

**New Castle Town Council Regular Meeting  
Tuesday, June 17, 2025, 7:00 PM**

**Call to Order**

Mayor Art Riddile called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

**Pledge of Allegiance**

**Roll Call**

Councilor Carey  
Councilor Mariscal  
Councilor Hazelton  
Mayor A. Riddile  
Councilor Copeland  
Councilor Leland  
Councilor G Riddile

Absent        none

Also present at the meeting were Town Clerk Mindy Andis, and members of the public.

**Meeting Notice**

Clerk Andis verified that her office gave notice of the meeting in accordance with Resolution TC 2025-1.

**Conflicts of Interest**

There were no citizen comments

**Agenda Changes**

There were no agenda changes

**Citizen Comments on Items not on the Agenda**

There were no citizen comments

**Consultant Reports**

Consultant Attorney – not present

Consultant Engineer – not present

**Items for Consideration**

**Proclamation Honoring the Coal Ridge High School Boys Baseball Team**

Mayor A. Riddile said Ben Simons was nominated for the Roy Holiday award. Coach Dan Larsen said Mr. Simons was the runner up for the award. The award reflects the contribution to the community, contribution to being an excelling baseball player and scholar. Mayor A. Riddile and the council wished the team the best of luck in their future endeavors. Mayor A. Riddile read the proclamation into

Town Council Meeting  
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the record.

Councilor Hazelton said he listened to the game on the radio, and it was special to be able to listen to the game and to have a radio station which follows the team.

### **Proclamation Recognizing July as Parks and Recreation Month**

Recreation Director Kelley Cox said her department works very well together with the Parks Department. She said the parks have not looked better.

Parks Manager Ryan Barkman thanked council for all of their support.

Mayor A. Riddile read the proclamation into the record.

### **Update Presentation by Colorado River Wildfire Collaborative**

Kate Collins, Executive Director of the Middle Colorado Watershed Council gave an update to the council (Exhibit A).

Mayor A. Riddile asked what is the invasive species. Ms. Collins said Russian Olive and Tamarisk. Mayor A. Riddile asked about the invasive fish. Ms. Collins said Brown Trout and Rainbow Trout are introduced fish into the waterways and they out compete the Cutthroat Trout.

Councilor Carey asked Ms. Collins to explain the Rifle Creek Restoration with the extension. Ms. Collins said the CSU Extension has a plan to repurpose the NAPA building in Rifle and will be making it into a multi-use facility. The wetlands behind the building and below the fairgrounds would be a demonstration garden and outdoor classroom. She said they have identified two priorities to restore Deer Field Park and Centennial Park.

Councilor Copeland said people in Colorado are struggling to get fire insurance, and does the Wildfire Collaborative talk with the department of insurance or the state? Ms. Collins said they would like to do more but they are understaffed. Ms. Collins said she would try to get an informational webinar for the public.

Councilor Leland asked how the collaborative solicits volunteers. Ms. Collins said the collaborative only uses volunteers for very specific project. So far, this year has not been much restoration work. Councilor Leland said if volunteers are needed to let Clerk Andis know and can get the information in the weekly e-newsletter, quarterly newsletter and on Facebook.

Councilor Hazelton said the collaborative presented at AGNC and Rifle City Council about the Rifle project. Councilor Hazelton asked how the presentation went. Ms. Collins said they were unanimously in support of the project.

Recess the Town Council Meeting, Convene as the Local Liquor Licensing Authority

**MOTION: Councilor Hazelton made a motion to recess the Town Council Meeting and Convene the Local Liquor Licensing Authority. Councilor G. Riddile seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.**

**Consider a Special Events Liquor License from the Town of New Castle for the Rides & Reggae Event on August 2, 2025**

Town Clerk Mindy Andis said The Town of New Castle through its representative Tyler McAnely requests that the Town of New Castle obtain a special events liquor license for the New Castle Trails Rides & Reggae Event, located in VIX Ranch Park, on Saturday, August 2, 2025. She said if council's consensus is to approve the attached application for a special event liquor permit for the Town of New Castle/New Castle Trails, the clerk's office staff recommends that council consider the following conditions: **1)** That although the application requests a permit time until 11:00 p.m. on August 2, 2025, staff recommends alcohol be served only until 10:30 p.m., and alcohol be allowed on premises until 11:00 p.m. Staff also suggests that a 100% ID check be conducted, and that wristbands or handstamps be provided to guests over the legal drinking age of 21. **2)** Currently, all of the representatives or members of RFMBA/New Castle Trails SafeServ (TIPS) certified. **3)** Staff further suggests that approval from Garfield County Public Health must be submitted to the clerk's office before a liquor license may be issued. Clerk Andis said Town Administrator Dave Reynolds filed the application on behalf of the Town of New Castle and New Castle Trails through its representative Adam Cornely on May 16, 2025, which is acceptable by the State Liquor Code. The public hearing has been properly noticed. The application is properly completed.

Mayor A. Riddile asked what time the alcohol will start to be served. Mr. McAnely said the bands start at 3pm, so, set up would be at 2pm and the selling would be at 3pm. Mr. McAnely said he has reached out to Garfield County for the event approval and have not heard back from them. The application was turned in in May. Mr. McAnely said they have gotten a second food truck and a snow cone truck for the event. He said he would get the health department approval for the second food truck to Clerk Andis as soon as he gets a copy of it.

Councilor Hazelton asked if the food truck would be on site during the entire event until the last call. Mr. McAnely said yes, they will make sure one of the food trucks stays.

**MOTION: Councilor Hazelton made a motion to approve a Special Event Liquor License from the Town of New Castle for the Rides & Reggae Event on August 2, 2025, Councilor Carey seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.**

Adjourn the Local Liquor Licensing Authority, Reconvene the Town Council Meeting

**MOTION: Councilor Leland made a motion to recess the Local Liquor Licensing Authority and Convene the Town Council Meeting. Councilor**

**Mariscal seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.**

### **Consider Proclamation Policy**

Mayor A. Riddile said he found the report to be very detailed and don't find any issues with it and like that there is an application.

Councilor Leland said he would prefer not to have the applicant submit the text for the proclamation. Councilor Leland suggested to add in the policy that if the applicant submits text, then the council will have the right to edit it and the town has control over the text. Councilor Leland said he would like to revamp some of the regular proclamations so they are not so standardized.

Councilor Mariscal suggested adding in the application the reason or purpose including background for the proclamation.

Councilor Carey said would like to add the important points or highlights to be addressed or would like the council to know. The council may want to have a proclamation that is political.

Councilor G. Riddile said he wanted to avoid putting it on staff to make the decision whether the proclamation is political or controversial or not. The proposed proclamation should be brought to the council in a regular meeting for the council to make the decision. Councilor G. Riddile suggested getting rid of the entire section of (Prohibited Proclamation).

Councilor Hazelton said he would like to add all proclamations to the agenda under Items for Future Consideration if there are any proclamations.

The council agreed to have the policy brought back to the council at their next meeting for review and approval.

### **Consider a Motion to Cancel or Reschedule July 1, 2025, Regular Council Meeting**

Clerk Andis for the past three years council has cancelled the council meeting right before July 4<sup>th</sup>. This year since July 4<sup>th</sup> falls on a Friday does not directly conflict with the scheduled meeting. However, staff would like to confirm whether Council wishes to maintain, reschedule, or cancel the July 1st meeting. At this time, there are no items scheduled for the agenda.

**MOTION: Councilor Leland made a motion to Cancel or Reschedule July 1, 2025, Regular Council Meeting. Councilor Mariscal seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.**

### **Consent Agenda**

Items on the consent agenda are routine and non-controversial and will be approved by one motion. There will be no separate discussion of these items unless a council member or citizen requests it, in which case the item will be removed from the consent agenda.

June 3, 2025 minutes

**MOTION: Mayor A. Riddile made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda. Councilor Mariscal seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.**

### **Staff Reports**

**Town Administrator** –not present

**Town Clerk** – Clerk Andis said there were business cards with the ZOOM link on them in case the link isn't on the agenda. She said the town has received the cozies with the town's slogans on them and the stickers from the sticker contest winners. Clerk Andis said she met with the Garfield County Clerk regarding the ADA Compliance for the Ballot Box. Due to the new regulations for ADA the ballot box will need to be moved. Clerk Andis said she would arrange a meeting with public works and the county to get the box moved. Clerk Andis said she had to move the rollout for the new agenda and packet platform back due to Deputy Clerk Smanatha Sorensen being in Jury Duty all past week. Therefore, the new launch date will be July 15, 2025. Also, moving the date back will allow for more training time with the platform. Assistant Michelle Huster has been working on brining the town's website into ADA compliance.

**Town Treasurer** – not present

**Town Planner** – no present

**Public Works Director** – not present

### **Commission Reports**

**Planning & Zoning Commission** – have not met

**Historic Preservation Commission** – have not met

**Climate and Environment Commission** – Councilor Leland said they had a table at the Chamber Block Party and had a good turnout. CEC might have someone interested in the open seat on the commission. Councilor Leland said they would be working on distributing the business grant applications.

**Senior Program** – have not met

**RFTA** – Councilor Copeland said there was nothing new to report.

**AGNC** – have not met

**GCE** – have not met  
**POSTR** - have not met

**Council Comments**

Councilor Mariscal thanked the chamber for the Block Party it was a great event. She also thanked the pastors for coming to the monthly meetings. Councilor Mariscal said it was a great opportunity to update the pastors on town events and the town. She asked if the officers who are bilingual get extra pay, if not, she would like to add it in order to retain our officers. She said she would speak with Town Administrator Reynolds.

Councilor Carey said she was approached by someone who had a concern about her personal information being published to the public.

Councilor Leland said would like to have Uproot Colorado make a presentation to the council.

Councilor Copeland said she wanted to make sure there were backup plans in place in case of a ransom ware attack.

**Items for Future Council Agenda**

There were no items for future council agenda.

**Adjourn**

**MOTION: Mayor A. Riddile made a motion to adjourn. Councilor Carey seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.**

The meeting adjourned at 8:12p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Mayor Art Riddile

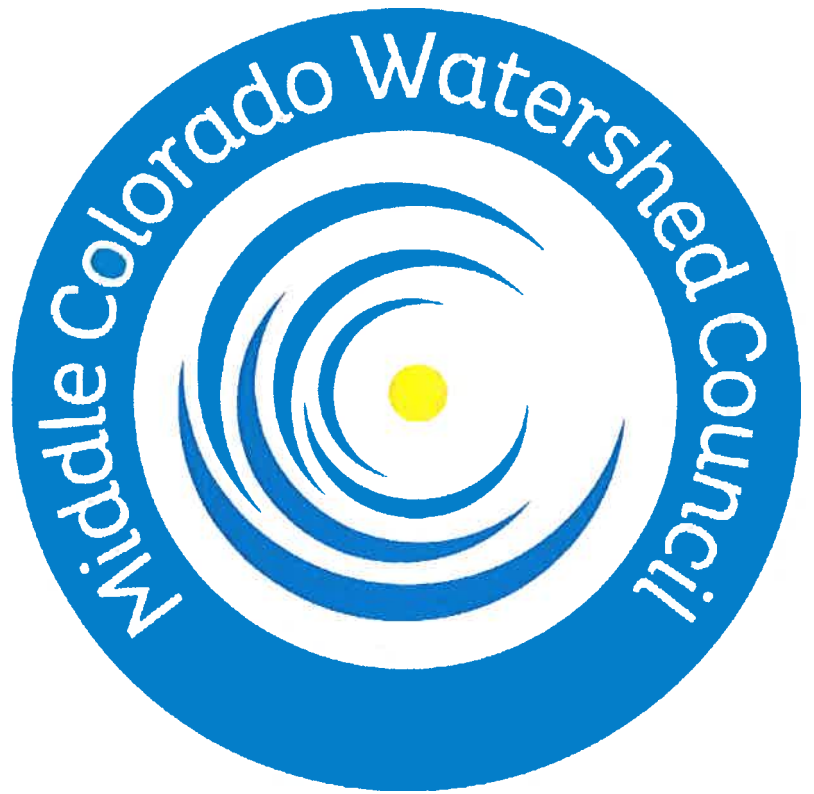
Town Clerk Mindy Andis, CMC

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# Middle Colorado Watershed Council (MCWC)

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Presentation to the Town of  
New Castle, Colorado  
Tuesday, June 17, 2025



## **Mission:**

The Middle Colorado Watershed Council (MCWC) works to protect, enhance and evaluate the health of the Middle Colorado River watershed through collaborative efforts, education and stewardship, to maximize the quality and quantity of water for all users.

# Partnering for a Resilient Watershed

- Federal, state and local/regional governments
- Landowners
- Agencies
- Organizations
- Businesses
- Institutions &
- Individuals

# Why It Matters

## Our watershed supports:

- Drinking water and municipal use
- Agriculture
- Recreation
- Habitat
- Economic vitality

# Why It Matters

## Threats to the watershed:

- Wildfire
- Drought & Aridity
- Erosion
- Habitat loss

# Colorado River Wildfire Collaborative

- **40 Regional Partners** aligning on wildfire planning & response; mitigation & hardening through the efforts of the CRWC
  - All fire districts
  - All municipalities in the watershed + GarCo
- **Goals:**
  - Reduce wildfire risk,
  - Protect infrastructure &
  - Prepare for post-fire recovery



**New Castle Focus: Field trip to Elk Run and The Cedars neighborhoods**

# The Wildfire Ready Action Plan

- **WRAP** maps “Values at Risk” (VARs)—schools, neighborhoods, utilities & infrastructure
- Provides strategic guidance for reducing wildfire impacts.
- Urgent Need: A dedicated program manager to maintain momentum, coordinate agencies and implement projects.





## New Castle Headwaters Restoration Spotlight

**Focus Area: Divide Creek  
tributaries**

**Goals:**

- Support genetically pure cutthroat trout
- Install low-tech process-based restoration (LTPBR) structures
- Boost water storage, improve habitat



# New Castle Headwaters Restoration Spotlight

- Projects: Hand-built structures, possible culvert upgrades
- Potential for community volunteer involvement
- Potential funding partners: NFF, CPW, Coca-Cola Foundation, NFWF
- MCWC would lead and serve as fiscal sponsor

# Roan Creek Fish Barrier Project

- **Objective:** Prevent upstream movement of invasive fish, protect native populations
  - 18 miles north of De Beque
  - Breaking ground July 2025
  - Partnerships: CPW, BOR, Colorado River District, Trout & Salmon Foundation, BLM, private landowners

# Rifle Creek Restoration Implementation Plan

- In development now
- Aimed to restore a vital tributary to the Colorado River
- Includes riparian restoration, bank stabilization, irrigation improvements & habitat enhancement

A group of five people are rafting on a river. They are wearing life jackets and helmets. The raft is red and has the word "DEFIANCE" written on it. The background shows a large mountain range under a clear blue sky. The water is brown and turbulent.

## Community Engagement & River Stop

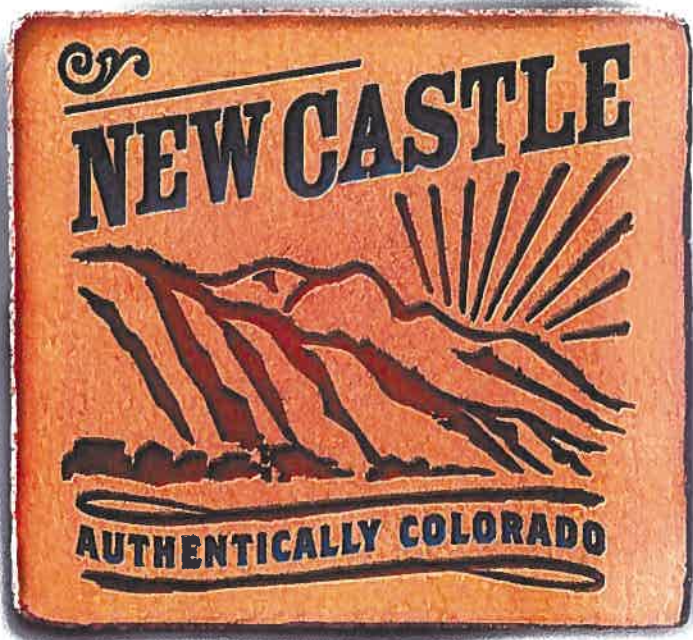
- **NC Wildfire Panel participation past spring**
- **Nonnative Transport Signage**
- **Downvalley River Revelers FAC Float**
- **Fire & Water Speaker Series; Wild & Scenic Film Fest – RE-2 middle and high school students' free admission Oct. 4**
- **Scheduling to support New Castle's Earth Day event 2026**

## Community Engagement & River Stop

### River Stop Interpretive Center:

- Located Lion's Park Pond and Colorado Riverbank in Rifle
- Storytelling of our river, watershed and communities
- Hub for outreach and school visits





## New Castle Support

### General operating funds:

- Retain and hire skilled staff
- Respond to emerging needs
- Leverage federal/state dollars

*We respectfully request Town of New Castle's financial support for this essential work*

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**Thank You!**

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Kate Collins, Executive Director  
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