

**BOARD OF HEALTH**  
**January 20, 2010**

**Call to Order**

Chairman Max Benitz called the meeting to order at 1:30 p.m.

**Roll Call**

Dr. Jecha called the roll: The following were:

**Present:** Chairman Max Benitz, Board Members James Beaver, Leo Bowman, Bob Koch, Brad Peck and Executive Secretary Larry Jecha, M.D.

**Excused:** Rick Miller

**Staff Present:** Becky Mellinger and Amy Serven, Administrative Services; Carl Turpen, Network Technician; Sandy Owen, Director of Preventative Health Services; Carla Prock and Annie Goodwin, Preventative Health Supervisors; Bruce Perkins, Director of Environmental Health; Rick Dawson and Susan Shelton, Environmental Health Supervisors; Veronica Gutierrez, Assessment Coordinator; Nancy Klotz, Preventative Health Services; Carol Jensen, Human Resources; Irene Berger, Representing Local 17.

**Visitors:** Fred Bowen, Franklin County Administrator; Linda Ivey, Benton County Commissioners Office.

**Approval of Agenda**

James Beaver moved, seconded by Leo Bowman to approve the agenda. The motion carried unanimously.

**Election of Officers**

James Beaver moved, seconded by Leo Bowman to elect Commissioner Bob Koch to Chairman. The motion carried unanimously.

Chairman Koch took over the leadership of the meeting.

Max Benitz moved, seconded by Leo Bowman to elect Commissioner James Beaver to Vice Chairman. The motion carried unanimously.

Chairman Koch appointed Commissioner Benitz to fill his vacant spot on the finance committee with all other members staying the same as 2009.

**Approval of Minutes**

James Beaver moved, seconded by Max Benitz to approve the minutes of December 16, 2009 meeting. The motion carried unanimously.

**Resolution 10-01**

Resolution 10-01 is Travel Authorization for the District Health Officer. James Beaver moved to approve the resolution, seconded by Brad Peck. The motion carried unanimously.

**Resolution 10-02**

Resolution 10-02 provides interim Health Officer coverage in the event of Dr. Jecha's absence during an emergency. James Beaver moved to approve the resolution, seconded by Leo Bowman. The motion carried unanimously.

**Canal Building Updates**

Dr. Jecha reported we are moving forward in retaining The Tippet Company to market the Canal Building for sale. Additionally, a letter was presented for Board approval regarding the lease on the Benton County building. An amendment to the Benton County Building lease needs done to formalize the change in an additional payment due from a lump sum to payment over a five year term. The letter is to the Benton County Board of Commissioners to initiate the process. Leo Bowman moved, seconded by James Beaver to approve having the Chairman sign a letter regarding lease payments on the Benton County building to be sent to the Benton County Commissioners. The motion carried unanimously.

**H1N1 Updates**

Dr. Jecha reported that the second wave of H1N1 hit at the end of August and is essentially over now. The demand for vaccine has lessened. We are not sure at this point if there will be a third wave. We have given out 50,000 doses to local providers and 6,000 doses at our mass clinics in the month of December. The PHEAC was activated during this time and now has been stood down. A hot wash was done and an after action report will be prepared and provided to the board.

**2010 Legislative Session**

Dr. Jecha reported that we are entering the next legislative session short funded. WSALPHO is trying to work with other Washington Association of Counties to emphasize Health funding. Sandy Owen stated the current goal is to find a steady reliable source of funding (such as a tax on candy) in addition to current funding not as a replacement of funding. Dr. Jecha stated that at the national level the focus currently is on insurance reform, but there are some provisions for local jurisdiction funding.

**Board of Health Hearing Procedures**

Bruce reported an appeals process that is attached to the sewage and solid waste procedures needs updated. The procedure has been in place since the mid 1970's and while it still works, the members compromising the appeals board is outdated. At the time the procedure was adopted the cities were part of the Health District and had representatives on the appeals board. Bruce also suggested that since we do not currently have an appeals process for the Health District in general that this process could be put in

place for any appeal. Discussion ensued on the composition, process, meeting times, and definition of quorum for an appeals board. Bruce will take the feedback from the board, update the process, have the attorney review and present for a vote at the next meeting.

#### **Announcements**

Dr. Jecha announced that he had received a letter from Commissioner Mark Richards from Spokane asking if anyone might be interested in a statewide organization for Board of Health members. This would allow Board of Health members from across the state to meet with each other. Dr. Jecha gave a copy of the letter to the board so that they might discuss it at the next meeting.

Dr. Jecha announced that the University of Wisconsin has a program that ranks counties based on health outcomes, quality of life, access to care and other indicators. They have compiled this information for the entire United States. The rankings will be released on February 17, 2010. Dr. will present at the next Board of Health meeting. This will give us an idea how we are ranked not only in Washington State, but across the United States.

Susan announced that her food staff met with representatives from WSU Tri-Cities in an effort to resolve the issue of requirements for temporary food service permits. Good discussions ensued and the groups will meet again after WSU staff has had a chance to discuss the matter with the Chancellor and Vice-Chancellor.

#### **Approval of Vouchers**

Leo Bowman moved, seconded by Brad Beck to approve payment of vouchers numbered 53 to 55 and 57 for December 2009 in the amount of \$485,594.10. The motion carried unanimously.

The date of the next regular meeting is February 17, 2010 at 1:30 p.m.

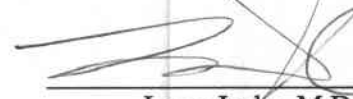
There will be a special meeting for an Executive Session to review the performance of a public employee on February 2, 2010 at the Benton County Justice Center at 3:00 p.m.

At 2:15 p.m. the meeting adjourned.

Prepared by:  
Amy Serven, Administrative Assistant  
Benton-Franklin Health District



Bob Koch  
Chairman of the Board



Larry Jecha, M.D.  
Executive Secretary