

The Metropolitan Airport Authority of Rock Island County Announces New Executive Director

MOLINE, IL – The Metropolitan Airport Authority of Rock Island County has appointed Ben Leischner, A.A.E., as Executive Director of the Quad City International Airport (MLI). In this role, he is responsible for the overall business and financial administration, planning, operations, and development of the airport. MLI is a public airport in Rock Island County, Illinois, three miles south of Moline and is the third busiest commercial airport in Illinois. Mr. Leischner begins his new position May 29.



Benjamin Leischner, A.A.E.

“I am very excited to join the Metropolitan Airport Authority of Rock Island County and to partner with the Board in the continued success of Quad City International Airport,” said Mr. Leischner. “I am very impressed by the people and the community the airport serves and I look forward to partnering with local leaders in pursuing regional initiatives that increase services for the community.”

Mr. Leischner worked for the Seattle-Tacoma International Airport for 14 years, holding positions of increased levels of responsibility. He most recently served as Airport Operations Manager / Airline Scheduling Manager. He has previous experience with the Port of Bellingham, Bellingham International Airport, and DY Consultants. He earned a Bachelor of Science in Aviation Management and Flight Operations from Florida Institute of Technology and a Masters of Public Administration from the University of Nebraska. Mr. Leischner is an Accredited Airport Executive (A.A.E.) from the American Association of Airport Executives and is a commercial instrument pilot.

John Malvik, Interim Chair of the Board of Commissioners, says “The Board has worked hard to ensure that the best candidates from a strong field of nationwide applicants were interviewed. While interviewing the finalists, Ben distinguished himself and impressed the Board with his knowledge, enthusiasm, and expertise. The Board believes that Ben will prove to be a dynamic and energetic leader of our airport for years to come.”

This national search was conducted by ADK Executive Search, a retained executive search firm specializing exclusively in searches for the aviation community.

[Quad City International Airport](#)