

Tampa-Hillsborough County Expressway Authority  
Minutes of the May 19, 2025, Board Meeting  
1104 E. Twiggs Street  
Tampa, FL 33602

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The Tampa-Hillsborough County Expressway Authority held a public meeting at 1:30 p.m. on May 19, 2025, at THEA Headquarters, 1104 E. Twiggs Street in Tampa Florida. The following were present:

**BOARD:**

Vincent Cassidy, Chairman  
Bennett Barrow, Vice Chairman  
John Weatherford, Secretary  
Commissioner Donna Cameron Cepeda, Member

**STAFF:**

Greg Slater	Gary Holland
Amy Lettelleir	Emma Antolinez
Raul Rosario	Brian Ramirez
Gregory Deese	Brian McElroy
Keisha Boyd	Judith Villegas
Shari Callahan	Anna Quinones
Charlene Varian	Felipe Velasco
Chaketa Mister	Frederick Pekala
Pedro Leon	Lisa Pessina

**OTHERS:**

Christina Matthews, WSP	Rachel Ebner, Americanstructurepoint
Scarlett Sharpe, WSP	Juan Monsalve, Kimley Horn
Sally Dee, Playbook	Nathan Silva, RS&H
Sarah Lesch, Playbook	David Hubbard, Wey Engineering
Maddi Baptiste, Playbook	Jonathan Tursky, TransCore
James Drapp, HNTB	Scott Chase, Webber
Len Becker, HNTB	Priya Bawanaka, Kimley Horn
Brad Jones, Infotect	Stefanie McQueen, HDR
Steve Williams, Infotect	Matt Betancourt, RS&H
Christina Zeinali, Estrada Hinojosa	Katherine Brittian, RS&H
Steve Ferrell, HDR	Alex Bourne, RS&H
Scott Hooton, Neology	David Franklin, Quest

Chairman Cassidy called the meeting to order at 1:30 pm followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Public Input/Public Presentations** – There was no public input.

## Consent Agenda

1. Approval of April 28, 2025, Board meeting minutes
2. Approval of May 5, 2025, Budget Workshop minutes

*Chairman Cassidy requested a motion to approve the consent items. Mr. Barrow moved approval, seconded by Mr. Weatherford.*

*The motion passed unanimously.*

## Discussion/Action Items

**Operations & Engineering** – Bennett Barrow – Committee Chair – *Greg Deese, P.E., Director*

1. **Final Adjustment - Hubbard Construction Company – Resurfacing 78th Street to Falkenburg Road**

Mr. Deese introduced himself as the new Director of Operations and Engineering. He presented a request to reimburse Hubbard Construction Company, in accordance with the contract, for costs related to incentives, actual quantities, and material quality totaling \$142,931, which is a 5.9% increase for a total contract amount of \$2,576,704.

The requested action is for the Board to authorize payment to Hubbard Construction Company for contract adjustments related to fuel and bituminous, spread rate, and material quality in the amount of \$142,931 from the capital budget.

*Chairman Cassidy requested a motion to approve. Mr. Barrow moved approval, seconded by Mr. Weatherford.*

*The motion passed unanimously.*

2. **Final Design of Whiting Street Improvement Project – Shortlist Selection**

Mr. Deese presented the Evaluation Committee's recommendation to shortlist three firms responding to THEA's RFP for the design of the Whiting Street improvement project.

Firms
American Structurepoint
Kisinger Campo & Associates, Corp
Michael Baker International, Inc.

The requested action is for the Board to approve the Evaluation Committee's recommended shortlist of firms for the design of Whiting Street improvement project and direct staff to move forward with proposal evaluations and interviews with the shortlisted firms.

***Chairman Cassidy requested a motion to approve. Mr. Barrow moved approval, seconded by Mr. Weatherford.***

***The motion passed unanimously.***

**Toll Technology & Customer Experience – Bennett Barrow, Committee Chair**  
– Raul Rosario, Director

### **1. Operational Back-Office System (OBOS) Selection**

Mr. Rosario presented an item to select a technical vendor to implement a new Operational Back Office System (OBOS) to support toll collections for the next 10-15 years. The new OBOS will provide flexibility, scalability, and efficiency to support THEA's tolling initiatives while mitigating operational risks.

Firm	Rank
Neology, Inc.	1
Quarterhill Inc.	2

The requested action is for the Board to accept the rankings of the Evaluation Committee and to authorize and direct staff to negotiate and execute a contract with the highest ranked firm. If negotiations are unsuccessful, staff shall negotiate with the next highest ranked firm. The contract is subject to review and approval of THEA Chief Legal Officer.

***Chairman Cassidy requested a motion to approve. Mr. Barrow moved approval, seconded by Mr. Weatherford.***

***The motion passed unanimously.***

## **Staff Reports**

**Operations & Engineering – Greg Deese, P.E., Director**

Mr. Deese provided an update on the following projects:

- East Toll Plaza and Tech Building Roof Replacement - completed May 7, within budget, with a final contract value of \$110,000.
- East Selmon Resurfacing from 78<sup>th</sup> Street to Falkenburg Road – completed April 18 with a contract value of \$2,576,703.

He also showed before and after photos of two of THEA's Asset Maintenance projects – the ditch cleaning and bridge pressure washing.

Finally, he highlighted THEA's maintenance scores showing a 4-point increase in three months. Mr. Slater added that the drainage ditch shown earlier in the presentation was completely cleaned and is part of the Webber contract.

## **Executive Reports**

Executive Director – *Greg Slater, Executive Director*

- 1. Contract Renewals and Expirations** – Mr. Slater reported on one contract renewal with Gannett Fleming for Miscellaneous Toll Operations Support Services. It is the second one-year renewal.
- 2. Director's Report** – Mr. Slater thanked everyone for the budget workshop conversation and noted we are preparing for the June budget presentation. He mentioned that the Planning team will give a detailed presentation next month with the results of the early planning on 301, and he will update the BOCC sometime this summer.

Mr. Slater reported that there was a recent fire on the system at 22<sup>nd</sup> Street. The area has been inspected, and we are having Webber perform the recommended surface repairs. We will also be clearing vegetation and doing fence repairs as required.

He noted that the THEA team met recently to walk through our hurricane procedures and have begun our preparation with cleaning and inspecting storm drain systems.

Mr. Slater welcomed Greg Deese, the new Director of Operations and Engineering, and updated the Board on upcoming travel. Ms. Lettelleir will be serving on a panel at IBTTA, and he will participate in the Forum for Infrastructure leaders.

He also provided an update on THEA accomplishments during FY2025. He reported project and staff accolades such as the international recognition of the East Selmon Slip Ramps, IBTTA Toll Excellence Award, THEA being named a Top 10 Road and the GFOA Award for Financial Reporting. Some of the leadership achievements include Judith Villegas advancing through the FTBA Leadership Program and Keisha Pickett Boyd being named "Women Who Win" finalist and being selected for Tampa Bay Chamber Leadership Tampa. He also mentioned some of the prominent speaking engagements THEA has participated in, such as CoMotion Miami, ITS America, FAV Summit, and COMTO, as well as some notable upcoming speaking engagements ITE International, ITS World Congress, Cambridge Forum for Infrastructure Leaders, and IBTTA Legal and HR Conference.

Mr. Slater also pointed to the strengthening of the THEA Team, noting the new personnel and new roles.

He reviewed project milestones for:

- US 301
- South Selmon
- Whiting Street
- East Selmon
- Selmon Greenway
- Wrong-way Driving
- Enhanced Asset Maintenance
- Tax Collector partnerships
- Hurricane readiness

He touched on THEA's financial readiness and real estate strategy and noted the extensive procurement activity over the past fiscal year.

Mr. Slater concluded by noting that THEA's consistent focus on innovation, planning, and operational excellence is driving record level construction, transformative initiatives, and a bold, forward-looking 6-year capital program.

Chairman Cassidy made note of the terrific work staff has done over the past year.

**B. Chief Legal Officer – *Amy Lettelleir, Esquire***

No report.

**C. Chairman – *Vince Cassidy***

**1. Upcoming Meetings**

- Committees of the Whole – June 9, 2025 – Cancelled
- Board Meeting – June 23, 2025
- Committees of the Whole – July 14, 2025
- Board Meeting – July 28, 2025

**VI. Old Business**

No old business.

**VII. New Business**

No new business.

### VIII. Adjournment

With no further business, the meeting adjourned at 1:45 p.m.

APPROVED:  ATTEST:   
Chairman: Vince Cassidy Vice Chairman: Bennett Barrow

DATED THIS 23<sup>RD</sup> DAY OF JUNE 2025.