



For Immediate Release
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Governor Bill Richardson Appoints Michael Colangelo and Reappoints Jenny Garcia to Miners' Colfax Board of Trustees

(RATON) - Governor Bill Richardson, while meeting today with community leaders in Raton, announced the reappointment of Jenny Garcia and appointment of Michael Colangelo to the Miners' Colfax Medical Center Board of Trustees. Garcia has served on the board since 2007 and is being reappointed to the board after her term expired in June. Mr. Colangelo is filling a vacant position on the board.

"Miners' Colfax Medical Center is a critical asset to the health and safety of the community and the board must work diligently to secure the future of the hospital," Governor Richardson said. "Mr. Colangelo's experience and Ms. Garcia's ongoing commitment are invaluable assets for this board, as it continues its work to build a new hospital administration."

The Department of Health has provided assistance to the community to resolve the shortage of medical providers at the hospital. Dr. Alfredo Vigil, secretary of New Mexico Department of Health, said he is confident the new board members will be a positive step in improving the hospital.

"The Governor has high expectations of the board to show strong leadership and take the necessary action for the best interests of the patients they serve," said Dr. Vigil. "The Department of Health stands ready to help."

Mr. Colangelo was a member of the Raton City Commission from 1990 to 1994 and served as the Mayor of Raton from 1992 to 1994. He worked at the York Canyon Coal Mine for 33 years. Mr. Colangelo will serve until June 12, 2010 as the miner's representative on the five member board.

Ms. Garcia is a member of the New Mexico Behavioral Health Planning Council and will continue to serve as a public member of the board until June 12, 2013. These appointments must be confirmed by the New Mexico Senate.