

FINANCE DIRECTOR COUNTY OF EDDY, NEW MEXICO

This is an outstanding opportunity to become Finance Director of Eddy County, New Mexico. Eddy County is located in southeast New Mexico with its southern county line being part of the border between New Mexico and the State of Texas. Eddy County is seeking an experienced professional with a good working knowledge of accounting and financial systems, strong supervisory skills; local government finance experience is preferred.

Eddy County is looking for someone who is energetic, has experience creating/modifying and implementing internal controls, someone who is a proven leader to join the management team in planning for the future, and who appreciates County government and how it differs from state and/or city government.

The successful candidate must possess a Bachelor's degree in Accounting, Finance or a related field or five (5) years management experience in finance and accounting. A combination of education and experience may be used. CGFM, CMA or CPA preferred.

The Finance Director of Eddy County works under the general direction of the Assistant County Manager and involves carrying out financial policies and goals set by the Board of County Commissioners. This position plans and administers the systems and processes for the accounting of revenue and expenditures by Eddy County.

There are four incorporated municipalities in Eddy County; City of Artesia, Villages of Hope and Loving, and the county seat, the City of Carlsbad. The people of Eddy County have a long history of self-reliance and self-sufficiency. Agriculture, Dairy, Oil and Gas, Tourism and the Waste Isolation Pilot Plant (WIPP) are mainstays of the local economy as well.

Eddy County is large geographically with 4,182 square miles within its borders. Located on the edge of the Chihuahuan Desert, Eddy County elevations range from 2,842 feet, the lowest point in New Mexico at Red Bluff Reservoir, to 5,843 feet at the community of Queen, with higher elevations in the surrounding Guadalupe Mountains.

The 2012 population of Eddy County is 54,419. Of this number, 26,697 are residents of the City of Carlsbad and Artesia has a population of 11,365. The schools in Eddy County are some of the best in the State. Eddy County has three (3) public school districts.

Eddy County is a statutory county using a commission / manager form of government. The County Attorney and County Manager are hired by and report to the County Commission. Reporting to the County Manager are Assistant County Manager, Public Works, Detentions and Emergency Services. Reporting to the Assistant County Manager are Finance, Information Services, Facilities Management, Human Resources and General Services. These two groups make up the eight (8) appointed departments for the County.

The County budget is \$64 million (with inter-fund transfers); \$56 million (without inter-fund transfers). The operating budget is \$43 million and the capital budget is \$13 million. The County currently has 334 full time equivalent employees.

The County is in a very strong financial position and the local economy is currently in its fifth year of a sustained economic boom. Estimates indicate that the daily in County population is in excess of 75,000. The local economy is diversified and has oil and gas production, potash mining, nuclear energy (WIPP), agriculture, dairy and tourism as its mainstays. While the national economy has experienced a severe recession and slow recovery during the last 6 years, Eddy County has prospered. The County has no debt. Recently the County Commission has committed significant monies to improving County facilities - New \$2 million Clerk's building; Remodeling of the Administration Building at \$1 million; Remodeling/expanding of the jail at \$9 million; Building new Artesia satellite office at \$3 million; Construction is ongoing for a new Sheriff's building at \$8.7 million and a new records storage facility at \$1million. During the same period, the County has also set aside an additional \$16 million for a major road project that will begin construction during FYE15. During the last six (6) years the County has added 47 positions, an increase of 18.9%.

The starting salary will be market competitive depending upon the experience and qualifications of the successful candidate. The starting salary range is \$87,096 to \$91,499 per annum with the full salary range being \$87,096 to \$106,100. Competitive benefits package included.

This position is open until filled with a first review of applications on April 30, 2014. Resumes, cover letters and salary history to **Karolyn Prince-Mercer, Senior Vice President, The Mercer Group, Inc., 1000 Cordova Place, #726, Santa Fe, New Mexico 87505. Voice: 505-660-5503; Fax: 505-466-1274. E-Mail: kprince-merc@mercergroupinc.com ; Website: www.mercergroupinc.com. EOE**

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