



## Public Safety Commission Meeting Minutes - Final

Chairperson Nate Marsh  
Vice Chair Clark Hammelman  
Robert Dziubla  
Trevor Knotts  
Mike Miller  
Richard Morton  
Andy Powell  
Steve Thayer  
Laurie Van Court

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Thursday, September 4, 2025

3:00 PM

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

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*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.*

*The Public Safety Commission meets monthly at the Town of Castle Rock Fire and Rescue Headquarters or the Police Department.*

### Call to Order and Attendance

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

**Present** 6 - Robert Dziubla, Trevor Knotts, Richard Morton, Steve Thayer, Chairperson Nate Marsh, and Laurie Van Court

**Not Present** 3 - Mike Miller, Andy Powell, and Honorary Member Clark Hammelman

**Attendance** 4 - Oren Bersagel-Briese, Jack Cauley, Kim Stremel, and Laura Cavey

### Approval of Meeting Minutes

**Mr. Thayer moved to approve the August 7, 2025 minutes. Ms. Van Court seconded the motion; the motion carried.**

**Yes:** 6 - Dziubla, Knotts, Morton, Thayer, Chairperson Marsh, and Van Court

**Not Present:** 3 - Miller, Powell, and Honorary Member Hammelman

[PS 2025-020](#) Public Safety Commission Meeting Minutes - Aug. 7, 2025

[PS 2025-021](#) CRFD July Report

### Fire Department Report

- Chief Bersagel-Briese shared an artistic rendering of Station 6 and stated CRFD expects final construction numbers in the coming weeks. The station will be approximately 20,000 square feet.
- Public Safety Commission members watched a 6-minute video presentation on "Building a Modern Fire Engine". The video provided insight on delivery times; 54 months due to all fire trucks being built by hand. Most fire trucks in the U.S. are customized to their own jurisdiction's needs. After the video, Commission members engaged in a brief discussion about additional fire truck specifications.
- Commission Member Knotts asked about the wait times the department is experiencing for ketamine. Chief Bersagel-Briese explained additional wait times are due to a lack of supply.
- Commission Member Dziubla inquired about the Brycer line item that is noted in the department's monthly report, it was explained this is inspection

- software used by the department.
- Commission Member Morton extended compliments to the Fire Department Explorers who assisted during Touch-a-Truck.
- CRFD firefighters were out over the Labor Day weekend accepting donation for the Muscular Dystrophy Association “Fill the Boot” campaign. Totals are not available at this time, but the department has received positive feedback on their efforts.
- CRFD Professional FF Foundation is hosted a golf tournament on Tuesday, September 2nd.
- Interviews are underway for the Fire and Life Safety and Logistics Division Chief positions.
- Wildland crews have returned from a 6-week deployment to the Bakersfield (CA) area.
- The month of August was very busy for CRFD. Calls for service included extrication accidents, falls at the Challenge Hill and a fire at Castle Rock Elementary School.
- Equipment update: two (2) new ambulances will be received next month and an engine for Station 156 is expected in January 2026.
- CRFD and Town of Castle Rock staff members will be participating in several 9/11 remembrance ceremonies. The employee wellness activity for Town employees is a stair climb at the training tower. Professional firefighters will be climbing stairs at 1801 California Street. They will climb 55 floors, twice, to replicate the number of stories in the World Trade Center and to honor the 343 firefighters who were lost that day in 2001.
- Commission Member Van Court asked if firefighters wear breathing apparatus while working in wildland/urban interface fires. Chief Bersagel-Briese replied that no breathing apparatus is used. The fire service is now learning how dangerous wildland firefighting is to responder’s respiratory systems.

[PS 2025-022](#)

## CRPD July Report

**Police Department Report**

- Touch-a-Truck, at the Douglas County Fairgrounds on August 23rd, had a record number in attendance this year.
- The Police Department currently has seven (7) recruits at the academy.
- The PD held police officer testing this morning and will conduct oral boards in September, to hire for positions in 2026. Additionally, there will be staff promotions at the beginning of 2026, so the department is preparing their promotional processes.
- Castle Rock crime stats continue to trend downward; Castle Rock was named the 58th safest suburb in US and the #1 safest in state and metro area.
- The Drones for First Responder program is in Phase 1. CRPD is currently flying 5 days a week. The department is waiting for the delivery of the docks and radar systems, then drones will be flown without assistance by a dedicated pilot from Flock.

- A new Police K9 has been chosen from a kennel in Oklahoma. The handler will begin their training, next month, after the dog has been received. Training will take place at the kennel.
- Chief Cauley explained the department is authorized for two K9 positions and this new dog will fill one of those authorized positions. Police K9s typically work for about seven (7) years.
- CRPD will host the Rally of Hope - Suicide Awareness on September 17th.
- Commission Member Knotts asked if the suspects from the shooting have been arrested. Chief Cauley shared arrests have been made, but the investigation is still on-going.
- The Commission was interested to know if CRPD officers have been cooperating with ICE; Chief Cauley replied CRPD has not been asked to assist on any incidents.
- Chief Cauley thanked Commission volunteers who donated their time at the active shooter training. This was a very valuable training and their participation was much appreciated.

## **New Business**

Chairperson Marsh reminded the Commission Members that the October meeting will be dedicated to the review of grant applications to the Philip S. Miller Grant Program. This grant program is funded by the Philip S. Miller Trust Fund and aims to support social and human services in Castle Rock. The Public Safety Commission will be their making grant recipient recommendations to Council.

## **Old Business**

N/A

## **Commissioner Comments and Questions**

## **Adjourn**

Mr. Dzuibla made a motion to adjourn the meeting; Mr. Morton seconded the motion. All were in favor.

The meeting adjourned at 4:01 p.m.

The next Public Safety Commission meeting is scheduled for October 2, 2025 at 3:00 p.m.