



YEAGER AIRPORT

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PRESS RELEASE

YEAGER AIRPORT DIRECTOR TERRY SAYRE TO RETIRE, AUTHORITY APPOINTS NEW DIRECTOR

Yeager Airport's (CRW) Airport Director, Terry Sayre, announced his retirement to the Central West Virginia Regional Airport Authority Board of Members today during their September meeting.

Terry Sayre began his distinguished law enforcement career in Charleston in 1972, culminating in the creation of the first program to deal with the opioid epidemic—years before the opioid epidemic was recognized—known as the “Metropolitan Drug Enforcement Network Team.” The program Sayre created has been proven effective many times over.

Sayre went on to retire from law enforcement and continued his service to Kanawha County in public service working as an investigator for the West Virginia State Tax Department and Kanawha County Planning Office. Terry Sayre helped start the West Virginia Public Safety Expo, an annual event in Charleston, West Virginia, that gives public safety officials an opportunity to network, obtain training, and enhance their skills in a centralized location with some of the best resources in the country.

Director Sayre has been with the Airport since May of 2007. In that time Sayre formed the Security and Safety Department, now the Operations Department, as well as CRW Services—the premier ground-handling service for large charters and low-cost carriers based at Yeager.

On July 22, 2015, then Assistant Director Sayre was voted Airport Director. In his four years as Director, Sayre has accomplished much at Yeager Airport, including the cleanup of the 2015 slope failure which cost approximately 5 million dollars, and the subsequent settlement of all lawsuits against the Airport as well as the resolution of the Airport Authority's cases against the contractors and engineers. He also oversaw the re-build of the Runway 5-end safety area and EMAS, which restores 500 feet of usable runway length.

Among many other accomplishments, having inherited a severe budget deficit, Director Sayre made the necessary cuts and managed the budget to where Yeager Airport now has a balanced budget including a reserve fund.

During the meeting, Kanawha County Commission President, Kent Carper, Sheriff Rutherford, along with representatives from the Governor's Office, US Attorney's Office, Yeager Airport Police Department, Transportation Security Administration, and the Kanawha Deputy Sheriffs' Civil Service Commission, honored Sayre and presented him with mementos of his service and accomplishments.

"It is just time. My grandson lives in Florida, and I don't want to miss any more of his baseball games or kindergarten events," said Director Sayre.

At the meeting, the Board of Members voted to appoint long-time Yeager Airport Assistant Director, Nick Keller, to the Director position.

Keller began working at Yeager Airport as an Intern and Special Assistant to the Airport Director in May of 2005. He began working for the Airport full-time in May of 2007 after graduating from Purdue University with a bachelor's degree in Organizational Leadership & Supervision. Keller went on to earn a master's degree from Purdue University in Aviation Management.

During his time with the Airport Nick Keller has served as Director of Public Safety & Special Services, Security & Safety Manager, and since August of 2015 as the Assistant Airport Director.

"Nick is very qualified for the job, I know he will continue to do a fantastic job for Yeager Airport," said Director Sayre.

Nick Keller lives in Charleston with his wife, Allison, and son, Denver.

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