Chaves Co. nixes prairie dog relocation

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ROSWELL (AP) — A federal plan to relocate an unwanted population of prairie dogs is getting no support from Chaves County officials.

The Roswell Daily Record reports that Chaves County Commissioners decided Tuesday to hold a hearing Aug. 15 on an ordinance that would prohibit the importation and relocation of prairie dogs within Chaves County.

Commissioners earlier this month declined a request by an Albuquerque group to capture the squirrel-like creatures and move them to Bureau of Land Management property.

The group, called Citizens for Prairie Dogs, asked for some 3,000 gallons of city water to flush the animals out of their burrows on city land to relocate them humanely.