

# **KIMBLE COUNTY HOSPITAL DISTRICT BOARD**

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## **New Hospital District Board Members Tour New Hospital**

**Junction, TX (May 26, 2011)** – Before officially taking the oath of office at their first Kimble County Hospital District (KCHD) Board meeting last Monday, the three new KCHD Board members and veteran Board member Debra Mudge took a tour of the new hospital project. Joining the new Board members, Daniel Henderson, Claudette Primeaux and Molly Robinson, were Hospital Administrator Steve Bowen and representatives from UEB Construction, the project contractor. Judy Blazek of Business Strategies, project coordinator, led the tour.

“It was exciting to see the new hospital at this point in construction because I could actually visualize it completed and imagine our doctors and nurses working in the new facilities,” says Mudge. “I’m really looking forward to the grand opening. This community has been talking about and working on this project for two years. These new facilities will be better equipped and provide a better environment for our patients and employees. This is really going to add to Kimble County’s quality of life.”

As a new KCHD Board member who had never toured the project site, Primeaux was impressed. “It was the first time I’d been in either building. The size of the buildings is amazing. I can’t believe it will be ready to move into in a couple of months,” she comments. As a Board member, Primeaux also encourages everyone in the community to stay involved in the KCHD District and hospital business. “I know it’s easy to let things slide when the work slows down but this is the start of a new era for us. It will be to everyone’s benefit, as well as the hospital’s, for everyone to stay involved.”

When complete, the hospital will feature 15 patient beds in 10 rooms, an emergency department with four treatment rooms and its own waiting area and gastroenterology (GI) facilities that include a special procedure room and a private pre- and post-operative area. The clinic will accommodate four providers with provisions for visiting specialists.

“I’m very pleased that we had the opportunity to take this tour. Coming onto a Board in the middle of a project can be overwhelming. This way, the new Board members are better able to visualize what the hospital and clinic will look like as we discuss the project’s progress and requirements,” comments Blazek.

The new Kimble Hospital is expected to be ready for move-in by early fall. It is being funded by a \$16.9 million dollar bond issue passed by Kimble County voters in 2009. Rees Associates is the architectural firm on the project and UEB Builders is the contractor. When complete, the hospital will be 30,500-square-feet and the clinic, 7,300-square-feet. The KCHD Board is in the early stages of planning an open house celebration for the community when the hospital opens.

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Cutlines:

Photo 1:

Taking a tour of the new hospital before taking their oath of duty as Kimble County Hospital District Board Members are from left to right, Daniel Henderson, Molly Robinson, current Board Member Debra Mudge and Claudette Primeaux in the clinic reception area.

Photo 2:

At the end of the tour in front of the new hospital entrance, the tour group stopped to discuss some last details of the project. From left to right in front are Judy Blazek, Project Coordinator and Claudette Primeaux. From left to right in back are Hospital Administrator Steve Bowen, Molly Robinson and Daniel Henderson.

Photo 3:

Judy Blazek highlights some of the more unique aspects of the new hospital's design. On the tour with her from left to right are Steve Bowen, Molly Robinson, Claudette Primeaux and Daniel Henderson.