

Minutes
Ransom Canyon City Council
Emergency Called Meeting
Tuesday, September 26, 2006

This Emergency Called Meeting was called to order by Mayor Robert Englund at 6:30 PM, Tuesday, September 26, 2006. The Agenda for this meeting was posted at City Hall and on the Web at 3:15 PM Tuesday afternoon. In addition to Mayor Englund, the following councilmen were present: Jack Randorff, Ron Cox, Donna Clarke, Kevin Carlson and James Overby.

After silent meditation, Mayor Englund reported to the council that he had received calls wanting the aerial applicator to spray for mosquitoes, because ground efforts were not controlling the problem. A proposal was made to join in an interlocal agreement with the Cities of Abernathy, Lorenzo, and Ralls in order to facilitate the current licensing requirements for spraying over cities.

Several other councilmen had also received calls.

Licensing for spraying cities was changed this year to the State Pest Control Board, and this required new testing and licenses for Mr. Greg Grothusen, who is the pilot who sprays on occasion for Ransom Canyon. Aerial flying this year was suspended because of this new licensing requirement. The Pest Control Board has "fast-tracked" the licensing because they have received so many complaints from local cities.

Greg has passed his test, but is waiting for licensing, which is waiting on insurance reviews, and may still take four weeks or more.

Mike Cypert, City Manager from Abernathy, proposed an interlocal agreement for the local cities. Mr. Mike Grimsley works for Abernathy and Grimsley has a pest control license. The airplane can fly, if Grimsley is on the ground, watching. Supposedly the Pest Control Board agreed that this was satisfactory. An interlocal agreement would "job" this activity out to neighboring communities. Ransom would pay the City of Abernathy directly, but the price for spraying would be the same as Greg charged Ransom Canyon directly last year, plus a \$150 fee for Mr. Grimsley's service.

The council examined the proposed interlocal agreement. They were concerned about the liability and bonding insurance situation, since Ransom Canyon would be contracting directly with the City of Abernathy, and The City of Abernathy had a "hold harmless" clause requirement.

Dr. Cox asked to state for the record what the city's action plan is toward mosquito control. Robert offered that the city invested in a truck mount spray system, and that malathion-delivery system runs every night that the wind permits satisfactory application.

In addition, the department has put out larvacide and has spot treated special locations in the canyon.

There was brief discussion about pilot safety, helicopter availability and/or application techniques, and specific issues about mosquito problems possibly being worse in the Brookhollow area. The council asked Robert to ask Harold to investigate the complaints, and to visit the homes to see if the homes had specific problems with standing water that could be addressed with the homeowner. We have a backpack that might reach some yards that don't seem to be getting coverage from the truck.

The water is stagnant in Brookhollow right now because the pump is broken again, according to Jim Overby, who lives on Brookhollow. This pump is owned and operated by the Property Owners Association, and repair is being looked at by the local residents. In the meantime, they have a mosquito problem.

The council did not make a motion to adopt the proposed interlocal agreement as written, but Jack Randorff did make a motion to allow the Mayor to negotiate the items that were under concern and after a review by the city attorney, the Mayor could make arrangements to schedule the airplane. James Overby seconded the motion. All approved.

There was no further discussion and the meeting adjourned.

Melissa Verett