

Tampa-Hillsborough County Expressway Authority
Minutes of the October 28, 2024, Board Meeting
1104 E. Twiggs Street
Tampa, FL 33602

The Tampa-Hillsborough County Expressway Authority held a public meeting at 1:30 p.m. on October 28, 2024, 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
Mayor Jane Castor, Member
District Secretary David Gwynn, FDOT

STAFF:

Greg Slater	Judith Villegas
Amy Lettelleir	Lisa Pessina
Bob Frey	Emma Antolinez
Brian Pickard	Felipe Velasco
Jeff Seward	Pedro Leon
Keisha Boyd	Liz Gray
Shari Callahan	Frederick Pekala
Gary Holland	Brian McElroy
Charlene Varian	Anna Quinones
Chaketa Mister	Szabina Szenassy
Shannon Bush	

OTHERS:

Xiaoyun Li, PFM	Jonathan Tursky, TransCore
Alex Bourne, RS&H	Christina Matthews, WSP
Sally Dee, Playbook	Sarah Lesch, Playbook
Maddi Baptiste, Playbook	Stefanie McQueen, HDR
John Generalli, Wells Fargo	Rick Patterson, Raymond James
Steven Williams, Infotect	
Nicole Dufva, WSP	

Call to Order and Pledge of Allegiance

Chairman Cassidy called the meeting to order at 1:32 pm, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Public Input/Public Presentations

There was no public comment.

Consent Agenda

Approval of Minutes from the September 23, 2024, Board Meeting

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

The motion passed unanimously.

Before moving on to the Action Items, Chairman Cassidy thanked THEA staff and FDOT for addressing concerns during and after Hurricane Milton, and for getting the roads open so soon after the storm.

Operations & Engineering – Bennett Barrow, Committee Chair – *Brian Pickard, P.E., Director*

Additional Inspection Services – Burgess & Niple - \$475,467

Mr. Pickard presented an item for additional inspection services and requested the Board to authorize the Executive Director to execute a purchase order with Burgess & Niple for additional inspection services in the amount of \$475,467.

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

The motion passed unanimously.

Cleaning and Staining the REL – Design Services – HNTB - \$484,226

Mr. Pickard presented an item for design services and scope development for the cleaning and staining of the REL. He requested the Board to authorize the Executive Director to execute a task order with HNTB for \$484,226 to develop a design and scope to procure a contractor for the cleaning and staining of the REL.

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

The motion passed unanimously.

FY2025 East Selmon Resurfacing from 78th Street to Falkenburg Road

Mr. Pickard presented an item to approve the selection of the lowest bid firm to provide all the labor, materials, equipment, and incidentals necessary to mill and resurface the local lanes from 78th Street to Falkenburg Road in both directions.

He requested the Board to approve the selection of the lowest bid from Hubbard Construction in the amount of \$2,433,772.56, and to authorize and direct staff to negotiate and execute a contract with Hubbard Construction. If negotiations are unsuccessful, staff shall negotiate with the next lowest bid firm. Contract is subject to review and approval of THEA Chief Legal Officer.

Mr. Slater added that this was originally part of an emergency authorization; however, we were able to make temporary repairs that eliminated the need to use that authorization.

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

The motion passed unanimously.

Team Reports

Operations & Engineering – Brian Pickard, P.E., Director

Mr. Pickard presented an update on the THEA Headquarters office renovations. The project is at 5% of contract time. The first and second floors should be complete by December 10, 2024, and completion of the third floor is expected by January 31, 2025.

Planning & Innovation – Bob Frey, Director

Mr. Frey provided an update on the vulnerable road user technology for use on the Morgan Street ramp, ramp 7. This location has a high number of pedestrian traffic and vehicle conflicts, THEA is investigating using connected technology to detect pedestrians at exit ramp intersections and provide warnings through traditional ITS devices as well as connected technology. The technology being investigated underwent and passed USDOT interoperability testing last week.

Chairman Cassidy asked if cars would require an adaptor to use the technology. Mr. Frey reported the units will use existing OEM technology while preparing for the future. The Chairman clarified that his question was specific to the auto industry. Mr. Frey replied in the affirmative, noting that all of the vehicle manufacturers that took part in the CV Pilot were using DENSO technology. THEA has maintained a relationship with DENSO and they were very helpful in testing.

Toll Operations – Gary Holland, Toll Systems Manager

Mr. Holland provided an update on weekly transactions for the month of September, as well as the monthly transactions, which show a decrease of 226,000 toll transactions year-over-year. This is largely due to Hurricane Helene impacting expressway traffic over several days. He pointed out that when staff removed the hurricane days from 2023 and 2024 data, traffic counts increase by 2% on weekdays and 1% on weekends.

For average weekday transactions, we show negative numbers on the mainline, but REL traffic continues to increase. Finally, he reported on the number of SunPass customers vs. Toll-by-Plate customers.

Budget & Finance – Jeff Seward, Chief Financial Officer

Mr. Seward provided a quarterly financial update, reporting that revenues are on track. THEA underspent in the first quarter in multiple operations, however the Administration/Professional Services as well as Administration/General are higher due to the front-loaded expensive contracts for the year. In the second quarter update that will be

given in January, we will see the implications of the 11.5-day toll suspension due to Hurricane Milton. We estimate about \$3.4M in uncollected revenue.

Executive Reports

Contract Renewals and Expirations – *Greg Slater, Executive Director*

Mr. Slater reported that THEA has one contract renewal, and that is the second one-year renewal for Traffic and Revenue Services with Stantec Consulting Services. Inc.

Director's Report – *Greg Slater, Executive Director*

Mr. Slater reported that THEA continues to work on damage from the back-to-back hurricanes. He provided a rundown of the various damage to the roadside, ITS and Toll equipment, and THEA buildings.

Mr. Slater also gave an update on the South Selmon Capacity Project, which will be advertised next month. The solicitation is a combination of best value design-build, phased design-build, and risk mitigation techniques.

He also announced that THEA broke its daily transaction record by 7.3%.

Regarding Team THEA – Mr. Slater shared that THEA was awarded GFOA's Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting. The Certificate of Achievement is the highest form of recognition in governmental accounting and financial reporting, and its attainment represents a significant accomplishment by a government and its management.

Finally, Mr. Slater gave an update on his recent and upcoming travel. Last week he was in D.C. advising USDOT on resiliency and presenting at their cyber security summit. Later today he is heading to Cleveland for the IBTTA meeting where THEA will be awarded a toll excellence award for the East Selmon slip ramps.

Chairman – *Vince Cassidy*

Upcoming Meetings

- Board Meeting – November 18, 2024
- Board Meeting – December 16, 2024

Old Business

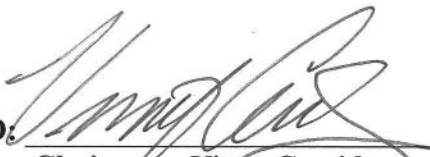
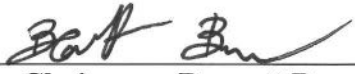
No old business.

New Business

No new business.

Adjournment

With no further business, the meeting adjourned at 1:54 p.m.

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

DATED THIS 18TH DAY OF NOVEMBER 2024.