

**Water Commission Mtg.
April 23, 2025**

Present: Commissioners David Hammelman, Angie Brown, Melanie Penoyar-Perez, Ole Gjerde, Kiki Miller and Tony Rathbun

Absent: Commissioner Brian Gaddie and Mayor Jason Gray

Staff: Mark Marlowe, Mark Henderson, Nichol Bussey, Scott Tait, Paul Rementer, Hannah Branning and MaryJo Reese

5:30 pm Tour of Castle Rock Reservoir #1 & #2 and the Sedalia Pump Station

Start: 7:00 pm

End: 8:32 pm

Council Report

Time was allowed for Mr. Marlowe to share a council update.

Commissioner Comments

Time was allowed for Commissioner Comments.

Douglas County Water Commission Meeting Update

Mr. Marlowe shared an update on the Douglas County Water Commission meeting.

1. WC 2025-034 Introduction of New Assistant Director

Mr. Marlowe introduced the new Assistant Director, Mark Henderson. CRW is very excited to welcome Mr. Henderson to the team.

2. WC 2025-035 Approval of the March 26, 2025 Meeting Minutes

I move to approve the Minutes as presented.

It was moved by Melanie Penoyar-Perez and seconded by Ole Gjerde to approve the March 26, 2025 meeting minutes as presented. The motion passed (5-0-1). Angie Brown abstained.

3. WC 2025-036 Resolution Approving Changes to the Chase Drain Policy

Ms. Branning shared that the current Chase Drain policy was introduced in 2008 as a courtesy service to customers. Homeowners can reach out to Castle Rock Water (CRW) if they feel that there is a constant flow of water over their sidewalk. The Stormwater team will monitor the site for 1 year. If at any time during that one year the sidewalk is dry the site becomes ineligible for the program.

Since the inception of the program CRW has received 582 requests and have installed approximately 70 chase drains. Homeowners who do not wish to wait for the process can purchase a chase drain (from CRW), get a right of way permit, and hire a contractor to install it.

Ms. Branning also shared that the cost of a chase drain and installation for CRW is about \$4,500 and doesn't usually fix the issue.

This program is very time consuming and does have a cost for CRW. Staff would like to recommend that Homeowners be charged a fee of \$1,500 to help cover the cost of the chase drain and installation. Homeowners would also be asked to sign a release agreement with the Town covering that the homeowner is responsible for the repair and replacement of the chase drain once installed.

I move to recommend CRW staff move forward with the changes to the Chase Drain Policy as presented.

Kiki Miller moved to approve the Resolution as presented, Melanie Penoyar-Perez seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously (6-0).

4. WC 2025-037 Resolution Approving a Service Agreement between the Town of Castle Rock and Norris Design to complete the Design of the ColoradoScape Demonstration Garden [1282 Castle Oaks Dr. Castle Rock, CO 80104]

Ms. Bussey explained that this item is for design services for the CRW Demonstration Garden. The goal of the garden is to showcase low water plants that will grow in the area. Future plans include adding a park to the location.

5. WC 2025-038 ColoradoScape Design Sweepstakes

Ms. Bussey shared that due to declining participation numbers staff has re-worked the ColoradoScape contest. The new contest will focus on ColoradoScape design. Residents can simply sign up for a chance to win one of ten professional landscape designs for the front yard. CRW has two designers that will go out to each home and create a design specific to that space. It will be the responsibility of the residents to complete the yard transformation. Each winner will also receive a smart irrigation controller and a rain sensor.

Residents can enter the contest from April 1, 2025 thru April 30, 2025. Winners will be randomly selected from all qualified entries in early May.

6. WC 2025-039 South Metro Water Festival, June 18, 2025 [PS Miller Park, 1375 Plum Creek Pkwy, Castle Rock CO 80109]

Ms. Bussey explained that the South Metro Water Supply Authority along with its 13 members will be hosting a regional water festival to bring awareness to area residents about the water industry in a fun and interactive way. The first water festival will be hosted here in Castle Rock at the PS Miller Park & Amphitheater, on June 18th from 2 pm to 6 pm. As part of the event individuals can learn about our watershed, talk to experts about ColoradoScaping their yards, see how their water meter works, as well as fun activities for kids. The goal is to move the festival to a different member region each year and share the importance of water.

Castle Rock will also be hosting the Come for the Water, Stay for the Beer After-Party, from 6 pm to 8 pm. At the After-Party, there will be live music and chances to win a can of Dos Veces Mexican Lager, specially brewed with Castle Rock's amazing reuse water.

7. WC 2025-040 Debt Financial Management Plan

Mr. Rementer gave an update on the current CRW budget. Ms. Bussey then shared a presentation on CRW's Financial Management plan.

8. WC 2025-041 State Revolving Fund Loan – Plum Creek Water Reclamation Authority (PCWRA) [4255 N. US Highway 85, Castle Rock, CO 80108]

Mr. Marlowe explained that the Plum Creek Water Reclamation Authority must expand the xxxx to accommodate the four golf courses that are served by the PCWRA. Only one of these golf courses, Red Hawk, is within the Town of Castle Rock. PCWRA is proposing to take a State Revolving Fund Loan to finance the expansion and the golf courses would pay the loan through PCWRA through increases consumption charges. Due to the possible higher interest rate of the State Revolving Fund Loan, which is project to be as high as XX%, Castle Rock Water is considering the option to pay cash for Red Hawk's portion of the expansion through a self-funded loan to the Red Hawk Golf Course at a lower interest rate than the State Revolving Fund Loan. Red Hawk Golf Course would pay back the loan through the CRW monthly water bill. This option could potentially save the Red Hawk Golf Course a significant amount of money while also generating additional revenue for CRW.

9. WC 2025-042 Tallgrass Project Update

Mr. Tait shared an update on the Tallgrass Project and what items have been accomplished to date.

8. WC 2025-032 Upcoming Town Council Items

This is a standing item that will be used to share information about projects that are being worked on at the time of the meeting but that staff doesn't have information ready yet.

Commissioner Meeting Comments

Time was allowed for Commissioner Comments.