

**MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES
UNIVERSITY OF CENTRAL ARKANSAS
OCTOBER 2, 2026
10:00 A.M.**

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

I. CALL TO ORDER

II. ROLL CALL

III. MINUTES

IV. REPORTS FROM THE PRESIDENTS OF THE STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION, FACULTY SENATE, AND STAFF SENATE

- **Ms. Talia Burton, Student Government Association President**
- **Dr. Joe Thomas, Faculty Senate President**
- **Ms. Sherita Kern, Staff Senate President**

V. REPORTS

A. President's Report

- **Bear C.L.A.W.S.**

B. Audit and Finance Committee Report

C. Fall Enrollment and UCA Commitment Update

D. Financial Report

VI. COMMENTS ON ACTION AGENDA BY THE PRESIDENTS OF THE STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION, FACULTY SENATE, AND STAFF SENATE

- **Ms. Talia Burton, Student Government Association President**
- **Dr. Joe Thomas, Faculty Senate President**
- **Ms. Sherita Kern, Staff Senate President**

VII. ACTION AGENDA

A. Contract Review Procedures – Board Policy No. 416

1. JSK Company Inc. dba IK Electric, IK Network Solutions

B. Insurance Services

VIII. NEW BUSINESS

IX. EXECUTIVE SESSION

X. OPEN SESSION

XI. ADJOURNMENT

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III. MINUTES

Minutes of the August 6, 2026, board meeting, which can be found on UCA's website, were distributed to board members for review prior to the October 2, 2026, board meeting.

VII. ACTION AGENDA

A. 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 in excess of \$500,000.

The administration is seeking board approval for the university to enter into contract with the following company/organization:

1. JSK Company Inc. dba IK Electric, IK Network Solutions

Therefore, the president recommends to the Board of Trustees the following resolution:

“BE IT RESOLVED: That the Board of Trustees authorizes the administration to enter into the contract with the company/organization 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: JSK Company Inc. dba IK Electric, IK Network Solutions

Amount: Approximately \$5,303,000 (total amount for seven years).

Summary of Contract Information: The university is utilizing the State of Arkansas contract SP-21-004 to complete a comprehensive campus network refresh, covering all core networking and edge switches.

Term: October 2, 2026, to October 1, 2030. The initial term is for four years, but the contract may be extended for three more years not to exceed a total contract length of seven years.

VII. ACTION AGENDA

B. Insurance Services

Health Insurance

Total projected costs for the university health plan in 2027 are \$16,536,110, an increase of \$1,674,059 over the previous year's budget.

To fund this increase, UCA will contribute \$1,227,070, while \$446,989 will be funded through employee premiums. This represents a 12% increase in employee health insurance premiums for the 2027 calendar year.

Overall, UCA will fund 75% of the total 2027 health plan costs (\$12,364,435), while employees will fund the remaining 25% (\$4,171,675).

The proposed changes are based on a review of claims experience and medical and pharmacy trend analysis provided by Stephens Insurance, Inc. Proposed employee premium rates are listed below.

Proposed PPO	Employee	Employer	Total
Employee Only	\$106.84	\$661.96	\$768.80
Employee/Spouse	\$488.04	\$1,098.11	\$1,586.15
Employee/Child(ren)	\$347.75	\$1,112.11	\$1,459.86
Employee/Family	\$777.45	\$1,398.32	\$2,175.77
*Special Family	\$367.12	\$1,808.65	\$2,175.77

Proposed CDHP	Employee	Employer	Total
Employee Only	\$61.25	\$499.70	\$560.95
Employee/Spouse	\$359.69	\$809.29	\$1,168.98
Employee/Child(ren)	\$258.03	\$825.17	\$1,083.20
Employee/Family	\$603.08	\$995.84	\$1,598.92
*Special Family	\$285.67	\$1,313.25	\$1,598.92

*Special Family applies when two married employees are on the same plan.

Dental, Vision, Life, and Long-term Disability Insurance

There are no rate or plan design changes proposed for dental, life, or long-term disability insurance for 2027. Blue Cross Blue Shield is now the vendor for vision benefits, which are fully funded by employees.

Therefore, the president recommends to the Board of Trustees the following resolution:

“BE IT RESOLVED: That the Board of Trustees hereby authorizes the administration to make the above changes to the UCA Health Plan and authorizes the president of the university, or his designee, to execute documents, enter into contracts, and take such other steps as may be necessary or required to facilitate the insurance and disability plans.”