

RPENM News

- Update -

RPENM Elects New Board of Directors

A new RPENM board of directors was sworn in at the annual meeting. The new board will consist of President Richard Baca of Albuquerque, (who was re-elected by acclamation) 1st Vice President Jim Robles of Las Cruces, 2nd Vice-President Doug Crandall of Albuquerque, Secretary LaRue Goodheart of Rio Rancho, and Treasurer Isabel Clendenin of Albuquerque. Members at large include Wesley Brown of Raton, Eley Bourguet of Deming, WM (Oscar) Jordan of Santa Fe, Rick Mack of

Albuquerque, Lucio A. Quiñones of Albuquerque, Betty Boxx of Albuquerque, Josephine Raczkowski of Rio Rancho, and Paul Torres of Truth or Consequences. Jerry Rael and Victor Montoya, both PERA board members, will remain as ex-officio board members of RPENM. In addition, Ann Crandall was retained as Executive Director. This new board of directors is a very strong group of committed individuals, and you may expect some positive changes for RPENM in the upcoming year! ■

Officers



Richard Baca
President



James F Robles
1st VP



Doug Crandall
2nd VP



LaRue Goodheart
Secretary



Isabel Clendenin
Treasurer

Board Members



Eley Bourguet



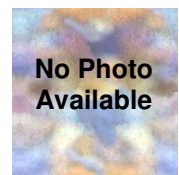
Betty Boxx



Wesley Brown



Oscar Jordan



Rick Mack
NMRHCA Board



Luke Quiñones



Josephine Raczkowski



Jerry Rael
PERA Board



Paul Torres



Victor Montoya
PERA Board

2004 Annual Membership Meeting

The 41st annual RPENM Board of Directors and General Membership Meeting was a great success, and enjoyed by all. Approximately 75 RPENM members and guests attended the meeting held at the Sheraton Uptown in Albuquerque on May 13th and 14th, 2004. RPENM Chapter 5 from Albuquerque hosted the meeting, and provided an evening reception, continental breakfast, and excellent luncheon at the hotel.

The Annual Meeting Committee for the Retired Public Employees of New Mexico would like to thank each and everyone who donated items for the raffle, door prizes, and welcoming bags. Specifically, we received donations from the Bank of Albuquerque; RPENM Chapter 5; Painting by Jacque Burton; Quarters Wine Shop; JB's Restaurant in Rio Rancho; Papa Felipe Restaurant; Fancy Stitches, Carlsbad; Premier Distributing; NM Dept. of Transportation; Woodman of the World Insurance; NM State Credit Union; Sandia Natl. Lab Credit Union; Electrolux;

Southwest Airlines; Painting by Herman Ulibari; Shoney's Restaurant; LaSalita Restaurant; Hair by Juanita; Sandia Casino; AFSCME; State of NM Tourism; Davis Vision; United Concordia, and Blue Cross-Blue Shield. RPENM members donating were Rubye Gibson; Betty Boxx; Josephine Raczkowski; Clara Mapstone; Jim & Muriel Ludwith; Minnie Ross; Betty & Willie Serna; Emena & L A (Luke) Quiñones; Evelyn Carabajal; Robert Romero; and Doug Crandall.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!

Several door prizes were awarded at the meeting, which included full scholarships for RPENM member Betty Serna from Albuquerque and Edith Gonzales from Gallup for the 2005 RPENM Annual Meeting. ■

Betty Boxx

Retiree Health Care Update

During this legislative session, RPENM worked diligently on behalf of its nearly 4,000 members to defeat Governor Bill Richardson's legislative bills HB 561 and Senate Bill 538 that would have abolished the independently run New Mexico Retiree Health Care Authority and become part of the state Risk Management Division. The transfer of our \$125 M in assets, going into a pool, would cover several different agencies as well as the uninsured in New Mexico after only one year's residency. It is essential that a long-term actuarial study be completed to determine the fiscal soundness of this proposed plan prior to consideration. We thank all of you that sent the state legislature and governor a strong

message through e-mails, letters, and phone calls stating that we, as retirees, will not tolerate this very bad legislation for anyone residing in and paying taxes in New Mexico. **However, our work is not complete.** We are hearing that the Governor is considering a special session to bring his health care agenda to the table again. We urge you, and all New Mexicans, to contact their legislators and tell them to stand up and do what's right:

VOTE NO!

Presentation To Retired Firefighters

President Richard Baca, 2nd Vice President Doug Crandall, and Executive Director Ann Crandall made a presentation to City of Albuquerque retired fire fighters at the Fire Academy to get the word out about RPENM. We are working hard to get out our name and attract new members, and nearly all in attendance took membership applications and several joined at the

meeting! All Chapter Chairs and Board Members are again urged to promote RPENM through similar presentations in your areas! ■

Noteworthy

Your next RPENM Newsletter will be mailed to you in August. If you wish to contribute to the newsletter, please let me know by July 15th.

On June 8, Chapter 2 had a wonderful summer picnic at Oscar and Virginia Jordan's home in Santa Fe. The food was fabulous, and the company wonderful! Encourage your RPENM chapter to have a summer picnic!

Need RPENM recruiting material or other information regarding RPENM? Please contact

me, and I will send the information to you at your request.

Don't forget to visit the RPENM Website at WWW.RPENM.ORG. Thanks to Mike Clendenin, who maintains our website, new RPENM members can now sign up online! ■



Ann Crandall

Exec Dir

***HAVE A WONDERFUL
AND SAFE SUMMER!***

RPENM Membership Growing!

Due to the hard working efforts of our RPENM board of directors as well as our membership, RPENM currently has 3,941 members---a 20% increase from the year 2002! Although this is impressive, we must continue to strive to increase our numbers, as our strength is in our membership! We have over 17,000 PERA retirees within the State of New Mexico, which means that we have lots of work to do! To become a member of RPENM you must be an active PERA employee,

PERA retiree, or beneficiary. If you wish recruiting information, contact Executive Director Ann Crandall and membership forms will be mailed to you as soon as possible.

These are important times, and we are the agency that will work to protect our PERA retirement and health care benefits! ■

RPENM Fall Board Meeting

Jim Robles, 1st Vice President of RPENM and member of Chapter 2, has committed to assisting our board of directors to host our annual fall board meeting in Las Cruces. A date, time, and place will soon be determined.

Web Sites Of Interest

RPENM: www.rpenm.org/

PERA : www.state.nm.us/pera/

RHCA: www.nmrhca.state.nm.us/

ERB: www.era.state.nm.us/

Soc Sec: www.ssa.gov/