

**EAST CENTRAL COLLEGE  
BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING  
Thursday, July 15, 2021**

**CALL TO ORDER:** The regular meeting of the Board of Trustees was called to order at 12:02 p.m. by Board President Ann Hartley. Other Board members present for all or part of the meeting were Joseph Stroetker, Prudence Fink Johnson, Cookie Hays, Eric Park (*via Zoom*), and Audrey Freitag. Also present were College President Jon Bauer; Administrators – Vice President of Academic Affairs Robyn Walter, Vice President of External Relations Joel Doepker, and Vice President of Student Development Sarah Leassner; Faculty – Biology Department Chairperson Parvatha Govindaswamy; Other Staff – Executive Director of Institutional Effectiveness Michelle Smith, Director of the Rolla Campus Christina Ayres, Communications & Marketing Director Gregg Jones, Director of Institutional Research Bethany Lohden, Foundation Executive Director Bridgette Kelch, Purchasing Manager Melissa Popp, Campus Life and Leadership Coordinator Carson Mowery, Instructional Design Specialist Karen Klos, Director of Online Learning & Educational Technology Chad Baldwin, Facilities Administrative Assistant Julie Apperson, Classified Staff Association President Hannah Domino-Masek, Professional Staff Association President Jenny Kuchem, and Executive Assistant to the President Bonnie Gardner.

**RECOGNITION OF GUESTS:** Reid Glenn of *The Missourian* and Brad Dunagan from Cochran Engineering were also in attendance.

*The meeting was held with Board members and limited staff in BH238 and others attending via Zoom due to the COVID-19 pandemic and social distancing recommendations. The Zoom link was included on the published agenda.*

**PUBLIC COMMENT:** There were no public comments.

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA:** Each item on the consent agenda shall be deemed to have been duly approved with the same validity as if each action were separately moved, seconded, and adopted.

**Motion:** To **approve** the agenda for the July 15, 2021, meeting of the Board of Trustees.  
*Motion by Prudence Johnson; Seconded by Audrey Freitag; Carried Unanimously*

**\*APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** The Board approved the minutes of the June 14, 2021, regular meeting of the Board of Trustees.

**PEDESTRIAN BRIDGE:** Dr. Bauer noted that concrete has fallen from the underside of the deck on the pedestrian bridge over the past year. Cochran Engineering assessed the bridge and prepared a feasibility study. This information is being shared with the Board to provide an understanding of the bridge condition and options going forward. ECC has been awarded \$1.5M in state maintenance and repair funding that can be applied to this project with no need for matching funds. Brad Dunagan from Cochran Engineering explained that the epoxy overlay on the bridge is ripped and deterioration in the concrete slab can be seen. The concrete underneath is coming apart and getting ready to fall. This damage was caused by deicing chemicals applied to the bridge over the years and the only solution is to remove and replace the concrete. The deck was poured together with the beams and caps over the supporting columns. If part of the deck were to be replaced without removing the entire deck, it would cost as much or more than replacing the entire structure.

Projected costs for replacing the structure with the same structure or a steel truss bridge were shared. Mr. Dunagan indicated that covering the bridge would extend the longevity so options for partial and full enclosure were developed. Another option of constructing a series of ramps, sidewalks, and steps was also presented. Costs ranged from \$1.2M to \$1.95M depending on the option. In answer to a question from the Board, Mr. Dunagan explained that the mobilization costs in the study are the contractor's set up costs such as moving equipment to and removing it from the site, necessary permits, and overhead costs. It was questioned whether an elevator could be installed in Buescher Hall to move people from the lower level of the library to a walkway between the two buildings. Given the elevations involved, this option does not appear feasible.

Dr. Bauer noted that the \$1.5M appropriated to the college would not require matching funds but must be spent by June 30, 2022. In response to a question about other facility needs that could be funded with this money, Dr. Bauer noted that roof replacement over the next five years could total about \$500,000. The other critical need has been HVAC systems, and the college has been able to address this issue with Higher Education Emergency Relief Funds. Dr. Bauer indicated he will follow up with Cochran Engineering to further discuss options.

**ACCEPTANCE OF BIDS:** The baseball scoreboard will be funded entirely through the ECC Foundation and the fundraising campaign done for baseball. However, it will become the property of the college so requires Board approval.

**Motion:** To **approve** the purchase of a baseball scoreboard from Daktronics, Inc. at a cost of \$23,920 and the installation of the scoreboard from Ziglin Signs at a cost of \$11,500, with the total \$35,420 cost to be funded through the ECC Foundation.

*Motion by Audrey Freitag; Seconded by Cookie Hays; Carried Unanimously*

Security services for the Rolla sites are paid through security fees. There is no change in rates from the current contract. In response to a question from the Board, it was clarified that the premium rate would only be charged for services provided on holidays or as overtime. There has not been a situation that required premium rates since the initial contract was issued in 2010.

**Motion:** To **accept** the bid of Securitas for the continuation of unarmed security services at Rolla North and Rolla Main for FY22 at no change in cost from the FY21 contract.

*Motion by Joseph Stroetker; Seconded by Audrey Freitag; Carried Unanimously*

**ARCHITECTURAL/ENGINEERING SERVICES:** Dr. Bauer reported that the college was awarded \$871,761 in federal funds that were made available to the state and redistributed on a grant application basis to colleges and universities. This grant will cover 100% of the cost for the renovation of HH270, the former HVAC instructional lab. HH270 has been used for storage since the HVAC program was moved to the Business & Industry Center. The renovated space will house the Adult Education & Literacy (AEL) program and support for other short-term training programs. Staff costs will also be funded going into the first year. The work would bid in late fall and occur during the spring semester. Several firms responded to the Request for Qualifications and Washington Engineering was selected as the most qualified firm.

**Motion:** To **approve** a contract with Washington Engineering & Architecture for the professional design services required for the renovation of the former HVAC lab (HH270) at a cost of 7% of the construction costs plus hourly service rates as specified in the contract.

*Motion by Audrey Freitag; Seconded by Cookie Hays; Carried Unanimously*

**PRE-AUTHORIZATION OF GRANT FUNDED PURCHASES:** Dr. Bauer indicated that pre-authorization for grant purchases is requested annually since there are often purchases that need to be completed between Board meetings to ensure equipment is in place before the start of the academic year. All purchases will go through the normal purchasing process and be reported back to the Board. Concern was expressed that this approval would provide carte blanche for purchasing or projects with no dollar limit. The motion was amended to include a purchasing limit of \$50,000.

**Motion:** To **authorize** in advance items costing \$50,000 or less to be purchased with state vocational enhancement grant funds, state maintenance and repair funds, U.S.D.A. Rural Business Development grant funds, Higher Education Emergency Relief Funds, and other state or federal grant funds to facilitate purchases that need to be made prior to the October Board meeting.

*Motion by Cookie Hays; Seconded by Joseph Stroetker; Motion as amended carried unanimously*

**PERSONNEL:** The Board **approved** the retirement of Patsy Watts, English instructor at the Rolla location, effective May 15, 2021.

**UPDATES:** Dr. Bauer shared the following information with the Board:

- Incentive programs are being developed to increase COVID student/employee vaccination rates. These programs will be marketed in the next few weeks and will be shared with the Board when finalized. The fall semester will open with no mask requirement for those who are fully vaccinated, including students in classrooms. Local conditions will continue to be monitored, and positive cases in 2% of employees/students would trigger an immediate review of protocols.
- The Department of Higher Education and Workforce Development has indicated the college will have one year after receipt of census data to complete the redistricting process. The upcoming April election will not be affected. A committee will be appointed over the winter. Board members were reminded to submit names for potential committee members from each existing subdistrict.
- The Graphic Design program will be moving to HH249 to be closer to the art studios. A bid for the renovation of that room will likely be presented for approval at the August meeting.
- Brandon Rains, head baseball coach, has taken a full-time position at another institution. Jonathan Mills, who was going to be a volunteer assistant for the program, was interviewed and has been appointed as the head coach for this year. This is a part-time position.
- Enrollment for fall looks encouraging; staff are working hard to keep the numbers up.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

**Motion:** To **adjourn** the July 15, 2021, public meeting of the Board of Trustees at 1:11 p.m.

*Motion by Joseph Stroetker; Seconded by Prudence Johnson, Carried Unanimously*

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President, Board of Trustees

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Secretary, Board of Trustees