



# **TRI-COUNTY AIRPORT (1J0)**

## **Special District Public Facilities Report**

October 8, 2019

## Governing Statute:

This plan is governed by Florida Statute 189.08, "Special district public facilities report".

## The Tri-County Airport Authority:

The Tri-County Airport Authority owns and operates The Tri-County Airport (FAA designator: 1J0), a public access airport with a runway (01-19) of 5,398 x 75 feet, a certified helipad and tie-downs available for short-term or long-term use. Airport runway elevation is 84-86 feet. The airport consists of 304 acres aligned generally north and south with runway 01-19 bisecting the property, with accompanying taxiways, a terminal and hangers.

The Tri-County Airport Authority (which owns and manages the airport) was formed by an act of the Florida legislature in July 1969. The airport is a public entity governed by the Tri-County Airport Authority, with unpaid volunteer board members appointed by the County Commissioners of Holmes, Jackson and Washington Counties, Florida.

The airport is located in the western Florida panhandle 56 miles north of Panama City. The airport is approximately six miles northeast of Bonifay (Florida), six miles northwest of Chipley and eleven miles southwest of Graceville.

The street address is 1983 Tri-County Airport Road, Bonifay, FL 32425 and the mailing address is PO Box 756, Bonifay, FL 32425. The airport telephone is (850) 547-6519.



## Funding:

Tri-County is a not-for-profit public airport; it's operational budget is paid for through the sale of aviation fuel (Jet A and 100 LL) and through hanger rents. Major projects such as runway extension and maintenance, hanger construction, etc. are paid primarily by grants.

It's budgets, finance and audit reports are posted on its public website: <https://www.tricountyairportfl.com/>

## Operational Demands:

The airport provide access into the air transportation network in support of commerce and private general aviation and can handle a full range of general aviation traffic, up to and including business jets.

The airport works most closely with:

- The Florida Department of Transportation
- The Federal Aviation Administration
- Other federal, state and local government agencies
- Aircraft owners
- Pilots
- Other interested parties

## Hangers and Tie-Down (Aircraft Parking) Spaces:

The airport currently has 37 enclosed hangers which are a combination of box hangers and "T" hangers, which can accommodate aircraft up to business jet size. All enclosed hangers are currently occupied and there is a waiting list maintained by the airport management.

The airport also has one large shade hanger, which is being lightly used, and which also is used for the storage of an aircraft tug and lawn equipment.

The airport provides ample aircraft parking spaces using tie-downs which are currently being lightly used.

The airport has additional enclosed hangers planned for construction to be completed on or before January 31, 2020. Its long-term plan includes the construction of additional hangers with accompanying taxiways.



## Terminal Building

Public access into the airport through the airport security gate into the terminal building is made by contacting the airport office at (850) 547-6519.

The airport has a terminal building (always open) which provides the following facilities:

- A public lounge with large couches and a small conference table
- A conference room with large-screen television to be used for meetings
- A break room with tables
- Two restrooms (one with a shower)
- An airport office (manned Monday through Friday during normal business hours, excluding holidays).
- Public parking available outside the airport security fence.
- Limited public parking available inside the airport security fence.



While the terminal building is currently able to meet its current operational demands placed upon it by aircraft and visitors, it is within the airport's five year plan to provide a larger terminal facility that offers better parking options, better layout of facilities and more amenities that would make the airport a more desirable and usable destination airport for visiting aircraft.

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## Fuel Farm

The Tri-County Airport Authority provides full-service and self-service 100 LL and Jet A aircraft fuel to transit aircraft and tenants.

The self-serve tanks are located immediately to the east of the terminal building (below the windsock and adjacent to the helipad). The self-serve fuel farm is well lit at night and includes a credit card processor.

Self-serve fuel delivery is available from small tanker trucks Monday through Friday during normal business hours, and after hours upon prior request.

The operational demands currently being placed upon our fuel facilities and equipment are currently being met.



## Signage:

We have taken steps to improve the airport's signage needs by placing inexpensive 4x8 foot signs at the northern end of the airport, above the large hanger that faces the fuel farm and runway and next to our fuel farm. Our long-range plan includes better and more robust, permanent signage at our northern or western entrance.

## Plans for Expansion and Growth:

The Tri-County Airport Authority is actively developing a comprehensive five-year plan with the assistance of AECOM, an American multinational engineering firm that includes specialists in Aviation planning. The plan is anticipated to be completed by December 31, 2019.

While the Tri-County Airport is currently able to meet its current operational demands place upon it by aircraft and visitors, we have already identified these areas for growth and expansion:

- The construction of additional hangars
- Re-configuration of its aircraft parking spaces
- The addition of a more robust potable water delivery system with storage and mains for growth, expansion and fire suppression
- The construction of a new terminal building
- The addition of a more robust septic tank system which would allow us to have an on-site restaurant or caterer tenant
- Better and more robust, permanent signage at our entrance.
- The addition of additional public parking spaces adjacent to a new terminal building.

## Review of This Plan

This plan will be maintained by the Tri-County Airport Authority, and shall be reviewed annually by the Board of Directors as a part of its annual review process (typically in August or September). Updates to this plan shall be posted to the Tri-County Airport Authority's website, [www.tricountyairportfl.com](http://www.tricountyairportfl.com).



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