



**PINAL COUNTY LAW ENFORCEMENT MERIT COUNCIL
Minutes
Monday December 1, 2025**

10:00 AM - CALL TO ORDER

**PINAL COUNTY EOC Planning & Development
Hearing Room
301 E. 11th Street
Florence, AZ 85132**

COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT:


- Rick Sanchez, Vice-Chairperson
- Tom Hollenbach, Council Member
- Roger Vanderpool, Council Member

OTHERS PRESENT:

- Donna Aversa, Counsel to the Council
- Vina Bustos, Pinal County HR, serving as recording secretary to the Council
- MaryEllen Sheppard, Pinal County HR Director/County Manager
- Nick Cook, Attorney for Appellant

1. **Call to Order** – Chairperson Huddleston called the meeting order at 10:05 am.
2. **Roll Call** – Those present identified themselves. Quorum identified by having three members present, with members Robert Huddleston and Robert Cooper absent.
3. **Review, discussion, and possible action to determine the Council's position and role in the Judicial Review of Administrative Decision filed in the Pinal County Superior Court, Case No. CV202503386.** Council member Vanderpool moved that the Pinal County Law Enforcement Merit Council, having heard the appeals and having made their findings as required by the merit system rules, have done their job and considers any pending matters in the Pinal County Superior courts as a continuation of that employment dispute between the employee and the employer (Pinal County Sheriff's Office) and further directs its attorney Donna Aversa to appear on behalf of the LEMC Council and to submit the Council's positions to the court. Tom Hollenbach seconded this motion. Motion passed unanimously.
4. Meeting adjourned at 10:20 am.

1-12-2026
Approved on


Acknowledged by Rick Sanchez