

# BFHD IFPTE Local 17 Meeting Summary

**Meeting Type:**  
BFHD Board of Health

**Meeting Date:**  
April 21, 2010

**Meeting Reported By:**  
Jim Coleman, BFHD Local 17 VP

**The objective of meeting attendance:**

- To serve as a presence of the IFPTE, Local 17 Bargaining Unit at the meetings.
- To monitor and evaluate agenda items for impacts they may have on members of Local 17 bargaining unit.
- To keep membership informed on items of interest discussed.
- To use the public comment portion of the meetings when appropriate and necessary.

**Major Agenda Topics Discussed**

1. Hiring an administrator to oversee the operations of BFHD and making the Health Officer (Dr. Jecha's current position) a part-time position. The Administrative team put together a lengthy job description of duties that the Health Administrator would be required to perform. The commissioners seemed to think the list of duties was too long but accurate. There was also a fairly long discussion in regard to who would report to whom. In the end, I think what was decided was that the Health Officer would report to the Health Administrator and that the Administrator would have final authority to make decisions.
2. A brief comment was made by Commissioner Peck about the need for a Board of Health. He seemed to think that the Health Department could function without one.
3. A motion was made by a Benton County Commissioner to sell the BFHD building on Canal Drive. The motion was dropped as Franklin Co. Commissioners would not agree. When asked why they did not want to sell the building, they did not give specific answer. When pressed, Commissioner Peck said that it could be possibly used to house Department of Health Services.

Also noteworthy was that a representative from the Spokane Health Department presented Dr. Jecha with a plaque recognizing his work as a temporary Health Officer for their organization. Later, in other County meetings, issues about splitting the Benton and Franklin counties into separate Health Departments surfaced.

**Additional Items**

The attached article regarding bi-county meetings was in the Tri-City Herald (5/13/10).

The Tri City Herald website posted the article online: <http://www.tri-cityherald.com/2010/05/13/1012503/franklin-county-asking-benton.html#ixzz0np8eJzHC>

**Web Links:**

[BFHD BOH Meeting Notes](#)

[IFPTE Local 17 BFHD site](#)