Eagle County, Colorado Invites Applications for Airport Director

Eagle County Regional Airport (EGE)
Gypsum, Colorado

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About The Airport

Just minutes from Vail and the best skiing in North America, the Eagle County Regional Airport (EGE) gets you directly to the heart of the Colorado Rockies, year-round. In the winter, Air Canada, American, Delta, and United provide non-stop jet service between EGE and fourteen major U.S. cities, including Atlanta, Chicago, Dallas/Ft. Worth, Denver, Houston, Los Angeles, Miami, New York, Phoenix, San Francisco, Salt Lake City and Washington, DC. Summer options include flights between EGE and Dallas/Ft. Worth on American Airlines and Denver and Houston on United.

Eagle County Regional Airport has grown with the opening of an award-winning passenger terminal in 1996. In 2016, EGE served our eight millionth passenger. Enplanements exceeded 164,000 in 2016, an increase of 4.0% over 2015. Seven major car rental and two ground transportation companies offer EGE guests an easy connect to their ultimate destination. The operating budgets for EGE and the Eagle County Air Terminal Corporation (ECAT) is approximately $10 million annually. The airport has 21 full-time employees.

EGE’s full service Fixed-Base Operator (FBO), Vail Valley Jet Center, was ranked the 10th best independent FBO in the nation according to Professional Pilot Magazine in 2016.

In 1996, a $9 million, 36,000 sq. ft. passenger terminal was unveiled, accommodating a 73 percent increase in passengers during that season. The demands on the new terminal prompted an additional 30,000 sq. ft. expansion in 2001, to accommodate the growing popularity of commercial air service to EGE. An in-line baggage handling system was installed in 2012 and currently, construction of a $30M terminal expansion is underway at the Airport. The project is part of a 20-year improvement plan that includes expanding the terminal, adding air bridges and improving traffic flow.

In 2006 an Instrument Landing System (ILS) was commissioned and in 2007 a BI-6 radar system was added which has increased the arrival acceptance rate at EGE. The effect of these navigational aids is twofold: allowing aircraft to land in lower visibility conditions and increasing the rate at which EGE can accept the arriving aircraft in low visibility conditions. Other recent projects for the Eagle County Regional Airport include the installation of a Runway Weather Information System (RWIS), Apron Reconstruction, and the completion of a Snow Removal Equipment (SRE) Building.
The Organization

Eagle County Government is a full-service county, with 506 full-time equivalent employees spread over more than 30 departments. The organization is led by a three-member Board of Commissioners elected on a partisan basis to staggered four-year terms, with the authority to appoint the county manager, county attorney and various board and commission members. Other elected officials include the Assessor, Clerk & Recorder, Coroner, Sheriff, Surveyor and Treasurer/Public Trustee.

Eagle County’s finances are healthy, with a 2019 operating budget of $146M. Eagle County’s strong fund balance reserves, low debt and excellent credit rating illustrate the organization’s commitment to fiscal stewardship.

The county provides services from multiple locations, including the Eagle County Building, Justice Center, Fairgrounds and Animal Services facilities in the county seat of Eagle, as well as from satellite offices in Avon and El Jebel, the Eagle County Regional Airport and Maintenance Service Center in Gypsum, and the Solid Waste & Recycling Center in Wolcott.

Eagle County Government is a vibrant, forward-thinking organization with aligned priorities captured in a strategic plan that leverages both strengths and opportunities. Eagle County’s strategic plan provides a roadmap to allocate resources, gauge performance and ensure the county is delivering quality services to its constituents. The five strategic goals are Eagle County is Financially Sound, Eagle County is a Great Place to Live for All, Eagle County Protects the Natural Environment, Eagle County Promotes a Diverse & Resilient Economy and Eagle County is a High-Performing Organization.
The Community

Eagle County, Colorado is located on the western slope of the state, approximately 100 miles west of Denver via Interstate 70. The county is surrounded by the White River National Forest and is home to the world-renowned ski resorts of Vail and Beaver Creek. Tourism and real estate drive the economy, and the ski industry is a crucial component of the region’s vitality.

The majority of Eagle County’s residents live along the I-70 corridor in the Eagle River Valley, with an additional population center located in the Roaring Fork Valley in the southwest corner at the convergence of three counties. The county’s 2013 population was estimated at over 53,000 residents, and although considered rural, Eagle County is the 14th most populous of Colorado’s 64 counties.

Eagle County’s early history includes ranching and mining, with fortune hunters and settlers striking lead carbonate ore in Leadville in 1874. The strike brought many prospectors to the valley, and by 1879 a permanent camp was established, and the Town of Red Cliff was born. Eagle County was carved from Summit County by the Colorado legislature in 1883, with Red Cliff designated as the first county seat. County government moved west to the town of Eagle in 1921.
The Community

The evolution of Vail from a quiet sheep pasture to an international resort is credited to the famous 10th Mountain Division ski troops who were introduced to the valley while training at Camp Hale in the 1940s. Following World War II, a group of former Army buddies returned to the Gore Creek Valley to fulfill their collective dream of developing a ski resort. Vail later emerged as a ski giant and the county has flourished ever since.

Outdoor recreation opportunities abound in Eagle County. Paved and unpaved trails connect many of the towns and natural landmarks and allow for easy access to hiking, biking and horseback riding. World-class skiing and snowboarding can be found at both Vail Mountain and Beaver Creek Resort. Rafting, fishing and kayaking take place on the area’s many streams and rivers. A wide variety of cultural offerings attract locals and visitors, ranging from internationally acclaimed dance and symphony performances to outdoor concerts, rodeos, food festivals and celebrations of the area’s ranching heritage. The region is also home to premier golf courses designed by Arnold Palmer, Greg Norman, Tom Fazio and Robert Trent Jones, Jr.

In addition to Eagle County, larger employers include Vail Resorts, Vail Health, Eagle County School District, CenturyLink, American Gypsum and the Gallegos Corporation.
The Position

The Airport Director represents Eagle County in all aviation matters by providing strategic vision for the airport, developing key relationships in the aviation industry, designing marketing strategies, and directing the overall operation of the Eagle County Airport under the general direction of the County Manager. Oversees terminal, operations, maintenance, compliance, safety and administrative activities for the airport.

The ideal candidate will have thorough knowledge of the principle and practices of public and business administration. Extensive knowledge of airport management, operation and maintenance. Working knowledge of FAA regulations and state regulations governing the use and operations of airport and FAA grant programs. Ability to coordinate effectively the activities of many employees engaged in varied activities. Ability to establish and maintain effective working relationships with officials, associates, employees and the general public. Proven ability to negotiate airport tenant agreement and air carrier air service agreements.

The Airport Director will be responsible for essential functions in the areas of:

• Airport Operations
• Air Service Development
• Fiscal Responsibilities and Planning

For a full job description click here.

Position Qualifications

• Bachelor’s degree from an accredited college or university in Business Administration, Airport Management or a related field
• Five years of progressively responsible experience in the aviation management field at a commercial service airport of similar or larger size. Or, any combination of education, training and experience that provides the required knowledge, skills, and abilities to perform the essential functions of the job.
• Valid Colorado driver’s license or the ability to obtain within 30 days of hire is required.
• American Association of Airport Executives (AAAE) accreditation as a Certified Member (CM) desirable.
Compensation & Benefits

The salary range for this position is up to $170,000, depending on prior experience and qualifications. This position offers an attractive range of benefits including a car provided for airport and personal use, a generous wellness program, and 401(a) with 6% Employer Contribution.

How to Apply:

To apply online, click here.

Filing Deadline: Friday, February 15, 2019

Project Manager:
Matt Nelson, CM, ATP
Matt@adkexecutivesearch.com