

Eastern North Dakota
2009 Spring Flood

Cass County Sheriff's Office

AFTER ACTION REPORT



EASTERN NORTH DAKOTA 2009 SPRING FLOOD

OVERVIEW:

Early spring forecasts in North Dakota indicated the potential for major flooding. On March 13, 2009 Governor John Hoeven declared a statewide emergency flood disaster and activated 500 National Guard troops. Citizens and community leaders were advised to prepare for record flood levels, with the initial anticipated crest occurring in the Red River Valley area around April 7 or 8, 2009. The Cass County Sheriff's Office responded by developing an action plan which identified the nature of the mission; how the mission would be executed; command and control structure; communications and logistics; and a family readiness plan.

Contrary to predictions, weather conditions and river levels changed at an alarmingly rapid pace, necessitating implementation of the action plan on March 23, 2009. The first crest of the Red River occurred on March 28, 2009 at a record 40.82 feet. Early predictions for the second crest came in at 38 to 41 feet. The eventual result was a second crest occurring on April 16, 2009 at 33.97 feet.

This incident brought together several key local, state and federal assets. While all involved contributed to the overall effort, the U.S. Coast Guard and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service were critical participants due to their ability to respond to rescue activities under a variety of adverse weather conditions. The onset of the flood event began under winter weather conditions, complete with blowing snow and ended with below average spring weather conditions. As this event progressed, assets were spread out to include Ransom County to the south and Barnes County to the west, resulting in contiguous disaster areas.

DEFINITIONS & ACRONYMS:

BNSF	Burlington Northern Santa Fe
CCSO	Cass County Sheriff's Office
DART	Disaster Assistance Response Team
DES	Division of Emergency Services
DOT	Department of Transportation
EOC	Emergency Operations Center
ERT	Emergency Response Team
FBI	Federal Bureau of Investigations
FEMA	Federal Emergency Management Agency
FSA	Forward staging area
GIS	Geographic Information Systems
IA	Iowa
ICS	Incident Command Structure
IT	Information Technologies
JOC	Joint Operations Center
MN	Minnesota

ND	North Dakota
NDHP	North Dakota Highway Patrol
NDSU	North Dakota State University
NIMS	National Incident Management System
NUD	North University Drive
NWS	National Weather Service
PACT	Peer Assistance Crisis Team
POC	Point of Contact
QRF	Quick Response Forces
RRRDC	Red River Regional Dispatch Center
SAR	Search and Rescue
SDHP	South Dakota Highway Patrol
SEHSC	Southeast Human Service Center
SO	Sheriff's Office
SUD	South University Drive
TOC	Tactical Operations Center
USCG	United States Coast Guard
USGS	United States Geologic Survey
USMS	United States Marshal's Service
VCC	Virtual Command Center
WFPD	West Fargo Police Department

PARTICIPANTS:

Local Agencies:

Cass County Sheriff's Office
 Cass County Emergency Management
 Cass County Social Services
 Cass County State's Attorney
 Cass County Highway Department
 Cass County Administrator
 Cass County Auditor
 Cass County Tax Assessor
 Red River Regional Dispatch Center
 West Fargo Police Department
 Fargo Police Department
 NDSU Police Department
 Valley Water Rescue
 FM Ambulance
 Mid-States Wireless
 EVAC
 Rural First Responders
 Casselton Ambulance
 Kindred Ambulance

State Agencies:

North Dakota Highway Patrol
North Dakota Bureau of Criminal Investigation
North Dakota National Guard
North Dakota Game and Fish Department

Federal Agencies:

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
U.S. Coast Guard
Federal Bureau of Investigations
U.S. Customs and Border Protection
FEMA

Other organizations:

Mercer County (ND) SO
Williams County (ND) SO
Iowa State Patrol
Sioux County (IA) SO
South Dakota Highway Patrol
Sherburne County (MN) SO
The American Red Cross
The Salvation Army

COMMAND AND CONTROL:

All Sheriff's Office emergency operations personnel were directed by the Command Officer assigned to the Emergency Operations Center (EOC). The EOC was a joint operations effort between the City of Fargo and Cass County Government.

FAMILY READINESS:

In light of this impending weather event, Sheriff's Office staff was encouraged to make arrangements for their families and properties in advance of predicted crest levels so that they were ready to deploy in the event of emergency operations. Personnel were encouraged to develop individual family response plans including where family members would go in the event of a mandatory evacuation. Utilization of an empty housing unit at the Cass County Jail was identified as an option for family members whose circumstances did not allow for evacuation from the area. The Sheriff also acknowledged that specific personnel may have flood issues of their own, requiring them to remain at home to defend their property and there were contingencies in place for that need.

TIMELINE OF EVENTS:

3/13/09—Governor Hoeven declares statewide emergency flood disaster, activating 500 National Guard Members

3/23/09—Day 1

- Temperature in Fargo 46 degrees
- **River levels in the area (all times recorded were as of 12:00 P.M. and in feet):**
 - Red River: 26.01
 - Sheyenne at Harwood: 84.21
 - Sheyenne at Kindred: 12.80
 - Maple at Mapleton: 19.98
 - Wild Rice: 20.15
- The Emergency Operations Center (EOC) and the Tactical Operations Center (TOC) went active. Members of the Emergency Response Teams (ERT) were activated at this time.
- 1600 hours: Resident Dan Davidson, wife and daughter self evacuated from 610 Orchard Park Dr. If deputies check, the residence should be empty.
- 1645 hours: Larry Bond states he has a jet boat that he will let us use if we need it. It's in Grafton – he'll bring it here.
- 1738 hours: 3520 reports an ice jam on Cass 16, 2 west of Davenport. Road Department notified.
- 1745 hours: Resident Stephanie Thorpe reports her family has abandoned their home at 7504 Chrisan Way. Power is on.
- 1755 hours: Deputy Olson reports water running over the road at Cass 4 and 157th. Ave. 3511 checked the area – will let the Road Department know it needs to be barricaded.



- 2025 hours: Keith Anderson wondering about river levels. Gave him the information line number at the EOC.
- 2045 hours: Residents Judy and Steve Thordarson 3349 155th. Ave. SE in Casselton report water is filling their basement and they need sandbaggers. Faxed request to the media. EOC advised to disregard at 2053 hours.
- 2147 hours: Caller inquiring about road closure 6 miles south of I-94 on Cass 7 (the Embden exit). 3508 checked the computer – caller advised to use caution.

- 2210 hours: Sheriff Laney issued a media release regarding the closure of North University Drive from 32nd. Ave. No. to 40th. Ave. No. to make way for trucks hauling clay to support the flood fighting effort.
- 2215 hours: Resident Jennifer Anderson 17579 Pfeifer Dr., Horace called with questions on what they should do about flooding near their home. 3511 dispatched to talk to them.
- 2215 hours: EOC received report of dike failure in Amenia. 3512 was dispatched to assess the area.

3/24-09—Day 2

- Temperature in Fargo 41 degrees
- **River levels in the area:**
 - Red River: 30.74
 - Sheyenne at Harwood: 88.93
 - Sheyenne at Kindred: 15.53
 - Maple at Mapleton: 22.86
 - Wild Rice: 27.01
- President Barack Obama declares a major disaster declaration for North Dakota, making federal funding available for state and local governments to help fight the flood.
- U.S. Customs and Border Protection joins the flood fight with the Cass County Sheriff's Office.
- Sheriff Laney issued a media release advising residents of the availability of rescue personnel, along with instructions on how to ask for help if they lose phone service.
- 0220 hours: Resident Casey Peters reports concern of high river levels on the Sheyenne at #32 Horseshoe Bend, north of Horace. Deputies Crawford and K. Violet dispatched to talk to Mr. Peters.
- 0540 hours: EOC received a report of water over the road at Cass 10, 2 east of Buffalo and 4 west of Casselton. Deputies Krogh and Canales dispatched to assess the area. Road Department was notified that Cass 10 should be barricaded between Casselton and Buffalo.
- 0615 hours: RRRDC received report of roadway washed out on 158th. Ave. SE, 2 north and 2 east of Casselton. Deputies Krogh and Canales dispatched to assess the area.
- 0711 hours: Resident Chris Hattervig called wanting to know if the stockyards road to Harwood was open. He was referred to West Fargo PD. Mr. Hattervig called us back at 0730 hours and advised the road is clear.
- 0719 hours: EOC received report of water over Cass 26, 2 miles west of Page at the Maple crossing. Deputy Fix checked the area; roadway was flagged. He also advised there are barricades on Cass 1, west of Page and he did a welfare check on a house in the area.
- 0735 hours: Resident Jeff King inquiring about the river level of the Maple at Durbin. He was advised it is at 908.92.

- 0739 hours: EOC received a call from Sandy Anderson 6710 37th. St. No. who reported a plugged storm drain in her yard. Deputies Burris and Van Den Einde dispatched.
- 0830 hours: No name or address for caller – they are worried and are waiting for sand. 3511 was dispatched to talk to them.
- 0845 hours: Request for welfare check at 2301 Ann St. 3520 dispatched.
- 0940 hours: Captain Majerus at the EOC received a call from Jeff Swanson who advised he has equipment available for use. Information was passed on to the Sergeants.
- 0955 hours: Report of the road washing out 2 miles west of Buffalo on Cass 10. Deputy Fix checked the area.
- 1000 hours: Request for welfare check I-29 south to Hickson, west to the river – large white house on the right. 3512 dispatched.
- 1025 hours: Captain Majerus, EOC reports Cass 3 to Cass 26 closed. He also received a call from Sherburne Co. MN that they have beds available in their jail if we need them. Information passed on to the Sergeants.
- 1045 hours: The EOC received a report of a man threatening to cut the road at Cass 1, 1 mile south of Cass 26. 3519 dispatched.
- 1130 hours: State Radio received a report that the Greg Huseby place in Enderlin has horses that are in danger and they're asking for help. 3512 dispatched.
- 1224 hours: EOC received a report of a van stuck in a culvert at 4538 136th. Ave. SE, Alice. Deputies Beaulieu and Korsmo dispatched. 1355 hours: they located the vehicle, which is unoccupied. Trying to make contact with the complainant. They have talked to the landowner, who is on the Alice Fire Department. His property is covered by water, which is overtaking the house. There are cattle on the property – there is water up to their bellies and no way to evacuate them. At 1355 hours they made visual contact with the homeowner; 1415 hours they were able to talk to him. He is not concerned about their safety or that of their livestock at this time. We will put them on the list for VWR to check on.
- 1235 hours: Melissa Loyott called the EOC and requested a rescue on the residents at 6218 12th. St. in Selkirk Settlement. Deputies Haaland and Gress were dispatched. They report the family is fine – no need for rescue.
- 1309 hours: Mary Riske called the EOC about a possible special needs evacuation. Her son and daughter live in Round Hill and he is wheelchair dependant. She was wondering about their options for evacuation, if needed. She was advised to contact the EOC if the family wished to be rescued.
- 1330 hours: Per 3502 – Joel Newgard called to offer his services as he is a member of EVAC and has an inactive POST license. Thanked him for offering but we will not need his help at this time.
- 1520 hours: Captain Majerus at the EOC advises Sgt. Jorgensen will need 8 to 10 ESU members later in the evening for traffic control on SUD to 62nd. Ave. to Cass 14. Called Pat Connor – he will gather as many as he can.
- 1540 hours: Deputy Arth advises Cass 26, 2 miles west of Page is under water. The Fire Department assisted in blocking the intersection of Cass 26 and Cass 1 until barricades could be put up.

- 1640 hours: Captain Majerus advised the EOC phone lines went down. Phones back up at 1700 hours.
- 1653 hours: Captain Majerus from the EOC advised the road is closed at 142nd. Ave. and 36th. St. in Buffalo Township. Request we notify an officer in that township. Info passed on to Dave Larson at 1827 hours.
- 1800 hours: 3521 advises Cass 21 at St. Benedict is temporarily closed – they are pumping and building a dike. When they're done, one lane will be open to traffic.
- 1810 hours: Deputy Arth reports Cass 10 south of Cass 20 is under water and needs to be marked or closed off. They are enroute to a 911 hang up call – requesting someone check out that spot. Sgt. Jorgensen will dispatch someone.
- 1814 hours: Captain Majerus from the EOC passed on numbers for a medivac helicopter, if needed. Business hours: 701 328 8134. After hours: 701 328 8100. Information received and recorded.
- 1836 hours: Captain Majerus from the EOC received information the road ½ mile east of Hwy. 18 on 156th. Ave. SE needs to be marked. Deputies K. Violet and Crawford dispatched.
- 1950 hours: 3546 advises Cass 4 and 18 are open; barricades can be removed. Road department notified.
- 2000 hours: Sgt. Nitschke advises 3500 wants 4 wheelers for dike patrol. Contacted Jonathan at University Motors - they will provide 2 with a trailer. 3511 and 3540 will pick them up. '06 Honda TRX 500 (1HFTE260564513172) and '09 Yamaha 550 Grizzly (JY4AJ40Y29C000218).
- 2012 hours: Deputy Krogh dropped off a marked squad on 76th. Ave. for the ESU.
- 2108 hours: Resident Pat Heintzman reports the culvert on 76th. Ave So. is going to be taken over by water by morning. He said he was instructed by Keith Berndt to notify the TOC when it looked like that was going to happen. Road Department notified.



- 2122 hours: Resident Dave Burnhart 610 88th. Ave. So. inquiring where to go if he has to evacuate. He was told about the respite center in Hickson. 2245 hours: he called and advised he will be staying with a neighbor because he lost power.

- 2315 hours: Mr. Burnhart called back to confirm that someone will rescue him in the morning.
- 2225 hours: RRRDC received several calls from people taking calls from people taking detours off I-29 and I-94 and after that the detours are not marked and people are getting lost. Dispatch wants a copy of road closures and detours. Faxed them the information and advised Sgt. Hischer from NDHP of detour confusion.

- 2312 hours: Sgt. Wischmann received a call from Jennifer Richtmeyer 7500 Chrisan Way who advised she's never been through a flood before. Would like a deputy to stop in and give an opinion on her dike and some reassurance. Deputies Krogh and Canales dispatched.

3/25/09—Day 3

- Temperature in Fargo 25 degrees
- **River levels in the area:**
 - Red River: 35.54
 - Sheyenne at Harwood: 90.96
 - Sheyenne at Kindred: 17.13
 - Maple at Mapleton: 23.20
 - Wild Rice: 27.71
- 0123 hours: Deputy Jahner reports water at the bottom of the bridge at Cass 16, east of I-29. Keith Berndt from the Road Department was notified; the bridge was barricaded and they will monitor it.
- 0240 hours: Lt. Steve Todd from Moorhead PD reports Clay County 26 is going under water. That road hooks up with Cass 22 at Harwood. He is requesting barricades. Information passed on to the Road Department.
- 0333 hours: RRRDC received a call from resident Byron Tysdal. He stated he just lost his flood wall and his home and will be evacuating from 17579 Pfeifer Drive. Deputies Jahner and Briggeman dispatched to assist with the evacuation and escort in to Fargo. Dispatch will notify Cass County Electric. Sheriff Laney notified. All other families in the area plan to stay.
- 0458 hours: RRRDC received report of water going over the road at Cass 81 and 16. Road department was notified; they sent a crew to barricade the area.
- 0620 hours: Deputy Crawford reports David Anderberg at 17558 Pfeifer Drive has water in the basement and large stress cracks in the foundation. His wife has evacuated but he intends to shelter in place. Will pass on at the shift change briefing to conduct welfare checks at this residence.
- 0640 hours: Resident Ann Kuzna requested assistance getting to the lift stations in Oxbow via high profile vehicle as the streets are flooding. Deputies Jahner and Briggeman dispatched.
- 0645 hours: RRRDC received request for rescue from Cody Saunders 470 Oxbow Drive. He reports a barricade broke and he is 500 yards from dry land. VWR deployed; Cody and his father James were successfully extracted. Follow up phone call to Cody on 3/31 revealed both were "fine".
- 0720 hours: Sgt. Nitschke sent two units for traffic control to South 81/Cass 16.
- 0725 hours: Sgt. Wischmann received information that Chrisan Estates has no water service. Cass Rural Water advised.
- 0728 hours: Sgt. Wischmann received request for rescue from Tracy Kallod 474 Oxbow Drive. VWR dispatched. Follow up phone call to Tracy on 3/31 revealed Tracy, Anita Hogrud and 8 cats were rescued. He reported water was to the top of the basement and on to the first floor.
- 0737 hours: Bill, Mayor of Oxbow reports the lift station is down. VWR and Horace Fire dispatched.

- 0745 hours: Sgt. Wischmann received request for rescue from the Fromke family at 710 Heritage Circle. VWR dispatched; 2 adults and 1 dog rescued.
- The U.S. Coast Guard joins the flood fight, staging personnel at the TOC.
- 0800 hours: Sgt. Wischmann spoke with resident Steve Heier by phone. He reported they can still drive out and will be leaving today. 1300 hours: the movers arrived and they abandoned the property. Pumps failed due to high water.
- 0855 hours: Sheriff Laney doing a phone interview with Ed Schulz, KFGO.



- 0900 hours: Command Center established at the Knickerbocker Liquor Locker in Hickson. Cass SO, VWR, U.S. Coast Guard and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service deploy from there.

- 0903 hours: RRRDC received a report of a man in a boat, hanging on to a tree at 17582 Pfeifer Drive. VWR and Deputies Dawkins and Tollefson dispatched; 1 male and 2 dogs rescued.
- 0915 hours: EOC received request for rescue from Joe and Wendy Langman 314 Schnell Dr. VWR dispatched; 2 adults and 2 teens rescued.
- 0939 hours: Deputy Sprecher stated 1 rescued, 1 staying at Steven Sorenson residence 480 Oxbow Dr.
- 0950 hours: Captain Majerus/EOC has request for rescue from Dick Huntley 17576 Pfeifer Dr. U.S. Coast Guard rescued 2 adults from this residence.
- 0955 hours: Pat Connor has request for rescue from 12396 SUD. U.S. Coast Guard rescued 77 year old Gladys Smith and her dog, Eddie.
- 1000 hours: Request for transport of rescued individuals from the FSA at Hickson to Fargo. Deputy Lambertz responded with the bus.
- 1017 hours: Captain Majerus/EOC received request for welfare check at the Darlene Young residence east of Butcher Block; 2 adults voluntarily left the residence.
- 1045 hours: Col. Thoreson requested contact with Dave Rogness to establish a Red Cross emergency shelter.
- 1140 hours: report of a vehicle stuck on Cass 81, 1 mile north of Hickson. MTW Towing sent to pull out the vehicle.
- 1200 hours: Lt. Col. Ellingsberg received a call from resident R.D. Knudson inquiring how residents of Briarwood would get out if the Wild Rice Bridge closed. Caller transferred to Captain Majerus at the EOC.
- 1330 hours: EOC received a call from Derek Tool 7610 37th. St. No. who stated a gravel truck ran over his water pump. 3520 dispatched; no report – he just wanted us to know because he was very upset.

- No time noted: VWR extracted Henry and Sue Mertz from 481 Oxbow Dr. Follow up phone call to them on 3/31 – they are fine; staying in a hotel and they think the Sheriff’s Office is “wonderful”.
- 1350 hours: EOC with request for rescue at the Donald Brakke residence, 325 Schnell Dr. in Oxbow. VWR dispatched; 3 adults rescued.
- 1410 hours: Dennis from Killian Construction called – offered use of equipment we can use, including a bobcat with a high lift. Information passed on to Dave Rogness at the EOC.
- 1440 hours: a male individual came to the FSA in Oxbow requesting evacuation of his wife and 93 year old mother. VWR evacuated 2 adults; reporting party sheltering in place.
- 1545 hours: EOC with request for rescue at Craig and Marissa Strehlow residence, 606 Hillside Dr. VWR extracted 2 adults. Follow up phone call on 3/31 revealed they are staying in a hotel on the 2nd. floor, wishing they were on the 3rd. floor.
- 1655 hours: Deputy Haaland reports the residents at 9015 SUD self evacuated.
- 1805 hours: Lt. Col. Ellingsberg advised Rich Johnston from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service will be in on Sat. at 0700 to coordinate activities from the TOC. Make work space for him at the TOC.
- 1805 hours: 3501 advised the residents at 803 Orchard Dr. self evacuated.
- 1810 hours: Deputy Olson advised Cass 81 ¼ mile south of Cass 14 is completely covered by water and needs to be marked before dark. Road Department notified.
- 1815 hours: U.S. Border Patrol officers reported a vehicle stuck in the ditch on I-29 and exit 56. Vehicle is partially sticking out into the roadway, causing a hazard. NDHP dispatched.
- 1817 hours: Sgt. Wischmann received request for rescue at the Mike Erickson residence 4854 Co. Rd. 81 So. VWR dispatched; 5 people and 1 dog rescued.
- 1834 hours: report of the east bound lane of Cass 10 covered with water, 4 miles east of Mapleton. Road Department notified.
- 1920 hours: a neighbor to Mike Erickson saw the boats and requested an evacuation at a neighboring house. Officers went to the location – house is empty.
- 1956 hours: Corporal McLean reported 7 to 8 inches of fast moving water going over the road at 170th. Ave. No. in Harwood. Deputies K. Violet and Crawford checked the road; advised the flow is low and this is not a high traffic road. Action complete.
- 2008 hours: Sheriff Laney advised us to call in Lt. Col. Ellingsberg and ERT “B”. Everyone notified; left messages for Sgt. Harmon and Deputy Getz.



- 2008 hours: Captain Majerus/EOC reported Todd and Cammie Hofer evacuated from 1415 88th. Ave. So. They were added to the evacuation list.
- 2017 hours: Sgt. Wischmann talked to the resident at 121 Oxbow Dr. who is looking for a contact person at the Knickerbocker Liquor Locker. Gave her contact numbers for Mike Bice.
- 2037 hours: Resident Melissa Dixon reported a red light on at the lift station at 76th. Ave. and Orchard Park Dr. City of Fargo notified.
- 2055 hours: Marlys Nedrebo requested welfare check on her grandson, Zachary Bjerke. He reports everything is “under control”.
- 2057 hours: Phone call to Dave Burnhart for welfare check. He advised so far they’re keeping the water back but they know they’re going to lose, just doesn’t know when. Encouraged him to evacuate as he said he can still drive out. Dave advised he is staying and will call if he leaves or needs further assistance.
- 2104 hours: Michelle Breen 345 Schnell Dr. requesting rescue. Advised her she will be on the list for tomorrow after day light.
- 2136 hours: Resident Derek Harr, Heritage Hills advises he already lost his basement and has less than a foot to go before the well goes. He was informed there will be no more water rescues until morning. At 2212 hours he moved to 706 Heritage Circle. Will call in the morning if he still wants to evacuate.
- 2234 hours: Deputy Bauske advises the power is out in Chrisan Estates. Cass County Electric was notified.
- 2242 hours: Resident Anna Rossow reported the water is high on Cass 17 between 40th. Ave. and 52nd. Ave. We were advised the water is always up against 17 in this area, even with the Sheyenne Diversion.
- 2310 hours: Resident Brent Blatchford 7009 SUD reported power is out and he knows the county has a pump running on the shoulder of the road. He is concerned about water coming in. Cass County Electric is working on repairs; Road Department notified.
- 2320 hours: Resident Duane Schell at 401 Forrest River Rd. requesting boat rescue. He was given multiple chances during daylight hours to evacuate and he chose not to. Information passed on to Sheriff Laney – he advised we will do the rescue in the morning after daylight; they were added to the evacuation list. Mr. Schell called again on 3/26 at 0517 hours requesting rescue as soon as possible; reports the walls are caving in. Residence occupied by 4 adults, 1 cat and birds in a cage. 3/26 successful air rescue 4 adults, 3 dogs, 1 cat and 4 birds.
- 2330 hours: Resident Greg Headland 412 Forrest River Dr. reports his wife fell and sustained a bump to her head; no bleeding. Informed him we would have a deputy check the road to see if we can access them with a 4 wheeler. Information given to Sheriff Laney – he stated we will do a water rescue in the morning. Ramona Headland called back at 0420 hours on 3/26 again requesting rescue for 2 adults, 1 child and a dog. She was informed it isn’t safe for the boats to go out before daylight and they would be put on the evacuation list.
- 2347 hours: NDHP Sgt. Wolfe advises unit 322 will be escorting a semi for several trips to dump clay in the median to plug Drain 27. They will be utilizing 52nd. Ave. So.

3/26/09—Day 4

- Temperature in Fargo 19 degrees
- **River levels in the area:**
 - Red River: 38.93
 - Sheyenne at Harwood: 91.42
 - Sheyenne at Kindred: 18.73
 - Maple at Mapleton: 23.19
 - Wild Rice: 27.59
- 0021 hours: Report of possible dike breach at 100th. Ave. So. and Wild Rice. Sgt. Jorgensen dispatched.
- 0025 hours: Resident Steve Hoover 7013 SUD reports a possible open valve north of Cass 81 at Chrisan Estates. Road Department notified.
- 0025 hours: EOC received report of possible levy break 3767 160 ½ Ave. SE in Mapleton. Deputies Krogh and Canales dispatched. Small leak – patched until they can get more sandbags in the morning.
- 0138 hours: EOC received report of a possible ice jam on the Sheyenne Diversion – water has dropped 1 ½ feet in the last 5 to 6 hours. Information passed on to Dave Rogness – he will contact the National Weather Service.
- 0142 hours: Deputy Krogh reports water crossing the road at Cass 20 and 17. He and Deputy Canales flagged the area.
- 0330 hours: RRRDC received report of the lift station alarming at Selkirk Settlement. Information passed on to the City of Fargo.
- 0445 hours: Deputy Jahner needs 16 vehicles moved to close the dike at 76th. Ave. and Cass 81. Code red notification made. The 4 remaining vehicles were moved by MTW Towing. Deputy Renshaw supervised.
- 0500 hours: Resident Ted Hovde 7910 Forrest River Rd. wondering if they can still drive out of 76th. Ave. He was advised there is one southbound lane open.
- 0510 hours: Resident Greg Danz 1342 So. River Road reports his house is flooding and he needs evacuation. Information passed on to Fargo PD.
- 0540 hours: Resident Brian Mattson 225 Oxbow Circle inquiring if the National Guard is going to return, as he needs more sandbags. Referred him to the Mayor of Oxbow.
- 0647 hours: Resident Tom Frye #18 Briarwood reports a breach in the dike. He and his family are going to the roof of the house; requesting rescue. Boat crew dispatched. 7 people rescued by air.
- 0655 hours: Resident Chris Schmidt has supplies to drop off at the Knickerbocker – wants to know which route to take. Advised him to take I-29 south and cross at the Hickson exchange.



- 0713 hours: Resident Norman Miller 333 Schnell Dr. requesting rescue. 1 adult rescued by boat.
- 0725 hours: EOC received request for rescue from Michelle Breen 845 Schnell Dr. 4 adults and 2 dogs rescued by boat.
- 0725 hours: EOC received request for rescue from Garnet Blouin 408 River Dr. So. 1 78 year old male rescued by air.
- 0725 hours: EOC received request for rescue from Kolbjorn Rommesno 510 Hillside Dr. 1 adult rescued by air.
- 0725 hours: EOC received request for rescue from Greg and Ramona Headland 412 Forrest River Dr. 2 adults, 1 child, 1 dog and 1 cat rescued by air.
- 0730 hours: Resident Randy Hess 233 Oxbow Circle requesting rescue – water coming in and he smells something burning. 2 adults and 2 dogs rescued by boat; no smoke or fire.
- 0755 hours: Deputies Geller and Renshaw requested Code Red notification to move approximately 25 vehicles at Cass 81 and 76th. Ave. So. to provide access for dike builders. 0815 hours RRRDC activating Code Red.
- 0824 hours: Received text message from Sheriff Laney wondering if the bus was enroute to Oxbow. Advised him it was. Also asked him to talk to Jim Gilmore while he was at the flood meeting as Riverview Place was considered as a drop off place but it sounded like they had their own evacuation problems.
- 0840 hours: Dennis Oye requested a welfare check on Ryan Oye east of Gardner south of the new Perley Bridge. Sgt. Nitschke notified. Successful rescue by airboat at 1530 hours.
- 0900 hours: EOC with request for rescue from James Gruttum 801 Orchard Park Dr. Air rescue – Mr. Gruttum on the ground at 1423 hours; his wife is picking him up at the Sullivan School site.
- 0910 hours: EOC received a complaint from a citizen who lives 4 houses east of the Knickerbocker. He said the boats are creating too much wake for his dike; he is requesting they stay within the white stakes posted at the golf course. Information passed on to Sgt. Nitschke.
- 0914 hours: Deputy Galgerud reports the bus is in position at Cass 81 and 14, waiting for evacuees.
- 0926 hours: EOC with request for rescue from Jed Hovde 7910 Forrest River Rd. Sgt. Nitschke notified. Per EOC: Mr. Hovde self evacuated at 1330 hours.
- 0933 hours: Resident Derek Harr 706 Heritage Circle requesting rescue. 1 adult, 3 kids and 1 dog evacuated by boat 1200 hours.
- 0940 hours: Deputy Bauske going out of service – broken tooth.



- 0940 hours: EOC requesting welfare check at 17575 Pfeifer Dr. Herbron and Lorraine Reed and Lynne Revelan evacuated via 2 boat trips.
- 0950 hours: Lt. Smith with U.S. Coast Guard advises boat crews cannot access Briarwood and Forrest River and are requesting helicopter. 3500 notified. Pat Connor arranging for landing pad.
- 1000 hours: EOC with request for rescue from George and Barb Kevorkian 7918 Forrest River Rd. They were added to the evacuation list but self evacuated before we could get to them.
- 1030 hours: EOC with request for rescue from Larry Rosile 205 Oxbow Circle. 2 adults and 1 cat rescued by boat.
- 1042 hours: Sgt. Nitschke requesting ambulance for medical emergency at the Oxbow staging site.
- 1046 hours: Sheriff Laney advises second staging site will be set up at Riverview Place on Cass 81.
- 1050 hours: Pat Connor advises a landing pad is available for the Coast Guard helicopter to land and unload at Innovis Hospital.
- 1055 hours: EOC with request for rescue from Sharon Kassem 7914 Forrest River Rd. 3 adults and 4 cats rescued by air.
- 1105 hours: Resident Dave Burnhart 1610 88th. Ave. So. advised that he self evacuated.
- 1110 hours: Captain Majerus has a request from a national reporter from NBC to do a ride along. Information passed on to 3500.
- 1142 hours: Lt. Smith from the U.S. Coast Guard advised Marlys McDonald 7902 Forrest River Dr. requesting rescue; need for litter hoist as one of the residents is elderly and disabled. Successful air evacuation.
- 1150 hours: EOC with request for rescue from Ronald Fick 815 88th. Ave. So. 2 adults evacuated by VWR; transported to the Red Cross shelter at Agassiz School.
- 1155 hours: NDHP received request for welfare check on Tasha Kennedy 473 Maple Pointe Blvd. NDHP unit 212 dispatched; no one home and house is not in any danger of flooding.
- 1200 hours: M.J. Krogh (3543's wife) offered to provide 24 hour child care through Monday for Sheriff's Office staff so we can continue to come to work. E-mail sent to all SO staff.
- 1245 hours: EOC received request for welfare check on Renee and William Borke 2414 100th. Ave. So. Both are disabled; may need evacuation. Deputy K. Violet dispatched – she assisted them in evacuating.
- 1300 hours: Sgt. Tollefson briefed Sgt. Harmon and Deputy P. Wold on contacting air rescue evacuees on how to alert the helicopter.
- 1311 hours: EOC received information that Robert and Carol Raiman 5910 13th. St. So. self evacuated.
- 1313 hours: Resident Ivan Cossette from 1119 88th. Ave. So. self evacuated.
- 1313 hours: Resident Bob Spalchup from 1201 88th. Ave. So. self evacuated.
- 1315 hours: Sgt. Nitschke advised the landing site for the helicopter changed from Innovis Hospital to Sullivan Middle School. The U.S. Coast Guard initiated the change. 3500 and transport staff notified.

- 1330 hours: Pat Connor advises 2 adults and 2 dogs evacuated by boat from 233 Oxbow Circle.
- 1330 hours: Pat Connor advises Dustin Allard evacuated by boat from 336 Schnell Dr.
- 1330 hours: Pat Connor advises 2 adults and 3 kids evacuated by boat from the Eric and Angel Hayes residence at 706 Heritage Circle.
- 1330 hours: Pat Connor advises 2 adults evacuated by boat from the Warren and Sharon Wilson residence at 607 Hillside Dr.
- 1330 hours: Pat Connor advises George and Dorothy Scilley evacuated by boat from 121 Oxbow Dr.
- 1330 hours: Pat Connor advises Ron Fick and Tammy Paulson evacuated by boat from 815 88th. Ave. So.
- 1330 hours: Pat Connor advises Dick and Helen Johnson and Jeanine May evacuated by boat from 8206 Troy St.
- 1330 hours: Pat Connor advises Ed Weber self evacuated 8205 Troy St.
- 1330 hours: Pat Connor advises Bonnie Ling at 844 Wild Rice Estates was offered but refused evacuation.
- 1331 hours: Resident John Haug 8407 SUD advises he is sheltering in place. We put his name on the welfare check list.
- 1340 hours: Engineer from Round Hill requested Code Red notification for Heritage Hills and Cass 81 between 81st. Ave. No. and 88th. Ave. No. Vehicles in those areas should be moved by 1600 hours – the dike will fully enclose the area and the vehicles would be under water.
- 1357 hours: Lt. Smith, U.S. Coast Guard, advises a second helicopter has arrived from New Orleans.
- 1400 hours: Pat Connor advises 2 adults rescued by air from 412 River Dr.
- 1400 hours: Pat Connor advises the residents at 7910 Forrest River Rd. self evacuated.
- 1400 hours: Residents Tom and Deb Kraft self evacuated from 6214 13th. St. So.
- 1400 hours: Wayne Walldare from Minneapolis flying in this evening to assist. Wants to know if the taxis will be running to get them from the airport to the FargoDome. Pat Connor instructed them on phones available in the airport and the unknown status of the taxi companies considering the conditions. Also gave him the volunteer line phone number.
- 1405 hours: NDHP Sgt. Rumple advised West Fargo PD asked for assistance from the Patrol with traffic control in the city. They have enough personnel to still assist us with calls for service and assist Fargo PD.
- 1413 hours: Pete Fendt from VWR advised the dike is complete across 76th. Ave.
- 1420 hours: Deputy Wasmuth advised barricades are needed at the St. Benedict Church. Road Department notified.
- 1420 hours: Scott Robinson from U.S. Border Patrol offered 2 ATV's and operators to assist in picking up evacuees from the boats. Passed on to 3507; they were directed to meet with him at Cass 81 and 76th. Ave.
- 1425 hours: EOC reports 4 adults rescued by boat from the Rob Johnson residence at 502 Hillside Dr.

- 1430 hours: U.S. Coast Guard reports 2 adults rescued by air from 8302 Troy St.
- 1433 hours: RRRDC received a complaint from Casselton resident Mary Gilbertson that 2 pit bulls are running around in her yard. NDHP will cover the call.
- 1440 hours: Pat Connor advises William and Jennifer Tesch 8211 Troy St. were rescued by boat.
- 1440 hours: Pat Connor advises Janice and Natalie Vipond 9456 21st. St. So. were rescued by air.
- 1445 hours: Residents Richard and Helen Johnson from 8206 Troy St. self evacuated.
- 1445 hours: A neighbor to Jeff Zarling at 812 Orchard Park requested a welfare check on Jeff. Caller doesn't know if Jeff wants to be evacuated or not; he tried to check on him himself but the current is too strong. Left phone message with Jeff to call us if he needs assistance.
- 1455 hours: Captain Perez advises by this time tomorrow the Clay County Jail will be completely evacuated.
- 1515 hours: Captain Majerus from the EOC received request for welfare check on Doug Stensgaard at 806 Heritage Circle. Information passed on to 3507; he reports the resident is OK.
- 1520 hours: 3507 is sending 3513 to check on a report of a breach in the dike at Briarwood. Original information came from WDAY. 1700 hours: 3507 advises the levy is intact and all but 5 sandbaggers have left the area. Officers went door to door – residents are complaining about rescue efforts and are “madder than hell” about the airboats.
- 1530 hours: Deputy Hall reports a need for a machine shop for aluminum welding repair – the boats are taking a beating from the ice. Pat Connor is calling around to find someone to assist.
- 1536 hours: Deputy Shockley advises the east bound lane of I-94 from Mapleton to Fargo is filling in with water and the roadway will be difficult to see after dark. NDHP notified.
- 1547 hours: EOC advised 5 adults and 1 dog at the Gerald Farol residence 405 Forrest River Dr. are requesting rescue. 1610 hours: helicopter arrived – residents refused rescue.
- 1706 hours: 3512 requested medical unit for thumb and knee injury at Cass 81 and the north end of Oxbow. No other information available.
- 1715 hours: EOC advises Briarwood residents now want to evacuate. Airboats rerouted back there; transport bus on scene – residents will be dropped off on the south frontage road of Selkirk, not on Cass 81.
- 1743 hours: Sgt. Jorgensen advises everyone from Selkirk Settlement has evacuated except for the resident at 6084 62nd. or 63rd. Ave.



- 1800 hours: 3501 received request from Steve Cnarski from the Associated Press in Minneapolis as to how many people were evacuated today. He was told 70 people; 9 dogs; 6 cats; and 4 birds. He was also advised numbers may vary slightly when TOC info reconciled with field notes.
- 1805 hours: Volunteer sandbaggers at the north end of Chrisan Estates need a ride out. 3507 advised a bus arrived to pick them up shortly after the request was made.
- 1815 hours: Pete Fendt, VWR advised construction trucks in between Briarwood and 76th. Ave. So. are impeding access for the team to move in for rescue efforts. Marked squad dispatched; trucks are moving.
- 1820 hours: Sgt. Jorgensen advised 3 people were evacuated by air boat from #19 Briarwood.
- 1825 hours: Lori from the EOC advised those who wanted to evacuate from Briarwood are out; those that refused have been told there will be no more opportunity tonight.
- 1825 hours: Lori from the EOC received a call from Doug Stensgaard wondering if VWR would meet his wife at the Wild Rice Bridge and bring a pump in to him. Pete Fendt advised they are still tied up with the Briarwood evacuations. Resident informed – he said it wasn't a problem, that he could get the pump himself.
- 1835 hours: EOC advised Mike and Lauren Faulkner evacuated by boat from #20 Briarwood.
- 1840 hours: EOC advised Tom Eide evacuated by boat from #19 Briarwood.
- 1845 hours: Residents from 1101 59th. Ave. So. self evacuated.
- 1845 hours: EOC received a call from Jill Johnson 502 Hillside Dr. We were there earlier today and evacuated 5 people. 2 adults and a dog remained, thinking they could wait it out. Now with the crest predictions and water coming in the basement, they want out. Airboats deployed.
- 1845 hours: Residents Matt Engen and Julie Sorby rescued by boat from #22 Briarwood.
- 1845 hours: Residents Darren and Andrea Coombs and 1 dog rescued by boat from #15 Briarwood.
- 1900 hours: Boat crews advised they're coming in for the night; no more evacuations until after daylight tomorrow. TOC notified.
- 2000 hours: Sheriff Laney ordered evacuation of the Cass County Jail and the TOC prepared to move from the training room at the Cass County Jail to the West Fargo Police Department's training room.
- 2008 hours: Resident Kent Olson 7702 Forrest River Rd. called to say everyone in his residence self evacuated; power has been turned off.
- 2028 hours: Deputy Getz advised the resident from #26 Briarwood self evacuated and went to St. Cloud.
- 2055 hours: Deputy Dawkins advised they have secured the boats at the Road Department and officers will regroup at the TOC.
- 2236 hours: EOC received report of water over the road on Cass 81 at Brooktree and Harwood. Ron from the Road Department is on the way with cones to mark the area.

- 2255 hours: 3500 made a test call to the new line at the TOC in West Fargo – we’re back in business!

3/27/09—Day 5

- Temperature in Fargo 15 degrees
- **River levels in the area:**
 - Red River: 40.66
 - Sheyenne at Harwood: 91.65
 - Sheyenne at Kindred: 19.93
 - Maple at Mapleton: 22.97
 - Wild Rice: 27.27
- Bethany Homes and the Fargo High Rise evacuate their residents to shelters in Casselton: St Leo’s Church and Central Cass High School.
- U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service joins the flood fight, staging at the TOC.
- The State EOC ordered the closure of I-94 for the evacuation of Fargo. No evacuation had been ordered; the interstate re-opened after approximately 20 minutes.
- 0012 hours: Resident Bob Heg #21 Briarwood stated rescue crews were by yesterday. They are ready to be evacuated when crews come out again today; will hang a red flag in a tree.
- 0033 hours: Shane Walleck, Mayor of Horace received a call from a resident who picked up sandbags and needs to get to 64th. Ave. off of Cass 17. 64th. Ave. is under water but the neighboring property is dry however the homeowner will not allow them to go through. Wanted us to give him permission to go through – he was advised it is private property and if the landowner refused access they’d have to find another way.
- 0225 hours: Resident Darcy Scheer #11 Briarwood reports water coming in the residence, hears a popping sound and the smell of burned rubber. Requesting rescue early morning – will place a red flag outside.
- 0325 hours: Scott from Xcel Energy was contacted by the City of Fargo to mark a gas line at 42nd. Ave. and University Dr. however he can’t access the area. Referred him to the City EOC.
- 0330 hours: All inmates granted furloughs by Cass County District Court were released from custody.
- 0358 hours: Brian Newand, NDHP advised he needs 75 sack lunches and 150 bottles of water at the Fargo HP office, Casselton Ambulance and Valley City DOT. He was advised to call back at 0800 and coordinate with TOC personnel.
- 0432 hours: Sgt. Wischmann received a call from Doug Stensgaard, who said VWR told him they would bring him gas for his generators and he is in need of gas at this time. Mr. Stensgaard was advised the boats are only doing rescue missions at this time; he will be notified if and when supply delivers will start.
- 0442 hours: Resident Nicole (last name unknown) at 2707 Northwood Drive requested a welfare check – reports they are starting to take on water. Deputies Krogh and Canales dispatched.
- 0445 hours: The Evacuation of the Cass Count Jail is complete.

- 0535 hours: Resident Tom VanOsdel 8507 SUD requesting rescue. 2 adults rescued by boat..
- 0600 hours: Pete Fendt, VWR inquiring about the availability of a kojak light. He reports problems with rescue convoy getting out of the city and vehicles cutting through the convoy. Pat Connor provided him with a light from the snowmobile and advised 3500 and 3501. He believes this will provide some additional safety and visibility when moving through the city.
- 0628 hours: RRRDC received request from Brady Woodard, Moore Engineering for traffic control at the intersection of Cass 10 and 19; they are breaking up ice jams.
- 0722 hours: Resident Gary Lacher 17564 Pfeifer Dr. inquiring about what roads are open from Butcher Block. He was advised I-29 is open. He reports he's doing OK – says the water has gone down 3 ½ to 4 inches in the last day and a half.
- 0745 hours: Dale from VWR received request for evacuation north of the gas station at Clay/Cass 20 and then north. There is a Clay County unit standing by.
- 0751 hours: Gary Knuttila #17 Briarwood requesting rescue. 4 people successfully rescued by boat.
- 0818 hours: Deputy Gress reports Paul Werder and family self evacuated from 2707 Northwood Dr.
- 0840 hours: Deputy VanDenEinde reported Luther Ford will provide service to emergency vehicles – oil changes, etc. Any make or model.
- 0840 hours: EOC received request from Bruce (Edgewood Vista/Good Samaritan Center) for front and back escort as they relocate residents to the Good Samaritan Center in Arthur. NDHP will handle this call.
- 0845 hours: Major Caleb Kristoferson inquiring if the West Fargo Airport is available for helicopter operations. Pat Connor called Keith Schonert, Airport Manager. He indicated the runway is in danger of going under as there is water going over 19th. Ave. No. at this time. He suggested the Casselton Airport as an alternative. Message passed along.
- 0900 hours: Resident Norma Fay 4726 SUD reports 3 adults and 1 dog are going to self evacuate.
- 0912 hours: Dean Cypher, President of the Teamsters Union advised their kitchen is available for staging. Upon call back we learned their building and parking lot is available as long as they have sewer. They are willing to provide meals to people, but use of their kitchen is not available.
- 0920 hours: 3576 advises 3 adults and 1 dog were rescued by boat from #10 Briarwood.
- 0930 hours: EOC reports a vehicle (ND HBT 515) at 71st. Ave. and University Dr. needs to be moved – it is impeding dike construction. MTW Towing dispatched.
- 0947 hours: Sgt. Nitschke advised the airboats will refuel at the Road Department at 1130 hours. Message passed on to the Dan's Oil driver.
- 0948 hours: Call from Road Department, relaying message from 3500 to send officers to assist 3512 at Cass 17 and 19. Call was taken by Trooper Rumble who

dispatched 3 units from NDHP to that location. Troopers have Cass 10 shut down so crews can remove ice chunks from the old river channel.

- 0953 hours: Oscar England (former Cass deputy) is in Wisconsin and has heard he can't get home to Page. Wants to know if he can get home via I-94. He was advised I-94 is open at this time.
- 0956 hours: A woman called stating she is making a turkey breast and will pick up some buns. Wants an officer to pick it up and take it to the FargoDome. Gave her the volunteer phone number.
- 1000 hours: 3501 asked the TOC to contact 3507 and 3508 to arrange for officers to stage at the Harwood Community Center. They advise they're already on it.
- 1000 hours: 3501 received a complaint from Gloria Houge 7114 Chrisan Blvd. about issues with turbulence from the airboats. She wanted it documented that she is unhappy. Message passed along to the boat crews.
- 1007 hours: 3507 advised a vehicle was removed at So. 81 and Chrisan estates, as they could not locate the owner and it was impeding dike construction.
- 1010 hours: Received a call from a woman regarding a child custody issue. Tracked down the phone guy to see why we're getting calls of this nature.
- 1017 hours: 3555 heard on KFGO that they're broadcasting the TOC number to the public instead of the EOC number. Called them and asked them to correct it – they said they would right away.
- 1021 hours: 3500 advised the game plan for the jail is that the dayside will remain there and maintain a modified operation. At noon when the next shift comes on, Sgt. Schwandt will take that group to the Courthouse to address Courthouse operations.
- 1026 hours: Judge Racek advised he self evacuated from his residence.
- 1052 hours: The TOC was informed IT is taking the AS400 system down and moving the server to the jail. It is anticipated the system will be down for 3 to 4 hours. Personnel were advised.
- 1100 hours: 3508 advised ESU helped shuffle squad cars from the Road Department to West Fargo PD.
- 1120 hours: Denise Liebe from Sharehouse stated they are evacuating residents from their facility to Breezy Shores Resort in Detroit Lakes. Tara Walen is there on a District Court Commitment until July and they want to know if she can go. Her sentence started out with some federal level charges but the case eventually moved to State Court. Sgt. Tollefson told them to take her and let us know if there were any problems. Captain Perez notified.
- 1130 hours: Resident Wayne Ohnstad 1949 173rd. Ave. SE in Gardner requesting rescue. Successful boat rescue completed at 1345 hours.
- 1146 hours: Deputy Lambertz inquiring about food for staff. He was advised Captain Perez is working on it. Jerry will contact him to see if he needs help transporting it.
- 1157 hours: Sgt. Tollefson is answering Sgt. Harmon's phone so she can get some sleep.

- 1205 hours: ESU deputy advised squad 3 wouldn't start with the charger. 3507 tried calling Gateway, but no answer. That vehicle will remain at the Road Department for now.
- 1205 hours: Deputy Sprecher received information that people were cutting through the road on Cass 32, 1 mile west of I-29. 3507 will send units up there. Responding units advised the individuals were breaking up ice chunks and there is no damage to the road.
- 1206 hours: Captain Majerus from the EOC reports there are several IT personnel at the Fargo Jet Center that need to be picked up and taken to the Courthouse. NDHP units 322 and 252 taking care of this.
- 1212 hours: Pat Connor advised 2 volunteer sandbaggers were removed from 806 Heritage Circle; 3 remain.
- 1315 hours: EOC advised Raymond Vogel was evacuated by boat from 6816 So. 81 and will be taken to the Red Cross shelter at Agassiz School.
- 1317 hours: 3500 looking for stats for the day so far. He was advised 10 calls; 25 people rescued as well as 2 cats and 1 dog.
- 1320 hours: 3501 asked the TOC to check with Sgt. Nitschke to see if the Red Cross has been to their staging area. He advised they've been there a couple of times with food and they have no need for other services at this time.
- 1326 hours: 3503 advised there is a "*mandatory evacuation advisory*" issued for Chrisan Estates, Orchard Glen, Grasberg, Heritage Hills, Eagles Nest, Maple Prairie, Forrest River, Round Hill, Amber Plains, Rivershore and Butcher Block. Advised 3501, 3507, 3508, ESU and Lt. Smith from the U.S. Coast Guard.
- 1345 hours: 3536 reported water on the road at Hwy. 46 east of 81. Called the Road Department who advised this is a township road. Pat Connor was able to reach a township officer who said they would check the area and mark it if needed.
- 1346 hours: Deputy K. Perez advised they are receiving calls from the media at the Jail. She was advised to amend the voice mail message to have all media call the EOC number.
- 1350 hours: 3501 advised a voluntary evacuation advisory for the City of Fargo will be made at 1400 hours. I-94 from 25th. St. So. – all four lanes will be westbound lanes. Advised ESU, 3507 and 3508.
- 1407 hours: EOC received a 2nd. call from a complainant regarding cutting on the road at Cass 32 1 mile west of I-29. Caller was advised officers had already been there. Caller said we shouldn't believe the individuals involved – says they are actively engaged in cutting the road. 3508 dispatched 3519. 3519 called in wanting a name and number of the complainant – referred him directly to 3503. At 1443 hours 3519 advised there is water running over the road in 3 different places but there is no evidence of damage caused to the road. Identify of the complainant is unknown. Action complete.
- 1421 hours: 3502 wondering if the 4 wheelers from University Motors are still in the sallyport at the Jail. Phone call to Captain Perez – yes, they are. 3502 will arrange for ESU members to return them.
- 1425 hours: 3502 wondering if we have any information regarding an officer being hit and injured. This was passed on from WFPD. We learned EVAC

member O'Donnell was stuck by a vehicle while directing traffic for the sand trucks.

- 1427 hours: Phone call from FBI Agent A.J. Eilerman, Grand Forks. They have agents coming in from Minneapolis; we are to let him know if we need anything.
- 1507 hours: Captain Perez advised all residents from Juvenile Detention were released yesterday with the exception of 1 male, who was transferred to Grand Forks.
- 1534 hours: EOC received information from Sandra Korrado that they specialize in animal rescue and are available if needed.
- 1545 hours: Bill Borgen from VWR has a request for rescue in Oakport Township. Referred him to 3508 to dispatch airboats.
- 1550 hours: 3502 advised the I-94 lane closure effort has been aborted. 3502 advised field staff by radio.
- 1633 hours: 3508 advised some of the boats will be staged at the Harwood Community Center as the calls in the southern part of the county are slowing down.
- 1645 hours: Sheriff Laney received a call from John Grettem 9808 21st. St. So. who believes someone may be cutting the road at 25th. St. and 88th. Ave. Information passed on to 3508. 1710 hours: 3500 and EOC were advised the matter was taken care of – false report.
- 1655 hours: Lt. Sall, WFPD requested assistance from officers for traffic control on Sheyenne. ESU Deputy Balzum and 2 NDHP units responded. They will maneuver traffic around cranes that are breaking up ice.
- 1705 hours: 3507 provided clarification on a call for service at the fairgrounds. Lutheran Social Services is running a shelter in the Ag Building on the fairgrounds. The shelter director reportedly learned one individual is a violent sex offender and another has been walking around with a 4 foot sword. She is concerned and now wants the security she was promised. Sgt. Jorgensen walked with the shelter director. Deputy Fix visited with the individual with the sword; sword was confiscated.
- 1708 hours: Colonel Nelson from the NDHP would like to talk to Sheriff Laney. Text message sent at 1711 hours advising him.
- 1725 hours: 3507 and 3518 advise St. Martin's Church in Casselton took 12 residents from Rosewood on Broadway. The Casselton High School has a shelter set up that currently houses 130 people. Their capacity is 1200.
- 1730 hours: ESU Deputy Balzum advised the CAT loader is moving to a different location – will be providing escort.
- 1800 hours: An individual called from Ontario Canada advising they have 2 airboats available that they can air freight in. Referred him to FEMA at the EOC.
- 1810 hours: ESU Deputy Balzum advised they're unloading a crane at Sheyenne St. and RJ's. There is a lot of traffic; he's requesting an additional squad. Sgt. Rumble dispatched HP units to assist at the scene.
- 1832 hours: Birgal Biljones wanted to know how to obtain a travel permit allowing him to come through the state. He stated when a disaster declaration has been made, typically you need one. Referred him to Sgt. Rumble, NDHP.

- 1910 hours: Pete Fendt from VWR asked to have Pat Connor at the Harwood staging area on Saturday morning for boat operations. Information relayed.
- 1937 hours: Captain Majerus from the EOC advised National Guard tasking teams will be available tomorrow with high profile vehicles. They will be staging at Olivet Lutheran Church at University Dr. and 13th. Ave. So. POC Major McDonald. Information passed on to personnel at briefing.
- 2005 hours: Pat Connor advised 3 more airboats will arrive this evening. They will need an escort to the Harwood Community Center; will call when they're close.
- 2050 hours: Deputy Jahner advised water with a strong current is going over Cass 22 and 31. He suggested the road be closed. Road Department notified.
- 2153 hours: Lt. Smith from the U.S. Coast Guard asked that TOC personnel contact Sgt. Nitschke so he can meet with them at 0630 hours tomorrow regarding boat tasking. Called him at 0606 hours; he stated he was just leaving his house and was enroute.
- 2230 hours: 3502 discovered some confusion on map points between the NDANG and the TOC. It turned out they were referring to check points established by the City of Fargo. Got a fax of check points from the City – these change daily.
- 2250 hours: 3502 received complaint concerning Sgt. Wischmann's verbal remarks to a shelter manager and state health worker. He spoke to Bill Gulley, Red Cross state representative, and Steve Wolfe, Shelter Manager from Indianapolis. OPS investigative action; will assign a Deputy to interview Wolfe and other witnesses per complaint.
- 2341 hours: Deputy Jahner advises construction of the earthen dike on Cass 22 is nearly complete. He wanted to know where the Road Department wanted the "watch for high water" sign. Ron from the Road Department asked that they put the sign by the stop sign and he will pick it up later. Sign was placed as directed.

3/28/09—Day 6

- Temperature in Fargo 18 degrees
- **River levels in the area:**
 - Red River: 40.82 – the Red River reaches its first crest
 - Sheyenne at Harwood: 91.68
 - Sheyenne at Kindred: 20.95
 - Maple at Mapleton: 22.55
 - Wild Rice: 25.80
- Cass County Jail staff deployed to Casselton during the day and evening hours to staff both shelters.
- Dale from VWR looking for Mike Reitan, WFPD – gave him cell number.
- 0000 hours: 3500 requested 10 Sheriff's Office and ESU members to walk with National Guard personnel in the North River and Highland Park areas. Will utilize available Jail deputies; briefing at 1000 hours.
- 0115 hours: Deputy Crawford reports the water on Cass 17 and 20 is 8 to 10 inches deep and cars are still driving through it. Ron from the Road Department

said they usually only put “reduced speed” signs up, but he will look for “caution/high water signs”.

- 0202 hours: Captain Argall from the EOC received information from National Guard officers reporting suspicious garage activity at 7918 Sagittarius Circle. 3535 dispatched – everything is fine.
- 0230 hours: Deputy B. Renshaw wondering if we have record of evacuation of John Severson 6450 13th. St. No. Went through all activity logs – nothing found.
- 0426 hours: Captain Argall from the EOC received report of possible ice jam at the coulee 1/8 mile east of Harwood. Road Department notified.
- 0610 hours: Mike Reitan, WFPD advises demolition experts will be setting off charges at the Diversion. They are requesting support from the U.S.Coast Guard. Lt. Smith notified.
- 0730 hours: 3501 advises they are coordinating Jail staff to go to the Casselton shelter.
- 0810 hours: The roadway at Cass 17 and Cass 20 is impassable.
- 0815 hours: Sgt. Wischmann advised 123 displaced individuals from Bethany Homes and the High Rise are staying at the Red Cross shelter at the Casselton School.
- 0915 hours: RRRDC received 911 hang up call from 6313 17th. St. No. 3508 deployed a 3 man boat crew at 0917 hours. At 0956 hours they cleared the run – advised there is 1 person at the residence intending to stay. Not having water problems at this time.
- 0921 hours: Water over the road one half mile south of Harwood on Cass 81; only high profile vehicles can pass through.
- 0955 hours: Corporal McLean advised there is a D-MAT unit set up at the Casselton Shelter and a heliport landing zone set up on the school’s football field. POC information passed on to Lt. Smith.
- 1013 hours: Beth Gravalin from Southeast Human Service Center received report of concerns at the shelter in Casselton. They will be sending a team of people out there to assess the situation.
- 1054 hours: EOC received request for rescue at the Burton and Alice Larson residence 17150 27 R St. SE, Argusville. 1225 hours: 3 adults (90, 80 and 60 years of age) and 1 dog rescued by boat.
- 1127 hours: 3508 advised by 1130 hours the only way to get out of the staging area at Harwood will be Hwy. 81 south because I-29 is closing. They have made arrangements with Horvik Mfg. to use their property if they have to abandon the site they’re using now.
- 1130 hours: Chris from Grand Forks (unknown which agency) wanted to know what our criteria are for activating Code Red. Referred him to the dispatch supervisor at RRRDC.



- 1140 hours: 3502 wants patrol staff to monitor the radio tower south of Cass 14 and east of I-29. If water is coming up on to the building we are to notify Mid-States Communications.
- 1147 hours: 3567 advises the mix at the shelter at the Casselton School between the Bethany residents and the High Rise residents isn't going so well. The Bethany people would like to move to the Church in Casselton that is also sheltering people, some of whom are also Bethany residents, however, the Red Cross will not allow them to take cots with them, so they're looking for a source for cots. 3510 advised Lori Jones can make a request to the National Guard for that type of equipment. POC is Joyce, Director of Bethany Homes.
- 1223 hours: Pat Conner asked that Sheriff Laney e-mail MIKE.GOOS@FWS.GOV the following information: 5 active airboats, 2 standby are adequate, no need to augment. E-mail sent at 1246 hours.
- 1224 hours: Contact made with Allan Harris at 5819 County Road 31; he is sheltering in place.
- 1224 hours: Contact made with Richard Harris at 5513 County Road 31; he is also sheltering in place. He is complaining about the wake the boats are causing.
- 1325 hours: Deputy Spieker advises they're losing the rural water pump at Cass 16 and I-29. Looking for volunteers; they need to have waders. Passed information on to the volunteer center.
- 1330 hours: Bill from NDSU PD called to offer assistance. Their officers are also working 12 hours shifts and are on stand-by for anything we need.
- 1340 hours: RRRDC received 911 hang up at 6332 13th. St. No. – no answer on call back. Information passed on to 3508. Cleared call – no problem.
- 1357 hours: 7544 reports wash out on Cass 11. Gave him phone number for Ron from the Road Department.
- 1420 hours: 3541 requested road sign be moved from Cass 17 and 22 toward Harwood. They are turning traffic around 2 miles to the south. Rich from the Road Department will move the sign.
- 1429 hours: National Guard Response Team requested for sandbag operation for the pumping station located at Cass 16, one mile west of I-29. National Guard assets responding with 1500 ETA; anticipate mission to be complete at 1900 hours.
- 1435 hours: Resident Norma Hanson 711 Southwood Dr. is noticing seepage in her sandbags. Referred her to the City of Fargo.
- 1500 hours: Captain Majerus at the EOC received a call from Paul Bruhn, Chairman of the Highland Park Board. He said residents outside of the ring dike are threatening to break the dike to get their vehicle traffic in and out. He is asking for options and assistance with mediating this issue. 3508 dispatched.
- 1501 hours: One of the southbound lanes of I-29 covered with water, north of Harwood.
- 1502 hours: The National Weather Service will have a possible winter storm watch report late tonight or tomorrow morning.

- 1503 hours: Rose Creek Coulee experiencing some backflow in to the Red River. Could cause up to one half to one foot increase in water levels.
- 1535 hours: Captain Majerus from the EOC received information on Cass 21 and 45th. St. there are about 40 vehicles parked on the road and foot traffic. Area needs patrol. Information passed on to 3507.
- 1535 hours: Unknown caller reports she locked her keys in her car at Caribou Coffee on 13th. Ave. Referred her to RRRDC.
- 1607 hours: 3536 reports water on the road on Cass 16, west of I-29. Information passed on to Ron from the Road Department.
- 1610 hours: Lt. Smith received request for rescue of a 62 year old male who recently had double by-pass surgery; not emergent at this time. Residence is not accessible by boat because of the strong current. John Hildebrand 17050 28th. St. SE rescued by air.
- 1648 hours: EOC received request for rescue at the Obert Tenold residence 2811 173rd. Ave SE, Argusville. 3 adults rescued by air.
- 1651 hours: State Radio advised they received a call for a welfare check on horses along I-29 at mile marker 82. NDHP covered the call.
- 1744 hours: Sgt. Fercho reported a power pole sheared off by ice at Cass 26 on 122nd. Ave. by the Nora Lutheran Church. It has been made safe by MinKota Power.
- 1805 hours: Cass 81 southbound closed.
- 1935 hours: I-29 northbound closed Cass 20 to Exit 100. Detour I-94 westbound to Casselton; Highway 18 to Highway 200A to I-29.
- 1948 hours: Received request for welfare check on Doug Stensgaard. All is OK.
- 2006 hours: Resident Bob Hoy reports water coming from Lake Shure at 57th Street and County Road 20; going across I-29.
- 2015 hours: Chief from the U.S. Coast Guard called for directions back to Fargo since I-29 is closed. Directions provided.
- 2026 hours: Corporal D. Kasprick called from the school shelter in Casselton. Has an individual that needs to go to detox. Centre Detox is still open; 3516 dispatched for transport.
- 2045 hours: Steve Birch, military representative at the EOC is trying to get a hold of Sheriff Laney. Passed number on to the Sheriff.
- 2054 hours: Resident Dan Bush reported someone hired Industrial Builders to cut a hole in his dike and water was running on to his property. One mile north of Argusville on Cass 81 and then east. Deputies learned the Wisner Township Board authorized cutting of the dike, however no one notified Mr. Bush.
- 2100 hours: Cass County EOC meeting.
- 2110 hours: water over the roadway at Brooktree Addition.
- 2236 hours: Sgt. Worden dropped off Deputies C. Violet, Hernandez, Shockley and Larsen to assist Fargo PD with dike patrol.
- 2242 hours: Deb from the EOC advised 3501 wants to make sure we have the phone number for the emergency animal shelter at the Fairgrounds. Phone number was added to the list.

- 2352 hours: Sgt. Wischmann received a request from Sgt. Jason Nelson, FPD with a request for assistance from 4 officers for patrol of evacuated neighborhoods tomorrow.

3/29/09—Day 7

- Temperature in Fargo 24 degrees
- **River levels in the area:**
 - Red River: 40.01
 - Sheyenne at Harwood: 91.67
 - Sheyenne at Kindred: 21.42
 - Maple at Mapleton: 22.20
 - Wild Rice: 25.09
- 0015 hours: Mark Pollert, ND Game and Fish reported the detours by 200A and I-29 and 200 A at Hwy. 18 are hard to see due to fog. He thinks they should be marked with flashing signs. Information passed on to State Radio.
- 0020 hours: Resident Blair Boisjolie reports water crossing the road at drain 27; 1 mile east of Wall Street in Horace. Deputy Krogh advised the area is marked with flags.
- 0136 hours: Resident Kevin Harris Cass 31 between Highland Park and North River is half way under water. Deputies Krogh and Canales dispatched to flag the area.
- 0150 hours: Resident Terri Heaz looking for directions to get in to Heritage Hills with a boat and supplies. Directions given.
- 0622 hours: To access Harwood area from Fargo – I-94 westbound to Mapleton; north on Cass 11 to Cass 4 to Cass 81 and south to Harwood. The intersection of Cass 81 and 32 has water on it but is passable at this time.
- 0623 hours: Corporal McLean reports he was informed by Nurse McLean that 30 more residents will be moved from the Casselton School shelter to the Cheney shelter in West Fargo, leaving 15 to 20 people at the Casselton site. He is wondering if we need to provide supervision at the Cheney site. Information will be passed on to the day shift.
- 0642 hours: Resident Jeff Turner requesting assistance getting a generator. He called back after shift change and said he no longer needs it.
- 0650 hours: Pat Connor looking for an emergency contact person at Gateway Chevrolet – one of the airboats needs a starter. 3501 found a contact person for him and he will be calling Pat.
- 0840 hours: Deputy Fix posted at the Bennett School – reports they will need food and beverages for 25 people. Red Cross notified.
- 0849 hours: 911 hang-up call at 6208 14th St. No. (Highland Park area). Static on call back. Call cleared by CCSO.
- 0851 hours: A doctor assisting family in the Highland Park area needs rescue as he is on call and needs to return to work in Minnesota. Subject successfully extracted by the N.D. National Guard and Sheriff's Office personnel.
- 0921 hours: Unknown caller wanting to know if I-94 was open from Alexandria, MN and if it's going to flood. She was informed the roadway is open at this time; unknown if the road would flood.

- 0932 hours: Pat Connor advises ESU members standing by for aerial recon in process in the Diversion area. 1005 hours: mission complete.
- 0955 hours: Kathy Hinchberger from Lake Schur area reports roads under water; well and lift station are good and most homes are dry. She was given the number to the EOC and encouraged to call if they need anything at all.
- 1009 hours: Sgt. Schwandt reports preparations being made to relocate 60 residents from the Casselton Church shelter to the Casselton School shelter due to sewer lift station problems. Evacuation subsequently cancelled as the problem resolved.
- 1011 hours: 911 hang-up call at 2515 76th Ave. No.; busy on call back. Residence checked on by CCSO and call cleared.
- 1013 hours: Deputy Lee reports the pump at 3rd St. So. and River Rd. is not working and the storm sewer is full. He found city workers who looked at the problem – it is an ongoing issue.
- 1025 hours: Resident Russ Rensvold (Cass 31 North River and Stockman's Addition) reports a deputy told them they have to take part of their dike down so large vehicles can move through there. 3508 dispatched; advised caller they don't have to dismantle any part of their dike.
- 1030 hours: Casselton residents are expressing concern about the High Rise residents at the shelter. They are becoming more active in the community and local residents are wondering if any are sex offenders. Per Lynette Tastad – High Rise residents cannot be violent and have to pass a background check to live at the High Rise, so they shouldn't have to worry. The concern of residents will be passed on to at the evening patrol briefing.
- 1041 hours: Border Patrol officers doing house checks removed 1 individual from 17185 23rd Ave. So. – resident had a vehicle on the other side of the dike.
- 1057 hours: ESU Deputy Lisa Dirk requested transport van to shuttle volunteers from the staging area in Harwood back to Fargo. 3575 and 3577 dispatched.
- 1115 hours: Dike work connecting the 76th Avenue dike resulting in traffic problems for residents south of 76th Avenue. 3507 will send deputies for traffic control until the National Guard can get there.
- 1155 hours: Pat Connor requested e-mail to MIKE.GOOS@FWS.GOV – advise the contingent that is here is okay; we are very happy with the deployment. We request status quo through Friday with 6 active and 2 to spare. E-mail sent at 1234 hours.
- 1200 hours: Resident Clayton Brennan has stray traffic cones – Sunrise Acres area. Sgt. Fercho dispatched to pick up the cones.
- 1210 hours: Mike Reitan, WFPD requested welfare check on the substations on 76th Ave. between Cass 17 and I-29. He reports water crossing 76th Ave. and questions whether it will reach the substations. 3532, 3520 and Cass County Electric notified. Cass County Electric advised they will take care of it.
- 1212 hours: Resident Jerry Swenson 1668 173rd Ave. SE, Gardner. Husband and wife in their 60's; three sides of their dike are good, one is failing. They have bags and sand and have been working all morning but are losing. Requesting welfare check and assistance. 3508 spoke with the Swensons at 1438 hours – they are refusing rescue and will attempt to maintain the weak side of the dike.

- 1225 hours: Pat Duval 4857 173rd. Ave. SE, Horace – upset because someone built a dike over her road and wants to know when it will be removed. Dispatched 3507; he advised the Corps of Engineers put up the dike. Complainant was advised she is allowed to cross the dike to get out.
- 1236 hours: Rescue requested at 1925 173rd. Ave. SE in Harwood. Two adults and two dogs rescued by U.S. Coast Guard via helicopter.
- 1251 hours: Cass County road closure information: I-94 to C 12, CC 1 – Tower City north to C 2, CC 2 to C 1 to State 38, CC 2 to C 81 to C 31, CC 3 to C 26 and north to the county line, CC 3 to C 4 to C 26, CC 4 to C 1 to Barnes County line, CC 4 to C 81 to C 31, CC 5 to C 6 to C 16, CC 6 to C 7 to C 38, CC 9 to C 16 to State 46, CC 10 to C 1 to C 5, CC 12 to C 1 to C 38, CC 13 to C 22 to C 20, CC 14 to C 81 to I-29, CC 16 to C 38 to west of the county line, CC 16 bridge out one mile east of the county line, five miles west of C 38, CC 16 to C 5 to State 18, CC 16 to State 18 to C 27, CC 16 to I-29 to Cass 81, CC 18 to C 17 to I-29, CC 18 to C 81 to the Red River, CC 20 to C 13 to two miles west of C 17, CC 21 to C 14 to C 16, CC 22 to C 17 to C 13, CC 31 to C 22 north to Traill County line, CC 32 to State 18 to C 11, CC 36 to C 27 to State 18, CC 81 to 64th. Ave. So. (Fargo City limits) to C 25.
- 1258 hours: All roads leading out of Harwood are marked “closed” leaving no way out unless people drive around the signs. Cass 17, 81 and I-29 closed at Harwood.
- 1312 hours: Report of roads still passable but beginning to have running/standing water over the roadway: Cass County 6 east of Chaffee, Cass County 10 Raymond Road to the north, Cass County 11 two miles south of Cass County 26, Cass County 27 to Cass 15, Cass County 21 to I-29, Cass County 17 to Cass 10 to I-29 at Harwood.
- 1325 hours: U.S. Coast Guard boat rescue - Don Inken at 2256 173rd. Ave SE and Palmer Inken at 2368 173rd. Ave SE. They went to stay with their friend Walt in West Fargo.
- 1348 hours: Media release – anything within a mile west of the river in the North corridor from Harwood northbound – boats are unable to go in the water because of the strength of the current. The U.S. Coast Guard will do a fly over. People should call if they require rescue, if they still have phone service. If they don’t, they should flag their house if they want rescue and the U.S.C.G. will pick them up. 3500 authorized news release; information passed on to 3503.
- 1400 hours: Mary Lynn Campbell requested a welfare check on Dr. Lotzer, who lives east of the KFGO radio towers, first road to the north – large weathered house. 3520 dispatched. He advised VWR just delivered a generator and more fuel. Dr. Lotzer will call Mary Lynn to let her know he’s OK.
- 1400 hours: A shelter representative at the Casselton School is wondering about possible evacuation due to flood, fire, power outage or some other emergency. He wondered who they were to call for help. Advised him to notify the Sergeant or Corporal in charge at the school and they would notify the TOC and Sheriff’s Office personnel would assist with whatever is necessary.
- 1405 hours: WFPD called. Brian Habiger was removed from the Casselton School shelter last night and taken to detox because he was intoxicated. He was

- released from detox this morning and WFPD took him up to the Fargo Dome to sand bag. He did that for three hours and then called for a ride back to the shelter. Brian requested to be taken to the Agassiz shelter in Fargo. Our MHC, Lynette Tastad, is familiar with Brian. She advised he should return to the shelter in Casselton because Southeast Human Service Center (SEHSC) is providing his medications at that location and it is recommended he stay on his meds. 3577 and 3575 delivered Brian to the Casselton School shelter at 1405.
- 1407 hours: ROAD CLOSURES IN FARGO (updated on 3/28/09) South University Drive (SUD): from 40th. Ave. So. to 100th. Ave. So./40th. Ave.: 25th. to 36th. St./36th. St./38th. Ave. to 40th. Ave. So./38th. Ave. So.: Fleet Farm to 32nd. St./Oak Creek: closed to through traffic; limited access/Meadow Creek: closed to through traffic; limited access/South River Road and related areas east of 4th. St. So.: access via 14th. Ave. and 5th. St. So./Southwood Drive: closed to traffic; units able to respond to east end/26th. Ave. So./SUD to Fargo Country Club closed; units able to respond to area/5th. St. So.: 17th. Ave. to 24th. Ave. So. closed to through traffic; underpass closed due to water and sand on the roadway/River Drive So.: closed to traffic; limited access/Harwood Drive So.: closed to through traffic; limited local access/Hackberry Dr.: closed/32nd. Ave. So.: closed east of SUD; emergency vehicles OK/Lindenwood Dr.: closed/52nd. Ave. So. one lane 45th. to I-29/52nd. Ave. east of SUD/4th. St. So.: 14th. Ave. So. to Lindenwood Dr/2nd. St. So.: 4th. St. to Main Ave./45th. St. So.: 32nd. Ave. So. to 40th. Ave. So./42nd. St. So.: one lane both ways in areas south of 32nd. Ave. So./38th. St. No.: 40th. Ave. to 32nd. Ave. So./Rose Creek Drive So: one lane/25th. St. So. at Drain 27: emergency vehicles allowed to cross dike/64th. Ave. So. at SUD: limited traffic allowed on to SUD south, northbound/32nd. St. So.: secondary dike being constructed/2nd. St. No.: 1st. Ave. No. to 6th. Ave. No./6th. Ave. No.: closed/Elm Street: closed/South Terrace: closed/Oak Grove area cut off/Oak St. No.: 7th. Ave. No. to 11th. Ave. No.: residents only/Elm St. No.: 11th. Ave. No. to 13th. Ave. No.: residents only/14th. Ave. No.: Elm St. No. to 2nd. St. No./15th. Ave. No.: 2nd. St. No. to Elm St.; residents only/Woodlawn Drive No.: clay dike north leg of loop/Elm St. No.: Woodlawn Drive No. to 19th. Ave. No.: residents only/12th. Ave. No. to toll bridge/NP Ave. Bridge/North Broadway Bridge/NUD Broadway Bridge/32nd. Ave. No.: east of Peterson Parkway to Eagle St./Kandi Lane/Broadway: 32nd. Ave. No. to Royal Oaks.
 - 1430 hours: Resident Keith Anderson 1265 172 ½. Ave. SE, Grandin reports 2 downed power lines over the driveway. Cass County Electric notified; action complete.
 - 1445 hours: Steve and Darlene Johnson at 1345 172 ½ Ave. SE in Gardner – state they’re surrounded by water and unable to get out by boat because of the strength of the current. She needs a prescription medication but it’s not critical. After consultation with Lt. Smith from the U.S.C.G. – offered them rescue at this time, which they refused. We will call them tomorrow to check in with them to see how things are going. 3-30-09 1345 hours: meds were delivered by Deputies.
 - 1451 hours: Call from Marcie Bruesch 4717 165th. Ave. SE in Davenport. She is in Fargo frantically searching for additional pump to pump water off her property. Her 15 year old daughter is on the farm alone watching the sump pump. Mac’s

Inc. donated a sump pump; she got it home and working. May get another one from Menard's tomorrow.

- 1526 hours: Sheriff's Deputies on foot going door-to-door. If residents are home we're checking in with them and getting info from them. If the house is empty, we're attaching "SHERIFF DO NOT CROSS" tape to the front door handle, mailbox or some other place easy to see. This is happening in Oxbow/Hickson area and every subdivision along Cass 81 to 52nd. Avenue South. If houses require boat access, deputies are noting information for boat operators.
- 1531 hours: Roads closed – Cass 15 south of I-94 to Cass 8, Cass 16 from Cass 17 to I-29, Cass 18 from Cass 17 to I-29, South 81 from the Wild Rice bridge to Cass 16, Cass 14 east of I-29; 52nd. Avenue southwest of I-29, Cass 17 to Harwood, Cass 21 in St. Benedict.
- 1540 hours: Bob Randle is concerned there is a need for security at the animal shelter at the fairgrounds because people are coming and going, looking at the animals and one of the horses looks neglected. NDHP will send an officer over to talk with the shelter director.
- 1558 hours: Victor Pellenano 2709 Northwood Drive, left his house several days ago and wonders if officers would take a look at his house when they're in the area and see what things look like. Crews are wrapping up for the day – will pass this on during morning briefing on March 30.
- 1615 hours: 2611 Northwood Drive – the neighbor's propane tank is floating up the river. U.S.C.G. passed information on to HazMat team.
- 1630 hours: Captain Hill, Grand Forks AFB requesting frequencies to use during air ops in Cass County. 3502 advised Vcall 10, VTAC 11, VTAC 12, VTAC 13, VTAC 14.
- 1700 hours: Ambulance requested at the Church shelter in Casselton. 76 year old Donald Gooselaw needs to go to a hospital, non-emergent. RRRDC will dispatch Casselton Ambulance; will go to MeritCare. 2142 hours: Sgt. Wischmann arranged for transportation back to the shelter.
- 1730 hours: Lt. Joe Smith, U.S. Coast Guard, requesting use of the TOC for flood ops after the flood moves north through Hillsboro, etc, as well as maps of Traill and Grand Forks counties. Sheriff Laney approved use and James from West Fargo IT printed the maps.
- 1738 hours: Frontage road just west of mile marker 317 (the Ayr exchange) is washed out. The NDHP will send a trooper and notify DOT if appropriate.
- 1818 hours: State Radio received report of 911 hang up from RRRDC at David Hoffman residence 4513 143rd Ave. SE in Alice. NDHP unit 265 responded; 2 year old reportedly hit a button by mistake.
- 1835 hours: Resident Keith Anderson 1265 172 ½ Ave. SE, Grandin reports downed power poles floating in current and ice. Those poles are pulling on poles supporting their generator power and he's concerned those poles will go as well. Cass County Electric advised there is no access in there at this time and very likely the lines will break rather than the poles.
- 1902 hours: Captain Majerus at the EOC received report of the frontage road at mile marker 317 washed out. NDHP unit dispatched to assess.

- 1928 hours: RRRDC inquiring if Cass 14 between Cass 17 and I-29 is available for ambulance access. NDHP unit 333 dispatched – the road is still open.
- 1944 hours: Gladys Smith called and requested assistance delivering her and equipment back to her home that she evacuated at 12396 South University Drive. Captain Argall spoke with her son and explained why we couldn't transport her back in there.
- 2009 hours: Per Sgt. Wischmann – Kevin Mayer from Casselton needs to block off a couple of streets to open up parking at St. Leo's Church. Signs were put up by the city and cars have been removed.
- 2015 hours: There is a little bit of water on Cass 14, east of Cass 17 and west of I-29.
- 2040 hours: John Rutten, Mapleton Township Board, received a report of water on the edge of the road on Cass 8, west of Cass 17 on the west side of Eagle Run. He said it was just after you cross over the diversion in the low spot. Caller asked to have it checked and flagged if appropriate. Cass deputy advised there was some water on the shoulder in the past, but none on the roadway. The area is frozen; spot will not be flagged at this time.
- 2041 hours: Gary Peterson from Harwood wondering what route to take to work in the morning. Advised from Harwood go north on Cass 81 to Cass 4; then to Cass 11 to I-29.
- 2103 hours: Deputy Tofstad reports 3 staff on dike patrol at 52nd. Ave. So. need rubber overshoes. Sgt. Jorgensen delivered.
- 2136 hours: Sgt. Worden called regarding a resident of the Casselton church shelter who was transported to MeritCare earlier in the day. MeritCare advised she was ready to return to the shelter; Sgt. Worden wondering whose responsibility it was to get her back there. Advised Sgt. Worden to talk with a Bethany Homes representative. 2154 hours: Sgt. Worden advised Sgt. Wischmann arranged for transportation.
- 2155 hours: The bridge on I-29 north of Harwood at the Sheyenne River crossing is closed indefinitely due to faulty structure, per EOC.
- 2226 hours: Gayln Smith requested transportation back to an area he had been evacuated from. He was advised we would not do that until river levels drop. He said he would try to convince his 70 year old mother she will have to wait until the water drops.
- 2228 hours: Received a call from Mrs. Lynnes. She requested our department drive very slowly when we go in to the Northwood area. Her husband is still trying to beat the water at 2705 Northwood Drive and today the vehicles were creating a wake that was banging up against their dike. Information passed on to the TOC.
- 2233 hours: Received a call from Karen who wanted to know if they were evacuating citizens from Harwood to Grandin. Lt. Col. Ellingsberg advised he has not heard anything about this and believes it to be a rumor.
- 2246 hours: Road information – 158th. Ave. SE still open; 160th. Ave. SE by the diversion is wet but passable. Cass 17 at 51st. St. SE muddy on the east side of the road; Cass 17 and 50th. St. good up to 171st. Ave. 171st. Ave. south of 50th. St. is washed out 1/8 mile south.

- 2314 hours: Kathy Turner reports her brother Jeff Turner needs help with a generator as they have no power and are trying to save the farm. 17281 17th. St. SE. Residence is within ½ mile of the river, so no boat access due to ice.

3/30/09—Day 8

- Temperature in Fargo 33 degrees
- **River levels in the area:**
 - Red River: 39.05
 - Sheyenne at Harwood: 91.58
 - Sheyenne at Kindred: 21.42
 - Maple at Mapleton: 21.76
 - Wild Rice: 24.34
- 0031 hours: Gary from Gordy's advised tow truck is on the way to pull out Deputy K. Violet. He reportedly got on the wrong side of a washout enroute to Page via Cass 2 to Cass 1. Deputy Violet advised tow truck is on the way.
- 0623 hours: Received a call from Corporal Brad McLean. He said Nurse McLean informed him that they would be moving about 30 people from the Casselton School shelter to the Cheney Middle School shelter this morning, which will leave them with about 15 people at the Casselton School Shelter. He is wondering about supervision at the Cheney site.
- 0630 hours: Received a call from Pat Connor looking for a phone number for the Corps of Engineers. He stated that they are talking about using divers to wrap the dikes with plastic in preparation for the oncoming storm. He was given the EOC number.
- Captain Argall called from the EOC and advised resident Jeff Turner is in need of a generator, however, the boats can't deliver it because he lives within a half mile of the river. Pat Connor called and he is also aware of this request. He will talk to the pilots and see if they can deliver it by air. If they can, they are to get a hold of Greg Nelson and he will deliver it to the Nora Church on Cass 26. At 0904 hours Jeff Turner called and cancelled the request; he got his running after talking to a specialist at Tool Crib.
- 0720 hours: RRRDC called in a 10-50 P at 356 Maple Pointe Boulevard in Mapleton – white Chevy vs. parked green Chrysler. NDHP unit 269 took the call.
- Mike from The Forum inquiring about the total number of evacuations so far. Sgt. Tollefson advised him 150 people; 31 animals.
- 0820 hours: Boat patrol briefing just wrapped up. They asked to advise the Sheriff that a public announcement is necessary to tell people if they anticipate needing rescue they should contact us right away because when the wind and snow start they will be unable to go up in the air. Sent a text message to the Sheriff; he's in the flood meeting at this time and will put out the announcement live.
- 0915 hours: The Red Cross and Fargo Cass Public Health are transporting 20 to 25 residents from the Casselton School shelter to the Cheney School shelter and should be done by 1200 hours. There will be 20 residents remaining at the Casselton School shelter. Sgt. Zetocha notified. He will notify Sgt. Schwandt.

- 0940 hours: Resident Jim Olsbo 4826 SUD is an elderly shut in, refusing to evacuate. States his vehicle is on the other side of the dike and he is out of his medications. 3519 dispatched; meds delivered.
- 0950 hours: Milton and LeRoy Madson 17147 17th. St. SE, Gardner; two adults 95 and 75 years of age. They are enroute to the Hillsboro Motel and will call Deputy Wasmuth when they arrive.
- 1000 hours to 1430 hours: Deputies Henrickson, K. Perez, Zurn and Lynette Tastad called 182 homes in the evacuation area to see if they wanted rescue before the storm. Residents were advised those sheltering in would not be evacuated during the storm and were given the EOC number in case of emergency. 2 called back to evacuate.
- 1055 hours: Welfare check requested on Glen Olschlager at 17141 17th. St. SE in Gardner. Last contact with him was Friday; no answer on call back now. Notify Duane whether we were able to make contact or not. 3512 dispatched; advised at 1345 hours that he made contact and Mr. Olschlager is fine.
- 1108 hours: 3500 requesting a high profile vehicle and personnel from the National Guard. Sgt. Tollefson talked to Captain Hillig from the NDANG. They will be at the TOC to brief at 1400 hours.
- 1124 hours: Water rescue 6207 17th St. No. (west side of Highland Park). 1 adult, 3 children and 4 cats evacuated (Tweten).
- 1124 hours: Request for medication delivery at 1345 172 ½ Ave. SE. Delivery made at 1315 hours.
- 1126 hours: Water rescue 6203 17th St. No. 2 adults and 1 child evacuated (Winkler/Herman).
- 1146 hours: Cass 81 south of Harwood; Clarence Lafontaine and Janice Porter pulled from a vehicle in the ditch. A wrecker then pulled the vehicle from the ditch.
- 1147 hours: Resident John Tesch 7211 County Road 31 called to see if any roads were open going in to Fargo. Deputy Sprecher made direct contact with Mr. Tesch at his residence – he was fine, but needed a prescription refilled. Deputies picked up the prescription at the Northport Hornbachers and delivered it to Mr. Tesch.
- 1148 hours: 3500 asked the TOC to call Patty Laney about contacting Sheriff's Office spouses to conduct welfare checks. Jackie will call and set things up.
- 1300 hours: Chip Ammerman, Cass County Social Services, is arranging for supplies to be delivered to two households that made requests. Gerald Leadbetter 6343 13th. St. No. (medication) and Bob Peterson 1405 32nd. Ave. NW, West Fargo. 1530 hours: Delivery accomplished with the assistance of the National Guard on Leadbetter. They were unable to get in to Bob Peterson's place because of the conditions – they will try again on Wednesday. 4-1-09 successful delivery made at 1702 hours.
- 1325 hours: Cass 81 between Cass 20 and 22; ice covered and the yellow line is not visible to navigate. It was recommended the road be closed and 3500 approved. National Guard members were tasked to cover either end of that stretch so people couldn't drive on it.

- 1340 hours: Mike Bice wondering if we still have a key to the Knickerbocker Liquor Locker. We do – Deputy Gress will return it to them.
- 1355 hours: 3500 received a text message from an eligibility worker from Grand Forks County Social Services inquiring whether 6243 16th. Street South is in the flood affected area. Sgt. Tollefson responded to her and advised that it is.
- 1400 hours: EOC received information from a Fargo Police Officer who was approached by a citizen who said there was water running over Sheyenne Street in West Fargo. NDHP unit 212 checked the area – there is no water running over Sheyenne Street.
- 1420 hours: NDHP received report of road closed sign being struck and damaged at Cass 20, westbound from I-29. Contacted Road Department – they advised they will handle it.
- 1533 hours: Carlos and Joni Cramer of 312 Forrest River Drive have a friend waiting at 76th Ave. and South University Drive with a food delivery, however, she cannot access the area. Access was attempted by a Border Patrol unit with a 4X4 however the water is approximately 4 feet deep so they cannot go through. 3542 advised Master Construction is on scene with some big equipment and they were willing to go in. Mission accomplished.
- 1555 hours: Sherry Ihnken requested a welfare check on Donald and Palmer Ihnken in Argusville. They were evacuated by boat yesterday – information passed on to Sherry as to where they went.
- 1628 hours: A call from the public regarding road closure information. NDHP unit 336 provided information.
- 1650 hours: NDHP unit 227 reported bad road conditions on State 18 between Casselton and Arthur. NDHP unit 296 will contact the DOT.
- 1700 hours: Deputy Steve Sprecher contacted the TOC to report that air and sea operations are complete for the day.
- 1700 hours: Cass 17; West Fargo to Harwood – vehicles are parked on both sides of the road and need to be moved to one side so snow plows can get through in the morning. 3507 dispatched patrol officers to contact the owners. Action complete.
- 1802 hours: Valley Water Rescue assessing the Oxbow area to determine whether or not the water needs to be shut off.
- 1846 hours: Sheriff Laney received an e-mail from Dan Davidson of 610 Orchard Park Drive. He evacuated to Fergus Falls and was wondering when he could return to his home. Phone message left for Dan on his voice mail advising no one will be allowed back in the area until Sheriff's Office personnel could determine it was safe. He was provided the EOC number for further inquiries.
- 1849 hours: Pat Connor called to request 24 cots with blankets for the water rescue operation at Harwood. FEMA officials authorized equipment to be requisitioned from the Cheney Middle School shelter and POC information.
- RRRDC called and stated a State Patrol officer was involved in a crash at the intersection of 15th. St. and 9th. Ave. East in West Fargo. Airbag deployment; unit 336 involved and transported by ambulance to Innovis Hospital.
- 1921 hours: Corporal Brad McLean is on Highway 18 at the Amenia exchange with a crash involving a semi, a pick-up pulling a trailer and a van. There is an

ambulance on scene. Corporal McLean will direct traffic until NDHP comes on scene as traffic is backing up.

- 1929 hours: VWR assessing a residence in the Oxbow area again to determine whether or not the water needs to be shut off. Further follow up will be done by Pat Connor and VWR tomorrow.
- 1953 hours: Corporal McLean advises two NDHP units took over the crash scene and he is 10-8.
- 2025 hours: RRRDC received a call from MeritCare hospital. They have a 10 year old who was at Prairie St. John's prior to evacuation. He has psychiatric issues and is violent and they want to know how to get him to the Juvenile Detention Center. They were advised to keep him there as the Detention Center had also been evacuated.
- 2035 hours: Call from Myrene Peterson, Enderlin Vet answering service. Resident Jan Jents reported 3 dogs stranded on a chunk of ice south of Alice. Information passed on to Jim Boller, Code 3 Animal Rescue. He advised they will respond in the morning; their personnel won't go out after dark due to risks involved. Per Sgt. Wischmann: a deputy will not be dispatched until daylight, also due to safety issues. 3-31-09 0622 hours: received a call from Kurt Cruickshank with Animal Rescue inquiring about road and travel conditions. He was advised the visibility is poor and roads extremely slippery. Mr. Cruickshank stated they would not go out until conditions improve. Called the original complainant – she said the dogs were gone when they got up that morning and the river level is down a little so she hopes they were able to get off to the east. She will call if she sees them again.
- 2143 hours: Report of male with severe abdominal pain at 2601 Northwood Drive, Highland Park subdivision. Sgt. Kulesa working with National Guard members with a high profile vehicle to extract the individual.
- 2200 hours: Mike Lynk, State Radio offering use of WebEOC for the TOC to use. Will have their IT staff call the TOC in the morning; James from West Fargo IT will need to assist.

3/31/09— Day 9

- Temperature in Fargo 32 degrees
- **River levels in the area:**
 - Red River: 38.00
 - Sheyenne at Harwood: 91.55
 - Sheyenne at Kindred: 21.51
 - Maple at Mapleton: 21.41
 - Wild Rice: 23.43
- 0038 hours: Per Sgt. Wischmann – Cass 20, east of I-29; there is a semi blocking the road. A National Guard truck swerved to miss it and is in the ditch. NDANG sending another truck to pull it out; Deputies Krogh and Canales doing traffic control. Scene cleared at 0323 hours.
- 0115 hours: Report of a crash involving 3 semi trucks on State 18 1 to 2 miles north of Amenia. Ambulance enroute. 3527 and 3598 will assist the NDHP at the scene. Scene clear and road re-opened at 0405 hours.

- 0429 hours: Cass deputies report they've been on Cass 20 to Cass 17 and north in to Harwood.
- 0645 hours: Deputy Sprecher called regarding visibility and wind speed. He stated due to conditions the boats probably won't go out today; he will meet with the Chief and call back with a final decision.
- 0833 hours: Sgt. Lemke from Fargo PD said he received information from the National Guard that there was an ATV on the dike at 7202 Crescent Blvd. The TOC knows about it – it is used by a homeowner.
- 0848 hours: Chad Engler of Moore Engineering called to notify us that the Sheyenne River at ND 46 just west of Cass 15 is breaking out and heading toward Davenport. He said it happened in 1997 also. Believes it started yesterday or the day before. Will notify Dave Rogness and Keith Berndt.
- 0852 hours: Marvin Yahnke 7610 Forrest River Road wanted to know if he and his neighbors could get back in to their area. He said the county engineer is not keeping them updated on the daily press conferences about roads in the county. He was told we would pass this information on.
- 0959 hours: A resident at the Casselton shelter has a medical emergency. Medical staff on site; ambulance called.
- 1026 hours: Commissioner Wagner received a call from an Orchard Glen resident concerned that when the water starts to recede that individuals who don't belong there will be roaming and looting.
- 1032 hours: Casselton and West Fargo Fire Departments want to talk to a representative from the Sheriff's Office about evacuation and fire planning. Sgt. Jorgensen will meet with them. They were also provided POC info for the NDANG.
- 1042 hours: I-29 is closed from Grand Forks, North Dakota to Brookings, South Dakota.
- 1355 hours: 3520 asked that we notify the NDHP that the overpass at I-29 and State 18 is almost full and is plugging up with snow drifts. NDHP notified.
- 1455 hours: Larry Roller and Mark Nusbit called to request assistance from the U.S. Coast Guard for downed power lines.
- 1507 hours: Sgt. Schwandt called and advised the Red Cross is pulling out of Casselton tomorrow; the shelter will be closed at noon.
- 1530 hours: Per 3500 – call Mike Lynk, State Radio, to confirm status of use of 34 Border Patrol agents for Cass County for 14 days, effective today. Action complete.
- 1827 hours: Allen from Northern Cass School called and wanted to know why Cass 81 between Harwood and Argusville was closed since it was high and dry. He said he would like to open school in the morning. He was advised the road is open to local traffic so his students will be able to get to school tomorrow.
- 2020 hours: RRRDC received a 911 call from 6225 13th. St. No. No answer on call back. Deputy K. Violet responded; advised no one at home – they're staying with neighbors.
- 2042 hours: Deputy Sprecher advised Mary Kemple with Casselton Ambulance rode with Deputy Zundel to a call and thinks she may have left her cell phone in

his car. Phone is described as standard in color; issued through Verizon. Checked with Deputy Balzum from ESU as he is currently assigned that vehicle – no phone found.

- 2224 hours: Per Deputy Jahner – you can get back in to Highland Park on Cass 22. There is still some water there but it is safe to drive in.
- 2255 hours: Deputies K. Violet and Geller advise they came across 3 individuals claiming to work for Burlington Northern. When asked what they were doing in the area the individuals told them it was none of their business. Sgt. Wischmann called their supervisor, Jim Lenier. He verified they were out there checking on the security of the railroad bridges and said he would talk to them about their attitude toward law enforcement.

4/1/09— Day 10

- Temperature in Fargo 33 degrees
- **River levels in the area:**
 - Red River: 37.08
 - Sheyenne at Harwood: 91.34
 - Sheyenne at Kindred: 21.53
 - Maple at Mapleton: 20.82
 - Wild Rice: 22.03
- 0834 hours: Nick Thompson at 17373 25th. St. SE in Argusville requesting rescue. He has been here helping with the flood and has to return to Montana. Successful boat rescue made. The boats also brought in a crew from Cass County Electric and there were able to restore a small block of power for residents.
- 0900 hours: Captain Grant Larson from NDANG advised he has a high profile vehicle available for rescue efforts. Put him in touch with Sgt. Nitschke. It was decided they would send two high profile vehicles; Deputies Korsmo and Beaulieu will be assigned with them.
- 1000 hours: Corporal Frobige reports all evacuees from shelters in Casselton are on buses and pulling out at this time, bound for Fargo.
- 1040 hours: Trish O'Connor from Channel 11 wants to go in to the Heritage Hills area. 3507 will assign a unit.
- 1125 hours: Christine and Mark Hyatt are sandbagging 1 mile north and 4 east of Kindred. They are trying to save 4 houses and are requesting assistance. 3511 and 3544 dispatched to meet with the National Guard at Cass 15. 3511 advised the effort is well covered – they have at least 100 volunteers, 2 dump trucks and soldiers. He said “it looks like a war is starting down there”.
- 1225 hours: 2 different parties looking for information on access to the Orchard Park area. 3555 and 7544 dispatched.
- 1416 hours: Nilles residence on Cass 32 between 159th. and 160th. Ave. Caller stated a driveway is washed out and the female living here was transporting her wheelchair bound son across the wash out by hand. The County Road Department was notified – they will try to fill in the area.
- 1606 hours: Per Sgt. Harmon – need 14 jail deputies to be scheduled for April 2, 2009 from 0700 to 1900 to canvas neighborhoods up north. Sgt. Zetocha will

schedule staff and advise who is working. Corporal Frobig will lead the project; the jail bus will be used for transportation.

- 1611 hours: Report of 2 intoxicated snowmobile operators leaving the Wild Rice Bar. They are reportedly driving on dikes and in the water. 3544 and 3511 dispatched.
- 1642 hours: Request for NDANG support to pull a rescue boat out of the water at Cass 26, 5 miles east of Gardner. The National Guard sent a 2 ½ ton truck. 1733 hours – request cancelled – a farmer came by and pulled it out.
- 1700 hours: Resident 1 1/8th. miles south of Cass 16 on Cass 17 sees the National Guard in the area and would like an update on road conditions. Deputies Bauske and Zundel dispatched.
- 1712 hours: National Guard members manning the gates on 81 at Cass 20 and 22 report “a lively amount of traffic” trying to come through. They say there may have been a media report stating that stretch was open so they’re looking for confirmation. Checked with 3508 – he was up there earlier today and there’s still water on the roadway. With night fall coming he thinks it’s still hazardous. After further discussion it was determined the road could be used but the Road Department left a barricade at each end as a soft barricade and the Guard members pulled out.
- 1848 hours: Report of water running across the road on Cass 17 between Cass 16 and 18. Deputies checked the roadway – no water at this time.
- 2003 hours: Report of dogs floating on an ice chunk at I-94 and 38th. St. West in West Fargo. Deputies checked the area at 2012 hours – dogs were G.O.A.

4/2/09— Day 11

- Temperature in Fargo 28 degrees
- **River levels in the area:**
 - Red River: 36.33
 - Sheyenne at Harwood: 91.18
 - Sheyenne at Kindred: 21.37
 - Maple at Mapleton: 20.31
 - Wild Rice: 20.86
- 0000 hours: Deputy Spieker had contact with resident Don Hejtmanek 5327 170th. Ave. SE in Kindred. He reported water in his area and was concerned about his neighbors (Crommett, Christenson and Cose). He would like them checked on and accounted for. 0034 hours: Sgt. Jorgensen made phone contact with all parties and they are OK at this time.
- 0117 hours: RRRDC called with a report of water approaching the shoulder of the road on Cass 16, 3 miles west of Cass 17. The caller was concerned the water would be over the road by day break. 0123 hours: Deputy Krogh checked the area and said the water was on the edge of the shoulder and has 12 to 18 inches to go before it goes across the road.
- 0130 hours: Deputy Fletcher advised the flow of water across Cass 81, ½ mile north of Oxbow has increased from the time they went in and came back out. She said the depth was between 3 and 6 inches and it is difficult to see the center line. 0133 hours: Deputy Krogh will assess the area and flag it if necessary.

- 0624 hours: Brian Holte 1265 172 ½ Ave. SE in Grandin needs assistance with boats to transport some gas in to his farm from his pick-up which is parked on Cass 2, east of Cass 81. Sgt. Nitschke was contacted. He will have the boat team attempt the delivery in the day light.
- 0646 hours: Louise Borgen 16986 51st. St. SE in Kindred reports water is going under her sand bags and the two pumps she has are freezing up. She says the water has a way to go yet and she's going to bring the pumps in the house to warm them up. She'll call back if she needs further assistance. 1133 hours: 7530 talked with Lois – she has things under control; will call back if needed.
- 0809 hours: Deputy Arth reported on Cass 18 west of Cass 17 water is going over the road and the road is starting to wash away. Also, Cass 17, 2 to 3 miles south of Horace, has water up to the road. There are no signs or barricades at either site. Sgt. Jorgensen and Captain Majerus notified. Road Department said it will be difficult to do because of the location and it is a township road, but they will do what they can.
- 0824 hours: Resident Dean Beilke called requesting a phone number for FEMA to inquire about funds available to displaced residents. He was advised they have not made a number available to the public yet but it would be widely advertised when it is.
- 1043 hours: Captain Majerus from the EOC received report of a car blocking the driveway at 6218 13th. St. So. in Selkirk Settlement. 3516 dispatched.
- 1156 hours: Casselton School back in session. Requesting traffic control at State 18 and Cass 10 at 0800 and 1520 hours daily.
- 1205 hours: Report of a propane tank on its side at 17554 49th. Ave. SE in Hickson. Propane company called by the homeowner; they are enroute to the scene.
- 1230 hours: All shelter residents from St. Leo's Church in Casselton have returned to Fargo. The church is now empty.
- 1406 hours: Resident Gerald Keller 306 188th. Ave. So. reports his renter, Warren Dubbles, evacuated the property. He would like information on how to keep the renter out until the property is cleaned up. Referred him to a Salvation Army representative and advised it is a civil issue so he should follow the lease agreement.
- 1416 hours: Resident Chad McKuillan of 313 Schnell Drive in Oxbow called to complain about yellow tape or card left on his house by deputies. He feels this will allow looters to know nobody is home.
- 1613 hours: Resident Phillip Henry of 317 Schnell Drive in Oxbow called asking about the yellow tape on his door. He advised he is home now and not leaving again so he's going to remove the tape.
- 1643 hours: Received a call from a concerned farmer asking if we can tell the National Guard not to fly over cattle with the helicopter because it spooks them. Information passed on the NDANG.
- 1715 hours: Resident Garnett Blowin of 408 River Drive So. in Forrest River called. Stated his basement is full of water and the electricity is still on. Called Cass County Electric – they will take care of it.

- 1715 hours: Corporal Andy Frobige reports the Orchard Glen subdivision at the northeast corner has lost all power, sewer and water. They are requesting extra patrol because garage doors cannot be secured.
- 1722 hours: Residents Marvin and Carol Jahnke of 7610 Forrest River Drive advise they have a basement full of water and the electricity is still on. Called Cass County Electric – they will take care of it.
- 2003 hours: Deputy Geller is at Cass 16 west of Cass 17 and reports there is water over the roadway. She will remain on scene until the area can be marked. Road department notified. Deputy Geller cleared at 2150 hours.
- 2145 hours: Sgt. Wischmann received a call from resident Barb Swisher asking how to get from Kindred to West Fargo. She was advised to take Cass 15 north to I-94. She stated that stretch was under water earlier today so she questioned if it would be safe tomorrow. U.S. Border Patrol officers were dispatched to check on it. At 2233 hours Deputy Geller called in and said the roadway was clear. Swishers were notified.

4/3/09—Day 12

- Temperature in Fargo 25 degrees
- **River levels in the area:**
 - Red River: 35.57
 - Sheyenne at Harwood: 91.02
 - Sheyenne at Kindred: 21.21
 - Maple at Mapleton: 19.88
 - Wild Rice: 19.94
- The Cass County Jail re-opens.
- 0800 hours: Report of dense fog and water on the roadway on Cass 16, 2 miles west of Cass 17, with limited visibility. Unit 7530 dispatched; he will stand by until the Road Department can barricade the area.
- 0841 hours: Steve Hall called from the Kindred School stating the single lane road on Cass 16, between Cass 15 and Cass 17, is not marked well and is obstructed by water and fog. Called the Road Department to have it marked better.
- 1223 hours: Resident at 2611 Northwood Drive reported trapping a skunk in a box. The box is taped shut and he would like it removed from his property. Unit 7539 and his U.S. Border Patrol partner dispatched. At 1251 hours they reported skunk was relocated to Minnesota. No shots fired; no one sprayed.
- 1340 hours: Sheriff Dan Hill from Grand Forks County called looking for contact info to extend U.S. Coast Guard presence there. 3503 suggested he go through their emergency manager to make the request to the State EOC for that asset. Sgt. Tollefson called him back and provided that information along with a direct number for Lori Jones for further support.
- 1419 hours: Lowell Wolff, Fargo Public Schools, advised they are driving the bus routes in anticipation of school starting again on Monday. Cass 81 at 67th. Ave. is still at 1 lane. They would like traffic control from approximately 0715 to 0800 hours. 7530 and 3517 will provide traffic control.

- 1519 hours: Resident Charlotte Rufer of 1363 Cossette Drive in Stanley Township called with questions about sandbag removal. 7531 called her back with information from 3501 that the Corps of Engineers is working on arrangements that may take about a month. She was appreciative and said she would wait for further information.
- 1820 hours: Resident Jim Hogue at 71st. Ave. and Chrisan Blvd. says the County moved some snow today and blocked their only access across the dike in to their housing development. Residents will need to bring in additional supplies such as 2 X 4's and plywood in anticipation of a second crest. Caller stated even hauling in small supplies, such as groceries has been hazardous – his wife fell today hauling in supplies. Sgt. Tollefson was able to reach Ron from the Road Department, who said he would call Mr. Hogue. Made follow up call at 1650 hours – Mr. Hogue said he had been contacted, pallets were installed and other supplies offered.
- 1950 hours: Resident Sharon Kaseman 7914 Forrest River Road called to follow through with the survey. 2 adults and 2 kids live in the home but are staying elsewhere – one daughter staying with friends, mom and other child staying with different friends, husband is deployed but home on a 4 day pass. There are 7 cats in the home (not all theirs) – she stops in every day to check on them. Electricity is restored to part of the home.

4/4/09— Day 13

- Temperature in Fargo 33 degrees
- **River levels in the area:**
 - Red River: 34.84
 - Sheyenne at Harwood: 90.86
 - Sheyenne at Kindred: 21.07
 - Maple at Mapleton: 19.35
 - Wild Rice: 19.23
- 0045 hours: Resident Mark Mitchell reported water going across Cass 16 1 ½ to 2 miles east of Cass 15. The water is coming across from the south side of the road. Deputy Hermann will keep an eye on that area and alert the road department if it needs to be marked.
- 0717 hours: Central staging for sandbagging in a parking lot in Oxbow next to Schnell Drive.
- 0740 hours: Caller lives in a development in the county that is surrounded by a city owned dike. Access is impossible and hazardous. Has been unable to reach anyone with a solution. Deputy Zurn was able to find a city engineer who said they would call her. Sgt. Tollefson left a voice mail message at 1655 for the caller.
- 1130 hours: Caller has been trying to call the EOC for over 30 minutes for assistance finding sandbaggers but all she gets is a busy signal. Further investigation revealed when the County I.T. Department took the server down, the phone lines went down as well. Arranged for the calls to roll over to the TOC until phone lines are restored.

- 1310 hours: Report of water covering the eastbound lane of Cass 16, 2 miles east of Cass 15. Connie from the Road Department contacted and he will take care of marking it.
- 1603 hours: RRRDC reports 911 hang up at 610 Hillside Drive in Heritage Acres. National Guard notified for transport in to the area but unable to access because of the high water. 3507 said he will go in in the morning to check the area.
- 1615 hours: Report of a possible leak in the dike at 68th Ave. and South University Drive. Information was passed on to Tom from the Road Department. He said he was just in the area and didn't notice anything – will call the reporting party directly.
- 1643 hours: RRRDC reported a dog in the river at the 1600 block of Sheyenne Street in West Fargo. 3507, 3517 and VWR dispatched. A neighbor was able to retrieve the dog from the water.
- 1723 hours: Tim Leingang from the EOC in Bismarck called – stated he understands there is a stockpile of pallets in Fargo and he is trying to access some for the city of Jamestown. Called Dave Rogness and he will pass the information on to Leon.
- 1730 hours: Request for boats to do welfare checks in Heritage Hills area on 4-5-09 if they're available. 3511 advises VWR did make a boat trip in to the subdivision and everything is OK.
- 2100 hours: Daniel Blood called to ask about a civil paper that Deputy Haaland has for him. Advised that it is a subpoena from Benson County. Sgt. Kulesa went to the main office and picked up the paper to serve Mr. Blood at the TOC.
- 2250 hours: RRRDC received report that Cass 36, 1 mile south of Cass 16 is washed out. There are signs marking the spot but local residents are driving around the signs. 3521 was dispatched; reports the road is washed out and there is a hole 27 inches deep across the middle of the road. He requested signs from the Road Department and marked it with flags and yellow police tape until the signs get there. Road Department notified. 7539 dispatched at 0720 hours on 4-5-09 to divert traffic away from that stretch.

4/5/09—Day 14

- Temperature in Fargo 29 degrees
- **River levels in the area:**
 - Red River: 34.06
 - Sheyenne at Harwood: 90.62
 - Sheyenne at Kindred: 21.35
 - Maple at Mapleton: 18.68
 - Wild Rice: 18.45
- 0012 hours: Sheriff Laney called in and advised to contact him if there's an emergency; he's going to get some much needed sleep.
- 0135 hours: EOC phone lines are down because of server problems. Field staff notified if contacted by citizens to call the TOC on their behalf, so that number does not become public. Service was restored at 1430 hours.

- 0558 hours: Corporal Hinton called from the Jail regarding transport of a juvenile to the detention center in Grand Forks. Advised a dayside deputy would be assigned at 0700; Grand Forks County Detention notified.
- 1000 hours: Resident James Hanson 17263 50th. St. SE was contacted by Deputy Dawkins regarding medication. He was reached by phone and stated he was fine and needs no assistance at this time.
- 1346 hours: Resident Charlotte Rufer called from 1363 Cossette Dr. in Stanley Township. States she needs 5 to 10 people to help sandbag to reinforce the dikes. She was given the volunteer line to contact and they will put her name on the board for volunteers.
- 1354 hours: Border Patrol came upon a vehicle that lost a wheel; west side of 45th. Street and Main Ave. Will stand by until officers arrive; no injuries. RRRDC notified.
- 1417 hours: Deputy Hahn talked to Steve Heier who evacuated from 1302 88th. Ave. So. He lives in a 4 level split and has water on two levels. Has many guns in the home and doesn't want them stolen so he is requesting extra patrol.
- 1521 hours: Bill Kunzes called – he's in Oxbow blocking off 81 and was told by Deputy Getz that he could get signs from the Road Department. Information was passed on to Deputy Arth to help with traffic control. Rich from the Road Department called – says they will not be closing 81 as they have a few days before the dike needs to be built. Rich says the residents of Oxbow have been told this and they should be aware. No further action at this time.
- 1633 hours: Sgt. Jorgensen advised Cass 22 west of Cass 17 needs to be barricaded because the road is completely washed out. He said there is only one barricade and it's not sufficient. Road Department not working today – will advise them on Monday.
- 1710 hours: Corporal Frobig called. All inmates have returned to the Jail; count cleared at 127.
- 2211 hours: Patrol officers along with Border Patrol and U.S. Customs officers were out from 1900 to 2200 hours working warrants. They served 6 out of 59 warrants.

4/6/09—Day 15

- Temperature in Fargo 31 degrees
- **River levels in the area:**
 - Red River: 33.31
 - Sheyenne at Harwood: 90.38
 - Sheyenne at Kindred: 21.97
 - Maple at Mapleton: 18.19
 - Wild Rice: 17.45
- 0440 hours: Deputy Crawford reports there is a road closed sign at Cass 22; west of Cass 17 at Harwood. The area could use more signage as the whole road is washed out. He also said Cass 20 to 17 is clear, however, the barricades are still up. Road Department will be notified Monday morning.
- 0611 hours: Deputy Crawford reports the road closed sign at the intersection of Cass 32 and 20 can be moved off to the side until the threat of the flood is over.

Keith Berndt from the Road Department said he will have someone put signs up in the morning.

- 0617 hours: Resident Pam Liebenow said she drove in to work this morning about 0530 hours and said Cass 16, between Cass 17 and 15, has water running across the road and it's only marked on one side. She stated she had to drive through the water and had a hard time seeing where the road was.
- 0624 hours: RRRDC reports 911 hang up call from the Susan and Todd Laherse residence at 6331 13th. St. No. and no answer on call back. 3501 responded at 0807 hours; no one home – neighbors think they're in Arizona.
- 0830 hours: Resident Rebecca Overlander of 1001 48th. Ave. No. said she's called two times previous to this. She is a county resident surrounded by a city constructed dike. Access in and out of the development is nearly impossible and the road is almost washed away. She is concerned about access should there be a fire or medical emergency. She's been dealing with the city of Fargo with no satisfaction. Sgt. Tollefson called the city engineer's office on her behalf and was told someone would call her. Called Rebecca and told her that.
- 0930: Deputy Wasmuth called looking for a phone number for the owners of the house that's on fire at 806/810 Orchard Park Drive. Owners are Ronald Glaser and Robert Udland. Found numbers on the spread sheet developed from information obtained from the door to door contacts and passed it on to Deputy Wasmuth.
- 1018 hours: Resident Richard Schnellback from Horace called. Stated he is trying to access FEMA assistance online and it states that this area has had no disaster declared. Spoke with Sgt. Tollefson and FEMA assistance has not been announced to the public yet. They will make it widely known when assistance becomes available. Updated Richard.
- 1048 hours: Kaylene at Dakota Magic Casino has displaced flood victims housed there and is wondering if they can return home yet. Addresses: 718 23rd. St. So. #43, 404 Baja Lane, 383 Prairiewood Circle, and 514 Countryside Trailer Court. She was advised none of those areas were water affected and residents are free to return.
- 1239 hours: Resident William Webster from 7214 Chrisan Blvd. has evacuated his residence and would like extra patrol in the neighborhood. Neighbors have evacuated also.
- 1825 hours: Deputy Arth reported a dike has been constructed at the intersection of 25th. St. and 76th. Ave. So. so the roadway is down to one lane of traffic.
- 1858 hours: Resident Donna Blanchard stated she lives in Normana Township and the whole section is under water so she has to go through Pleasant Township to get to her home. She estimates 6 to 11 other families are also affected. Caller states they believe the culverts are frozen and would like someone to check on them. Gave her information on how to contact engineering and public works.
- 1910 hours: Resident Renee Huffman called wondering who to call regarding an earthen dike constructed on their property. Gave her information on how to contact engineering and public works.
- 2042 hours: Rich from the Road Department called. He's on Cass 16 and doesn't feel the road has gotten any worse, therefore he's thinking about pulling the signs

off the road. He wants to talk to a deputy in the area. Gave him Deputy Briggeman's number.

4/7/09—Day 16

- Temperature in Fargo 30 degrees
- **River levels in the area:**
 - Red River: 32.58
 - Sheyenne at Harwood: 90.8
 - Sheyenne at Kindred: 21.60
 - Maple at Mapleton: 17.89
 - Wild Rice: 16.44
- 0750 hours: 3520 reports an ice jam on the Diversion 1 mile west on Wall Ave. at 88th. Ave. north of Horace. Water is 2 feet higher on the plugged side. At 0800 hours Brock from Moore Engineering contacted – he advised they have been monitoring the area and it's not a concern at this time but they have equipment there if it changes.
- 0905 hours: Resident Angie Gapp reported a log jam blocking a box culvert ¼ to ½ mile south of Harwood on I-29. Notified Road Department.
- 1035 hours: Jerry Gwost, president of Lake Schure Association, reports only 1 drivable road (57th. St.) and the east bridge is damaged. Also reports a grave washed out. Called to invite him to the mayor's meeting. Left message.
- 1455 hours: Sgt. Jorgensen called in a huge ice jam on the south side of the bridge on Hwy. 46 south of Kindred and to the east. Road Department notified.
- 1500 hours: Report of road closed sign to move off of Cass 20 at I-29 in the westbound lane. Called Rich at the Road Department – he will take care of it.
- 1500 hours: Per Michelle Reitan – MeritCare has a patient who has been approved for a home health care visit, however, his home is surrounded by water. The patient is unwilling to evacuate and wants provider to come to him. His wife is also low on her prescribed medication and may need a refill. 3511 checked the residence and it is surrounded by water on all sides. 3511 talked to a neighbor who said the patient is very stubborn and won't come out; in 1997 he had to be evacuated by air. Patient is Charles Richards at 17340 22nd. St. SE in Argusville. Wife is Liz Richards. 3501 recommended talking to Mr. Richards to further evaluate if a National Guard vehicle can get in there, since the boats are not available. Sgt. Tollefson has been trying to call both phone numbers provided with no answer. Reitan said that has been their experience with the family and then they call MeritCare and are upset because no one called them back. Sgt. Tollefson will continue trying and gave Reitan 3501's cell number in the alternative. 4-9-09 1344 hours: Michelle Reitan reports the resident was able to get out and have a blood draw done and he should be okay for the next couple of weeks.
- 1517 hours: Resident Jeri Hancock of 1675 48th. St. SE in Davenport wants to know if she can park her truck on the north side of Cass 16. Her driveway is flooding and she's worried her truck will flood because the water is coming up so quickly. Dispatched unit 3520; resident can park the vehicle where she requested; action complete.

- 1640 hours: Border Patrol officers would like to show a deputy a couple of potential problem areas in the Horace area. 3500 suggested an engineer also meet with them. 3520 and Tom from the Road Department will meet them at RJ's Conoco. Action complete.
- 2014 hours: Jerry from the Gardner Fire Department called – he has a key for the Gardner Fire Hall for our department to use during the flood. Deputy Canales dispatched to pick it up.
- 2028 hours: Deputy Spieker was contacted by resident Jenny at 7810 Forrest River Drive. She reported some vandalism to her front door as it appeared someone may have tried to pry it open. No access was made to the residence and all that is left inside is a big screen TV and a table. Report taken.

4/8/09— Day 17

- Temperature in Fargo 35 degrees
- **River levels in the area:**
 - Red River: 31.91
 - Sheyenne at Harwood: 90.21
 - Sheyenne at Kindred: 20.38
 - Maple at Mapleton: 18.02
 - Wild Rice: 15.58
- Cass County jail inmates who were on furlough begin checking back in to finish their jail time.
- 0810 hours: Deputy Zundel just involved in a vehicle crash on Cass 17 driving the Ford Expedition, resulting in damage to the front fender. NDHP will take the report.
- 0907 hours: Deputy Arth advised the dike on 76th. Ave. toward Forrest River is being built up
- 0933 hours: Resident Dana Hardina called to report her debit card stolen. Referred her to RRRDC; they dispatched 3542 to take a report.
- 1130 hours: 3500 confirmed with the City of Fargo that we have access to 40 pallets of filled sandbags to stage on National Guard QRF vehicles. Arrangements are being made for the National Guard to pick them up today or tomorrow.
- 1245 hours: Resident Renee Hoffman from Davenport wants inmates to sandbag her home. Referred her to the volunteer hotline at 476-4000. Action complete.
- 1300 hours: Per 3500 – Customs and Border Protection supervisor confirmed deployment of 10 additional CBP personnel. They will be in theatre on 4-13-09.
- 1315 hours: Per 3500 – confirmed with state EOC that U.S. Coast Guard assets will be deployed and in theatre until 1700 hours on 4-11-09.
- 1330 hours: Per 3500 – confirmed assignment of 20 inmates to fill sandbags at the Road Department.
- 1919 hours: RRRDC received a call from Chris Gunderson at #12 Horseshoe Trailer Park. He stated there is water seeping under the dike at the south entrance. Deputy Briggeman dispatched to assess the situation. Deputy Briggeman consulted with Rich from the Road Department. He contacted the Southeast Cass Water District and they will bring in another load of clay this evening.

- 1930 hours: RRRDC received a call from Brent Hanson who reported the road 2 miles south of Horace and 3 ½ miles west of Cass 17 is washed out. He is afraid if someone hits it they'll be hurt or killed. Deputy Briggeman dispatched to assess the situation. Rich from the Road Department advises this is a township road so if any action needs to be taken we are to contact township personnel. Deputy Briggeman reports water is running over the road. He will move the cones so there is a smaller area to drive on and will monitor the area.

4/9/09—Day 18

- Temperature in Fargo 35 degrees
- **River levels in the area:**
 - Red River: 31.63
 - Sheyenne at Harwood: 90.39
 - Sheyenne at Kindred: 20.37
 - Maple at Mapleton: 19.70
 - Wild Rice: 15.60
- The U.S.A. Hockey under 18 Tournament begins in Fargo, making hotel rooms scarce in the greater Fargo-Moorhead area for incoming personnel assisting with the flood fight.
- 0935 hours: 81st. St. and 100th. Ave. So. has water running over the gravel road. Onlookers are on scene checking out the road. Information was passed on to the Road Department.
- 1004 hours: The City of Harwood is having a flood meeting at the Community Center on Saturday 4-11-09 at 1000 hours.
- 1029 hours: Report of water almost going over the road on Cass 17, south of 40th. Ave. West Fargo PD notified. WFPD and the city public works director were notified. They said they were just down there and there are no concerns.
- 1607 hours: Brady from Moore Engineering called. They will be doing some emergency diking on Cass 17 and 52nd. Ave. south of the roundabout and would like assistance with traffic control at 1800 hours. 3520 and 7539 will assist. Will pass on to the night shift to relieve them. Action complete.
- 1732 hours: Report of a hole in the road at the intersection of 57th. St. and Cass 20. Caller said there is a road closed sign down the road and thinks it should be moved closer to the hole. Information passed on to Rich from the Road Department – he said he'd go up and take a look at it.
- 1805 hours: Keith Anderson advised the gravel road at Cass 2, ½ mile west of Cass 31 is washed out.
- 2037 hours: Resident Ed Boether states his daughter lives in Horseshoe Bend Trailer Park and is concerned about the rising water. He wanted to know if there were any shelters operating or if any motels were offering discounts. He was advised there are no shelters open and he could call local motels for information.
- 2105 hours: Resident David Nelson from #15 Horseshoe Bend Trailer Park reports there is only about 8 inches left before the water comes over the sandbags. He would like a deputy to check on it. Deputy Briggeman and Rich from the Road Department responded; they have a back hoe out there now breaking up ice on the bridge.

- 2213 hours: Deputy Canales talked with Jurgen Suhr who stated they have been digging up Cass 1 with permission from the township water board. There are currently road closed signs up however they would like more put up there as people continue to drive around them. Called Rich from the Road Department. He will go out tomorrow and put more barricades up.

4/10/09—Day 19

- Temperature in Fargo 38 degrees
- **River levels in the area:**
 - Red River: 31.69
 - Sheyenne at Harwood: 90.76
 - Sheyenne at Kindred: 20.57
 - Maple at Mapleton: 21.83
 - Wild Rice: 17.20
- 0106 hours: Sgt. Wischmann received a call from Jim Schreier at 127 48th. Ave. East in West Fargo. He is looking for sandbags as the water is only about 1 foot from the top of his dike. Rich from the Road Department suggested contacting West Fargo to see if they had any. Sgt. Dura got a hold of the person on call – they have bags at the city shop and will meet the resident there.
- 0743 hours: Resident at 306 15th. Ave. NW stated there is water on the road ¾ mile north on Cass 17. There was a speed limit sign up but it's no longer there. They would like the sign back because there is a lot of traffic. Rich from the Road Department notified.
- 0807 hours: Resident David Martin 75411 Elm Court reports a low spot on the dike in Sleepy Hollow, which he thinks will affect his neighbor. 3520 dispatched; Moore Engineering will follow up. Also had an SUV stuck on the dike towed away.
- 0902 hours: RRRDC received a call about a sign that has caved in to the road at the intersection of Cass 26 and Cass 1. There are reportedly cones placed there but they won't be visible at night.
- 1122 hours: Report of water coming over the road at the intersection of Cass 17 and Cass 20. Road is still passable but won't be for long. Rich from the Road Department notified; action complete.
- 1144 hours: Resident Kim Belgarde from 7108 100th. Ave. So. in Horace has water surrounding her house and is wondering if her dike is adequate. Referred her to the county engineer. She will call back if she needs anything else.
- 1236 hours: Resident Jim Houstman called looking for a number to call to get an estimate on overland flooding. Rich from the Road Department said to call Moore Engineering.
- 1251 hours: Report of an ice jam at the bridge at 40th. Ave. and Sheyenne St. Caller says the water is backed up 20 to 30 feet. Notified Rich from the Road Department. Action complete.
- 1422 hours: Resident James Ueland reports an ice jam on the Rush River west of Cass 11. Road Department notified.

- 1718 hours: Received information that at the 46th. St. SE bridge just west of 169th. Ave. U.S.G.S. measurements indicate that the water level is just below the 1997 flood mark on the Sheyenne River.

4/11/09—Day 20

- Temperature in Fargo 45 degrees
- **River levels in the area:**
 - Red River: 31.94
 - Sheyenne at Harwood: 91.04
 - Sheyenne at Kindred: 20.79
 - Maple at Mapleton: 22.42
 - Wild Rice: 19.26
- 0924 hours: Deputy Hahn reported the railroad tracks are washing out south of Cass 6 and 1 mile east of Chaffee. Tracks are only being used to store cars. Contacted RRRDC to notify the railroad.
- 0926 hours: Resident Les Staples from Harwood said someone is sandbagging across Cass 17 at approximately 56th. Ave. No. Sgt. Jorgensen dispatched Deputy Fix to check the area. Deputy Fix advises the sandbags have been in the area for about 3 weeks, but he'll take a look at it. Later advised it's the same as it has been and everything is okay.
- 0947 hours: Resident William Lisburg, 1 mile south and ¾ miles east of the Raymond exchange, would like to know if he should build his dike higher. Referred him to Tom at the Road Department.
- 1042 hours: Report of debris blocking the water flow at Cass 36 south of Cass 16. Contacted Rich with the Road Department – he will take a look at the area.
- 1131 hours: Willie Gates, Assistant Fire Chief from Mapleton, requested sandbaggers at the fire hall to fill sand bags for a residence north of Mapleton. Gave him the phone number for First Link and called KFGO Radio.
- 1150 hours: Report of the frontage road washing out west of exit 317 on I-94, southside of the interstate. Information initially given to Rich from the Road Department; he advised it is a township road.
- 1210 hours: RRRDC received information from BNSF Railroad that 3 miles west and 1 mile south of Mapleton on the east side of the tracks there is an area where water from the Maple River is starting to pool. 3518 dispatched to check; states it's not a problem at this time.
- 1305 hours: Resident Don Weeks lives ½ mile north of Hwy. 46 and 2 to 3 miles west of Cass 17. Wants information put out on the radio to ask people with 4 wheelers to stay off roads that are under water. Called KFGO and passed information on to patrol staff.
- 1445 hours: Residents Greg Smith and Garland Hagemister from Willow Creek need help sandbagging. Sgt. Jorgensen called Captain Larson from the NDANG and First Link. John Rutten from Mapleton Township notified about the dike on the road by NDANG.
- 1938 hours: Resident Steve Heier called regarding the guns in his home. He said to tell officers they're doing a great job with extra patrol and that he'll be moving the guns out of his house tomorrow.

4/12/09—Day 21 – EASTER SUNDAY

- Temperature in Fargo 48 degrees
- **River levels in the area:**
 - Red River: 32.07
 - Sheyenne at Harwood: 91.22
 - Sheyenne at Kindred: 20.94
 - Maple at Mapleton: 22.17
 - Wild Rice: 20.23
- N.D. National Guard troops and Cass deputies begin monitoring Absaraka Dam.
- 0532 hours: Deputy Geller reports she is doing another round in the Oxbow area and the water has come up through the night. She feels she shouldn't drive through it with a car but would like someone with a pick up to drive through and assess it before residents start moving around and panicking. Captain Argall dispatched to the area. 0630 hours: Captain Argall said the water is just backing up – there's no breach.
- 0800 hours: Resident Wayne Glemming called with questions about sand and supplies. Sgt. Jorgensen referred him to the Road Department.
- 0825 hours: Resident Warren Michaelson from 3508 Willow Road states residents of Willow Creek are very frustrated with lack of availability of supplies and manpower to assist with the sandbagging effort. Called First Link/volunteers, Major McDonald from the NDANG, 3544, 3519, 7539, KFGO Channel 11, 4 and 6, and 3500. The National Guard brought in two truckloads of filled bags. 3500 on scene. Situation is starting to improve. At 1030 hours 3500 authorized a delivery of 100 pallets of sandbags to the Willow Creek Development. The sandbags were taken from the FargoDome cache after 3500 consulted with the City of Fargo.
- 1405 hours: Resident Michael Kemp called wondering if Ramona Ave. off Cass 17 was coned off by the County or an individual. He lives in the development and wants to use Ramona to get back to his house. Called Deputy Fix who stated home owners in that development have coned off the road in the past and as long as it's safe they can move the cones to get through.
- 1522 hours: Report of Cass 20 and 57th. St. under water as well as Cass 17 south of Cass 20 under water.
- 1530 hours: RRRDC received report from John Hildebrand of an ATV in 6 to 8 feet of water with no occupant ¼ mile east of Cass 81 and 32. 3519 dispatched; advised it doesn't appear it went in there today. Had to use binocs to see in – doesn't believe a person is involved.
- 1610 hours: Unknown resident states the Ramona Addition is getting a lot of water – would like someone to go in to the area and offer support to residents who stayed there. National Guard is in the area at this time doing exactly that.
- 1901 hours: RRRDC received a 911 call from the Robert Middlestead residence at 2480 166th. Ave. SE; busy on call back. Deputy Canales dispatched. No problem.

- 2002 hours: Per Sheriff Laney – Jeff Volk will be arriving at the TOC – the Sheriff wants a deputy to immediately transport him to the Absaraka Dam so he can inspect it. There are concerns about the integrity of the dam.
- 2037 hours: Deputy Canales reports he is in Harwood Township – has closed 27th. St. SE, an unmarked road north of it and has also flagged 28th. St. SE – all have water going over and 27th. St. has large ruts in it. Notified Rich from the Road Department. He said all are township roads which are not heavily traveled. He said flagging them should be sufficient because the local people using the roads should be familiar with the situation.
- 2045 hours: Deputy Jahner requesting 2 deputies with four wheel drive vehicles to monitor the dam north of Absaraka. Deputies Violet and Canales dispatched to the area.
- 2136 hours: Resident Pete Biegler 16657 38th. St. SE called wondering why the only information available is about river levels. He said there is water surrounding his house and he doesn't know where it came from or how high it's going to get. We explained the water is from overland flooding and it's hard to know how high it will go. He also asked about sandbags – gave him directions to the Road Department.
- 2228 hours: Deputy Fischer reports his squad is stuck at the intersection of 144th. Ave. SE and 47th. St. SE going toward Alice. Dispatched MTW to the scene.

4/13/09—Day 22

- Temperature in Fargo 50 degrees
- **River levels in the area:**
 - Red River: 32.39
 - Sheyenne at Harwood: 91.28
 - Sheyenne at Kindred: 21.06
 - Maple at Mapleton: 21.90
 - Wild Rice: 20.32
- 0445 hours: Resident Mike McLean 3210 150th. Ave. SE found one of Deputy K. Violet's business cards on his door and wanted to know if anything has changed since officers stopped by this morning. Informed Mike that has changed since the officer was there last.
- 0712 hours: RRRDC received a call from the school asking if they can get on Cass 17 North. Informed them that water is coming across the intersection of Cass 17 and Cass 20 as well as Cass 17 north of 12th. Ave.
- 0800 hours: Sgt. Tollefson coordinated GIS contacts for 3512 and Drew Ellis from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service with FEMA and Kay Anderson from Cass County IT.
- 0827 hours: Stacy Olson 302 Ramona Ave. in West Fargo has a need for additional sandbags. Said she can get them delivered to the entrance of the subdivision but needs a 4 wheeler and trailer to bring them in to her. Sgt. Tollefson consulted with the Border Patrol, U.S. Fish and Wildlife and the National Guard – they advise a 4 wheeler will not be able to pull a trailer and all they could do is what she is already able to do with a pick up. Ms. Olson informed of this; action complete.

- 0900 hours: Resident Joe (last name unknown) from West Fargo says he regularly puts his kayak on the Sheyenne River. He doesn't think the current looks too bad today so he wants to know if he could go out there. Sgt. Tollefson recommended to the caller that he refrain from accessing any waterway in the area until this disaster has resolved. Caller wanted to know specifically if he would be arrested if he went on the water. Sgt. Tollefson told him yes, and explained the federal penalties involved. Action complete.
- 1010 hours: U.S. Border Patrol officers report debris up against the bridge at Cass 18 going in to Minnesota. Called EOC to pass on to the Road Department. The Road Department advised there is nothing they can do as the water will be over the road soon and will take the debris with it.
- 1010 hours: Chief Jeanette Person, Lisbon Police Department, requesting assistance through mutual aid agreement: 1 patrol officer 0800 to 2000 (3514), 1 patrol officer 2000 to 0800 (3516), and 1 security officer for the EOC 0800 to 1800 daily (7544). Captain Argall and Jackie Babitt will provide technical support.
- 1100 hours: Request sent to Lori Jones to funnel a request to the State EOC to approve marine assets sent to Lisbon.
- 1113 hours: Tim with U.S. Border Patrol asked Lori Jones to funnel request to the State EOC for 20 marine bags.
- 1215 hours: Ken Beile from the City of Kindred says by tonight water will be running over Hwy. 46, 1 mile west of Kindred. Called EOC to have them check to see if something can be done.
- 1245 hours: 3508 called in. They are testing the waters in Barnes County and doing welfare checks on a specific area identified by the Sheriff as problematic. The homes are surrounded by water but are "high and dry" according to 3508. The Sheriff would like them to make contact at each residence, which would require a mile and a half hike. 3508, 3500, U.S.C.G. and U.S. Customs and Border Protection collaborated and they will find another way to access those areas. 1325 hours: Sheriff Bjerke advises he knows most of the residents – who is staying and who has evacuated, so he will attempt phone contact. Action complete.
- 1345 hours: Major McDonald advises they are establishing an Army presence in Casselton. They will stage from the ambulance garage. 10 to 14 personnel working 12 hour shifts. Assets include 3 dump trucks with trailers loaded with 2 bobcats and a loader, and a Humvee. 3518 will help them get settled in.
- 1400 hours: RRRDC received report of a dead dog in a pet carrier in the water at Cass 20, 4 west of Cass 17. 3519 dispatched.
- 1530 hours: Tim with U.S. Border Patrol reports water up to the bridge and debris starting to collect at Cass 5, north of Hwy. 46. Called Rich from the Road Department – they are aware and are on the way with barricades.
- 1548 hours: Resident Dorothy Cossette 9006 South University Drive called and said a large bale of sandbags were dropped off in her driveway that she didn't order. She would like them picked up because they're too heavy for her to move. Information passed on to the TOC to task out. Bags were picked up by Cass SO and will be brought to the Road Department.

- 1600 hours: Deputy Crawford reports a landslide on the overhead area of I-29 southbound under Cass 34, north side of the overhead. Passed information on to State Radio with information for the State to check on it.
- 1908 hours: RRRDC received report of a medical emergency in Casselton. 66 year old Robert Miller having abdominal pain. Casselton Ambulance and Deputies Canales and Fischer dispatched.
- 1915 hours: Received a call from Tim Leingang from the State EOC in Bismarck. He is wondering if the U.S. Coast Guard has anyone staged in the Lisbon area. Gave him the number of Lt. Joe Smith from the Coast Guard.
- 2020 hours: Resident Deb Rieter 3148 40th. Ave. West, West Fargo called. She is wondering if she should be sandbagging because all of her neighbors are. She also questioned where to obtain sandbags as she lives in West Fargo but doesn't qualify for all of their services. Myron Hummel from the City of West Fargo was contacted – he will call Deb Rieter and answer her questions.
- 2029 hours: Rob Youcha from Sherburne County MN Amateur Radio Club states they are willing to come back and help if we need them.
- 2045 hours: RRRDC received a report of a medical emergency 17147 16th. St. East in Gardner. 96 year old Milton Mattson is experiencing squeezing sensation in chest and pain. Hunter Ambulance and 3513 dispatched.
- 2218 hours: Deputy Hermann reports Cass 26 approximately 5 miles east of Gardner is under water.
- 2245 hours: Sgt. Krump from the NDANG called wondering who is in charge of keeping the generators for the lights filled with fuel. He called back at 2250 hours and said they found fuel cans with gas to fill the generator.
- 2250 hours: RRRDC received a report of that the railroad lights are on and the arms down on Cass 18 south of Casselton but there is no train around. BNSF notified and Deputy Canales dispatched. 2329 hours: Deputy Canales reported situation is normal.
- 2310 hours: RRRDC received a report of a medical emergency. 79 year old female going in and out of consciousness; possible stroke. FM Ambulance, Kindred Ambulance, and units 3506 and 3521 dispatched to the scene. Patient transported to MeritCare Hospital.

4/14/09—Day 23

- Temperature in Fargo 52 degrees
- **River levels in the area:**
 - Red River: 33.13
 - Sheyenne at Harwood: 91.27
 - Sheyenne at Kindred: 21.11
 - Maple at Mapleton: 21.82
 - Wild Rice: 19.98
- 0222 hours: 3543 called to report there are no road closed signs at 19th. Ave. No. and 9th. St.
- 0820 hours: Received phone call from Deputy Wasmuth – at Cass 17 and 20 water is up to the top of the wheels of the pickup. Rich from the Road Department was contacted. He said they will check it out but they want to keep

that road open as long as possible. Deputy Sprecher reports Cass 5 south of Chaffee has water over the road. Rich stated they marked that road last night on both sides; will check to see if the signs are still in place.

- 1030 hours: Sheriff Benneweis from Ransom County talked with Sheriff Laney by phone to request federal assets to assist with rescue operations.
- 1039 hours: U.S. Border Patrol Officer Johnson reports water on the road at Cass 20 east of 81st St. No and no road closed sign. Rich from the Road Department believes that stretch is barricaded, but will double check.
- 1051 hours: Sheriff Bennewies from Ransom County reports a need for two evacuations in Lisbon. A collaboration between the Cass County Sheriff's Office, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and the U.S. Coast Guard resulted in the successful rescue of 1 adult female, no pets, from 6427 Valley Road (1 male remains in residence) and 1 adult female, no pets from 6425 Valley Road.
- 1329 hours: Resident William Wadeson 13641 45th. St. SE, Alice called. Stated he has 16 head of cattle that were lost in the flood and he wanted to know what to do with the carcasses. He was advised to call the Cass County Extension Office at 241-5700.
- 1447 hours: Captain Argall and Jackie Babitt are sent to Lisbon to help set up their EOC.
- 2035 hours: Resident William Lisburg 2910 13th. Ave. West, West Fargo reported 3 vehicles out 4-wheeling on the roads in his area; has license plate numbers. Deputy Briggeman dispatched to take a report.
- 2105 hours: Chief Bush from the NDANG approached by a resident concerned about debris building up at the Sheyenne River bridge on Cass 17 west of Harwood. The Chief doesn't feel there's anything to be concerned about as it's mainly small debris on the sides of the bridge. The middle area where the water flows is open. Rich from the Road Department will evaluate it and take action, if needed.
- 2156 hours: Resident Kent Bartholomay 5061 145th. Ave. SE says he lives on the road going to the Maple River Dam. The road has been closed however during the day between 1600 and 2000 hours there is constant traffic coming and going to check out the dam. His main concern is with the water going over the road and the constant traffic, the road will wash out faster and that's his only access to his home. He is wondering if there's anything that can be done to keep the traffic out. Deputy Fischer dispatched to talk to him. Information will be passed on to the day shift as well.

4/15/09—Day 24

- Temperature in Fargo 54 degrees
- **River levels in the area:**
 - Red River: 33.82
 - Sheyenne at Harwood: 91.16
 - Sheyenne at Kindred: 21.13
 - Maple at Mapleton: 21.84
 - Wild Rice: 19.38

- Sheriff Laney re-activated Jail staff to perform duties in the county as well as run the Jail.
- 0150 hours: Sgt. Ryan Metcalf from the NDANG is staged with a unit on Hwy. 46 between mile markers 114 and 115. He is reporting massive overland flooding and believes the water is headed toward Horace.
- 0205 hours: Sgt. Metcalf, NDANG reports logs and debris up against the bridge deck over the Sheyenne River on Hwy. 46. He stated the water is lapping up on the deck.
- 0807 hours: RRRDC received 911 hang up call from the Susan Lahaise residence at 6331 13th. St. No. This is the 4th. call this week. 3519 dispatched. 1019 hours: 3519 reports it was a bad phone line. A work crew was on site so they disconnected it.
- 0900 hours: Jail deputies activated to go door to door in the Maple Sheyenne Housing Development and Briarwood to determine occupancy and number of pets.
- 0950 hours: RRRDC received a report of a medical emergency at the Kindred School. 12 to 13 year old female, slurred speech, numb limbs, extreme headache, not real alert. Notified Sgt. Tollefson. Sgt. Peterson with the National Guard, National Guard medics, 3520 and Casselton Ambulance dispatched. Kindred Ambulance arrived before the other units and transported the patient. 1015 hours: National Guard personnel advised to disregard and return to staging area.
- 1012 hours: Per WFPD – resident Rick Langeberg 1215 9th. St. NW will be parking his blue 1991 Chrysler Lebaron on the diversion area, north of the Public Works building. This was approved by Barry Johnson.
- 1030 hours: Deputy Dawkins needs a 2 inch ball hitch for a portable repeater they'll haul to Lisbon. Called MidStates Wireless. Captain Reitan from WFPD advised he has one they can use.
- 1035 hours: Follow up with William Wadson who lost 16 head of cattle in the flood. Deputy Hahn called the Cass County Extension Service and they will make contact with Mr. Wadson. Deputy Hahn also advises he has photos of the property from the first day of the flood.
- 1051 hours: Sheriff Benneweis, Ransom Co. SO reports 2 households evacuated: 6427 Valley Road 1 female left; 1 male remains. 6425 Valley Road 1 female evacuated.
- 1150 hours: 3500 made WebEOC request for mutual aid from Fargo PD (6 officers) starting 4/16 for up to 14 days. Also, 4 additional boat operators from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service to supplement the marine unit.
- 1209 hours: Resident Harlan Swenson called. Would like to start the process of getting a grant through FEMA to build up the dike around the Nora Church east of Gardner. He is looking for information – referred to Lori Jones.
- 1220 hours: Road Department received a call stating that Ramona Blvd. north of 19th. Ave. No. on Cass 17 has been blocked off and 'Private Drive' signs at the entrances. The residents there paid to have the road paved and don't want excessive traffic on it as people are using it as a by-pass. Per the County Planner: this road is plotted as non-private. The road currently has water on it, but local traffic is allowed. The Road Department will place "Local Traffic Only" signs up.

- 3519 advises the road is covered with about ten inches of water. Area residents have created a makeshift barricade with cones and a gate because of that. There is a 3 part metal sign on a post – one says “no through traffic”, one “slow – children at play” and the other “private drive”. The road is not closed because they’re considering it private; it’s closed because of the water. Action complete.
- 1310 hours: Received information from the Road Department that at the county line Barnes County 37 has a culvert washed out and it should be marked. Information passed on to Barnes County EOC.
 - 1350 hours: Sheriff Laney requesting 200 sandbags at 615 15th. Ave. No. north of West Fargo. The National Guard was notified; sandbags delivered at 1503 hours.
 - 1533 hours: Occurring within the City of Lisbon – man hole cover discharged within the dike area causing sewer back up. National Guard enroute with supplies to repair. Problematic area will likely be affected. National Guard also flying in the big sandbags via helo. Briefed U.S.C.G., U.S.F. &W.S., U.S.B.P., 3500 and 3507. Our units will back off the dike area until further evaluation of risk to personnel. Major McDonald from the NDANG advises at least 100 of their personnel are enroute.
 - 1620 hours: East side of Lisbon has been mostly evacuated from 4th. Ave. to 7th. Ave. and from Rose St. to Harrison St. Power will be cut to the area and 2000 pound sandbags will be dropped at the dike area to shore it up.
 - 1630 hours: U.S. Border Patrol reports the road and bridge are not passable ½ mile east of Cass 9 on 43rd. St. SE in the Addison Township. Information passed on to Road Department.
 - 1917 hours: Resident Arty Luick from west of Kindred wondering about a flood meeting this evening in Davenport. He was informed it is scheduled for tomorrow at 1700 hours.
 - 1930 hours: RRRDC received report of a possible school bus fire on I-29, mile marker 55 or 56. Caller reported people on the bus were getting off with their belongings. Troopers arrived on scene; there was no fire; wrecker called.
 - 1950 hours: Sgt. Wischmann sent unit 7506 out to assess Cass 17 and 20 to see if the road needs to be closed. A car drove around the barricade and is half way in the ditch. 2030 hours: Deputy Canales advises better signage is needed. There is water over the road and a strong current. Rich from the Road Department will meet him down there and mark it better.
 - 1956 hours: Received a call from Deb Clark with the Kindred Call Center. She is hearing rumors of them cutting Hwy. 46. Sgt. Tollefson didn’t know anything about it, nor did Rich from the Road Department.
 - 2030 hours: Deputy Canales reports a need for better signage and markings south of Cass 17 and 20. He said there is water covering the road with a strong current. Rich from the Road Department will meet Deputy Canales up there to check the area.
 - 2034 hours: Deputy Geller is at Cass 17 between 50th. St. and 52nd. St. She said the road is completely washed out and there are 10 to 15 homes they can’t get to. She is talking with resident Doug Christenson who states he has put a call in to Dave Rogness to see if they can bring in some fill for the wash out so they can

access their homes. There is also a wrecker on scene, retrieving a bobcat from the ditch.

- 2136 hours: NDHO reports people are driving too fast on I-29 southbound in the Harwood area. The roadway is down to one lane and is water covered. NDHP unit 339 dispatched to the area.
- 2148 hours: Deputy E. Swenson called in with an update on Hwy. 46. He said cars are now being escorted through the water by the Road Department. Water is up to the axels on cars.

4/16/09—Day 25

- Temperature in Fargo 57 degrees
- **River levels in the area:**
 - Red River: 33.97 – the Red River reaches its second crest of the year.
 - Sheyenne at Harwood: 91.12
 - Sheyenne at Kindred: 21.16
 - Maple at Mapleton: 22.09
 - Wild Rice: 18.32
- Resident Deb Larson called to report water going over the road at 143rd. St. and 62nd. St. (Ransom County). Dispatched units to check the road.
- 0829 hours: RRRDC received report of medical emergency in Walcott. Out of county – ambulance dispatched but no deputies or National Guard.
- 0930 hours: Randy Seelig, Lisbon Public Works Supervisor, requested water transportation to check a lift station on the river in the City of Lisbon. Assigned to the boat crew and Deputy Sprecher.
- 0945 hours: Request from the Ransom County Sheriff to assist with the evacuation of houses along Main Ave. between the bridge on 32, south to 3rd. Ave. due to a small leak in the dike. They are working on the dike to repair the leak. The 200 block of Main also has some businesses and a bus barn that were evacuated.
- 0955 hours: The U.S. Border Patrol advises there is a leak in the dike at 2nd. St. and Main in Lisbon. Captain Argall advises it is under control.
- 1035 hours: Deputy Sprecher advises the boats are on the water in Lisbon.
- 1039 hours: Deputy Hahn reports the water level going down at the Maple River Dam but heard complaints kids are playing on it between 1600 and 2000 hours. Also report of the road eroding and people driving around the barricades and a request to station someone there. Captain Larson, NDANG, will have the units staged at Casselton check the dam every two hours. Will also pass the information on to patrol staff.
- 1045 hours: Request from the Ransom County Sheriff for assistance from the Border Patrol with rural patrol and recon for homes that are surrounded by water. Border Patrol supervisor advises we can use the crew that is already in Lisbon and he will let us know if the Kindred crew is available later in the day.
- 1048 hours: Request from the Ransom County Sheriff to have Fargo PD officers assist with traffic control at 3rd. Ave. and Main in Lisbon where trucks are hauling material to repair the dike.

- 1105 hours: Captain Larson, NDANG, advised they will be moving equipment from the Hickson area to Kindred and would like assistance. Deputy Beaulieu dispatched.
- 1205 hours: RRRDC called with report of medical emergency at 180 Viking Circle in Kindred. 57 year old female with cut to her finger; bleeding has stopped. Kindred Ambulance dispatched. Sgt. Tollefson notified.
- 1245 hours: Sheriff Laney contacted the Lisbon EOC regarding U.S. Fish and Wildlife and U.S. Coast Guard boat crews with flood patrol in the morning. They also need a representative from the local area to assist the team. Trooper Wes Maley from the NDHP has been authorized by his department to assist. He will meet with the teams on 4/16 at the TOC.
- 1315 hours: Arrest policy clarified for Cass County and Fargo PD officers working in Ransom County – verbatim from Fallon Kelly, Ransom County State’s Attorney: “I have no objection to your deputies taking only felony offenders, domestic violence offenders and those with arrest warrants to jail. Our county contracted jail is Barnes County, but due to the current situation in Barnes County, please take arrestees to Richland County, unless they are not accepting new prisoners, in which case, please take arrestees to Cass County as a second choice. We send our arrestees to Richland County when Barnes County is full. I have no objections to your deputies releasing the other offenders according to your standard bond schedule. The policy in Ransom County is to take mental health individuals to MeritCare in Fargo. I contacted the Ransom County Sheriff’s Office to make sure this policy is consistent with the Ransom County policy being carried out at this time. Our Sheriff’s Office is following the same policy specified above at this time”.
- 1403 hours: Corporal McLean called in – the survey crew has finished in the north county area. Highland Park representative Damon Larson told them that people are happy with the coverage and don’t think it’s necessary for us to be going door to door because most families are back in their homes and back to work. 3507 routed the crews to Cass 81 and north to Cass 31 if they can get on it to check the farmsteads or Cass 26 and 31 along the river; east of Gardner.
- 1508 hours: Chief of Police from Lisbon advises they will be doing some dike repair on 2nd. Ave. East between the river and Harris St. due to the fact that the water is pounding that area before it makes the bend in the river. At this time they’re going to use clay and they will know within the hour if this will fix the problem. If needed they do have the Blackhawks on standby to drop the sandbags.
- 1518 hours: Chief of Police from Lisbon advises 23 homes were affected this morning by the evacuation of part of the city. On both sides of Valley St. 18 residents voluntarily evacuated.
- 1523 hours: Sgt. Wolf from the NDHP advised he and his troopers were headed for LaMoure as they have information the Claussen Springs Dam is weakening as the day goes on.
- 1542 hours: Kelly Rustad called to request traffic control on Hwy. 46 while they pull out corn stocks from the culverts. They are 2 miles west of Cass 15 on Hwy. 46. Sgt. Jorgensen will assign officers to assist.

- 1606 hours: The flood watch commander from Lisbon advised residents from the evacuated areas can return to their homes and businesses.
- 1905 hours: Resident Adam Ryder 16884 Carolyn Drive, Harwood said when he got home this evening there was a red X on his garage. He was informed we had foot patrols out today checking on people and obtaining information for emergency purposes and the red X represented no one was available. Mr. Ryder said there are 2 adults, 2 children and 2 cats in his household.
- 1910 hours: Resident John Bittner 16862 Carolyn Drive, Harwood wondering why there was a red X on his garage door. Explanation given and information obtained.
- 1922 hours: Yvonne Savidge called from Williston. She said her son was scheduled to travel to Fargo in the morning on a school field trip to NDSU and is wondering how the roads are. She was informed the Interstate is open.
- 1930 hours: RRRDC received a call from Dorothy Cossette 9003 So. University Dr. who said Border Patrol officers had stopped by earlier and inquired about hearing gunshots in the area. She said after they left, she heard the shots again. Deputy Getz was dispatched to the area. There was a gentleman using a canon type device to shoot corn across the water to feed the wild turkeys.
- 2037 hours: Resident Deb Clark 16448 53rd. St., Kindred said at the Davenport meeting this evening they were told the water coming across Hwy. 46 is going to be about five times higher by Sunday. She is wondering where to get sandbags, if needed. She was referred to the Kindred Community Center and the Road Department.
- 2200 hours: Resident Matt Pollick called from Davenport. He will be running the Command Center this weekend. He is requesting 10,000 sandbags for tomorrow, on pallets, if possible. He also asked for a call prior to delivery so he can line up people to help.
- 2225 hours: Resident Allan Halverson 16180 56th. St. SE, Kindred is requesting filled sandbags for 3 homes. He was referred to the Kindred Community Center, or the Road Department as an alternative.

4/17/09— Day 26

- Temperature in Fargo 51 degrees
- **River levels in the area:**
 - Red River: 33.74
 - Sheyenne at Harwood: 91.11
 - Sheyenne at Kindred: 21.19
 - Maple at Mapleton: 22.17
 - Wild Rice: 17.05
- 0654 hours: Resident Rick Anderson 16345 53rd. St. SE, Kindred requesting a grade assessment of his property for sandbagging purposes. Referred him to the Road Department.
- 0855 hours: Cass SO survey team came across a couple of farmsteads in Normanna Township, section 10, that need to be accessed by boat. Information passed on to Sgt Nitschke. Sheriff's Office boat personnel reached the area at 1139 hours – will check on all residences in the area.

- 1035 hours: Request from Ottertail Power Co. for water transportation to check on power lines near the golf course. Deputy Danielson and Sgt. Nitschke notified.
- 1145 hours: Sheriff Laney received a call from Barnes County Sheriff Bjerke. They will be transferring their inmates to the Cass Jail because their sewer system failed.
- 1233 hours: Sheriff Laney asked the boat crew to assist residents John and Patty Carlblom recover a 300 pound cattle lick tank that floated away.
- 1312 hours: The Davenport EOC called – think they might have cut a phone line when putting up the dike. Gave them the phone number for Qwest.
- 1314 hours: Cass Jail advises we will receive 12 inmates from Barnes County.
- 1526 hours: Deputy Danielson advises the boat crew checked 16 homes along the river from Lisbon south to the Hocks Bridge and did zero evacuations.
- 1527 hours: Deputy Crawford advises the Willow Creek subdivision needs to be checked on door to door and vehicles parked on the road need to be moved to allow access for emergency vehicles. Sgt. Jorgensen will have staff go door to door on 4/18.
- 1624 hours: RRRDC received a call of a medical emergency at the Good Samaritan Center in Arthur; 90 year old male short of breath. Sgt. Jorgensen dispatched Deputy Giddings to assist the ambulance.
- 2150 hours: A caller feels better signage is needed at 38th. St. and 64th. Ave. So. to slow down traffic going over the dike. Deputy Spieker and Officer Jordheim will check the area for safety concerns and notify the proper authorities if needed. Rich from the Road Department advises this area is the responsibility of the City of Fargo. Officers will make contact with the on-call city street worker and make recommendations.
- 2235 hours: Medical emergency south of Amenia – 155th. Ave. and 32nd. St. SE. National Guard medics dispatched from the TOC to assist Casselton Ambulance as well as 3543 and 3535.

4/18/09—Day 27

- Temperature in Fargo 40 degrees
- **River levels in the area:**
 - Red River: 33.29
 - Sheyenne at Harwood: 91.11
 - Sheyenne at Kindred: 21.22
 - Maple at Mapleton: 22.17
 - Wild Rice: 15.83
- 0345 hours: Call for sandbags at 15725 59th. St. SE in Walcott. Caller states the Sheyenne River water is within 3 feet of their home. They have numerous livestock and won't evacuate because it's calving season. No medical problems. Information passed on to Richland County SO and put them in touch with the National Guard unit staged in Kindred. They do have sandbags and will assist the family.
- 0955 hours: Resident Chris Henn called with questions about roadway integrity and rebuilding. Deputy Sprecher referred him to the Richland County Engineer.

- 1023 hours: Boat crew in Richland area flagged down by Robert Christensen who requested evacuation from 15740 58th. St. in Walcott. 2 adults and 3 dogs evacuated.
- 1050 hours: RRRDC received call of medical emergency at 448 4th. St in Walcott. 58 year old male possible stroke, history of heart problems. Kindred Ambulance dispatched; will be accompanied by the National Guard QRF staged in Kindred. National Guard medical unit dispatched from the TOC but were then advised to disregard as Major McDonald was on scene with Kindred Ambulance and Walcott first responders and they reported no problems with roads/access to the city of Walcott.
- 1100 hours: Deputy Hahn reported a 3 foot wash out on the east side of the bridge that is 1 ½ miles west of Durbin. Contacted Rich from the Road Department, who advised to contact Everest Township. Contacted Larry Reick – he will post signs, if needed.
- 1150 hours: Operation Evacuation a success – Deputy Hall, U.S. Coast Guard and U.S. Fish and Wildlife officers involved.
- 1724 hours: 405 Forrest River resident inquired about sandbag pick up.
- 1755 hours: Sheriff Laney called with an update from Bruce Nord. Hwy. 46 will remain open throughout the evening with a pilot car. The Happy Valley Bridge, 5 miles south on Hwy. 18, has water up to the bridge deck.
- 2115 hours: Deputy E. Swenson reports Cass 10 between Buffalo and Tower City is open again. He also reported Cass 1 between Tower City and Page is closed.
- 2134 hours: Received a call from Heidi Heinen from Cass County Social Services. She will be taking two children in to protective custody at Sullivan Middle School and is requesting assistance from officers. Fargo PD assisted, as Cass Units were too far out and wouldn't arrive in time. 2318 hours: Heidi Heinen advised placement complete.
- 2152 hours: Resident Dorian Simonson from Davenport looking for the phone number for the Kindred Community Center. Information provided.
- 2155 hours: Deputy Geller reports the gravel road going in to Durbin is covered with water and is very soft. She recommended no travel on that road. Rich from the Road Department notified; he will get barricades out there.
- 2339 hours: Medical assistance call in Casselton. National Guard medics dispatched to the scene.

4/19/09—Day 28

- Temperature in Fargo 43 degrees
- **River levels in the area:**
 - Red River: 32.70
 - Sheyenne at Harwood: 91.09
 - Sheyenne at Kindred: 21.26
 - Maple at Mapleton: 22.07
 - Wild Rice: 14.69
- Jail staff de-activated as of 1900 hours.
- The USA Hockey Tournament wraps up.

- News release to media regarding closing of State Highway 46.
- 0022 hours: Sgt. Irwin, NDANG advised an individual stopped by and told him he ran in to the dike at 52nd. Ave. Reports vehicle damage and the lights aren't working. Deputy dispatched to check the dike.
- 0357 hours: RRRDC received call of medical emergency at 321 9th. Ave. No. in Casselton. 60 year old male with dry heaves for the last hours. Casselton Ambulance, 3543 and National Guard medical unit were dispatched.
- 0600 hours: Bob Young, Kindred EOC, received a call from resident Raymond Norgzard at 16575 56th. St. SE in Kindred (Richland Co.) who requested sandbags for at least 200 linear feet. He reports water from the Sheyenne is about 40 feet from his house and rising. Richland Co. was notified of the situation. NDANG unit staged at the TOC will get sandbags from Kindred and deliver them to the home.
- 0712 hours: Kindred call center received request for sandbags from Diane Ersenschenk residence. Hwy. 46 to the Walcott Rd. and 2 miles south. Richland County notified.
- 0830 hours: Corporal McLean reports water is on the bridge at State 18 (Richland Co.).
- 0957 hours: Corporal Lindemann reports the road is washed out on 52nd. St. around 164th. Ave. (section 25 of Davenport Township). People are driving through it and it is unsafe. Rich from the Road Department advises this is a township road; Deputy Lindemann spoke to officials in Davenport who will take care of it.
- 1045 hours: Deputy Danielson advised the U.S. Game and Fish boats will be in the water for the next two hours north of Lisbon so their new operators can become familiar with the boats and the current.
- 1103 hours: The National Guard advised they will not be doing traffic control in Lisbon today as there will be very little truck traffic. They still have a crew walking the dikes.
- 1116 hours: The EOC received a call from people living in Owego Township, sections 2 & 3 and 10 & 11 (between 147th. Ave. SE and 148th. Ave. SE and 60th. St. and 61st. St.). They advised the roads are washed out and they may need assistance getting out in the future.
- 1158 hours: Corporal Lindemann called for extra sandbags that could be routed to Davenport. Called Rich from the Road Department – there may be some with the National Guard in Kindred and some extra with the City of Fargo.
- 1215 hours: Corporal Lindemann and the Road Department will reallocate signs to a wet spot.
- 1222 hours: Sgt. Irwin, National Guard, reports a citizen stopped in and told them he ran in to the dike at 52nd. Ave. and damaged the dike and his vehicle. Said he was traveling 40 mph. and didn't see it. Vehicle is a dark green Bonneville. Corporal Lindemann took the report and the dike was checked for damage.
- 1223 hours: The City of Buffalo's lift station warning light is on, which means the lift station is stressed by the increase in population. 100 elementary school students evacuated from Valley City and will finish out the school year there. They are feeling a significant impact. Caller would like assistance getting

information to residents that they need to conserve water and monitor their sump pump hoses. 3500 authorized a media release on their behalf.

- 1315 hours: Corporal Lindemann removed two road closure signs from 160th. St. to 163rd. St. on Cass 36 because the road is dry.
- 1446 hours: An individual coming in from Wisconsin wants to help sandbag in Valley City. Caller was given the phone number to the EOC in Valley City.
- 1515 hours: RRRDC received report of medical emergency at 361 Langer Ave. No. in Casselton – 33 year old female with chest pain. Casselton Ambulance dispatched; no need for National Guard dispatch as roads are dry.
- 1603 hours: Hwy. 46 north to 51st. St. – all roads closed between 164th. to 167th. for a 2 mile stretch.
- 1651 hours: Report of a culvert plugged at Hwy. 46 and Cass 26. NDANG on it.
- 1708 hours: 3500 advises the Sheriff's Office will resume normal schedule for Jail staff effective 1900 hours today. Called Captain Perez – he will take care of notifying staff.
- 1955 hours: Resident Rick Stern 8403 25th. St. So., Fargo reports a white, older model Olds 98 stuck out by the Muslim Cemetery. Vehicle has been there all day; caller thinks it may be stolen. 3521 dispatched. Vehicle is not stolen; is on private property; action complete.
- 2152 hours: Resident Darren Simonson looking for the phone number to the Kindred Community Center; number provided.

4/20/09—Day 29

- Temperature in Fargo 43 degrees
- **River levels in the area:**
 - Red River: 32.16
 - Sheyenne at Harwood: 91.15
 - Sheyenne at Kindred: 21.26
 - Maple at Mapleton: 22.05
 - Wild Rice: 13.56
- 0852 hours: Resident Dennis Martin reports culverts washing out from underneath at 57th. St. in Harwood. Caller states there is a road closed sign but people are still driving on it and it's very unsafe. 3519 dispatched and looked at the road. He will recommend to the caller to put up additional signs.
- 1010 hours: Emily from KVLV is to meet Deputy Beaulieu at the Cenex in Kindred to get footage for a news story.
- 1040 hours: Per Jason from the Road Department – the road is closed at Cass 17 and Cass 22 just where the road curves due to a washed out culvert.
- 1320 hours: Per 3500: Demobilization of U.S. Coast Guard and U.S. Fish and Wildlife assets. This will leave 2 active boats, 1 spare boat, 4 personnel and 1 command officer assigned to the TOC until 2359 hours on 4/20.
- 1420 hours: Per 3500: Demobilization of 19 U.S. Customs and Border Protection assets and all equipment except for 8 personnel, 1 ATV and 1 ARGO effective 0700 hours on 4/21.

- 1950 hours: RRRDC received report of an injury accident at Cass 3 and Cass 26; female with head injury. EMT on scene, Page Ambulance and units 3513, 7508 and a Fargo Police Officer dispatched. National Guard medics notified – they called back and said they are only to respond to calls in the Harwood and Horace areas at this time. Page Ambulance already enroute to MeritCare Medical Center at this time.
- 1952 hours: Sgt. Balkson from the NDANG advised they are filling 1000 pound sandbags at the Fargo Dome and the forklift they're using ran out of propane. The Dome has more however it's locked up and they don't know who to contact to access it. Made contact with Rob Sobolik with the Fargo Dome – he doesn't think the forklifts belong to the Dome however he will contact someone and get propane over to them.

4/21/09—Day 30

- Temperature in Fargo 47 degrees
- **River levels in the area:**
 - Red River: 31.62
 - Sheyenne at Harwood: 91.13
 - Sheyenne at Kindred: 21.29
 - Maple at Mapleton: 21.95
 - Wild Rice: 12.52
- 0430 hours: RRRDC received report of medical emergency. Victoria Getty advised she is driving from Hwy. 18 to I-94 with their flashers on. Ambulance dispatched to intercept them.
- 0632 hours: Resident Wes Briggs 5555 167th. Ave. SE in Kindred reports water starting to come in around his home and is requesting sandbags. National Guard will arrange for delivery. 1030 hours: Mr. Briggs called back and said he needs 1500 additional sandbags. Called the city shop in Kindred – they will take care of it.
- 0635 hours: RRRDC received a call from someone in Davenport that water is going across Cass 27 and they're requesting the road be closed. Road Department notified.
- 1210 hours: Caller inquiring about the temporary location for the Army Corps of Engineers during the flood. Lori Jones called Dave Rogness for information.
- 1800 hours: Report of 2 people cutting a township road 2 miles south of Davenport on the east side of Cass 27. Responsible parties are Orlin Swenson (drove tractor and scraper), who lives in the Braaten Addition along Cass 16 and Darin Simonson.
- 1900 hours: Received a call from a frustrated resident who said he went to get sandbags, only to find the gates to the Road Department locked. He said he works during the day and can't get sandbags until after hours. Contacted Rich from the Road Department and he met with the caller. Caller wondered why the sandbags couldn't be set outside of the gates for the public.

4/22/09—Day 31

- Temperature in Fargo 45 degrees
- **River levels in the area:**
 - Red River: 31.12
 - Sheyenne at Harwood: 91.12
 - Sheyenne at Kindred: 21.27
 - Maple at Mapleton: 21.76
 - Wild Rice: 11.74
- 1105 hours: RRRDC with report of medical code 100 in Highland Park. Deputies dispatched; no National Guard support needed.
- 1342 hours: Unknown caller reports a Humvee driving recklessly on the Embden Road. Plate “AINTERS”. Caller said the vehicle keeps passing him and cutting him off; did not want to file a report – just wanted to know why someone would drive like that.
- 1835 hours: Kindred EOC will be ceasing operations; their phone message gives callers the EOC number.
- 1838 hours: Deputy Hahn was contacted by a township board member from the Buffalo area who reported road closed signs are being taken down by vandals and placed in fields and ditches, leaving damaged roads open to traffic. Deputy Hahn will keep an eye on the area.
- 2255 hours: RRRDC received a report of a Suburban that went head on in to a ditch full of water at Cass 17 and Cass 20. Deputies Hermann and Fix dispatched as well as the National Guard unit staged in Horace. 0056 hours on 4/23 – officers report no injuries; got a hold of the owner of the vehicle and it is out of the water.

4/23/09—Day 32

- Temperature in Fargo 64 degrees
- **River levels in the area:**
 - Red River: 30.71
 - Sheyenne at Harwood: 91.10
 - Sheyenne at Kindred: 21.27
 - Maple at Mapleton: 21.45
 - Wild Rice: 11.18
- 0036 hours: Deputy Canales received a report of the Ted and Linda Deitz family near Davenport being completely surrounded by water. Neighbors have talked to them and they’re okay. Deputy Canales talked with boat crew personnel and they will assess the situation in case things get worse and they have to evacuate.
- 1100 hours: Supplies are being delivered to the Deitz residence. They will need someone to check in with them each shift to make sure they’re fine.
- 1850 hours: RRRDC received report of a grass fire 2 miles west of the intersection of Cass 22 and 17. It started as a controlled burn but then got out of control. West Fargo Fire and Deputy Canales dispatched.
- 1902 hours: Well being check on Ted and Linda Bietz. They stated they’re doing well. A neighbor dropped off a tracked tractor for them to use, so they can get out now if they need to. Gave them the number to the TOC if they need anything.

4/24/09—Day 33

- Temperature in Fargo 40 degrees
- **River levels in the area:**
 - Red River: 30.37
 - Sheyenne at Harwood: 91.07
 - Sheyenne at Kindred: 21.26
 - Maple at Mapleton: 21.06
 - Wild Rice: 10.66
- 0415 hours: RRRDC with report of a medical emergency. 57 year old female fell down 12 steps, has adrenal problem, confused and not alert. Kindred Ambulance, First Responders and 7506 dispatched.
- 1100 hours: The TOC moved back to the Cass County Jail training room from the West Fargo Police Department.
- 1955 hours: Jean Jaeger lifted the water restriction in Buffalo. Media notified per Sgt. Wischmann.

4/25/09—Day 34

- Temperature in Fargo 43 degrees
- **River levels in the area:**
 - Red River: 30.07
 - Sheyenne at Harwood: 91.04
 - Sheyenne at Kindred: 21.25
 - Maple at Mapleton: 20.60
 - Wild Rice: 10.11
- 1948 hours: Resident Glen Meyer 2405 9th. St. NW, West Fargo reported a large hole in the road at 19th. Ave. and 14th. St. No., north of the lagoons. He said he placed an orange cone at the site. West Fargo Police will notify the West Fargo Street Department.

4/26/09—Day 35

- Temperature in Fargo 42 degrees
- **River levels in the area:**
 - Red River: 29.79
 - Sheyenne at Harwood: 90.94
 - Sheyenne at Kindred: 21.22
 - Maple at Mapleton: 20.04
 - Wild Rice: 9.54
- 0507 hours: Deputy Canales stated someone hit a road sign at Chestnut Drive and Cass 17. The sign is lying on the west side of the road. Road Department notified.

4/27/09—Day 36

- Temperature in Fargo 43 degrees
- **River levels in the area:**
 - Red River: 29.33
 - Sheyenne at Harwood: 90.91
 - Sheyenne at Kindred: 21.21
 - Maple at Mapleton: 19.51
 - Wild Rice: 8.97

4/28/09—Day 37

- Temperature in Fargo 45 degrees
- **River levels in the area:**
 - Red River: 28.87
 - Sheyenne at Harwood: 90.78
 - Sheyenne at Kindred: 21.19
 - Maple at Mapleton: 19.01
 - Wild Rice: 8.39
- Resident Lynn Johnson has questions about reimbursement for his driveway. He already talked to FEMA and they referred him back to us. He wants to talk to someone about building up his road so he can use his driveway. Referred him to the County Engineer's Office/Road Department and the County Planner.

4/29/09—Day 38

- Temperature in Fargo 49 degrees
- **River levels in the area:**
 - Red River: 28.26
 - Sheyenne at Harwood: 90.69
 - Sheyenne at Kindred: 21.14
 - Maple at Mapleton: 18.55
 - Wild Rice: 7.90

4/30/09—Day 39

- Temperature in Fargo 41 degrees
- **River levels in the area:**
 - Red River: 27.59
 - Sheyenne at Harwood: 90.64
 - Sheyenne at Kindred: 21.11
 - Maple at Mapleton: 18.33
 - Wild Rice: 7.58
- 0742 hours: Unknown caller with questions about assistance from FEMA. Gave her the FEMA number and told her she could stop in at the Annex.
- The TOC de-activated at 1900 hours.

UTILIZATION OF PERSONNEL:

What was planned: From the onset of the Governor’s statewide emergency disaster declaration, Sheriff Laney and the Command Staff of the Cass County Sheriff’s Office had a plan in place for all of their personnel. Emergency Response Teams (ERT) were established, utilizing most licensed personnel in the department with the exception of Jail Corporals, who were to remain at the Jail as shift commanders. Emergency response team members were made aware of their team assignments and were advised to prepare for activation as the emergency conditions progressed. Each ERT was supervised by a team leader and an assistant team leader. Unless otherwise designated, each team leader/assistant team leader held the rank of sergeant. The sergeants had command of the teams while in the field and answered to and received orders from the established chain of command. The emergency response teams were structured as follows:

	<u>ERT “A”</u>	<u>ERT “B”</u>	<u>ERT “C”</u>	<u>ERT “D”</u>
Team Leader	Sgt. Nitschke	Sgt. Jorgensen	Sgt. Burris	Sgt. Wischmann
Assistant Team Leader	Sgt. Fercho	Sgt. Harmon	Sgt. Tollefson	Sgt. Kulesa
	Deputy Beaulieu	Deputy Getz	Deputy Sprecher	Deputy Renshaw
	Deputy Fix	Deputy Hermann	Deputy Dawkins	Deputy Crawford
	Deputy Hahn	Deputy Smith	Dep. VanDenEinde	Deputy Briggeman
	Deputy Hall	Deputy Gress	Deputy Gabrielson	Deputy K. Violet
	Deputy Korsmo	Deputy Haaland	Deputy Stading	Deputy Krogh
	Deputy J. Olson	Deputy Danielson	Deputy Wasmuth	Deputy Jahner
	Deputy Giddings	Deputy Fischer	Deputy Zundel	Deputy Canales
	Deputy Arth	Deputy Spieker	Deputy Bauske	Deputy Geller

All department personnel were on alert status and on Monday, March 23rd. the EOC, the TOC and ERT’s were activated. Initially, the “A” (Alpha) and “C” (Charlie) teams were assigned to work 0700 to 1900 hours; “B” (Bravo) team 1100 to 2300 hours and “D” (Delta) team 1900 to 0700 hours. Throughout the event team assignments and shift hours changed due to a number of different variables, including but not limited to; personal circumstance/the need to defend personal property, vacations or training in progress or already scheduled, the need to maintain modified day-to-day operations, and the need for seasoned staff in specialty areas (i.e. marine operations).

Sheriff’s Office personnel assigned to the field performed flood related duties as assigned, but also responded to calls for service, served warrants and civil papers as time and circumstance allowed and made time for routine vehicle maintenance when indicated or necessary. Overall staff demonstrated remarkable flexibility over a protracted period of time.

From the initial planning stages, the EOC and the TOC were established as separate entities, with separate, very specific functions. The EOC manned the phone number made public to the community and routed phone calls or provided critical information to citizens as needed. The EOC was the primary command post for all Sheriff’s Office Operations. Along with a Sheriff’s command officer (generally Captain Majerus and Captain Argall), the EOC was staffed with representatives from the Cass County Emergency Management Division, the Cass County Highway Department, the County Administrator’s Office, Cass County Social Services, the Cass County Auditor’s

Office, the Cass County Tax Assessor's Office, FM Ambulance and the North Dakota National Guard.

The TOC was the hub for the Cass County Sheriff's Office, as well as other local, state and federal supporting agencies. All routine operations and missions were tasked from the TOC. At any given time the TOC was staffed with the following personnel: one TOC Commander, two support staff, one jail staff liaison, one Highway Patrol Trooper, two U.S. Coast Guard officers, two or more U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service personnel, two N.D. National Guard officers and one legal advisor. The TOC was home for two shift change briefings daily, at 7:00 AM and 7:00 PM.

Marine Operations utilized staff comprised of multi-agency teams and a dedicated field sergeant and they operated from forward staging areas (FSA's) already in place. We planned for and received assistance from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, the U.S. Coast Guard and U.S. Customs, Border Protection agents and the North Dakota National Guard. The North Dakota Game and Fish Department was initially identified as an assisting agency, however, they were deployed to other parts of the state and did not participate in any rescue missions in Cass County.

What was not planned for but fell in to place: Due to circumstance only, not for lack of planning, the TOC had to relocate from the Cass County Jail training room to a safer location at the West Fargo Police Department. This turned out to be very beneficial, as the space was larger and accommodated all players involved more efficiently. West Fargo's physical plant also allowed for a separate conference room for scheduled and impromptu meetings, and their City Commission Chambers/Courtroom served as space for personnel briefings, meal service and food storage. The National Guard also staged personnel from that area. Personnel from the West Fargo Police Department assisted in a number of different ways, including providing officers and vehicles for patrol duty and covering calls for service, providing IT support for us and our partner agencies, as well as clerical support. Also, when we initially moved in, they made sleeping quarters and their locker rooms available until it was known personnel could return to their homes or hotel rooms.

Once the Jail was evacuated, there was a large number of correctional staff which could be used for duties in the field. The original action plan did not account for these deputies, as the evacuation of the Jail was an unknown variable at the time. As it turned out, the need for staff at the shelters in Casselton as well as other field duties presented themselves and staff was deployed accordingly.

SUPPORT PROVIDED TO ASSIGNED PERSONNEL:

Emotional support/morale: The Sheriff recognized early on how this emergency could affect staff and the impact their hard work and long hours would have on their families. The hours spent away from home in potentially dangerous situations were bound to take a toll. In fact, a few staff members had to fight flood waters at their own homes, and thus their roles in the effort reduced or they were unable to report for duty at all.

There were mechanisms put in place for staff difficulties. One was to utilize a program already in existence within the department: the Peer Assistance Crisis Team (PACT). Members of this special group are trained in handling the emotional aftermath of critical incidents, and provide support in an on-going fashion to all staff. At the TOC PACT team members' phone numbers were posted, and staff was encouraged to phone or speak to any one of them at any time should they need it.

Another option that was not planned but happened due to circumstance was having the Jail's Mental Health Coordinator, Lynette Tastad, work out of the TOC. Due to the Jail being evacuated and having no clients to work with, she was tasked as support staff at the TOC. Lynette made it known she was available to speak with staff about any difficulties they were having and just by virtue of proximity, she observed potential issues first hand and was able to intervene.

Sheriff Laney enlisted the help of his wife Patty and a PACT team from Bismarck, to host a support group for spouses and significant others of the Cass County Sheriff's Office staff. This session was held midway through the event, while staff was still working long hours. This PACT team was specially trained in dealing with the families of police and emergency services personnel, to cope with the stresses of the job and the aftermath of critical incidents.

Every day at 7:00 AM and 7:00 PM, shift briefings were held at the TOC. After business matters were addressed, Sheriff Laney would address the group as a whole. While the wording was often different, and there were always some examples to illustrate, the message was overwhelmingly the same: he was proud of his staff and the amazing job we were doing. Day in and day out, he repeated this to us, reminding staff that the people of Fargo and residents of Cass County were counting on us. He understood we were all tired, but we had to keep fighting. Those sentiments every day were a real morale booster, and just seeing that he was fighting the fight and putting in the same numbers of hours (or more) as his staff, was even more of a boost.



Food: Food was a hot button issue from the very first day; who would feed the personnel at the EOC and the TOC, will patrol eat on their own or at one location, how will the personnel in Casselton, Harwood, Kindred and those on the boats be fed? A lot

of organization and frustration came with arranging for meals for 150 people or more every day, in several different locations. Prior to the evacuation of the Jail CBM Foods, the meal service provider for the Jail, prepared meals for the TOC. After the TOC moved, and once the Jail kitchen was operational, CBM continued to provide meals at the TOC until preparing meals for the number of personnel at the TOC as well as the inmate population became too cumbersome. After pricing various options, meals at the TOC were catered most days by a local grocery store deli, as they offered the best value. These meals were planned to accommodate not only staff staged at the TOC, but those personnel in the field who were mobile and could come in to eat. Meals at the EOC were mostly donated by local businesses, as were three of the meals served at the TOC.

During this event, all personnel involved relied heavily on the support of both the American Red Cross and the Salvation Army. The Red Cross supplied snack items, bottled water, and sandwiches to the TOC, snack items to the EOC, as well as staging areas out in the county. They were also present in Casselton's shelters, both the school and Church, where they fed evacuees and offered to feed our staff as needed. The Salvation Army provided meals, usually sandwiches and snacks, to outlying areas such as Valley City and the Lisbon areas. Cold sandwiches, as a staple, did become an issue as time progressed, and efforts were made to provide variety while maintaining fiscal responsibility.

Shelter: As noted earlier, a contingency plan was in place for Sheriff's Office personnel and their families, as outlined in the family readiness plan. Supporting agencies utilized hotel rooms, which generally not a problem. There was a ten day window during this weather event when the USA under 18 Hockey Tournament was hosted in Fargo and hotel rooms during that time were at a premium. Additional contingency planning was done to accommodate officers by providing housing at the Cass County Jail, similar to arrangements made for our personnel and families however, it was not necessary to implement that option. TOC support personnel assisted in securing other services when needed, such as laundry service and medical care.

Equipment: Pre-planning for this event included anticipating what type of equipment would be required. Generally speaking, Sheriff's Office personnel are issued clothing and equipment necessary for their regular duties, so not all staff was equipped with clothing adequate to work in adverse weather conditions. Efforts were made to equip anyone working out in the field with rubber boots, caps and gloves, a rain coat and reflective vest. Additionally, ERT members assigned to the Jail were issued uniform coats if they didn't have one.

COMMUNICATIONS:

In order to facilitate communication between the Cass County Sheriff's Office and its partnering agencies of the U.S. Coast Guard, the North Dakota National Guard, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, U.S. Customs and Border Protection and Valley Water Rescue, radio and telephone operations were established. Effective, reliable communication was essential not only between agencies in the field, but from personnel in the field to the TOC, between the TOC and the EOC, and between the EOC and the

public who needed our assistance. This need expanded as personnel and assets deployed to Ransom County and Barnes County, in the latter part of the flood fights.

The primary means of communication between the TOC and field personnel at the forward staging areas (FSA) was via cell phone, as well as communication between personnel on boats and those assisting on the ground. From the onset, however, it became apparent that coverage was inconsistent to non-existent in many areas and it became a safety concern to personnel involved. Radio communications, by and large, were ineffective, especially between agencies. This factor was likely the single largest concern/frustration expressed by staff, primarily because of the safety issues involved.

The Federal Bureau of Investigations (FBI) assisted by offering access to the Leo System Virtual Command Center (VCC) which allowed the EOC and TOC the ability to see what was going on at both locations all hours of the day or night.

The eastern North Dakota regional response required the sharing of communications resources and the implementation of interoperability solutions. The purpose of this section of the report is to document both operational and technical findings related to the communications environment during the flood response. Specifically, the report provides an overview discussion of communications including radio systems and equipment, deployed interoperable solutions and commercial wireless services. The report also includes communications lessons learned during the flood response, in a later section.

The public safety agencies in the metropolitan region have realized that interoperable communications are essential to the effective resolution of public safety issues. Further, multijurisdictional response often requires communication among local, state and federal agencies. Because such events frequently require tactical communications among numerous groups of public safety personnel operating on disparate systems, interoperable communications issues regularly pose problems that can impede joint public safety operations. Interoperability is and will continue to be an issue that, if not addressed adequately, will be detrimental to the safety of public safety responders and the public.

This report examines the use of communications equipment, interoperability issues, and communications coordination efforts among partner agencies during the flood response. It addresses both public safety communications and commercially provided communications. The report includes general operational information related to response communications as well as operational and technical lessons learned related to communications interoperability between partner agency representatives.

Communications and interoperability solutions: Officers and agents from local, state and federal agencies responded to individual incidents simultaneously, creating a unique operational environment not typically experienced in the law enforcement community. On-scene commanders soon learned that establishing communications and interoperability between partner agencies would be a daunting task. As a result, on-scene

commanders were faced with coordinating local, state and federal agency response to incident scenes and managing communications at the Forward Operations level.

During the course of the flood response, several interoperability solutions were deployed to enhance both tactical and administrative interoperable communications between partner agencies disparate communications systems. These solutions were initiated or enhanced for this specific set of circumstances. The primary interoperability solutions deployed during the investigation included radio exchanges and commercial wireless services.

Radio exchanges: radio sharing is a simple but reliable interoperability solution. Since portable radios became commonplace in law enforcement agencies, they have been loaned out when interoperability among officers from different jurisdictions was required. Agencies participating in the flood response exchanged radios, the most prominent example being the loan-out of portable radios to Customs and Border Patrol, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, the United States Coast Guard and the North Dakota National Guard. The Cass County Sheriff's Office provided the radios at the beginning of each shift. The radios were returned at the end of every shift and handed out again, with fresh batteries, as new personnel came on duty.

Commercial services: Cellular telephones and wireless services were used by numerous officers. Partner agency personnel frequently used cellular telephones as their primary communications device due to lack of portable radios and limited coverage areas of available portable radios. Cellular telephones also had limited coverage in the flood response areas, most notably in the rural areas of the flood response area.

RESPONSE ACTIVITIES:

Emergency operations:

The State Emergency Operations Center served as the central coordination hub for state agencies, the North Dakota National Guard, the United States Coast Guard, the United States Fish and Wildlife Service and volunteer agencies. In its capacity as the conduit for communications with all the entities involved, the State EOC utilized WebEOC as the primary avenue of communication. The Cass County EOC fielded calls from the public and requests for assistance. When the EOC Commander made a determination that a request would be tasked out, the information was passed on to the TOC and personnel were assigned according to the need.

Marine operations:

Due to anticipated high river levels of the Red River, Sheyenne River, Wild Rice River and the Maple River, and the resulting overland flooding, the Cass County Sheriff's Office developed a Marine Evacuation and Rescue Plan.

The Cass County Sheriff's Office requested and received support from the U.S. Coast Guard and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service in the form of airboats and other watercraft for water rescues. The primary staging area for this operation was the Cass County Highway Department facility in West Fargo, which provided space for fueling,

repairing and securing boats. The following areas served as forward staging areas (FSA) which allowed personnel and assets to deploy in to specific neighborhoods: Oxbow Community Center, Kindred Ambulance Garage, Mapleton Community Center, Harwood Community Center, Casselton Ambulance Garage, and Enderlin Fire Hall for deployment in Ransom County and the Valley City Airport for deployment in Barnes County. The Horace Training Center, Leonard Senior Center, Argusville Community Center, Gardner Fire Department and Tower City were areas designated at the onset as potential staging areas, but were not used.

The U.S. Coast Guard provided the following assets: four airboats with personnel, two Disaster Assistance Response Teams (DART's) with personnel and two Cutter boats with personnel. In addition to those field personnel, the Coast Guard assigned two officers to the TOC, one command officer and one other, to assist in coordinating all water rescues.



The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service provided: six airboats with personnel, plus two spare crews. In addition to that they had two maintenance personnel and a command officer assigned to the TOC to coordinate their personnel in the field.

Valley Water Rescue provided assistance in the form of boats and personnel, especially during the first week of emergency operations, which complemented the personnel assigned by the Cass County Sheriff's Office. Their personnel consisted of one team commander, one assistant commander, and five boat crew team members.

To better assist the public during the emergency, each team maintained at a minimum, a waterproof bag containing a trauma kit, blankets and rescue equipment. Each particular vessel was under the command of their respective agency, in accordance with their representative staged at the TOC. One Cass County Sheriff's Deputy was embedded with each vessel and served as the Mission Commander.

Marine operations were also used to conduct well being checks on residents surrounded by flood water, who chose to remain in their homes.

The geographical area in Cass County affected by this event is approximately 42 miles by 20 miles. Initially it was anticipated operations would begin in the southern area of the county and spread north as the water moved north. As operations went underway the boat teams operated throughout the entire affected geographical area. Additionally, the geographical area affected in Ransom County is approximately 3 miles by 3 miles. This area included the cities of Lisbon and Fort Ransom.

Richard A. Johnston from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service was assigned to the TOC during this event and assisted in coordinating Marine operations. One of his comments when asked for feedback for this report was, “As a federal responder to several disasters, including hurricanes Katrina and Rita, I feel strongly that the Cass County Sheriff’s Office was well prepared and coordinated for this event. The County’s working knowledge of ICS made our integration with the Sheriff’s Department seamless. At this local level, the coordination between several federal agencies, to include the U.S. Border Patrol, Customs and Border Protection, U.S. Coast Guard and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service with the Sheriff’s Department was outstanding.”

Air operations:

With the anticipated need for air evacuations, the Cass County Sheriff’s Office requested and received aid from the U.S. Coast Guard and the North Dakota Air National Guard. Helicopters were used in areas that watercraft could not access or wind speed or water current made it unsafe.

The U.S. Coast Guard provided two Dolphin SAR Rescue Helicopters, plus their crew and personnel on the ground. They also provided a command officer staged at the TOC to coordinate operations.



The North Dakota Air National Guard provided support via Blackhawk Helicopter and associated personnel. The Cass County Sheriff’s Office assisted with ground support and communication.

Community Protection Operations:

To assist with crime deterrence in evacuated neighborhoods and to assist with rural patrol, the Cass County Sheriff’s Office enlisted the help of the U.S. Customs and Border Patrol and Customs and Border Protection. U.S. Customs and Border Patrol provided ATV’s and 4X4 vehicles, accompanied by personnel, to make access in to water affected areas easier. They also staged a command officer at the TOC to facilitate joint operations.



The primary functions of these agencies were two-fold: intelligence gathering and crime deterrence. Agents alongside Cass County Jail deputies and N.D. National Guard officers, canvassed known water affected neighborhoods and more along the river areas. The primary

goal was information gathering: the number of evacuated homes, the number of people and pets remaining in residences, any potential officer safety issues and if residents had any special needs or concerns. This information was used by the TOC to aide in any possible evacuations in that area, but also served as a well being check on residents, making them aware the Sheriff's Office was willing and able to help. Agents and officers concentrated their efforts on the hardest impacted neighborhoods: Bakke Subdivision, Briarwood, Butch-R-Block, Chrisan Estates, Forrest River Road Development, Heritage Hills, Oxbow, Round Hill and Selkirk Settlement. As a proactive approach to deterring theft, agents and deputies spoke to individuals coming and going in those areas to ensure they had a legitimate reason for being there.



PUBLIC INFORMATION/MEDIA INTEGRATION:

From the onset, public awareness was considered to be a large component of the Emergency Action Plan of the Cass County Sheriff's Office. Wherever and whenever possible, the media accompanied deputies in the field to flood ravaged areas in the city and outlying county area. They documented flood damage, talked to members of the community, and featured volunteers and flood fighters in action. A designated "media boat" was provided prior the first crest of the Red River, which accommodated several local and national media groups.

Request for media, including public statements, went through Sheriff Laney, the TOC Commander, or the designated Public Information Officer from U.S. Customs and Border Protection or in her absence, a National Guard liaison.

Sheriff Laney made it a point to be present at most, if not all, city, town, township, and neighborhood meetings related to the flood. He was present not only to offer current information to the groups as a whole, but to speak directly with citizens about their questions and concerns. Specific meetings were held to inform city mayors and housing development association presidents of specific readiness and action plans implemented by the Sheriff's Office to assist their needs. These meetings were held at the Cass County Jail, Discovery School and the Cass County Highway Department. Members from Cass County Government and other responding agencies were also present to answer questions and provide further information. Sheriff Laney also

provided the face for the Cass County Sheriff's office to let communities know we were there to help.

The EOC was the link for the public, not only in emergencies, but for flood related questions. A common question involved road closures, which often changed daily with the water rising and falling. The Cass County Government website also updated daily road closure information. The EOC was a major link in keeping the public informed, as theirs was the phone number provided to the public. Upon the closing of the EOC, the TOC fielded phone calls from the public.

CASS COUNTY JAIL EVACUATION:

On March 26 and in to the early morning hours of March 27 all inmates from the Cass County Jail were evacuated to other correctional facilities state wide. A determination was made of how many staff would be needed to accomplish this task and the evacuation plan, which had been reviewed and revised in the days previous, was implemented.

The week prior to the evacuation staff reviewed the status of each inmate with regard to the nature of their charges, whether they were sentenced or bail amounts had been set, and to what jurisdiction they belonged. When it became necessary to evaluate who could be furloughed and who must remain in custody at other facilities, that leg work was complete and staff could make recommendations to the Court regarding each individual inmate.

It was determined by the Jail Administration to utilize jail space available in Grand Forks, Stutsman, Rugby and Barnes counties, as well at the North Dakota State Hospital in Jamestown. The United States Marshal's Service (U.S.M.S.) was contacted about the 17 inmates they had housed in our facility as well as the North Dakota Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation regarding parole violators. Charter bus services were secured through Richards Bus Company and were scheduled to arrive at the Cass County Jail at 2330 hours on March 25, 2009. Staff was briefed as to assignments, equipment needed and proper application of flex cuffs, since most inmates would be secured in that fashion.

Two deputies were staged in the sallyport, acting as security for those boarding the buses, keeping a headcount and maintaining a log. No one was permitted to leave the building until they checked in with and were cleared by these officers. There was also a formal headcount conducted within the facility and there were no departures until that count cleared. Only prescribed medications were sent along with inmates; no other personal possessions or money. Inmates transported to the correctional facility in Rugby were sent with one additional set of Cass County Jail clothing. Included in this effort was evacuation of the Cass County Juvenile Detention Center. Arrangements were made for some to return to their homes or other placement alternatives, two were released and one was transported to the Juvenile Detention facility in Grand Forks.

The actual departure of inmates occurred in phases, beginning at approximately 2205 hours on March 26, 2009.

- PHASE I:
March 26, 2009, 2205 hours: one high risk/maximum security inmate was transported to the North Dakota State Hospital in Jamestown accompanied by Corporal Amanda Henrickson and Deputy Wade Hannig.

- PHASE II:
March 26, 2009, 2305 hours: 14 of the 17 inmates in the custody of the U.S.M.S. were transported to the Grand Forks County Jail in Grand Forks. They were transported by U.S.M.S. personnel and Cass County Deputy Derek Hodges, followed by a U.S.M.S. chase vehicle.

- PHASE III:
March 26, 2009, 2340 hours: ten high risk/maximum security inmates were transported to the Grand Forks County Jail in two transport vans, accompanied by Deputies Kristal Kraft, Damon Job, Deb Assmus and Sam Hernandez.

- PHASE IV:
March 27, 2009, 0115 hours: 12 male inmates from the Inmate Worker Dorm, 16 female inmates from Charlie pod, 10 male inmates from Delta pod and one juvenile male inmate were transported on a charter bus to the Grand Forks County jail. They were accompanied by Deputies Ernie Schulz, Tommy Ray and Kirsten Shockley. Corporal Jon Morse followed in a North Dakota Highway Patrol chase vehicle driven by a state trooper.

- PHASE V:
March 27, 2009, 0145 hours: 16 male inmates from Sigma pod, three male inmates from the Work Release Dorm, and one male inmate from Delta were transported on a charter bus to the Stutsman County Jail by Deputies Gerald Barnes, Chad Violet and John LaFerriere. Corporal Loretta Orvedal followed in a North Dakota Highway Patrol chase vehicle driven by a state trooper.

- PHASE VI:
March 27, 2009, 0225 hours: eight male inmates from the Work Release Dorm and 38 male inmates from G-Main were transported on a charter bus to the North Central Correctional and Rehabilitation Center in Rugby by Deputies Jenna Martin, Kris Kevorkian and Matt Iverson. Corporal Mike Kasprick followed in a North Dakota Highway Patrol chase vehicle driven by a state trooper.

- **PHASE VII:**
March 27, 2009, 0445 hours: three male inmates in the custody of the U.S.M.S. were transported by U.S.M.S. personnel and Deputy Derek Hodges to the Barnes County Jail in Valley City.
- **PHASE VIII:**
The final step in the evacuation process was to release fifteen inmates who were granted furlough by the District Court and six inmates furloughed by the City of Fargo Municipal Court. These inmates were given a letter signed by Captain Perez stating the date they were to report back to the jail to complete their sentences. Most were scheduled to return back on April 9, 2009.

JAIL STAFF INTEGRATION:

When the Sheriff’s Office developed the Emergency Action Plan for the impending flood, Emergency Response Teams (ERT’s) were developed. These teams placed all licensed deputies in the county, regardless of their regular duty assignment, out on patrol in the county to assist with flood related emergencies. Six licensed deputies from the Jail were activated on those teams. Licensed officers working as Corporals in the Jail, some of the Sergeants and the Jail Captain were not activated to these teams, as they were utilized in the Jail to maintain day to day operations.



ERT members from the Jail supplemented field deputies in providing officer presence out in the county, assisting home owners and assisting with regular law enforcement duties on a limited basis, as needed.

On March 26 and into the early morning of March 27, all Cass County Jail inmates were evacuated to other facilities throughout the state and Jail staff was activated to an emergency schedule the same as the ERT and field staff. Starting at 0700 hours on March 27, Jail staff began the task of preparing the Jail facility should it flood, securing county equipment and property. Beginning Saturday March 28, Jail staff was deployed in areas within the city of Fargo to assist with patrolling levees, and out in the county assisting with security at two different emergency shelters established in Casselton.

Jail staff patrolling dikes throughout the city of Fargo was teamed up with both Fargo Police Officers and N.D. National Guard officers, to watch for leaks in dikes, keep

the public out of harm's way, and to prevent sabotage to any of the dikes protecting the city.

Jail staff tasked to Casselton worked in the High School and St. Leo's Catholic Church which were established by the Red Cross as emergency shelters for two distinct groups from Fargo, both of which are considered *high risk populations*. In the Church, Jail staff assisted Bethany Homes nursing staff from the Alzheimer's/Dementia unit in looking after their residents. This consisted largely of manning the exit doors of the church so Bethany residents could not wander out of the room and redirecting them to safer activities. Jail staff was able to develop a rapport with the staff, residents and their families, helping to ease the stress of being displaced. In the High School, Jail staff performed security detail for displaced residents of the Fargo High Rise, also using their presence to build rapport and ease tensions.

A third task for Jail staff in the field was out in the county in water affected neighborhoods. Jail staff, along with the North Dakota National Guard, went door to door conducting welfare checks and gathering information about residences. Intelligence information gathered included: whether the house was occupied or vacant, how many people were in the residence, the number of pets, if any, color of the house, specific directions to the house, and if anyone in the residence had any special needs.



The information gathered was recorded on a spread sheet to assist the process should any of those residents need rescue or evacuation in the future. This mission was important because of the information that was gathered as well as demonstrating to the people of Cass County that the Sheriff's Office is concerned for their well-being. Direct contact was made in this manner with more than 800 homes during this

event.

Despite the fact that the Jail had been evacuated, a small contingency of Jail staff remained at the Jail until all the inmates returned. Their main tasks were to answer phone calls from the public, receive new inmates and arrange transportation to other county jails, facilitate communication with prosecutors and the Court systems, and continuously check the vacant housing units for water leakage. Prior to the inmates returning, the Jail staff also washed all clothing and bedding for the returning inmates, organized and streamlined the process to make things run smoothly, and put all the property back that had been moved or secured after the evacuation.

After the first crest, the Cass County Jail re-opened on April 3 and gradually began bringing inmates back. Jail staff was deactivated at this time in order to resume the normal operations of the Jail however, on April 15 the Jail staff was once again activated by the Sheriff, to have more staff available to assist Cass County residents.

This time, Jail deputies along with ESU deputies again went door to door in the county, checking on residents in flooded neighborhoods. Deputies performed this function with the assistance of the North Dakota National Guard and equipment available to them. Once again, information was collected in case of evacuation and to ensure the wellbeing of those in homesteads surrounded by water.

High risk populations: This weather event had a greater effect on high risk populations than on the population at large due to their technological needs and pre-existing medical conditions. High risk populations are those individuals who have a higher risk for harm from an emergency event due to significant limitations in their personal care, self-protection abilities and health status. Social services, public health, medical care agencies, emergency management officials and first responders endeavored to assist these high risk populations in a variety of ways, but largely without extensive pre-event planning or coordination. At the onset of the flood activity a certain percentage of the high risk populations had not been incorporated in to any formal outreach or assistance plans.

This factor was evident by discovery of high risk individuals at the Casselton School shelter by Sheriff's Office staff on or about Friday March 27, 2009. Deputy Tim Briggeman reported to Sgt. Gail Wischmann that when he stopped at the shelter that evening to check in with Red Cross organizers, he discovered approximately 17 individuals who clearly required more care than they were receiving and in fact they could be considered people who were medically fragile. These individuals reportedly were wheelchair bound or had other physical limitations that prevented them from performing even the most basic tasks, such as moving from a wheelchair to a cot, accessing a rest room or taking a drink from a water fountain. The situation was further exacerbated by the fact that there was no one assigned to these individuals to assist them with toileting and other physical cares, nor was there anyone authorized to dispense prescribed medications. It was later learned that this group was put on the wrong bus when they were initially evacuated and consequently arrived at the wrong destination. Red Cross officials reportedly did not check them in to the shelter as that was not their designated destination and it is unclear exactly what arrangements had been made for them. What we do know is that this group was not tended to for many, many hours. Some were diabetic and did not receive snacks or their insulin as scheduled, some had colostomy bags that were not tended to, one individual had a pressure sore from sitting so long in his wheelchair and he was unable to get anyone to assist him with that. Sgt. Wischmann observed people who were having significant circulation issues because of the extended time they were confined to their wheelchairs and others whose oxygen tanks had expired. It is apparent the Red Cross was not responsible for providing direct care to these individuals and it is unknown how it came to be that their caregivers were not available to them. What is alarming is that the situation went largely unchecked until intervention by Sheriff's Office personnel.

There were emergency medical personnel staged in Casselton at the school, a mobile hospital unit and a not-for-profit medical team from out of state that was staffed by a physician and several registered nurses. This identified high risk group at the shelter

reportedly did not qualify for care from either of these organizations because of their status as non-residents of the shelter. Throughout the evening of March 27 and in to the early morning hours of March 28 Sgt. Wischmann and other Sheriff's Office personnel made arrangements for these individuals to be relocated; three went by ambulance to area emergency rooms, one suffering from a diabetic reaction and two whose oxygen tanks were empty. In all, 21 people were relocated from that shelter to other more appropriate facilities.

In light of the fact that administration of the two shelter sites got off to a rough start, Sheriff's Office personnel were instrumental in developing a more amicable working relationship among the agencies assigned to the shelters. Those agencies included the American Red Cross, a D-mat team (mobile hospital unit), a not-for-profit medical team that worked independent of the D-mat team, the Rocky Mountain Fire Rescue group that would assist with a mass evacuation, representatives from the Southeast Human Service Center and representatives from the State of North Dakota who were acting in a role of Environmental Health enforcement. On the morning of March 28, 2009 Sheriff's Office personnel from the Jail division were assigned to assist at the shelters. Sgt. Wischmann briefed Corporal Andy Frobig on the events of the night prior, and advised him that the different factions, particularly those assigned to the school shelter, were not working effectively together.

Corporal Frobig reports he instructed staff to spend their time initially assessing the conditions of the school shelter and when they reconvened one hour later they would compare notes and determine a plan of action. Corporal Frobig also requested a meeting with all heads of agencies on site. This meeting did not happen, however, he was able to meet individually with all of them and as a result, they found a way to work together cooperatively. Sgt. Ben Schwandt oversaw the shelter operation at St. Leo's Church and reported no difficulties or concerns. Corporal Frobig said perhaps the biggest challenge at the Central Cass School shelter was ego. It seemed the agencies involved were prepared to deal with a large influx of evacuees (up to 1500) and were disappointed when so few were actually brought there. What should have been a sure sign of winning the battle with this flood (lack of people needing services) had actually become a source of resentment among various agencies who felt they were wasting their resources.

Sheriff's Office personnel stayed on scene at the shelters until the last of the residents were loaded on buses and headed back to Fargo. We were able to demonstrate to shelter organizers that our staff had experience and expertise in dealing with special needs populations and are pleased to report that with the exception of a couple of minor theft complaints, there was no criminal activity.

Regardless of who operates a shelter, the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (ADA) generally requires shelters to conduct operations in ways that offer people with disabilities the same benefits (e.g. safety, comfort, food, medical care, the support of family and friends) provided to people without disabilities.

CASS COUNTY JAIL RE-POPULATION:

The Cass County Jail was cleared to bring back inmates on April 3, 2009, nine days after the initial evacuation. This re-population was also conducted in phases, in the interest of safety and security for staff and inmates.

- **PHASE I:**

April 3, 2009: Court/Transport deputies transported three male inmates back from the Barnes County Jail. Also on this date Court/Transport deputies, utilizing two security vans, transported eight maximum security inmates back from the Grand Forks County Jail.

- **PHASE II:**

April 4, 2009: At 0730 hours utilizing a charter bus, Deputies Blake Fidler, Matt Iverson and Heather Hames traveled to Grand Forks to retrieve Cass Jail inmates. Corporal Mike Kasprick and Deputy Chris Denis followed as a chase vehicle in an unmarked security van. Plastic wrist restraints were used on this transport.

All inmates housed in Grand Forks under Cass County authority were transferred onto the bus and brought back to the Cass County Jail. This bus arrived safely in the sally port of the Cass County Jail at 1103 hours. All inmates were removed from the bus in small groups and based upon their housing assignment. Inmates were taken to the change up room, searched, issued one new set of clothing, and secured in their assigned cells. Returning from Grand Forks was:

- 16 female inmates from Charlie pod
- 10 male inmates from the Inmate Worker Dorm
- 8 male inmates from Delta pod
- 2 male inmates booked and transported after the evacuation
- 1 female inmate arrested in Grand Forks on a Cass warrant

A total of 37 inmates were returned on this trip and all Cass County inmates are now out of the Grand Forks County Jail. One male inmate was transported in the chase vehicle due to a keep separate issue that arose at the Grand Forks County Jail with another Cass inmate. All inmates were unloaded by 1140 hours, changed and secured in their cells. Housing unit counts were verified by the pod officers at 1155 hours. Lunch was served at 1200 hours.

- **PHASE III:**

April 4, 2009: At 1330 hours, again utilizing a charter bus, Deputies Blake Fidler, Matt Iverson, Jill Ulrich and Wade Hannig traveled to the Stutsman County Jail in Jamestown to retrieve Cass Jail inmates. An additional officer was utilized during this phase for additional security due to the fact that the Stutsman County Jail does not have a sally port large enough to accommodate a bus. Corporal Mike Kasprick and Deputy Chris

Denis followed in a chase vehicle. Steel handcuffs were used on this transport after problems securing the plastic restraints on small wrists were discovered during a previous transport.

All inmates housed at the Stutsman County Jail under Cass County authority were transferred onto the bus and transported to the Cass County Jail following the same procedure as the trip from the Grand Forks County Jail. Returning from Stutsman County was:

- 14 medium security male inmates from Sigma pod
- 1 male inmate from Delta pod
- 3 male inmates from Work Release overflow housing
- 3 male inmates booked and transported after the evacuation
- 1 male inmate for the City of Fargo via Mercer County

One of these inmates was transported in the chase vehicle due to a keep separate issue with another Cass inmate who assaulted him while housed in Stutsman County.

All inmates were changed and secured in their assigned cells. The three male inmates from the Work Release overflow dorm were housed in Delta pod for one night. They were moved into the Work Release overflow dorm on Sunday, April 5 after the other Work Release inmates returned and the pod was properly staffed.

- PHASE IV:

April 5, 2009: At 0730 hours, utilizing a charter bus, Deputies Kris Kevorkian, Anthony Analetto and Kathryn Allen traveled to the correctional facility in Rugby to retrieve the inmates housed there. Deputies Chris Denis and Frank Froyland followed in a chase vehicle. All inmates housed in Rugby under Cass County authority were transferred back to the Cass County Jail following the same procedures as previously described on April 4, 2009. Returning from Rugby was:

- 7 male inmates assigned to the Work Release dorm
- 32 male inmates assigned to G-Main Housing

A total of 39 inmates were safely returned to the jail and secured in their cells. At that time all inmates that had been evacuated were secure in the Cass County Jail. A Stand-Up Headcount was initiated at 1650 hours to verify the count matched the information in the AS400.

The count cleared at 127 inmates at 1659 hours. Jail re-population was declared complete and dinner served. Normal operations were set to resume effective 0700 hours on April 6, 2009.

COORDINATION WITH OTHER CASS COUNTY DEPARTMENTS:

After a week into the flood fight, the Cass County State's Attorney's Office delegated a representative to be stationed at the TOC. Their main function was that of a legal advisor, answering any questions TOC personnel or field personnel encountered. With multiple jurisdictions working together legal questions were bound to arise, so it was a valuable tool to have a legal advisor in house.

A little known secret and great discovery of the TOC staff was the division of Information Technologies (IT) Geographic Information Systems (GIS). Their personnel provided us with several different variations of county maps, without which we would not have been nearly as effective in rescues, reconnaissance detail, and welfare checks. The U.S. Customs and Border Protection agents who assisted, as well as the Cass County Jail deputies in the field who did not know the county layout relied heavily on these maps for guidance. Most importantly, the maps were vital to the U.S. Coast Guard and Fish and Wildlife rescue operations both by air and boat. The EOC had a vastly different experience during this event with regard to the availability of GIS information. The County Auditor and the County Tax Assessor were assigned to the EOC and both were well versed in the availability and use of GIS and consequently utilized that service extensively.

While the GIS portion of IT was a huge asset to the flood fight, the rest of Cass County IT was largely absent, from the perspective of the TOC. This was due primarily to IT being completely shut down at the courthouse, and servers being moved when the courthouse had to be evacuated. IT personnel became quickly overwhelmed saving county equipment and putting servers back on line once it was determined the courthouse was safe from flood waters. With the support of Lt. Colonel Ellingsberg and Corporal Morse, the TOC was able to sustain operations when initially established at the jail. When our federal partners moved in to the TOC, IT assisted as they were able, in order to get them additional phone lines. When the TOC moved over to the West Fargo Police Department, Lt. Colonel Ellingsberg brought over our computers and set them up with the assistance of West Fargo IT personnel, James Anderson. Mr. Anderson proved to be a valuable asset for us, and he was more than willing to assist in whatever we needed. Without him programming computers and phones, we would not have been able to sustain our operation as effectively. He was particularly helpful too with accommodating the needs of the other agencies that came in to assist with the flood fight. We later learned of the connection between West Fargo IT and Cass County IT. Mr. Terry Schmaltz is the director of both departments through the ND Association of Counties. After the TOC moved operations back to the Cass County Jail, we realized the demands on the IT department continued to be great, and they met our needs for computer access and phone lines as best they could. We recognize that, for any future events such as this, demands on the IT department will be similar and staff will need to continue to be resourceful and exercise patience.



The Cass County Jail Nursing Staff, who are contracted through Fargo/Cass Public Health, provided medical support to include approximately 60 tetanus shots for responding personnel. Nursing staff also provided the TOC with first aide and other medical supplies for all personnel.

The Cass County Highway Department was integral in the flood fight. Aside from being the primary staging area for Marine Operations, they were always accessible by phone, were very responsive, polite and professional. As we received calls from the public or deputies in the field about dangerous roads, they took all our information and got the job done.



Without their crews out in the county marking trouble spots and barricading impassible roads, the Cass County Sheriff's Office would have had a number of significant public safety issues.

The Cass County Highway Department also provided maintenance support to the US Coast Guard's airboats. This was particularly so in the early days of the flood, when ice not only made rescues difficult, but also damaged their equipment.

Cass County's Emergency Management was staged at the EOC throughout the flood fight. They provided not only the first link to the public, but a wealth of resource information about the county and public safety.

Cass County Social Services also had a presence at the EOC. They served as a liaison and coordinated efforts to get supplies to families in need through the TOC and deputies in the field.

LESSONS LEARNED:

Up until the first crest of the Red River, there were frequent references by citizens and community leaders/rescue personnel to the flood of 1997, and some reference to the flood of 2006. After the first crest and as this weather event lingered, it became apparent that this was a totally different event and needed to be approached as such.



Radio communications: Prior to the flood event, partner agencies had no strong working relationships. In spite of this fact, interagency communication developed over the first few days of this event. Each agency handled communications internally by utilizing their own resources and shared information at the command level in the Tactical Operations Center. From a safety standpoint as well as an operational standpoint, a reliable method of communication among partner agencies was crucial.

Because of limited interagency communication, especially at the field level, partner agency field staff was unaware of incidents during the flood event; medical, fire and law enforcement related. The use of “plain language” in radio communications was a concept reinforced during daily operations. “Plain language” protocols or procedures facilitate communication between personnel at the lowest common denominator by requiring that all officials talk to each other using common English language words, whenever possible, during mutual-aid or interoperability situations.

Communications technical managers and partner agency participants would have benefitted greatly from a communications briefing. None of the partner agencies were familiar with operational communications. Briefings were held at an agency level within given agencies during the course of normal operations, daily operations, but not at the Tactical Operations level.

The lack of interoperability hindered communications. A lack of interoperable communications between the officers hindered officers’ ability to exchange information, request assistance, or provide status updates in a timely manner. Although some in-field

operational solutions were employed; cellular telephones; radio-based interoperability solutions would have increased the efficiency of the operations and drastically improved officer safety.

Tactical communications planning based on the regional response as the flood event evolved enhanced operational response. Planning for potential event response and on-scene command and control in the regional response area were a strategic function that encompassed communications. Because of the large geographical area involved a specific plan was developed. Some of the elements of the plan included:

- Designation of a search and rescue (SAR) frequency.
- Procuring portable radios to be used by SAR watercraft and vehicles.
- Erecting portable repeater towers strategically in the response area.

Cellular telephone coverage in rural areas of the response area is, at times, quite limited. During the entire flood event, no existing cellular tower quit working. Had the use of cellular telephones for communications been interrupted all field operations would have been greatly hindered if not ceased to function. Here again the importance of reliable radio communications at the field level was shown.

Technical staff with the ability to reprogram radios is critical. In the initial flood response search and rescue operations were taking place in a limited area involving one jurisdiction. As the regional flood response developed, it became readily apparent having the ability to reprogram radios on site is essential. As members of the partner agencies were deployed in the flood response, the need for additional radios was identified. As these radios were brought into service radio user instruction was provided.

Incident command: expand personnel base trained in NIMS. This is accomplished by defining the skill sets needed for these positions and comparing that information to the personnel resources of the department. Specific training associated with NIMS should be provided to existing response staff. This training will ensure consistency and predictability in the department's response and recovery. It is vital that once the command system is identified and implemented, the system is strictly adhered to. If confidence is not demonstrated in the system, processes may fail as individuals reach outside the scope of their positions to ensure tasks are accomplished. The system is constructed to ensure accountability. Failing to follow the structure as recommended through training may cause miscommunications and inefficiencies to occur.

Relationship with State EOC: Closing of I 94 from Fargo to Jamestown: The closing of I 94 from Fargo to Jamestown was poorly handled and communicated. On March 27, 2009 the State of North Dakota began moving personnel from the North Dakota Highway Patrol (NDHP), South Dakota Highway Patrol (SDHP) and U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) into Cass County. While the movement of these personnel into Cass County was easily noticed by Cass County Sheriff's Office personnel, the belief was the state was staging resources in case of a major catastrophic event. The movement of these personnel into Cass County was never communicated to Cass County Government personnel by the State EOC or by State DES personnel.

On March 27th without any prior notification or consultation with local authorities, the State EOC ordered the closure of I-94 for the evacuation of Fargo. The closure worked very well. Every on/off ramp was sealed tight and nobody was able to ingress I-94 from the west. If the County of Cass, City of Fargo or the City of West Fargo had ordered a mass evacuation, the procedure would have worked well. However, a mass evacuation from Cass County, specifically the City of Fargo was not ordered and therefore the mandatory closure of I-94 was not needed. This closure would not have occurred had the State of North Dakota DES/EOC command personnel consulted with the Cass County Sheriff, City of Fargo Police Chief or City of West Fargo leadership. While meetings concerning mandatory evacuation from specific areas of Cass County and the City of Fargo occurred between County/City leadership with the Governor and the Adjutant General, it was obvious the incident commander at the State EOC ordered the closure at either a pre-set time or without consulting the Governor and/or Adjutant General prior to ordering the closure. Had he done this, it would have been communicated to him that the City of Fargo was not ordering a mass evacuation and the interstate should not be closed.

The closure caused confusion with all the local law enforcement entities, (Cass County Sheriff's Office, Fargo Police Department and West Fargo Police Department) media outlets and the public because there was no local law enforcement senior official who knew what was occurring. Sheriff Laney and Chief Ternes both contacted the other because they didn't know who ordered the closure and were unaware it was going to happen. There was also a strong fear factor sent to the local population because it was dropped on them without prior communication. One local law enforcement officer called his family and told them "get out now, they know something they aren't telling us!" This event was a debacle and should not have occurred. Active communication from the Incident Commander or the Director of DES to local law enforcement and government officials would have kept this incident from happening.

Assignment of Resources without Local Awareness: On Saturday, March 28, 2009, while touring the shelter set up at Central Cass School in Casselton, North Dakota, Sheriff Laney was introduced to Joe Lowe of the Rocky Mountain Incident Management Team who informed him they were there to "take over air operations". When asked who had sent them, Mr. Lowe replied they had been requested by the State of North Dakota, specifically by the Joint Operations Center (JOC) to assist in mass evacuations and medical evacuations. He informed Sheriff Laney they had 26 aircraft staged at Hector Airport and they had been in our theatre of operations since Wednesday March 25, 2009. Sheriff Laney met with their team and a plan was developed to integrate the evacuation system into the current air/boat ops plan being conducted by the U.S. Coast Guard staged out of the Cass County Sheriff's Office TOC. The plan was developed by the JOC, The Rocky Mountain Incident Management Team and local responders. This only occurred after their presence was made known. If a major disaster had occurred prior to this, nobody would have initially called for their assistance. Also, it would have surprised all local incident command when they showed up and they would not have been briefed on

what the local response plan was to the emergency and they would not have been privy to how notification for rescue/evacuation was being conducted.

The contact with Joe Lowe was the first anyone in Cass County knew of their presence in the County. Sheriff Laney consulted with both Dave Rogness, the Cass County Emergency Manager, and the City of Fargo Emergency, Manager Leon Schlafman, as well as both the city of Fargo and Cass County Emergency Operations Centers. Neither of the Emergency Managers or the EOC's was aware that this Management Team or their aircraft were staged within Cass County. The fact that they were there was well received, but resources cannot be utilized if it is not known they were present. Whoever requested their presence and deployed them to our area should again have consulted with local incident command and notified them of their deployment and availability. Communication is the key to success!

Local Intent versus State EOC “bureaucratic” procedures: The WebEOC system appeared to work very well for requesting equipment, personnel and other resources from the State EOC. However there needs to be some common sense applied to requests. On two different occasions, the Cass County Sheriff's Office was contacted by other agencies for mutual aid assistance. The County of Ransom and the City of Lisbon were one request and the County of Barnes and the City of Valley City were the second request. Both requests were for personnel and equipment to respond to their flood situation. In normal times this mutual aid request would be handled between the local government agencies and the fiscal attachments would have been between the agencies. Knowing how important it was for the State EOC to be involved in the process because of the size of the flood, all the entities involved were advised to put their requests through the WebEOC first, versus straight through Cass County, so the state could put their stamp of approval on the request and then contact Cass County to deliver the request. This way the fiscal attachments were documented for both Federal and State reimbursement.

The process appeared to work well. On both occasions the State of North Dakota contacted the Cass County Emergency Manager, Dave Rogness, and asked for our assistance. We advised we would respond if requested and the State of North Dakota was so advised through proper channels. However, days later, Sheriff Laney was contacted by the Director of State Radio, Mike Lynk, and advised that since the words “mutual aid” was used in the request, the fiscal responsibility would fall to Cass County or to the agencies requesting assistance rather than the state. Sheriff Laney explained that the words mutual aid are the most commonly used words in North Dakota law enforcement for requesting assistance from fellow law enforcement agencies. Sheriff Laney explained that had the two requests been worked out between the agencies without including the State of North Dakota, he would understand that philosophy, but the fact that the agencies requesting assistance from Cass County were directed to make their request through WebEOC and follow the process and it was the State EOC who called us asking for the assistance showed the true intent of all entities trying to follow the appropriate process while in the middle of the flood fight. Sheriff Laney was again advised the words “mutual aid” being used were the problem. Sheriff Laney then suggested the State EOC change the words to the appropriate language and also suggested the State EOC should

coach the requesting agencies of the language they deem appropriate. This type of “red tape” is what causes bureaucratic frustration. It was obvious the intent of all involved was to follow the process set up by the State of North Dakota.

Conference calls: it may have been beneficial to conduct daily conference calls between Area Command and the State EOC, resulting in improved and on-going situational awareness.

Mission tracking: The availability of the FBI’s Virtual Command Center allowed the EOC and the TOC to simultaneously view inquiries made, as well as requests for service and when and how they were resolved. It was more challenging to track missions at the field level, as it was not uncommon for situations to occur spontaneously, especially when rescues were involved. In those cases information came to the TOC once the rescue was complete and the situation more under control. We learned that it was very advantageous to have a support person attached to each marine unit and the sole duty of that officer was to obtain, record and disseminate demographic data, such as; the number, names and addresses of the individuals rescued, where they intended to stay until they could return to their homes, phone numbers where they could be reached and if any family pets were included in the rescue. In the case of this event, we also tracked whether the rescue was accomplished by boat or by air. As time went on, we also learned that if rescue information was tasked from the TOC, the support officer would provide boat personnel with a separate tasking order that included the rescue location, number of individuals involved, specific directions or landmarks, when available, and any special needs to be considered. By doing this, information wasn’t lost or ruined during the rescue effort.

Information Technology and Equipment: As noted earlier, the discovery of GIS capabilities was instrumental in how we, with our partner agencies, navigated throughout the county, especially as areas became covered by water. We were able to identify alternate routes for access and more importantly, this helped identify residences so we could comprehensively survey citizens to determine their needs as this event unfolded. The fact that we were unaware of the availability of this technology until well in to the flood fight was unfortunate, as this resulted in wasted time and effort as well as frustration on the part of personnel.

Additionally, not being able to utilize current technology and equipment which is owned by the county is another area that needs improvement. Wireless communication for field units in “real time” is possible if IT would allow access. Being able to check current water levels, the forecast, etc. would have been largely beneficial as we were planning on the fly. In a nutshell, we need to be able to communicate and obtain information in the field however the current mindset doesn’t allow that to happen.

Also noted earlier was the lack of technical support at the Tactical Operations Centers established at both the Jail and the West Fargo Police Department. The rate at which assisting personnel joined the flood fight was such that having a dedicated support person, at least for a portion of each day, could have been easily justified. This issue and

the problems with radio communications were without question, the most challenging and possibly the most unnecessary that we had to deal with during this effort.

CONCLUSIONS/ANALYSIS OF MISSION OUTCOMES:

Throughout the response, multiple missions were accepted and completed. All staff involved did an exceptional job of adapting and overcoming adversities during this event. Staff members who had never worked together before functioned as a team. Staff demonstrated commitment to the citizens of Cass County by working long hours, completing duties not part of normal day-to-day operations, and showing a willingness to volunteer.

“Coming together is a beginning. Keeping together is progress. Working together is success.” This quote from Henry Ford illustrates the importance of working as a team to achieve success. The Sheriff’s Office has come together to respond, supported each other through the long hours and sacrifice of response and the ongoing recovery. Now is the time to implement improvements to work together more successfully in future events.

