

State of New Mexico
Office of the Governor

Bill Richardson
Governor

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**GOVERNOR BILL RICHARDSON NAMES NEW STATE FAIR
COMMISSIONERS**

SANTA FE – Gov. Bill Richardson today announced the appointment of seven new members of the New Mexico State Fair Commission, including the commission’s new chairwoman, Carol Cloer of Farmington.

“Throughout the campaign I pledged to appoint people from northwest New Mexico,” Richardson said. “Today I am proud to appoint Carol Cloer , of Bloomfield, as chairwoman of the Fair. The state fair is an important cultural and economic institution. We want to increase participation and make sure the fair reflects the diversity of history of the state.”

The commission met for the first time this morning in Albuquerque to elect officers.

Cloer, an alfalfa hay farmer from Bloomfield, was elected chairwoman.

“We are very excited about serving on the board,” Cloer said. “We are studying hard so we can hit the ground running to keep the quality and the enjoyment of the State Fair and all of its entities at the very highest levels.”

The commission will meet again on Friday to select a new general manager for the fair.

The commission is a quasi-state agency that has the power to raise money and issue bonds to help pay for functions of the Fair. The commission hires a general manager who oversees the day-to-day operations.

The new members, who must be confirmed by the state Senate, are:

- Chairwoman: Carol Cloer, of Bloomfield, is an alfalfa hay farmer and a professor at New Mexico State University. She is a former high school principal. She also served with the New Mexico State Police Commission.
- Sandy Jones, of Williamsburg, is a rancher.

- Bob Frost, of San Jon, is a rancher. Frost is serving his second term on the San Jon Board of Education. He is past-president of the New Mexico Cattlegrowers' Association. He and his wife, Jane, were voted cattlemen of the year this year.
- Frank Tabet, of Belen, is a retired businessman. He has experience with government licensing and regulations. Tabet previously served as vice-chairman of the State Police Board.
- Rena Salazar, a member of San Juan Pueblo, is a government affairs and educational consultant who assists organizations such as the Institute of American Indian Arts, the New Mexico Office of Indian Affairs and the state Department of Education. Salazar started her education career as an elementary school teacher at San Juan Pueblo. She later served in several roles at the education department.
- Terry L. Cone, of Portales, is a certified public accountant and 4-H leader for Roosevelt County for 25 years. Cone has an interest in improving the Junior Livestock Department, and he cites his accounting experience as a plus for overseeing finances at the Fair.
- Luke Otero, of Santa Fe, is a lobbyist and consultant working on legislative and regulatory services.

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