

Government Efficiency Liaison Committee



Overview

- **First Meeting – 8/26/2025**
 - 1. Reviewed all information turned over to State DOGE team**
 - 2. Developed procedures, goals, and targets**
 - 3. Four main areas of interest**
 - Spending trend analysis
 - Purchasing synergy
 - ILAs
 - Overall procedures
 - 4. Presenting final report**



Committee Members



**David
Otterness**

Chairman
Area of expertise:
Economics



**Jeff
Covert**

Vice Chairman
Area of expertise:
**Information
Technology**



**Don
Berg**

Area of expertise:
Finance



**John
Settineri**

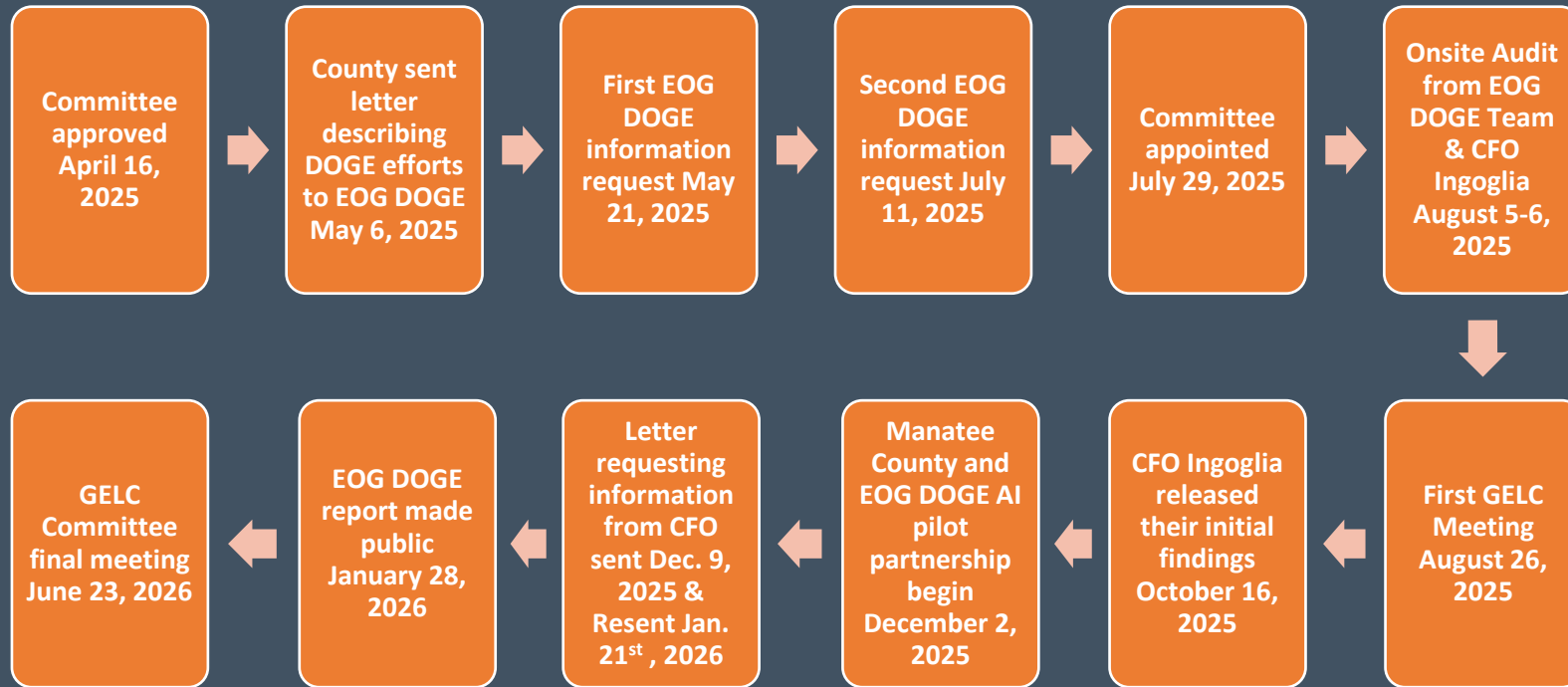
Area of expertise:
Accounting



Mark Stanoch (Previous Chair) – Area of Expertise Information Technology, Resigned March 13th, 2026 to run for BOCC District 11

Benjamin Heavener – Area of Expertise Accounting, Resigned September 22nd, 2025 because of time constraints

Government Efficiency Liaison Committee Timeline



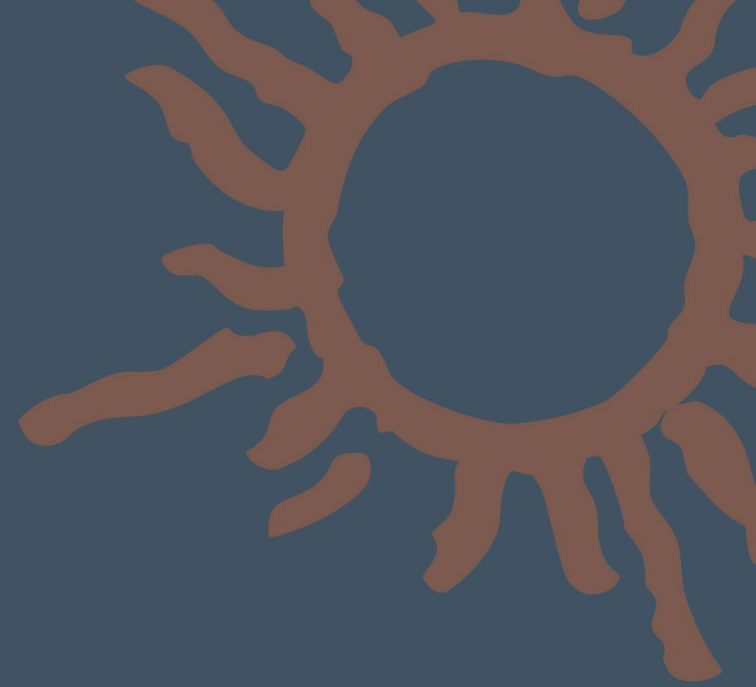
Scope of study



- The County's budget is not one flexible pot of money. Only 34.0% of the total budget comes from property taxes, and portions of that revenue are voter-approved or dedicated to specific taxing authorities. The remaining discretionary funding is restricted by law, grants or dedicated purposes, which means it cannot cover state-mandated or essential core services

Spending Analysis

- **Our expenditure study confirmed that Manatee County's expenditure growth is aligned to inflation and population growth covering fiscal years 2022-2025.**
 - **Study showed 3 outliers in expense growth**
 - **Public Safety, Sheriff's Department, and Utilities**
 - **We removed these due to Public safety requirements, Hurricanes, and Utilities being an enterprise fund**
 - **County had an 8.13% Expenditure growth, which is very close to the 7.12% combined inflation and population growth rate**



Purchasing synergy

- **County government entities can realize substantial benefits by combining purchasing power through coordinating procurement activities via shared services, ILA's, or centralized purchasing organizations**
- **The issue isn't "whether" governments can collaborate and more "how" the collaboration is structured to benefit each group involved**
- **Ideas to find cooperation: Limiting participation to similar entities, segmenting contracts by category , and creating master agreements with optional local addenda**
- **We request the Manatee County Purchasing Department to conduct a feasibility study to combine purchasing activities through an ILA across multiple county and city entities**



Interlocal Agreement (ILA) Background

- **Florida Statutes §163.01(2) authorizes local governmental units to cooperate with one another to make the most efficient use of their powers.**
- **The statute enables shared services and facilities that best align with geographic, economic, population, and community development needs.**
- **This statute was enacted in 1969.**



ILA Database

Potable Water Agreement (Town of Longboat Key)	Town of Longboat Key	Utilities	To provide potable water from the County system to the Town's distribution system.	2/6/2007	9/30/2031
Solid Waste Agreement	Town of Longboat Key	Utilities	Provision for the Town to transport solid waste to the County's landfill for disposal.	3/25/2014	Not explicitly stated in snippet.
Wastewater Agreement	Town of Longboat Key	Utilities	Provision for the County to treat wastewater collected by the Town's system.	11/10/2009	Renewable for 10-year periods with 18 months' notice.

- **Through collaboration between the GELC Committee and the Legislative Affairs division of Government Affairs, we have created an ILA database to increase historical knowledge**
- **Request that an ILA Sharepoint site be created to house completed database so that this information can be used when new ILA's are created**
- **Provide better information for current and future board members by capturing ILA cost, history, term dates, partners, funding sources, etc.**



Overall Procedures

- **The Committee believes the Board is not receiving sufficient information on the following subjects:**
 - **Capital Projects – which projects from the CIP, whose funding is still sitting in reserves, are potentially no longer viable?**
 - **TDT Funds – potential use of TDT funds to offset current projects within Manatee County general fund**
 - **Reserves - the purpose of each line item making up the reserves and whether some reserves could be eliminated to free up funds for property tax relief or for other purposes**



Key Takeaways

- **Expenditure study confirmed that Manatee County's expenditure growth is aligned to the inflation and population growth**
- **Request the Manatee County Purchasing Department to conduct a feasibility study to combine purchasing activities through an ILA across multiple county and city entities**
- **Request that an ILA Sharepoint site be created to house completed database so that this information can be used when new ILA's are created**
- **Request a review of all CIP projects, with funding currently in reserves, to evaluate if they are still viable and a priority.**



Thank you

