

# Decision On State Medical College Location Is Delayed Pending Study

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## Trustees To Await Consulting Findings; Action Taken To Set Up Bond Issue Vote

Toledo State Medical College trustees yesterday postponed any decision on building sites, pending completion of a consulting study, but laid groundwork for financing the new institution.

By unanimous vote of the five trustees present, the board:

► Instructed the chairman to submit to the Lucas County Hospital Commission a request for a bond issue to be put on the ballot "as soon as feasible," with the amount to be determined in the future by the finance committee of the medical college board.

► Authorized the chairman to make proper applications for Hill-Burton and/or whatever other federal funds might be available.

► Named Dr. Frank F. A. Rawling and Sister Mary Lawrence as a committee to draft a reply to an offer of University of Toledo directors to make land available on the campus for the medical college.

In deciding to seek the bond issue, the board followed the advice of William E. Longthorne, assistant state attorney general assigned to the Toledo medical college project.

Mr. Longthorne said that, if Toledo is to take advantage of federal grants, it is imperative that certain matching funds be available.

"The only feasible method of providing these funds is through a bond issue for helping construct and equip a hospital planned as part of the medical school," Mr. Longthorne declared.

The bond issue could be submitted to the voters either at the November or a special election, Mr. Longthorne explained, but he advised that preliminary steps be taken immediately.

John A. Skipton, vice chairman who presided yesterday in the absence of Paul Block, Jr., chairman, recalled that one reason Toledo was chosen

as the site for a new state medical college was the strong indication of community support for the project, and also the need for additional hospital facilities here.

Mr. Longthorne also advised making the bid for federal funds immediately, although he warned that 1965 appropriations for such purposes have been exhausted, and 1966 fiscal year allocations not yet made.

The state department of health is the agency that processes applications for Hill-Burton hospital funds, the attorney explained, and it requires that applications be filed by June 15, in advance of the fiscal year starting July 1.

### Need Rejection Proof

However, Mr. Longthorne said, he has been informed that the advisory board to the department of health might accept a late application from the Toledo Medical college trustees.

Even if the Hill-Burton request is rejected, Mr. Longthorne said, it will not be lost effort, for the board must have proof of such rejection in order to qualify for aid under the federal Health Education Assistance Act of 1963. Funds through this act are dispensed through the U.S. Department of Health, Education, and Welfare.

Construction cost of the medical college and hospital have been estimated in excess of \$40 million, with the local share from \$7.5 to \$8.5 million, Mr. Skipton noted.

### Reply To TU Offer Is Delayed By Study

The board members agreed that no definite answer to the TU land offer could be given at this time, since the medical college trustees still are awaiting results of a site study being made by Dan Carmichael, Columbus architect.

They expressed appreciation for the TU board action and for the university's continued interest in the medical school.

Both Dr. Rawling and Dr. Byron G. Shaffer stressed that liaison between the medical college and TU is of utmost importance. They said that they wanted no misunderstanding about this, no matter where the medical college eventually might be built.

Mr. Skipton said that there still are many questions to be answered about the TU offer, and that the site analysis had been delayed pending clarification.

TU trustees on June 23, Mr. Skipton reported, adopted a resolution reaffirming a willingness to make immediately available at least 50 acres at the southwest corner of the campus, and 25 acres of contiguous land if and when needed for the medical college.

### 60 Acres Available

Medical college representatives met June 24 with Dr. William Carlson, TU president, to inquire about further details of the offer, Mr. Skipton reported.

At that time, he said, Dr. Carlson said that the university could make up to 60 acres of land available for the medical college without disrupting the Glass Bowl football stadium.

The acting chairman also

said that Mr. Carmichael, after a conference with Dr. Carlson, came away thinking TU was offering the medical school 94 acres. There has been no specific description of boundaries of the "contiguous" acreage, Mr. Skipton noted.

The site study, he emphasized, has no bearing on academic ties between the medical college and TU—"it is merely a question of choosing a site that will not foreclose any future development by its location."

As attractive as the TU offer might seem, Mr. Skipton said, the property on the southwest corner of the campus does present possible problems.

### River Floodplain

He noted that the site is old Ottawa River floodplain that has been diked and filled and is restricted on two sides by railroads.

TU itself, Mr. Skipton noted, has chosen to put its recently constructed facilities where on the campus, and even considering building proposed community college off Campus in Scott Park.

He mentioned the availability of other government-owned property for the medical school, referring to Soledad Toledo land in the vicinity of Maumee Valley Hospital and Toledo State Hospital.

A site there would be only 10 minutes from TU, he continued, and perhaps would serve better the county hospital needs and state medical research needs.

Dr. Rawling said it should be pointed out to TU that the site decision was so fundamental and "projects shadow so far into the future" that the medical college trustees have to have full technical advice before "beginning to dig holes."

# State Medical College Site Decision Delayed

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