

YAMHILL COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

SPECIAL FORMAL SESSION

October 10, 2017

1:00 p.m.

Room 32, Courthouse

PRESENT: Commissioners Mary Starrett, Stan Primozich and Richard L. "Rick:" Olson.

STAFF: Ken Huffer, Christian Boenisch, Tim Svenson, Emily Williams, Desiree Lundeen, Woody Little, and Robert Montgomery.

GUESTS: Nicole Montesano, News-Register

Commissioner Primozich called the meeting to order 1:00 pm

1. Consideration of an appeal of the demotion of Woody Little.

County Counsel, Christian Boenisch stated the reason for the special formal session is to consider the appeal of the demotion of Woody Little from Sergeant to Deputy, effective June 30, 2017. Mr. Boenisch explained that the Board of Commissioners has three options: 1.) affirm the Sheriff's decision to demote Mr. Little, 2.) reverse the decision to demote Mr. Little and reinstate him to his former position, or 3.) reduce or modify the level of disciplinary action.

Deputy Little read a personal statement recounting the incident, his interactions with staff and inmates the night of the incident, the events that preceded the Sheriff's decision to demote and highlighted his years of service, character and reputation.

The Board addressed questions to Sheriff Svenson regarding the differences between a criminal and disciplinary investigation, discrepancies mentioned in the grievance report regarding information noted in the Major Crime Response Team (MCRT) report and the Advanced Technology Information Management System (ATIMS) report and Mr. Little's ability to apply for a sergeant position in the future.

Commissioner Starrett and Olson stated that they would like more time to review the information prior to rendering a decision. Mr. Boenisch advised the Board that this would be the last opportunity to ask questions of Mr. Little and his attorney and that a decision would be required within fifteen days of this hearing.

2. Other business as necessary. None.

The meeting adjourned at 1:39 p.m.

Crystal Cox
Secretary