

DELEGATION ON GOVERNMENT EFFICIENCY (DOGE) COMMITTEE

MONDAY, OCTOBER 13, 2025 – 4:00 P.M.

Meeting

MEETING MINUTES

Attendees:

Paul Passarelli, Chairman
Douglas Huberts, Vice Chairman
Brandon Mowatt, Committee Member
Melissa Arceneaux, Committee Member
Robert Morgan, Committee Member
Kevin Passafiume, Committee Member - **Absent**
Melissa Flanagan, Committee Member - **Absent**
Richard Ross, Committee Member
Keith Kolasa, Committee Member
Ryan Amsler, Hernando County Commissioner
Jeffrey Rogers, Hernando County Administration
Jessica Wright, Hernando County Administration

The meeting was called to order at 4:00 P.M. Introductions were made.

Meeting Minutes

Mr. Morgan - Invocation

Mr. Morgan – Pledge of Allegiance

Mr. Passarelli – asked for a motion to approve the minutes. **Mr. Ross** motioned to approve minutes. **Mr. Kolasa** seconded the motion. All voted yes, no nays.

Citizen Comments

N/A

Presentations

N/A

Discussion from Board

Mr. Passarelli – reviewed new rules for the DOGE Committee and requested feedback from each team before dividing into smaller groups.

Mr. Huberts – proposed that DOGE Committee applicants be presented to the DOGE Committee prior to going before the BOCC (Board of County Commissioners).

Mr. Morgan – discussed the P-Card process, expressing concerns about limited visibility into travel and office supply expenditures. He noted significant spending on maintenance, hardware, and specialty equipment, including Parks and Recreation summer programs.

Mr. Mowatt – clarified the Paris trip was part of a State of Florida initiative, suggesting future evaluation of the trip's value to Hernando County.

Mr. Rogers – explained that this was the County's first participation in the event, intended to promote Hernando County to international businesses through collaboration with the State and site consultants.

Mr. Passarelli – shared updates from meetings with the Building Department (issues expected to be resolved by March 2026) and Department of Public Works (DPW) regarding staffing and project costs. He expressed concern over procurement practices, referencing a pole costing approximately \$1 million.

Mr. Ross – noted that procurement oversight connects directly to these issues.

Mr. Huberts – requested clarification on the Chair's expectations for the Procurement Team.

Mr. Morgan – reported observations from a bus system review, noting zero riders during a test trip on Route 7. He emphasized the need to evaluate efficiency while acknowledging the service's role for the community.

Mr. Mowatt – suggested gathering ridership data during peak commute hours 6 a.m. – 7 a.m. and 4 a.m. – 6 p.m.

Mr. Ross – observed low ridership generally and suggested reallocating service to high-demand routes, such as Pine Island.

Mr. Morgan – wants data for ridership.

Mr. Rogers – explained current transportation support for disabled individuals, seniors, and veterans.

Team Sessions @ 4:25pm for 45-minutes

Team Sessions done, Reconvene meeting @ 5:13pm

Mr. Wright – provided an update on outstanding information requests.

Mr. Ross – reported contacting the States of Georgia and Alabama regarding procurement contracts, with the intent to piggyback on existing agreements. He noted Hernando County is not currently listed on the national procurement site and recommended joining it to increase visibility and leadership.

Mr. Passarelli – asked for a motion to approve Mr. Mowatt going to Starcom. Mr. Huberts motioned to approve to go to Starcom. Mr. Kolasa seconded the motion. All voted yes, no nays.

Mr. Passarelli – directed all team members to submit summaries of their group work to Ms. Wright, who will compile the information for presentation to the BOCC on November 18, 2025. A review meeting will be held on November 10, 2025, to finalize the presentation.

Mr. Huberts – shared that he contacted a Manatee County DOGE Committee member, noting their proactive state audit participation and strong online presence.

Mr. Passarelli – asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Ross motioned to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Mowatt seconded the motion. All voted yes, no nays.

Next Meeting

October 27, 2025 @ 4:00pm

The meeting adjourned at 5: 43p.m.