December 5, 2025, with the following officers and members present:

Dr. Michael Stanton – Chair
Mr. Jim Rankin, Jr. – Vice Chair
Mr. Curtis Barnett
Ms. Amy Denton
Dr. Terry Fiddler
Ms. Kay Hinkle

Mr. Kelley Erstine was absent.

MINUTES

The board unanimously approved the minutes of the October 3, 2025, board meeting as submitted upon motion by Jim Rankin, Jr. and second by Amy Denton.

INTRODUCTIONS

President Davis introduced Ana Brandon as Miss UCA 2026.

REPORTS

President's Report – President Davis recognized Angelica Thomas as the Bear C.L.A.W.S. recipient.

The planned 2026 board meeting dates were announced:

- February 20
- May 21
- August 7
- October 2
- December 4

Audit and Finance Committee Report – Jim Rankin, Jr. informed the trustees of the business that was discussed by the committee.

Multipurpose Arena Feasibility Study Update – UCA Athletic Director Matt Whiting and James Swann with WER Architects provided an update on the feasibility study for the Multipurpose Arena.

ACTION AGENDA

Resolution of Appreciation – Terry Fiddler

The board unanimously approved the following resolution upon motion by Curtis Barnett and second by Jim Rankin, Jr.:

RESOLUTION OF APPRECIATION

WHEREAS Terry Fiddler of Conway, Arkansas, was appointed to the Board of Trustees of the University of Central Arkansas by the Governor of the State of Arkansas, Asa Hutchinson, in January 2019 for a term of seven years; and

WHEREAS Dr. Fiddler graduated from the University of Central Arkansas (then State College of Arkansas) in 1970; and

WHEREAS Dr. Fiddler served as chair of the Board of Trustees in 2022; and

WHEREAS, during his term as chair of the Board, the university made significant progress by (a) constructing the Windgate Center for Fine & Performing Arts, (b) seeing a 3.4% gain in first-year student retention, (c) seeing the highest Graduate School enrollment on record, (d) continuing the public phase of the comprehensive capital campaign UCA Now: Impact Arkansas and Beyond, (e) having no findings on the legislative audit report, (f) beginning the renovation of McAlister Hall, (g) approving the renovation of Burdick Hall; and

WHEREAS, during his time on the Board of Trustees, Dr. Fiddler served with honor and attended many university events and functions, and the university achieved important accomplishments, including: (a) completing construction of the Dave Ward Drive pedestrian bridge overpass, Greek Village Phase II, Windgate Center for Fine & Performing Arts, and the Aviation Academy Hangar, (b) completing renovation of Conway Hall, Doyne Health Science Building, the Student Success and Veterans Resource Center, McAlister Hall, Schichtl Studio Arts Building, Snow Fine Arts Center, and Burdick Hall, (c) announcing and implementing UCA Commitment initiative, (d) announcing the UCA Aviation Academy, (e) receiving the largest grant in university history, the \$30 million GEAR Up grant, (f) completing a successful search for provost and executive vice president, (g) concluding the comprehensive capital campaign UCA Now: Impact Arkansas and Beyond one year early and above goal, (h) unveiling the Poulter Commons and the Thomas C. Courtway Student Recreation Center, and (i) approving the Campus District Loop and Hydronics Refresh project.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Trustees of the University of Central Arkansas does hereby extend its sincere appreciation and gratitude to Terry Fiddler for his service as a member of the Board of Trustees; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this resolution be made a part of the minutes of the University of Central Arkansas Board of Trustees meeting.

Michael Stanton
Chair

Kelley Erstine
Secretary

Contract Review Procedures – Board Policy No. 416

Pursuant to Board Policy No. 416, Contract Review Procedures, the administration must seek board approval for any contract that requires the university to expend funds, at any time, in excess of \$500,000.

The administration is seeking board approval for the university to enter into contracts with the following companies/organizations:

1. Teamworks Innovations, Inc.
2. Massey Properties

The board unanimously adopted the following resolution upon motion by Jim Rankin, Jr. and second by Kay Hinkle:

“BE IT RESOLVED: That the Board of Trustees authorizes the administration to enter into contracts with the companies/organizations listed above and on the following page.”

UNIVERSITY OF CENTRAL ARKANSAS REASON FOR REQUIRING BOARD REVIEW AND ACTION (Board Policy No. 416)

Contract exceeds \$500,000

1. Vendor/Party: Teamworks Innovations, Inc.

Amount: Approximately \$670,000 for the four-year period.

Summary of Contract Information: The athletic department has an existing contract with Teamworks to engage with student-athletes regarding schedules, travel, completions of forms, and other types of communication. This agreement expands the services provided to the university and extends the arrangement for four years.

Term: July 1, 2026, to June 30, 2030.

2. Vendor/Party: Massey Properties

Amount: Approximately \$10,000,000 for the five-year period.

Summary of Contract Information: This agreement is to authorize the university to lease beds for upper-class student housing. The initial amount is 144 beds for the 2026-2027 academic year. The university will occupy all the units in three complexes: Orso Vista Phase I, Landis Hollow, and Long Creek Quads. The amount will increase to 216 beds upon completion of Orso Vista Phase II.

Term: July 1, 2026, to June 30, 2031. The term is for five years, but the university can terminate at the end of each year.

October Revised Base Operating Budget

This agenda item revises the FY 2025-26 original base operating budget approved at the May 29, 2025, meeting of the Board of Trustees. The October revised budget includes all permanent adjustments made through October 31, 2025. The total budget increased \$121,566.

Revenue budget increased by \$121,566

The increase of \$103,086 is from the Education Excellence Trust Fund (EETF).

The remaining increase of \$18,480 is from the Community Care Clinic.

Expense budget increased by \$121,566

The additional funding combine with reallocation within the budget is sufficient to allow for the necessary increases in Salaries and Benefits. The changes support necessary position changes and upgrades in critical areas.

The board unanimously adopted the following resolution upon motion by Terry Fiddler and second by Kay Hinkle:

“BE IT RESOLVED: That the Board of Trustees approves the 2025-26 October Revised Base Operating Budget in the amount of \$211,562,051.”

University of Central Arkansas
October Revised FY26
October Revised FY26 Compared to Original

		FY26 July Original	FY26 October Revised	Dollar Change	% Change	% of Budget
1	Tuition & Fees	93,100,346	93,100,346	-	0.00%	44.01%
2	State Appropriations	62,556,427	62,659,513	103,086	0.16%	29.62%
3	Sales & Services	407,042	407,042	-	0.00%	0.19%
4	Organized Activities	471,128	489,608	18,480	3.92%	0.23%
5	Grants & Contracts	175,000	175,000	-	0.00%	0.08%
6	Other Sources	3,797,412	3,797,412	-	0.00%	1.80%
7	Total E&G Revenue	160,507,355	160,628,921	121,566	0.08%	75.93%
8	Auxiliary Income	50,933,130	50,933,130	0	0.00%	24.07%
9	Total Income	211,440,485	211,562,051	121,566	0.06%	100.00%
10	Salaries & Wages	88,915,324	89,415,371	500,047	0.56%	42.26%
11	Benefits	27,387,246	27,535,241	147,995	0.54%	13.02%
12	M&O	37,326,753	37,319,906	(6,847)	-0.02%	17.65%
13	Scholarships & Waivers	30,507,647	30,507,647	-	0.00%	14.42%
14	Purchased Utilities	5,462,331	5,462,331	-	0.00%	2.58%
15	Debt Service	15,940,267	15,940,267	-	0.00%	7.53%
16	Transfers	5,900,917	5,381,288	(519,629)	-8.81%	2.54%
17	Total Expenditures	211,440,485	211,562,051	121,566	0.06%	100.00%

Financial Report – Terri Canino provided a financial report which is attached to the original minutes.

Certification of Sufficient Appropriations, Fund Balances, and Cash on Hand

In accordance with State Accounting and Budgetary Procedures law, the Board of Trustees is required to annually certify that the university will not incur any obligations without having sufficient appropriations, fund balances, and cash on hand available during the fiscal year for the payment of the obligations when they become due.

The board unanimously adopted the following resolution upon motion by Kay Hinkle and second by Jim Rankin, Jr.:

“BE IT RESOLVED: That the Board of Trustees approves the following certification and will continue to monitor the obligations of the university to ensure that sufficient appropriations, fund balances, and cash on hand are available to pay all future obligations of the institution when obligations become due.”

**CERTIFICATION OF SUFFICIENT
APPROPRIATIONS, FUND BALANCES, AND CASH ON HAND
TO MEET OBLIGATIONS FOR
UNIVERSITY OF CENTRAL ARKANSAS**

I am aware that the State Accounting and Budgetary Procedures law mandates that in no event shall any obligations be incurred by an institution of higher education unless sufficient appropriations and funds are available, or will become available, during the fiscal year for the payment of the obligations when they become due.

I understand that appropriations authorized by the General Assembly and fund balances shall be monitored by the Board of Trustees and the president of this institution to ensure that resources are available, or will become available, to pay the obligations of this institution and that no obligations are incurred that exceed available appropriations and funds.

Therefore, I certify that as of December 31, 2025, I have verified that sufficient appropriations and funds are available, or will become available, to pay the obligations of this institution of higher education and all other current obligations to be paid from the appropriations and the funds. The number of days of cash on hand as of June 30, 2025, is 131.3.

I also certify that obligations of this institution of higher education shall continue to be monitored to ensure that sufficient appropriations and fund balances are available, or will become available, to pay all future obligations of the institution when such obligations become due.

Michael Stanton, Chair
University of Central Arkansas Board of Trustees

Date

Houston D. Davis, President
University of Central Arkansas

Date

Acceptance of Legislative Audit Report for Fiscal Year 2024

In accordance with Act 4 of 1991, the Board of Trustees is required to review audit reports and the accompanying comments related to publicly-funded institutions. The act requires that the board take appropriate action related to each finding and recommendation contained in the report.

There were no audit report findings for fiscal year 2024. The audit was provided to management and was submitted for the board's review prior to the December 5, 2025, meeting.

The board unanimously adopted the following resolution upon motion by Curtis Barnett and second by Amy Denton:

“BE IT RESOLVED: That the Board of Trustees accepts the audit report for fiscal year 2024 as prepared by the Arkansas Division of Legislative Audit.”

Board Elections

1. 2026 Officers

The board unanimously elected the following officers for 2026 upon motion by Terry Fiddler and second by Curtis Barnett:

Jim Rankin, Jr., Chair
Kelley Erstine, Vice Chair
Kay Hinkle, Secretary

2. Strategic Planning Committee – (election of one board member for 2026)

The Strategic Planning Committee's membership requires one trustee be elected by the board to serve a one-year term on the committee.

The board unanimously adopted the following resolution upon motion by Terry Fiddler and second by Jim Rankin, Jr.:

“BE IT RESOLVED: That Michael Stanton is hereby appointed to serve on the Strategic Planning Committee through December 2026.”

3. Audit and Finance Committee - Board Policy No. 213 (election of one board member for 2026)

Board Policy No. 213 established an Audit and Finance Committee of the Board of Trustees.

The Audit and Finance Committee is composed of three members of the board. Under the board policy, the UCA Office of Internal Audit reports directly to the Audit and Finance Committee, and then to the UCA Board of Trustees.

Pursuant to Board Policy No. 213, the Board of Trustees is to select one board member to serve a one-year term on the Audit and Finance Committee.

The other appointments to the Audit and Finance Committee are (a) the board appointment made in January of the applicable year by the Governor of the State of Arkansas to a seven-

year term on the Board of Trustees and such person shall serve a two-year term on the Audit and Finance Committee and (b) the continuing member from the prior year.

Currently, Kay Hinkle is serving because of her January 2025 appointment to the board and will continue through 2026; Kelley Erstine is the chair of the Audit and Finance Committee and is serving his second year; and Jim Rankin, Jr. was elected as the board's appointee for 2025.

The policy also provides that any elections by the Board of Trustees shall occur at the last board meeting of each calendar year with such persons taking office on the first day of the following calendar year.

It is necessary for the board to select one of its members to serve on the Audit and Finance Committee for 2026. The other two members of the Audit and Finance Committee for 2026 will be (a) Kay Hinkle, who will serve a second year and (b) the trustee appointed by the Governor of Arkansas in January 2026 for a seven-year term.

The board unanimously adopted the following resolution upon motion by Terry Fiddler and second by Amy Denton:

“BE IT RESOLVED: That Kelley Erstine is hereby elected to serve as a member of the Audit and Finance Committee for calendar year 2026.”

4. Foundation Board – (election of one board member for 2026)

The University of Central Arkansas Foundation, Inc. bylaws require one trustee be designated by the board to serve a one-year term on the Foundation's Board of Directors.

The board unanimously adopted the following resolution upon motion by Terry Fiddler and second by Jim Rankin, Jr.:

“BE IT RESOLVED: That the Board of Trustees hereby appoints Amy Denton to serve on the UCA Foundation Board of Directors through December 2026.”

NOTIFICATIONS/DELETIONS

Notification: Name Change of a Concentration in the BS in Environmental Science to Geospatial Science

The Department of Geography is changing the name of the Planning and Administration concentration of the BS in Environmental Science to Geospatial Science. The UCA Environmental Science Program has three concentrations, and the Department of Geography manages the Planning and Administration concentration. Due to the evolution of the Environmental Science Program, the Planning and Administration moniker no longer accurately reflects the concentration's curriculum, or the professional aspirations of its students. Geospatial Science is a more inclusive name that encompasses tools, theories, and concepts from the human,

physical, environmental, and geospatial technologies (GIS, Remote Sensing, Data Science, etc.) dimensions of geography and environmental science.

Deletion of the Data Science Concentration from the BS in Computer Science

The Department of Computer Science and Engineering is deleting the Data Science concentration from the BS in Computer Science degree. With the introduction of the BS program in Data Science in Fall 2021 and the Minor in Data Science in Fall 2024, the above concentration is no longer viable. This is evidenced by the fact that none of the 69 Computer Science majors who graduated in the past academic year pursued the concentration. The seven students currently enrolled in the concentration will still be able to satisfy all requirements to complete the concentration if they wish.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

The board unanimously declared an executive session to consider employment or disciplining of employees, upon motion by Jim Rankin, Jr. and second by Kay Hinkle.

OPEN SESSION

The board unanimously approved the following motion by Kay Hinkle and second by Jim Rankin, Jr.:

“I move that all matters set forth on the personnel list discussed in executive session be approved.”

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the board, the meeting was adjourned.

Michael Stanton
Chair

Kelley Erstine
Secretary