

**EAST CENTRAL COLLEGE
BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING
Thursday, September 4, 2025**

CALL TO ORDER: The special meeting of the Board of Trustees was called to order at 12 p.m. by Board President Ann Hartley. Other Board members present for the meeting were Joseph Stroetker, Cookie Hays, Eric Park, and J.T. Hardy. Also present were College President Jon Bauer; Administrators – Vice President of Student Development Sarah Leassner and Vice President of Administration and Finance Chris Hoelzer; Other Staff – Foundation Executive Director Bridgette Kelch, Human Resources Director Carrie Myers, Athletic Director Ryan Good, Advising and Career Services Director Tyrone Davidson, and Executive Assistant to the President Stacy Langan. Chris Parker of the *Missourian* was also in attendance.

ACCEPTANCE OF BID: President Bauer thanked the Board for convening quickly. He noted that Chris Hoelzer was in attendance, along with Ryan Good, the new Athletic Director. Chris has worked closely with MUSIC (Missouri United School Insurance Council), which is also assisting several area schools that sustained tornado damage.

As repairs continued following the spring storm, it became evident that the baseball field had sustained more extensive damage than initially realized. At the time of the storm, including the insurance adjuster, few had a full understanding of the type of damage a turf field could sustain. Given that all surrounding structures were damaged, it was reasonable to conclude that the field was also affected, and further inspection confirmed this. The field base has been compromised, with ripples extending throughout. Water on and beneath the surface caused the rippling, resulting in unsafe playing conditions. The ball changes trajectory across the uneven surface, which can also pose a tripping hazard, increasing the risk of injuries, including ACL-type injuries. Mud and flood debris also washed across the field and into the drainage system, which is now completely blocked. Due to the liability concerns, the team is practicing and will hold upcoming scrimmages at Ronsick Field in Washington.

Over the summer, the College worked with MUSIC regarding a potential claim. MUSIC requested evaluations from two firms to confirm the scope of damage and estimate cost. Both firms verified the damage, and MUSIC confirmed they will cover the claim in full, totaling \$462,471. This is not a direct payment; the College will fund the repair and then be reimbursed.

Because the Board will not meet in regular session until mid-October, a special meeting was called. Approval at this time will allow the contractor to complete the repairs this fall. The timeline is to mobilize in October, with completion in February, in time for games scheduled for late February. Delaying approval until mid-October could create weather-related challenges.

Motion: To **accept** the bid from ATG-Ram Industries, LLC of Festus, MO, to repair storm damage that occurred to the turf baseball field at a cost of \$462,471 to be fully reimbursed by the Missouri United School Insurance Council.

Motion by Joe Stroetker; Seconded by Cookie Hays; Carried with all present voting in favor.

ADJOURNMENT:

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Motion: To **adjourn** the September 4, 2025, special meeting of the Board of Trustees at 12:10 p.m.

Motion by J.T. Hardy; Seconded by Cookie Hays; Carried with all present voting in favor.

President, Board of Trustees

Secretary, Board of Trustees