



Public Safety Commission Meeting Minutes

Chairperson Dan Smoker
Vice Chair Kerstin Keough
Clark Hammelman
Don MacBrayne
Nate Marsh
Janet Peterson
Carl Smith
Steve Thayer
Mike Wells

Thursday, February 3, 2022

3:00 PM

Castle Rock Municipal Courtroom,
100 Perry St., Castle Rock, CO 80104

This meeting is open to the public. Please note that all times indicated on the agenda are approximate and interested parties are encouraged to be present earlier than the posted time.

Call to Order and Attendance

Chairperson Smoker called the meeting to order at 3:00 p.m.

Present 6 - Chairperson Dan Smoker, Don MacBrayne, Vice Chair Nate Marsh, Carl Smith, Steve Thayer, and Mike Wells

Not Present 3 - Vice Chair Kerstin Keough, Clark Hammelman, and Janet Peterson

Attendance 3 - Norris Croom, Sam Varela, and Deborah Stanley

Approval of Meeting Minutes

[PS 2022-006](#) Public Safety Commission meeting minutes - Jan. 6, 2022

Attachments: [PSC Jan. 06, 2022 minutes](#)

Mr. Marsh moved to approve the January 6, 2022 minutes. Mr. Wells seconded the motion; the motion carried.

Yes: 6 - Chairperson Smoker, MacBrayne, Vice Chair Marsh, Smith, Thayer, and Wells

Not Present: 3 - Vice Chair Keough, Hammelman, and Peterson

Fire Department Report

[PS 2022-004](#) CRFD December Report

Attachments: [CRFD December Report](#)

- Commission members were emailed a copy of the Fire Department's December report prior to today's meeting.
- Town Council has approved the Community Wildfire Protection Plan (CWPP).
 - Implementation of the plan will be accomplished in stages. This is a long-term investment.
 - Involvement will include multiple Town departments, HOAs, developers, businesses, and residents.
 - Landscaping recommendations (plant lists) were provided to Castle Rock Water for inclusion in their landscape updates.
 - The Fire Department is engaging in CWPP outreach and

- education programs.
- Five residential hazard zones in the study area have a very high hazard rating.
- Mitigation work has started in the Escavera neighborhood.
- Neither the Fire Department nor the Parks and Recreation Department has funding to complete the plan; however, there are federal, state and county grant programs available.
- Currently, there are 17 CWPPs in the county, creating a need to have everyone on one page.
- The Department may develop a fuels management plan in the future.
- Chief Croom spoke about evacuation plans.
 - Evacuation routes are tied to each incident.
 - The department will develop generic plans for use internally and not for public distribution.
- The department has hired four new members (three new positions and one vacancy due to a promotion).
 - The new members started their fire academy on Monday and will graduate in mid-May.
 - We have one member retiring in July. The fire academy we use will not have any openings in the fall. Because of this, we will fill this position with a lateral hire.
 - Our new pay scale should help to entice lateral candidates to our department. We appreciate Town Council's and Town Manager's funding support.
- 2021 was the Fire Department's busiest year on record.
 - January 2022 calls increased 25% over last year.
 - The department has seen a general increase in calls and transports across the board.
- Chief Croom was asked about the fire in Founders.
 - The fire is still under investigation.
- Chief Croom was asked about the Marshall fire.
 - The Marshall fire is still under investigation.
 - Chief Croom spoke about coal seam fires.
 - Chief Croom was asked about power lines - most of the Town's power lines are underground and the power companies do a very good job of mitigating around any above ground lines.
 - Chief Croom was asked if he would be the person ordering a shutdown of power in case of an emergency. No, the power company makes that determination, but we do work with them on infrastructure improvements and any decision to cut power would be done in conjunction with our input.

Police Department Report

[PS 2022-005](#)

CRPD December Report

Attachments: [CRPD December Report](#)

- Commission members were emailed a copy of the Police Department's December report prior to today's meeting.
- Commander Varela spoke about last week's shooting incident downtown.
 - The suspect is facing 13 criminal and 27 additional charges.
- Commander Varela gave a presentation on the department's 8 Dimensions of Wellness program.
 - The program was implemented three years ago and is now funded through a line item budget.
 - The program addresses the emotional, financial, social, spiritual, occupational, physical intellectual and environmental needs of all staff members within the department.
 - As part of the program, the department offers 12 free counseling sessions, mandatory mental health check-ins, financial counseling (FPPA is a huge element to this), community boards, spotlight awards, occupational annual surveys, annual one-on-one with the Chief, suggestion boxes, and fitness incentives.
- The department is looking at expanding its fitness facility. The department offers a wellness activity every month and pays for a specialist to come to the department.
- Each month, the department provides its members with ten hours of training in addition to offering \$1,000 a year for external training opportunities.
- The department is providing -
 - Quiet rooms where members can decompress and have private time.
 - An outdoor fitness area with weights, pull-up bars and synthetic turf.
 - Mandatory shift rotations, allowing all members the opportunity to work a day shift.
 - The reaction from staff has been very positive.
- How are you tracking the success of your wellness program? Through surveys and one-on-ones - Commander Varela.
- Was this program developed in house? We are using material provided by past symposiums. Compliments were given to the department for implementing this program.
- With the number of incidents of domestic violence increasing, Commander Varela was asked if the department is providing more training for these types of calls. Although the department does train for these, it focuses on training for lower frequency but more impactful scenarios.

New Business

- n/a

Old Business

- n/a

Adjourn

- Mr. Smoker made a motion to adjourn the meeting; Mr. MacBrayne made a motion to adjourn the meeting; All were in favor.

The meeting adjourned at 3:48 p.m. The next Public Safety Commission meeting is scheduled for March 3, 2022 at 3:00 p.m. This meeting will be hosted by the Police Department.