

BOARD OF REGENTS OF THE UNIVERSITY OF OKLAHOMA

(FRIDAY, MARCH 29, 1946)

A special meeting of the Board of Regents of the University of Oklahoma was held in Room 752, Skirvin Tower Hotel, at 8:30 a.m. on Friday, March 29. The following members of the Board were present: W. R. Wallace, President of the Board, presiding; Noble, McBride, Deacon.

Mr. Howard Dickey, Chief Clerk, University Hospitals, was also present.

The meeting was called subsequent to the conference with the Governor on Thursday, March 28, at 11:00 a.m. This conference was called to discuss the financial situation of the University Hospitals, Dean Langston previously having reported to the Board of Regents on several occasions that, at the present rate of expenditures, there would not be sufficient funds to complete the current fiscal year.

Regent Wallace, in reviewing the conference with the Governor, stated that the Governor had asked that the Board of Regents call a special meeting to consider this matter and that they present the facts to the State Regents for Higher Education. There were present at the conference in the Governor's office Dean Wann Langston, Assistant Dean Harold A. Shoemaker, Howard Dickey, Judge Carruthers, Attorney for the Governor, Randell Cobb, Assistant Attorney General, T. G. Sexton, Administrative Assistant of the State Regents for Higher Education, and Ernest Black of the Tax Commission. Following a discussion of the situation, a resolution was read by Regent Wallace, the resolution appearing below.

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, The Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education allocated \$635,617.45 from General Revenue funds for Salaries and Maintenance of The University Hospitals, including the University Hospital and the Oklahoma Hospital for Crippled Children, during the Fiscal Year ending June 30, 1946, AND

WHEREAS, due to the additional expense incurred for the operation of the enlarged wards for negro patients in the University Hospital, the additional expense incurred in the maintenance and operation of the Southern Oklahoma Hospital, and the additional expense incurred due to the increased cost of food, clothing, hospital supplies, drugs, the increased use of penicillin, and the increase in number of patients requiring the

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services of the hospitals, said allocation is insufficient to permit said hospitals to be operated after or about May 1, 1946, except by incurring a deficit which is prohibited by law, AND

WHEREAS, Sec. 1, Art. 21, Oklahoma Constitution, requires these hospitals to be supported by the State, and it would be impossible to close said hospitals during May and June of the present fiscal year without loss of lives and the endangering of the public health, AND

WHEREAS, the number of persons requiring hospitalization and the services of said hospitals, during the remainder of this fiscal year is abnormally large, due in part to the polio epidemics of the last two years, plastic cases that have accumulated during the war, increased demand for care of veterans, and due to the lack of other hospital facilities in the State of Oklahoma; that the demand upon said hospitals is so great as to be of epidemic proportion; and the closing of said hospitals during the last two months of this fiscal year would amount to a catastrophe:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Regents of the University of Oklahoma:

1. That the Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education be and they are hereby requested to make a supplemental allocation in the sum of \$85,000.00 for salaries and maintenance of The University Hospitals, including the University Hospital, the Oklahoma Hospital for Crippled Children, and the Southern Oklahoma Hospital, for the remainder of the fiscal year ending June 30, 1946.
2. That in the event the Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education have no funds out of which such supplemental allocation may be made, the Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education be and they are hereby requested to ask the Governor for an allocation of funds from the Governor's Contingency Fund for the aforesaid purpose as provided in subdivision (3), Section 5, Chapter 1, Title 74, Okla. Session Laws 1945; Page 377.

ADOPTED THIS 29TH DAY OF MARCH, 1946.

On motion by Regent Deacon, seconded by Noble, the Resolution was unanimously adopted.

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Regent Wallace reported that a special meeting of the State Regents of Higher Education had been called to meet on Monday at 9:00 o'clock to consider this matter and that the resolution would be presented by President Cross at that time. There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.



Emil R. Kraettli, Secretary.