

**CITY OF OCOEE  
MUNICIPAL GENERAL EMPLOYEES' RETIREMENT TRUST FUND  
BOARD OF TRUSTEES SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES  
City Hall, Commission Chambers  
1 N. Bluford Avenue, Ocoee, FL 34761**

Tuesday, March 17, 2026, at 10:00AM

**TRUSTEES PRESENT:** Gequita "Gee" Cowan, Chair  
Steven Sanders, Vice Chair  
Gary Gleason  
Shannon Hopper

**TRUSTEES ABSENT:** Patricia "Pat" Gleason, Secretary

**OTHERS PRESENT:** Pedro Herrera, Jones Walker  
Tiffany Fair, Foster & Foster  
Members of the Public

1. **Call to Order** – Gequita Cowan called the meeting to order at 10:11AM and a quorum was determined.
2. **Roll Call** – As reflected above.
3. **Public Comments** – None.
4. **New Business**
  - a. Discussion of legal services
    - i. Gequita Cowan stated that the purpose of the special meeting was to determine how the Board wished to proceed with legal services and to review the current situation.
    - ii. The Board discussed the communication that they received from Sugarman, Susskind & Braswell regarding the departure of Pedro Herrera from their firm.
    - iii. The Board discussed their experience and interaction with other attorneys at Sugarman, Susskind & Braswell.
    - iv. The Board gave feedback on the services they had received from Pedro Herrera stating he was tenured and provided excellent work. One trustee commented their only negative issue he recalled was in-person attendance but since it was brought to his attention it had been corrected.
    - v. The Board discussed Pedro Herrera's tenure and extensive knowledge of their plan and how critical that was.

*Note: Pedro Herrera joined at 10:18AM*

- vi. Pedro Herrera approached the Board and explained that leaving Sugarman after working there for over 20 years was not an easy decision, but a necessary decision based on various factors.

- vii. Pedro Herrera provided information about the new firm, Jones Walker, and the additional resources that were available to him that would benefit the pension plan and their Board. Pedro also commented he had more freedom and flexibility to hire additional resources as needed with the new firm.
- viii. Pedro Herrera confirmed the services and fees would stay the same.

**The Board voted to retain Pedro Herrera with Jones Walker, upon motion by Gary Gleason and second by Steven Sanders; motion carried 4-0.**

- ix. Pedro Herrera thanked the Board for their business, and the next steps would be a termination letter to Sugarman, Susskind, & Braswell and he would draft a new engagement letter reflective of the new firm.

5. **Trustees' Reports, Discussion, and Action** – None.

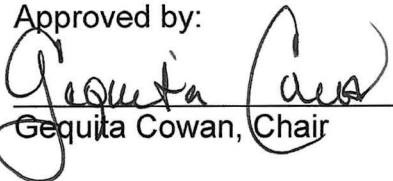
6. **Next Meeting** – May 6, 2026, at 10:00AM, Quarterly Meeting

7. **Adjournment** – The meeting adjourned at 10:29AM.

Respectfully submitted by:

  
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Tiffany Fair, Plan Administrator

Approved by:

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Gequita Cowan, Chair

Date Approved by the Pension Board: MAY 6, 2024