

CHAPTER 69-534

House Bill No. 2859

An act relating to Holmes, Jackson, and Washington Counties; creating the Tri-County

Airport Authority; providing for its powers, members and their appointment; authorizing the boards of county commissioners of Holmes, Jackson and Washington Counties to make appropriations to the Tri-County Airport Authority; providing an effective date.

Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

Section 1. There is hereby created the "Tri-County Airport Authority," a body corporate, as an agency designed to accomplish the cooperative joint effort of the boards of county commissioners of Holmes County, Jackson County and Washington County, in the establishment and operation of an airport in Holmes County near the common geographic boundary point of said counties.

Section 2. The authority hereby created shall have all of the powers conferred upon municipalities by the provisions of chapter 332, Florida Statutes, to the same extent as if they were set forth herein in full.

Section 3. The authority hereby created shall consist of fifteen (15) members, of which number five (5) shall be appointed by the board of county commissioners of each of the three (3) participating counties of Holmes, Jackson and Washington, initial appointments to be made not later than thirty (30) days after July 1, 1969. Members of the original authority shall be appointed for terms as follows from each of the three (3) participating counties: One (1) member for a one (1) year term ending July 1, 1970; one (1) member for a two (2) year term ending July 1, 1971; one (1) member for a three (3) year term ending July 1, 1972; one (1) member for a four (4) year term ending July 1, 1973; and one (1) member for a five (5) year term ending July 1, 1974; and thereafter members shall be appointed for five (5) year terms except appointments to fill vacancies for unexpired terms in which event the appointment shall be for the unexpired term only. The members of the authority shall receive no compensation for their service but shall be entitled to be reimbursed for per diem and travel expenses incurred in the performance of their official duties as members of the authority when authorized by a majority of the members of the authority at a regular meeting, subject to the applicable provisions and limitations of section 112.061, Florida Statutes.

Section 4. Not later than fifteen (15) days after the appointment of members to the authority hereby created, and annually thereafter during July of each year, the members shall hold an organizational meeting at which they shall elect from their own membership a chairman, a vice-chairman, and a secretary-treasurer.

No business shall be transacted by the authority except at a regular called meeting of the members, at which a quorum is present and the minutes thereof recorded. Permanent records shall be maintained which shall reflect all official actions of the authority including all financial transactions.

Section 5. The secretary-treasurer of the authority hereby created shall give bond payable to the governor of the state in such amount and under such conditions as may be determined by the members of the authority.

Section 6. The authority hereby created shall not have power to compel the levy of ad valorem taxes, provided however, it may receive and expend such sums of money as shall be from time to time appropriated for its use by any of the counties represented on such authority. The various boards of county commissioners of said counties are hereby authorized to make an appropriation in their respective budgets as they see fit and to pay over to the authority hereby created such sums as may be so appropriated for final disbursement by the authority in the accomplishment of its purposes. The authority may receive and expend funds received from the federal government or any of its agencies.

Section 7. If any provision of this act or the application thereof to any person or circumstance shall be held invalid, such invalidity shall not affect the provisions or applicability of this act when the remainder hereof can be given effect without the invalid provisions or application, and to this end the provisions of this act are declared to be severable.

Section 8. This act shall take effect immediately upon becoming a law.

Became a law without the Governor's approval.

Filed in Office Secretary of State July 9, 1969.