RESOLUTION NO. 2011-139

RESOLUTION REQUESTING IMMEDIATE ACTION TO CONTROL PINE BEETLE EPIDEMIC

WHEREAS, the spread of the mountain pine beetle is of epidemic proportion in the Black Hills; and

WHEREAS, the spread of the beetles is devastating to the people, property and environment of Rapid City and the surrounding area; and

WHEREAS, the speed and magnitude by which this infestation is growing makes it imperative that immediate action be taken to expedite the thinning and removal of the dead and diseased trees, so as to control the spread of the mountain pine beetle before the July/August 2012 hatch; and

WHEREAS, any further delay in permitting and contracting for these services will have an irreversible effect on the ecosystem of the Black Hills.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Rapid City Common Council, for and on behalf of the citizens of Rapid City, request the U.S Forest Service and related agencies to prioritize and commit all resources available to mitigation and control of the mountain pine beetle infestation in the Black Hills of South Dakota.

Dated this _____ day of _____, 2011.

CITY OF RAPID CITY

By:_____
Mayor

ATTEST:

_____
Finance Officer

(SEAL)