



**MARICOPA COUNTY
MERIT SYSTEMS COMMISSION
Employee Merit System
and
Law Enforcement Officers' Merit System**

GENERAL SESSION

**MEETING MINUTES
Tuesday, January 12, 2021
Conference Line Meeting**

EMPLOYEE MERIT SYSTEM COMMISSION

Chairman Pickard convened the Merit Systems Commission in General Session at 1:33 pm; Vice-Chairman Blais, Commissioner Lake, and Commissioner Petsas were present on the conference line. Also present on the conference line: Justin Pierce, Merit Commission Legal Counsel; Ron Hormuz, HR Employee Relations Manager; and Keri March, Merit Systems Commission Coordinator. Commissioner Friend was absent.

Upon convening the session, Chairman Pickard moved to the first item on the agenda.

- 1.** Appointment of the Chairman and Vice-Chairman for the 2021 calendar year
Commissioner Petsas motioned to appoint Commissioner Blais as the Chairman and Chairman Pickard as the Vice-Chair. Commissioner Lake seconded the motion. The motion carried with four (4) ayes and zero (0) nays.

- 2.** Approval of the Employee Merit System Commission Meeting calendar for the 2021 calendar year.
Chairman Pickard moved to approve the Employee Merit System calendar for 2021. The motion carried with four (4) ayes and zero (0) nays.

- 3.** Approval of the November 10, 2020, Employee Merit System (EMS) Commission General Session meeting minutes.
Commissioner Lake made a motion to approve the Employee Merit System Commission General Session Meeting Minutes November 10, 2020. Commissioner Blais seconded the motion. The motion carried with four (4) ayes and zero (0) nays.

- 4.** Status of Employee Merit System Appeals

Ms. March reported that there are currently three appeals pending for the Employee Merit Commission. All three are projected to be heard in February.

5. Employee Merit System Call to the Public

No one responded to the call to the public.

Chairman Blais made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Chairman Lake seconded the motion. The motion carried with four (4) ayes and zero (0) nays. The meeting was adjourned at 1:41 pm.

DocuSigned by:

Casey Blais

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Casey Blais
Lenny Pickard, Chairman
Merit Systems Commission

2/16/2021

Keri March

Keri March, Commission Coordinator
Merit Systems Commission



MARICOPA COUNTY
MERIT SYSTEMS COMMISSION
Employee Merit System
and
Law Enforcement Officers' Merit System

GENERAL SESSION

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January 12, 2021
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LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS' MERIT SYSTEM COMMISSION

Chairman Pickard convened the Merit Systems Commission in General Session at 1:41 pm; Vice-Chairman Blais, Commissioner Lake, and Commissioner Petsas were present on the conference line. Also present on the conference line: Justin Pierce, Merit Commission Legal Counsel; Ron Hormuz, HR Employee Relations Manager; and Keri March, Merit Systems Commission Coordinator. Commissioner Friend was absent.

Upon convening the session, Chairman Pickard moved to the first item on the agenda.

1. Appointment of the Chairman and Vice-Chairman for the 2021 calendar year
Commissioner Lake made a motion to appoint Commissioner Blais as the Chairman and Chairman Pickard as the Vice-Chair. Commissioner Blais seconded the motion. The motion carried with four (4) ayes and zero (0) nays.
2. Approval of the Law Enforcement Officers Merit System Commission Meeting calendar for the 2021 calendar year.
Chairman Petsas moved to adopt the Law Enforcement Officers Commissioner Lake seconded the motion. The motion carried with four (4) ayes and zero (0) nays.
3. Approval of the November 10, 2020, Law Enforcement Officers' Merit System (LEOMS) Commission General Session meeting minutes.
Commissioner Lake made a motion to approve the Law Enforcement Officers Merit System Commission General Session Meeting Minutes for November 10, 2020. Commissioner Blais seconded the motion. The motion carried with four (4) ayes and zero (0) nays.
4. Tennyson v Sherriff's Office
The time set for consideration by the Law Enforcement Officers' Merit System Commission of the Hearing Officer's Finding of Fact, Conclusions of Law, and Recommendations for the following appeal:

MC FY20-L01	David Tennyson v MCSO
Disciplinary Action:	8 Hour Suspension
Appellant's Representative:	Kathryn Baillie, Esq.
Respondent's Attorney:	Katherine Baker, Esq.
Hearing Officer:	Harold Merkow
HO Recommendation:	Appeal be denied, 8-hour suspension sustained

Mr. Tennyson appealed his suspension with the Maricopa County Attorney's Office. Katherine Baker, Maricopa County Attorney's office representing the Maricopa County Attorney's office, was present on the meeting's conference line. Appellant's attorney, Kathryn Baillie, was present on the conference line also.

Chairman Pickard invited Ms. Baker to address the Commission as the representative for the Respondent. Ms. Baker presented a brief synopsis of the matter on appeal and asked the Commission to adopt the Hearing Officer's findings and uphold the 8-hour suspension.

Chairman Pickard invited questions from the Commissioners. There were no questions. Chairman Pickard invited Ms. Baillie to address the Commission. Ms. Baillie informed the Commission that Mr. Tennyson wanted to address them. Mr. Tennyson presenting a brief synopsis of the matter on appeal and asked the Commission to overturn the discipline. Chairman Pickard invited questions from the Commissioners. There were no questions.

Chairman Pickard invited Ms. Baker to address the Commission. Ms. Baker addressed the Commission and responded to Mr. Tennyson's comments. Ms. Baker then asked that the commission uphold the suspension.

Commissioner Blais made a motion to adopt the hearing officer's finding of facts, conclusion of law, and recommendations as it owns and deny the appeal of Sergeant Tennyson. Commissioner Lake seconded the motion. The motion carried with four (4) ayes and zero (0) nays.

5. Status of Law Enforcement Officers' Merit System Appeals

Ms. March reported that there are currently two appeals pending for the Law Enforcement Officers' Merit Commission projected to be heard in February.

6. Law Enforcement Officers' Merit System (LEOMS) Call to the Public

Chairman Pickard called for an adjournment. Motion carried with four (4) ayes and zero (0) nays. The meeting was adjourned at 2:06 pm.

DocuSigned by:

Casey Blais

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Casey Blais
Larry Pickard, Chairman
Law Enforcement Officers Merit Systems
Commission

Keri March

Keri March, Commission Coordinator
Law Enforcement Officers Merit Systems
Commission