



Public Safety Commission Meeting Minutes

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

Thursday, October 2, 2025

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 Marsh called the meeting to order at 3:01 p.m.

GUESTS -

Pete Mangers - Finance Dept.

Holly Darrah - Finance Dept.

Approval of Meeting Minutes

[PS 2025-025](#) Public Safety Commission meeting minutes - September 4, 2025

Attachments: [PSC Sept. 4, 2025 Minutes](#)

Mr. Dziubla moved to approve the September 4, 2025 minutes. Mr. Morton seconded the motion; the motion carried.

Fire Department Report

CRFD August Report

- Commission members were emailed a copy of the Fire and Police Department's August report prior to today's meeting.
- Brush 155 and crew are on their way back to Castle Rock after completing a wildland deployment in California.
- Interviews were held last week for the two division chief vacancies. Offer letters will be extended next week.
- The State of the Town has been posted on YouTube.
- The first reading of the 2026 budget is scheduled to be presented to Council on October 7. The second reading is scheduled for October 21.
- Chief Croom gave commission members a handout of the project narrative for Station 156. Total cost of the project is \$21 million. Chief Croom gave a brief explanation of the financing for the project. Chief Croom was then asked how the location of Station 156 was selected - the location is determined by call volume, distance and response times.
- Chief Croom was asked if the logistics portion of Station 156 was designed to accommodate future growth - Chief Croom answered yes, and then spoke about the station design.
- The purchase request for two replacement fire engines has been placed on the Council agenda for October 21. Currently, there is a 50-month lead time for new orders. Each engine will cost 1.3 million. If the Town pre-pays, we can receive a \$380,000 discount.
- Chief Croom was asked what is terradaptor equipment - Chief Croom explained that it is a tool used for high and low angle rescues.

Police Department Report

CRPD August Report

- Commission members were emailed a copy of the Police Department's August report prior to today's meeting.
- The First Responder drones are now operating full time. They are launched off the O&M building and have great response times. The department has been getting a great deal of use from the drones.
- The department is in the middle of its final phase of the current hiring process and has a healthy candidate pool. There are 12 people moving forward in the process.
- The department is also getting ready for its upcoming promotional process. This will include two commander spots (one existing and one new) plus a Deputy Chief position. Commander Varela was then asked the number of commander positions in the department - Commander Varela responded that there are five commander positions within the department.
- It was asked if revenue from 2A is reaching projected amounts. Revenue from 2A is exceeding estimates - Commander Varela.

Special Presentation - 2026 Philip S Miller Nonprofit Funding Program applications

- Philip S. Miller Resource Grant Program - The annual budget set for this program is \$45,000
- Pete Mangers gave a brief overview of the program. A cap of five individual grants is awarded annually. The budget for this program is reviewed and approved annually by Town Council.
To be eligible, applicants must be a 501(c) (3) or 501(c) (19) organization. Funding requests must include provisions for the necessities of life: water, energy, food or shelter assistance
- **Applicant presentations:**
- **American Legion Post 1187 - requested amount: \$5,000**
Adjutant Larry Underwood presented an overview of Post 1187.
The Post serves more than 180 local Post members and veterans at local retirement facilities.
The Post is run by all volunteers and is solely dependent on donations. Requested funding would be used to assist homeless and low-income veterans and current service members in meeting their food, shelter, and energy needs.
- **Crisis Center - requested amount \$20,000**
Executive Director Amy McCandless presented an overview of the center. The program provides emergency shelter, food, personal care items and community-based advocacy programs for victims of domestic violence. There is no duplication of services, as the Crisis Center is the only agency serving those impacted of domestic violence and has the only shelter of any kind in Douglas, Elbert and Lincoln Counties. The requested amount will be used for operational support for emergency shelter and community-based advocacy programs for victims of domestic violence.
- **Deacons of New Hope Presbyterian Church - requested amount \$10,000**
Moderator Joe Asbridge presented an overview of the program. The Deacons of New Hope Presbyterian Church have a long-standing

history of helping community members who are experiencing financial difficulty.

Funds from this grant would be used to provide Castle Rock community members with financial assistance to pay rent, electric, gas, and water bills or to purchase food.

- **Faith Lutheran Church Food Pantry - requested amount \$20,000**

Members of Faith Lutheran Church Food Pantry Church presented an overview of the program.

Faith Lutheran Church has been operating a food pantry ministry since April 2020. This ministry is 100% dependent on financial and or food donations.

100% of the funds received through this grant would go towards the purchase of food. Any operating expenses are paid outside of the donations to this ministry.

- **Freedom Service Dogs - requested amount \$5,000**

Deputy Director of Philanthropy Shanda Griebel presented an overview of the program.

Freedom Service Dogs provides service dogs to veterans and first responders in need, regardless of location.

This grant would help to support clients with travel expenses to the Denver area so that they can stay close to campus while they are in training with their service dog.

- **Help & Hope Center - requested amount \$20,000**

Executive Director Dan Marlow presented an overview of the Center.

The goal of the food bank is to provide at least seven days of food to residents in need, serving over 20 client households per day, five days per week.

Funding will not only support the on-site food bank but will also provide support for the agency's once a month off-site senior food banks located at Reyn Rock Plaza, Oakwood Apartments and Auburn Ridge - three low-income older adult housing facilities here in Castle Rock.

- **Lady Trailblazer Inc - requested amount \$2,500**

Founder and CEO Dr. Carletta Stewart presented an overview of the organization.

The purpose of this grant will be to provide support for the Girls' Persist program, a STEM leadership program designed to assist girls in persevering in the areas of STEM disciplines.

Funding will be used to support student participants throughout the academic school year and summer camps.

- **Saint Vincent de Paul Society of Castle Rock - requested amount \$15,000**

President Christina Steeg presented an overview of the organization.

The purpose of this grant is to support Castle Rock low-income clients and/or those who are experiencing a sudden hardship such as a job loss or illness with rental, utility assistance, motel vouchers or food.

Funding will be primarily used for temporary housing (motel), rent assistance, and utility assistance. With additional funds, Saint Vincent de Paul Society could potentially increase the number of clients helped and also increase assistance beyond the amounts currently offered.

- Commissioner comments:

After a discussion was held on each organization's request and presentation, Commission members agreed unanimously to recommend funding as follows -

- American Legion Post 1187 - \$5,000
- Deacons of New Hope Presbyterian Church - \$7,500
- Faith Lutheran Church Food Pantry - \$5,000

- Help & Hope Center - \$20,000
- Saint Vincent de Paul Society of Castle Rock - \$7,500

Commission recommendations will be presented to Council on November 18.

New Business

- Chairperson Nate Marsh announced his resignation from the Public Safety Commission due to a commitment outside of Castle Rock.
- Commission member Mike Miller resigned October 1 due to work obligations.
- Discussion to fill vacant positions to be held next month.

Old Business

N/A

Adjourn

Mr. Morton made a motion to adjourn the meeting; all were in favor.

The meeting adjourned at 4:32 p.m.

**The next Public Safety Commission meeting is scheduled for
November 6, 2025 at 3:00 p.m.**