

**MANATEE COUNTY GOVERNMENT EFFICIENCY LIAISON COMMITTEE
REGULAR MEETING
COUNTY ADMINISTRATION BUILDING, 5TH FLOOR, MANATEE ROOM
1112 Manatee Avenue West
Bradenton, Florida
September 23, 2025**

Meeting video link: <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCUlgjuGhS-qV966RU2Z7AtA>

Present were:

Mark Stanoch - Chairman
David Otterness – Vice-Chairman
John Settineri
Don Berg

Present were:

Brent Anderson, Government Relations
Crosley Jones, Legislative Aide
Vicki Tessmer, Board Records Supervisor, Deputy Clerk, Clerk of the Circuit Court

Chairman Stanoch called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m.

AGENDA

GE20250923DOC001

1. **CALL TO ORDER**

Chairman Stantoch delivered the invocation, and Mr. Anderson led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Minutes

A motion was made by Member Otterness, seconded by Member Settineri, and carried 4-0, to approve the minutes of August 26, 2025.

2. **NOVEMBER MEETING DATES**



Mr. Anderson announced that Benjamin Heavener resigned from the Committee.

A motion was made by Member Berg, seconded by Member Otterness, and carried 4-0, to hold the November meeting on November 10, 2025, at 10:00 a.m.

3. **CITIZEN COMMENT TIME LIMIT**

Discussion ensued regarding citizen comments on each item, or just once during the entire meeting, stick to the limit the County Commission sets,

Motion - Withdrawn

Member Settineri made a motion to limit citizen comments to three minutes.



A motion was made by Member Otterness, and seconded by Member Settineri to limit Citizen Comments to three minutes for a cap of 30 minutes

4. **COUNTY ORGANIZATIONAL CHARTS BY DEPARTMENT**



Mr. Anderson announced the organizational charts are located on the Committee's Sharepoint page.

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5. **LAKEWOOD RANCH BASEBALL FIELD**

 Mr. Anderson explained the property for the fields was donated to be used as soccer fields, but it was decided to put in baseball fields, which will produce less traffic than the soccer fields. The County Commission needs to approve the fields.

Discussion ensued regarding the original intent, the fields have been in the Parks Master Plan since 2006, this will go through the normal approval process, notify the concerned citizens of the process, cautious to not have this committee be the last stop for citizens, and if this becomes an efficiency issue the Committee will have discussion.

Stephanie Garrison, Government Relations Director, questioned how the Committee would like to communicate the information to the citizens.

Mr. Anderson will reach out to the citizens via letter.

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6. **RESERVES**

Mr. Anderson noted the breakdown of the reserves is in the Committee SharePoint.

 Discussion ensued regarding the possibility of giving back some of the reserves to taxpayers, should there be this much in reserves, are there funds that would be better spent elsewhere, the State has the information on the reserves, hopefully reports will be given to the County from the State in October, identify restricted and unrestricted reserves, 20 percent operating reserves what are the State requirements for reserves, and definition of General Fund reserves.

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7. **COMPARISON OF COUNTIES**

 Mr. Anderson explained the first comparison is based on budget and personnel, then counties of similar size.

Discussion ensued regarding the Florida Association of Counties report on property taxes, define just value and homestead, the majority of Manatee County funds come from service fees, not ad valorem taxes, research excludes Capital Improvement Projects (CIP), Manatee County is average among the comparison counties, property tax reports provide more trends and sources of revenue, and Sarasota and Collier County both have beaches.

Mr. Anderson explained the difference between just value versus taxable value, which is where the Save Our

GLEC DISCUSSION GUIDE

Stanoch used a slide presentation to review the Hernando County Committee, the GLEC mission and Resolution R-25-072, engaging with the State Department of Government Efficiency (DOGE) Committee, seek solutions to reduce local government spending, formalize approach and deliverables, identify target areas, how is the work product shared with citizens, high probability of duplication, consolidation, examples including printing and software, aggregation between School Board and Manatee County Government, Information Technology, transportation, how will findings be presented, how often to review and update, and the process for requesting information from staff,

Mr. Anderson explained the amount of information on the Committee's SharePoint is large due to the State Audit.

Discussion ensued regarding a public facing page similar to Hernando County, need to stay in front of the County Commission, and the request form is available for the public.

Chairman Stanoch referred back to the slides and sought Member areas of interest.

Discussion ensued regarding policies and procedures related to expenditures, maintenance and purchase of vehicles, printing, need to be practical, Tourist Development Tax, grants, Capital Improvements Plan (CIP) using Tourist Tax funds, reserve a portion of every meeting to discuss certain topics, each Member write up an area of interest and why the Committee should review the topics, be more specific, and have the topic expert attend the next meeting, Ms. Garrison will provide a presentation on grants, Information Technology could be an area of interest, Purchase-Card information may be more data driven, Procurement process, 20 minute limit for each presentation, Members submit particular questions regarding the three topics, and currently developing a strategic plan for the County.

It was determined the three topics will be Tourist Tax, Procurement, and Grants.

Chairman Stanoch tasked Members to look at the Hernando County DOGE page, and questions will need to be submitted to staff in two weeks.

Discussion ensued regarding Members meeting as a group must be under Sunshine, provide a Zoom link for these meetings, must have deliverables, and members should review the information in the SharePoint site on their own.

9. **AREAS OF INTEREST**

Discussed under previous item.

10. **CITIZEN COMMENTS**

 Dr. Darrel Drury opposed the plan for baseball fields at Country Club East Park (a local park), due to the disruption of the current use of the park by nearby residents.

There being no further citizen comments, Chairman Stanoch closed citizen comments.

11. **MEMBER COMMENTS**

Discussion ensued regarding sharing documents with citizens, and employee turnover.

Mr. Anderson noted he will get information regarding personnel and turnover for the next meeting.

Ms. Garrison noted the Committee SharePoint site has personnel information

12. **ADJOURN**

there being no further business, Chairman Stanoch adjourned the meeting at 2:33 p.m.

Minutes Approved: _____