



BUFFALO COUNTY / CITY OF KEARNEY EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT OFFICE 2019 SUMMARY



**“2019”
THE YEAR
OF THE FLOOD**

BUFFALO COUNTY / CITY OF KEARNEY EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

Mission Statement

To provide Buffalo County residents, businesses and industries, non-profit organizations, emergency responders, volunteers, and local governments the education and support necessary to reduce the loss of life and human suffering; to minimize property damage and to protect the community from all types of disasters through a comprehensive, risk-based, all-hazard emergency management program.

Values Statement

Emergency Management is by function and by law a cooperative effort on all levels of government and the private sector. At the local level, Emergency Management is concerned with the protection and education of the public from the hazards and risks that affect them. The credibility of the program resides in the credibility of the program advocate. The Emergency Manager should exemplify the utility of the emergency management program.

The job of the Emergency Manager is defined by law. It does, however, have a moral basis. The emergency manager must balance the duties authorized and required by law with the moral obligation of the public employee to do everything possible to protect and preserve the safety of citizens in the city and county.

Emergency Management expresses a strong commitment to provide interagency cooperation and coordination of activities relating to mitigation of, prevention of, preparedness for, response to, and recovery from disasters and emergencies.

Vision Statement

The goal of the Buffalo County Emergency Management Department is to educate the Citizens of Buffalo County about their ongoing role in preparing for emergencies through education, community outreach, and training. By creating an increased emphasis on disaster preparedness, the Buffalo County Emergency Management Department looks forward to reinforcing interdepartmental communications and cooperation throughout our county. By means of creating a community culture of preparedness and fostering partnerships with local public and private groups and businesses, it is our goal that Buffalo County will work as a community, with neighbor helping neighbor, when a disaster strikes.

ORGANIZATION

The Buffalo County Emergency Manager is an appointed position and is subject to the direction and control of the Buffalo County Board of Commissioners but is managed (supervised day-to-day) by the Buffalo County Sheriff and Kearney Chief of Police.

The position of the Buffalo County Emergency Manager is defined by law but nevertheless encompasses a moral obligation to balance his/her duties authorized and required by law with the moral obligation of the public employee to do everything possible to protect and preserve the safety of citizens within his/her community.

The incumbent is granted broad and extensive authority in determining program priorities and is responsible in determining the best way to support all local, state and national programs and objectives. The broad duties of this position include but not limited to the following:

- Articulate a strong commitment of interagency cooperation and work with all elected and appointed officials of all local, State and Federal governments.
- Maintain and manage the Emergency Operation Center and/or the mobile response unit.
- Provide coordination of all activities relating to the mitigation, prevention, preparedness, response, and recovery from disasters and/or emergencies.
- Serve as the principal advisor to the Buffalo County Board of Commissioners in emergency incidents.
- Manage, maintain, document, and appropriately utilize public and private resources.

Emergency Management Concept

This section describes the emergency management concept but it is not inclusive of the everyday meetings and activities of the Emergency Management Office for Buffalo County.

Comprehensive Emergency Management: The four phases of comprehensive emergency management are mitigation, preparedness, response, and recovery. Each phase results from the previous one and establishes the requirements of the next.

The Four Phases of a comprehensive Emergency Management program is certainly simplified in the above paragraph. In addition, the Emergency Management department is responsible for:

- Reporting to a number of departments and agencies at the local, state and federal levels
- Meeting State and Federal mandates and requirements
- Maintaining outreach programs

- Grant management
- Maintaining emergency operations and equipment; for example, the Emergency Operation Center, Emergency Mobile Response unit, and Generators, etc.
- Volunteer management and coordination
- Attendance of continuing education, training, exercises and conferences
- Conducting training, drills, exercises and misc. planning activities
- Maintaining and operating a county wide ID credentialing system for County employees, Emergency Volunteers, EOC staff, county wide first responder agencies, appointed and elected officials, Jail service providers (volunteers and the Justice Center)
- Manage and maintain the county wide notification systems
- Provide annual budget to the Sheriff, Kearney Police Chief and the county board
- Complete claims and payroll
- Work with Emergency Management partners and develop and negotiate agreements such as contracts, MOA's, MOU's, and LOA's for the emergency program.

Emergency Operations Center (EOC): EOC operations varied from full-scale operations lasting more than one operational period to the lowest levels lasting just a few hours. The Emergency Operation Center was opened 13 different times for weather type events, wide spread flooding, winter storms and blizzards, to thunderstorm warnings and tornado warnings throughout the year. Two of the EOC operations were March 13th and July 8th both times in full operation for 5 days straight. March 13th blizzard and flood incident resulted in a federally declared disaster for rural Buffalo County also including the communities of Pleasanton, Ravenna, Gibbon and Shelton. The July 8th and 9th flood incident resulted in a federally declared disaster for rural Buffalo County also including the communities of Elm Creek, Odessa, Kearney and again Ravenna and Gibbon.

TRAINING



As required by the Nebraska Emergency Management Act, Section 81-829.46 (6), which requires the “*Director to devote full time to the duties of emergency management, and that he/she shall be qualified and certified in accord with criteria established for the state by the Nebraska Emergency Management Agency.*” The Director has completed the following:

- NEMA Basic Certification before being hired and again in (2012)
- NEMA’s Advanced Certification for Emergency Management (2005)
- NIMS compliances I.S. 100, 200, 700, and 800 (2005)

- FEMA Professional Certification was obtained (2006)
- The NIMS 300 and 400 certification was accomplished (2007)
- NIMS 701, 702, 703 and 704 certification was completed (2010)

On a continual basis the Director discovers training opportunities such as continuing education, new technologies, online classes, regional training and conferences, etc. In 2019, the Director sent 15 assorted local or regional training opportunities to First Responder agencies.

Additional training and exercises planned, conducted and participated in this year are as follows.

TRAINING/EXERCISE 2019

- State wide tornado drill-exercise
- Community Active Shooter/Mass Causality Full Scale exercise
- Amateur radio Winter Field day communication Full Scale exercise
- Kearney Regional Airport Disaster Full Scale exercise
- Knowledge Center Functional exercise
- TRIMRS regional Functional exercise
- Statewide Tracking and Credentialing workshop
- SALT Triage training
- Severe Weather Spotter Training
- MRC Stop the Bleed/Hands only CPR training
- Be Ready Nebraska Website training
- Planning Section Chief training
- Disaster Procurement training
- Resource Leader training
- Knowledge Center training
- Com-T (Communications Technician) training

STATE / FEDERAL REQUIREMENTS

1. Conduct or participate in a minimum of three exercises annually (per Emergency Management Performance Grant requirements)
2. Meet, track, and maintain a database of all State and Federal NIMS requirements for emergency management, first responder agencies, and chief appointed and elected officials of IS courses 100, 200, 300, 400, 700, 701, 702, 703, 704, and 800
3. Annually review and update a three year exercise calendar
4. Update Local Emergency Operations Plan on an annual basis
5. Complete online grant documents (BISR, and GMS)
6. Complete performance quarterly reports
7. Annually update online NIMS-Cast documents

LOCAL EMERGENCY PLANNING COMMITTEE (LEPC)

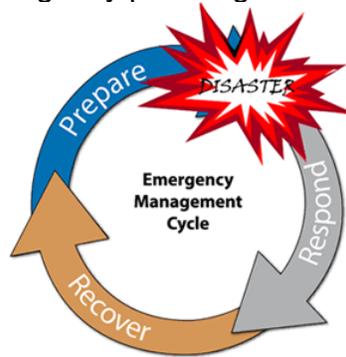


REPORTS

All copies of Tier II reports filed by facilities in Buffalo County, that are required by the Community Right-To-Know Act to report hazardous substances, are placed on file in the Emergency Management Director's office. The facilities are required to update the reports on an annual basis and are reviewed by the Director for the HAZMAT Annex of the LEOP. A compiled TIER II report by the Buffalo County Emergency Manager is sent to the SERC and the Buffalo County Board Members for their review. This report is also sent to the all Buffalo County Fire Departments the Buffalo County Hazmat Team and the City of Kearney point of contact, Police Chief Bryan Waugh.

CONTINGENCY PLANS

The Director maintains all contingency plans filed by facilities in Buffalo County that are required to file the plans, or do so because they understand the importance of providing the information for emergency planning and response.



RMP (RISK MANAGEMENT PLANS)

Ten facilities in Buffalo County were required by law to file Risk Management Plans. This is a requirement by the EPA. The Risk Management Plans are on file in the Director's office and are also available on the secure portion of the EPA website. The following is a list of the RMP facilities.

- Darling Ingredients Inc. (Ravenna)
- Agricultural Services Inc. (Shelton)
- Aurora Coop (Buda)

- Aurora Coop (Gibbon)
- Aurora Coop (Sodtown)
- Bowie Fertilizer, Inc. (Miller)
- Bowie Fertilizer, Inc. (Riverdale)
- Gibbon Packing (Gibbon)
- The Andersons (Gibbon)
- Trotter Fertilizer (Pleasanton)



The Director has not received notification involving radioactive transports of spent fuel and low specific activity materials prior to the shipments entering Buffalo County for a number of years. When notified, information is sent to the appropriate agencies that would respond in a Hazardous Material or Radiological incident. Due to the radiation accident in 2015 at Carlsbad New Mexico there have been no radioactive transports through Nebraska from 2015 to 2019.



EMERGENCY WARNING SYSTEM

The Emergency Operation Center (EOC) and the Backup Dispatch Center are primary locations for weather operations supporting all of Buffalo County. The EOC was operational 13 times during 2019, all for weather events to include both winter and spring type weather. The Backup Dispatch Center was operational two times during 2019 and was tested and trained on several times throughout the year.

Sirens were sounded three times for weather events this year. Sirens were sounded in Pleasanton twice and Ravenna once on May 28th at 12:18, 12:33 and 12:44 for Tornado warnings.

Monthly tests of the alarm radios, pagers and outdoor warning systems were conducted throughout the year. Preventative maintenance services on the sirens were

conducted during the month of March before the spring severe weather season within the Kearney area. The monthly tests of the outdoor warning sirens were conducted out of the EOC, Fire Station II and the Primary Dispatch at the Law Enforcement Center.

2019 Emergency Management Overview

This is an overview of the 2019 annual report and its purpose is to highlight the major activities of the Buffalo County / City of Kearney Emergency Management office.

Test of Emergency Warning Systems (Alarm radios, pagers and outdoor sirens)	
01-03-2019	Outdoor warning sirens test was successful. It was reported that the Cotton mill siren did not sound during the test.
02-07-2019	The Outdoor warning sirens in the City of Kearney and Buffalo County was not conducted on due to extreme cold weather.
03-07-2019	Several Outdoor warning sirens did not sound in Kearney during the test. Platte Valley communications conducted preventive maintenance to correct these issues. The Statewide Tornado Drill was on March 27 th .
04-04-2019	Outdoor warning sirens test was successful. A number of sirens did not sound again in Kearney during the test. Platte Valley communications conducted preventive maintenance and again looked at the sirens that did not sound during the monthly test.
05-02-2019	Outdoor warning sirens test was successful. The siren on 64 th and Ave N did not sound in Kearney during the test. Platte Valley communications looked at this siren again.
06-06-2019	Outdoor warning sirens test was successful. There was an issue with the Amherst siren during the month; Platte Valley fixed a bad tone filter. No other issues were reported with sirens throughout the county.
07-04-2019	Outdoor warning sirens test was successful. All sirens functioned as they should.
08-01-2019	Outdoor warning sirens test was successful. All sirens functioned as they should.
09-05-2019	Outdoor warning sirens test was successful. There was an issue reported with the siren in the Elm Creek Park. After inspection it was determined that someone had turned the power off to the siren at the siren pole.

10-03-2019	Outdoor warning sirens test was successful. Three Sirens in Kearney were reported as malfunctioning during the test. On 3 rd and 3 rd street, 11 th and M, and in the alley off of 15 th and 1 st street. Platte Valley communications looked at these sirens.
11-07-2019	Outdoor warning sirens test was successful. Two of the three Sirens in Kearney that were reported as malfunctioning during the October test still did not go off during the test. On 3 rd and 3 rd street, and in the alley of 15 th and 1 st street. Platte Valley communications reported that these sirens have older controllers and do not (hear) well when in a “stack” but when sounded for Kearney only they do go off. The only way to resolve the issue is to purchase new controllers for these sirens.
12-05-2019	Outdoor warning sirens test was successful. All sirens functioned as they should.

2019 Kearney Area Precipitation				
	Monthly Rain	*Monthly Snow	2019 Rain Total	2019 Snow Total
January	.00”	0”	.00”	0”
February	1.15”	15”	1.15”	15”
March	4.78”	12”	5.93”	27”
April	1.80”	1”	7.73”	28”
May	6.81”	0”	14.54”	28”
June	5.50”	0”	20.04”	28”
July	11.31”	0”	31.35”	28”
August	3.71”	0”	35.06”	28”
September	2.40”	0”	37.46”	28”
October	1.80”	2”	39.26”	30”
November	1.74”	11”	41.00”	41”
December	2.00”	13”	43.00”	54”
<p>*Snow totals are approximate amounts. **Rain and snow totals are reported separately because snow is not recorded as precipitation at the Kearney Airport recording site.</p>				

2019 High and Low Temperatures					
Month	High	Low	High Average	Low Average	Overall Average
January	54	-2	35	18	27
February	58	-8	28	9	18
March	76	-15	43	24	33
April	87	24	65	38	52
May	92	31	67	47	57
June	95	46	80	56	68
July	95	53	85	64	75
August	92	52	82	62	72
September	92	45	82	57	70
October	95	9	60	33	46
November	75	0	51	25	38
December	61	8	41	22	31

Weather Activity 2019	
January	There was no significant weather to report for the month
February	A winter weather watch issued for the weekend of the 15 th and 16 th and winter weather advisory issued on the 23 rd . The Interstate was shutdown from Omaha to Lexington due to accidents near York due to blizzard conditions in that area.
March	A winter weather warning issued for March 13 th at 3:33 am and 8:54 pm, a blizzard warning was issued on the 13 th at 22:48 and Flash Flood warnings issued on the 13 th at 06:07 am and 10:48 pm. A special weather statement was issued on the 20 th at 18:30 for thunderstorms that has a possible tornado in them. Spotters were called out in the Kearney area for this event. The Interstate was shut down from Ogallala to Grand Island for the blizzard and several other highways closed due to flooding. There was significant damage reported due to areal flooding and flash flooding from storms on the 13 th and 14 th .
April	A blizzard warning was issued on the 9 th at 17:02 that shut down Interstate 80 for about 12 hours. A thunderstorm watch was issued on the 10 th at 19:39 and thunderstorm warnings the 10 th 22:32 the 22 nd at 20:04 and on the 26 th at 22:53.
May	May was a busy weather month. Thunderstorm watches were issued on the 5 th at 16:39, on the 26 th at 18:44, on the 27 th at 20:49 and the 28 th at 02:54. Thunderstorm warnings were issued on the 17 th at 17:22, on the

	23 rd at 19:25 and 20:15, on the 27 th at 23:03 and on the 28 th at 01:00 and 02:14. A tornado watch was issued on the 17 th at 15:59 and tornado warnings were issued on the 28 th at 12:18, 12:33 and 12:44. Areas in Buffalo county were also included in a flood advisory over the Memorial Day weekend and into the following week. There was some hail damage reported in the Kearney area.
June	June continued to be a busy weather month. Thunderstorm watches were issued on the 8 th at 15:50 and extended at 21:55, on the 20 th at 22:42 and the 25 th at 16:57. Thunderstorm warnings were issued on the 4 th at 01:24, on the 6 th at 16:17 and on the 21 st at 00:25, 01:00, 01:10 and 01:50. There was no significant damage reported to this office due to storms.
July	July continued to be a very busy weather month creating major flood disasters in several of our communities. A thunderstorm watch was issued on the 4 th at 23:09, thunderstorm warnings were issued on the 4 th at 23:56, on the 5 th at 00:39, on the 8 st at 19:18, 19:57, 23:34, on the 9 th at 00:14 and on the 13 th at 01:42. There was significant damage reported due to areal flooding and flash flooding from storms on the 8 th and 9 th .
August	August continued to be a busy weather month creating additional flooding in Buffalo County (Ravenna area). Thunderstorm watches were issued on the 7 th at 03:15, 11 th at 22:39 and the 29 th at 16:20. Thunderstorm warnings were issued on the 7 th at 03:15, on the 12 th at 01:05 and 01:43, on the 21 st at 01:39, 02:27, 02:59 and 26 th at 06:20 and 06:51. Flash flood warning issued on the 21 st at 02:22.
September	September a thunderstorm watch was issued on the 11 th at 23:57. Thunderstorm warnings were issued on the 12 th at 00:44 on the 30 th at 19:05, 19:40, 20:32 and 20:57, on the 21 st at 01:39, 02:27, 02:59, on the 26 th at 06:20 and 06:51. Flash flood watch was issued on the 29 th through October 1.
October	October 21 st a high wind warning was issued at 09:49. A winter weather advisory was issued for Buffalo County on the 29 th .
November	November 25 th at 08:48 a winter storm warning was issued for Buffalo County. The 26 th and 27 th brought 6 to 9 inches of snow in the Buffalo County area, closing Interstate 80 east bound for a short time. November 29 th a high wind warning was issued at 12:52. Wind gust were recorded at 55 and 60 mph in Kearney area.
December	December 28 th at 16:23 a winter storm warning was issued for Buffalo County. The 28 th and 29 th brought 11 inches of snow in the Buffalo

	County area, closing Interstate 80 east and west bound from North Platte to Grand Island on the 29 th and 30 th . Most State highways in Buffalo County were closed and or impassable from the 29 th to late in the day on the 30 th .
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Emergency Activities 2019	
January	There were ice jam issues on the Platte River between Gibbon and the Minden interchange the last week of January. While the river was out of its banks in many places, only one home and roadway was impacted.
February	There continued to be ice jam concerns on the Platte River through Buffalo County causing low land flooding during the month of February.
March	With four to six inches of snow on the ground and an additional three to four inches of snow falling March 13 th with high straight line winds caused a Blizzard with an additional three to four inches of rain within a 48 hour period caused massive flooding across the state of Nebraska to include Buffalo County. Flooding homes, businesses, parts of communities and closing roads and highways. Local, State, and Federal disaster declarations were declared for both Individual and Public assistance. The Emergency Operation Center was opened the evening of the 13 th and continued full operation for 5 days, and then part time operations for the rest of the month working on response and recovery efforts.
July	Due to the areal and flash flooding from the 8 th and the 9 th an emergency declaration was declared for the City of Kearney and Buffalo County. Areas along the Platte River, Turkey creek, Buffalo creek, Elm Creek and the Wood River experienced major flooding to include the communities of Elm Creek, Odessa, Kearney and Gibbon. Dawson county and Adams county experienced flooding and declared an emergency as well. Much of the southern parts of Buffalo County received 5 to 10 inches of rain with in a 6 to 8 hour period. Emergency protective measures were initiated in all the affected communities from sandbagging to barricading, emergency evacuations and rescue from homes vehicles and businesses. There has been millions and millions of dollars lost in damages to government infrastructure, homes, personal property, cars, and businesses throughout the county. The Emergency Operation Center was opened the evening of the 8 th and continued full operation for 5 days, and then part time operations for the rest of the month working on response and recovery efforts.
August	Sheriff's office responded to a barricaded subject incident in the county

	requesting the MRU on the 17 th and the KPD requested the MRU for an incident in the City of Kearney on the 18 th I responded and set up the MRU for about an hour until the incident was cleared. The incident in the city turned out to be a hoax.
September	Emergency Management responded to a drowning incident in the county south of Shelton at the request of the Sheriff's office and the Shelton Fire Chief on the 19 th . The Sheriff's office requested the MRU and the Fire Chief requested IC support.
October	Kearney Fire Chief reported a fuel spill from a two-vehicle accident on Coal Chute and Sweetwater.
November	Buffalo County Sheriff's Deputy reported a fuel spill from a two-vehicle accident on Highway 44 near Amherst.

Training Opportunities Sent Out 2019	
January	1
February	1
March	1
April	2
May	1
June	1
July	1
August	1
September	1
October	3
November	0
December	2

2019 Meetings and Events Attended by the Buffalo County Emergency Management Director	
January 2	Attended the Emergency Management CONFAB and South Central PET regional meeting.
January 3	Attended the county elected officials swearing in ceremony.
January 6,14,22,28	Participated in the weekly Ice Jam webinar meetings.

January 10	Attended the LEC generator replacement meeting.
January 11	Hosted the NRIN meeting at the EOC.
January 14	Participated in the Full Scale Community exercise final meeting.
January 16	Hosted the MRC meeting at the EOC, where I was voted in as the President of the groups again.
January 19	Hosted the Amateur radio meeting at the EOC.
January 22	Attended the County Board meeting to have Interlocal, and MOU's for the South Central PET Regional agreements.
January 23	Hosted the Buffalo County Medical table meeting.
January 24	Participated in the community full-scale active shooter exercise. Also met with County IT at the EOC radio tower building to see what it will take to move the D-Star computer to the EOC Amateur radio room. A plan was developed to make this happen.
January 25,28	Participated in the Knowledge Center webinars.
January 26	Hosted the Amateur radio Winter Field day exercise at the EOC.
February 1	Hosted the NRIN meeting at the EOC.
February 6	Participated in a new knowledge software training/presentation I participated in a Be Ready Nebraska website training, and attended the Regional Emergency Management CONFAB.
February 12	Attended the County Board meeting to provide information on the South Central wildland fire planning process. The Board appointed myself to this planning team.
February 15	Attended the TRIMRS steering committee meeting.
February 16	Hosted the Amateur radio meeting at the EOC.
February 20	Participated in an After Action Review meeting for the Active Shooter Table top exercise.
March 12	Attended a NWS webinar at the EOC
March 13	Airport exercise meeting at the Kearney regional airport. I attended another NWS webinar.

March 16	Hosted the Amateur radio meeting at the EOC.
March 19	Hosted a COAD meeting at the EOC for the flood disaster in Buffalo County and the State of Nebraska.
March 21	Another disaster related COAD meeting was held at the Mid Nebraska Community services building.
March 22	Hosted another COAD meeting at the EOC, all disaster related in support of those that suffered damage to home and business, from the blizzard and flooding event.
March 28	Another disaster related COAD meeting was held at the United Way of Kearney to go over funding distribution for disaster victims. I participated in a (PA) Public Assistance NEMA conference call and met with Linda at the Highway department to go over FEMA disaster reporting paperwork.
March 29	Met with the (PA/IA) Public Assistance/Individual Assistance FEMA representatives at the EOC.
April 15	Met with the FEMA liaison to discuss events going on in Buffalo County after the disaster.
April 16	Attended a Kearney Airport full scale exercise planning meeting and attended a County budget meeting in the County board conference room.
April 18	Participated in the Employee Medical screening.
April 19	Hosted the NRIN meeting at the EOC and participated in the TRIMRS meeting via video conference.
April 20	Hosted the amateur radio meeting at the EOC.
April 23	Attended a new phone systems meeting in the County boardroom.
April 24	Met with the FEMA volunteer liaison to discuss the COAD group and its transition to a Long Term Recovery Group.
May 1	Attended the CONFAB and the SCPET regional meeting held in Holdrege this month.
May 2	Attended NEMA disaster conference call at the EOC.
May 3	Hosted a FEMA meeting for the new FEMA lesion staff. I also

	participated in an Everbridge notification conference call.
May 7	Attended a Full Scale planning meeting at the Kearney Regional Airport.
May 8	Was on Talk of the Town radio program discussing Emergency Management and Emergency preparedness programs. I met with the Red Cross to try and identify additional disaster victims in Buffalo County that would be eligible for additional assistance.
May 9	Participated in the Disaster procurement training and the FEMA initial PDMG conference call.
May 10	Participated in a TRIMRS meeting via the video zoom system.
May 14	Attended the Buffalo County Board meeting to be officially appointed as the point of contact for Buffalo County DR4420 Federal disaster.
May 15	Held a Central NE Medical Reserve Corp. meeting at the EOC.
May 16	Met with Platte Valley Communications to have the Dish Network dish moved at the fleet maintenance building and meet with Idea Bank to start a responder education project.
May 18	Hosted the Amateur radio meeting at the EOC.
May 29	Participated in a FEMA public assistance lesion close out briefing call.
June 4	I and the Highway department met with FEMA for the initial flooding disaster scoping meeting. This meeting was held at the Buffalo County Highway department.
June 5	Attended the regional monthly emergency management CONFAB meeting in Grand Island.
June 7	Attended a TRIMRS budget meeting.
June 11	Attended an Emergency Central Nebraska MRC meeting to discuss the future of the MRC if TRIMRS is successful in defunding the MRC.
June 14	Hosted the NRIN meeting at the EOC.
June 15	Hosted the Amateur radio meeting at the EOC.
July 11	Attended a property managers meeting at the request of the Visitors Center.

July 12	Hosted the NRIN meeting and attended a COAD meeting to work on flood related issues.
July 13	Met with city/county officials, Congressman Smith, and Senator Fisher to discuss the floods throughout Buffalo County.
July 17	Attended the Regional Emergency Management CONFAB and the South Central PET Region meeting. The meeting was held in Hastings this month
July 20	Hosted the monthly local Amateur Radio club meeting at the EOC. I attended the County Board meeting to discuss and get approval on the 5-year rewrite of the LEOP.
July 29	We met as a COAD group again to discuss progress in helping people recover and identify people with unmet needs.
July 31	Hosted the Regional Amateur radio meeting at the EOC.
August 8	We had a FEMA meeting at the Buffalo county Highway department.
August 12	The COAD met to discuss continued assistance through the Long Term Recovery group.
August 15	Met with the Kearney Hub to finalize the article on Amateur Radio and its commitment to volunteering for the Communities and Emergency Management.
August 16	Participated in the monthly TRIMRS steering committee meeting.
August 17	Hosted the Amateur radio meeting at the EOC.
August 19	Met with City of Kearney representatives to discuss the next steps in the recovery process as it pertains to FEMA. As well as the things that need to be accomplished, regulations that have to be followed when requesting FEMA assistance and federal funding in the recovery process.
August 22	Attended the Silver Jacket meeting in Wood River with Buffalo county representatives, 2 board members, highway department superintendent, planning and zoning, City of Gibbon administrator, and Shelton fire chief. There were a number of representatives from Hall County as well. Hosting the meeting was the Army Corp. of engineers, DNR, Central Platte NRD and others. Topics of discussion were study of the Platte River flows (section22) study of the Woodriver flows (Silver Jacket project) flooding issues along the Woodriver, future mitigation as well as hazardous mitigation projects such as the buyback program, moving homes and or filling basement

	and raising the home.
August 26	Met with FEMA reps for the July flooding, meeting was for discussion on field agents working in communities trying to get people to register, the DRC Disaster Recovery Center, introduction of the (VAL) Volunteer Assistance Liaison, and the FEMA area Rep Liaison.
August 29	Met with FEMA at the Highway department for site surveys of flood damages that have not yet been fixed.
September 4	Attended the Regional CONFAB and the South Central PET regional meeting in Aurora.
September 6	Met with City of Kearney representatives for disaster related updates. A COAD/LTRG Community Organizations Active in Disaster / Long Term Recovery Group meeting was held at the EOC to discuss assistance provided to survivors of the flooding disaster as well as additional assistance that can still be provided.
September 11	A COAD meeting was held to bring in organizations that had been missing in the group as well as conduct reelections.
September 13	Emergency Management hosted the NRIN meeting at the EOC.
September 14	Hosted the Regional Amateur radio meeting.
September 18	A CNMRC meeting was held at the EOC where the new contract for services and payments was reviewed and signed by the group between the CNMRC and Two Rivers Public Health / TRIMRS.
October 2	Met with the Regional Emergency Managers in Grand Island for the monthly CONFAB meeting.
October 3	Attended the annual pipeline emergency preparedness meeting in Holdrege.
October 4	Participated in a FEMA disaster damage exploratory call with Kearney city officials.
October 11	Met with department heads of the Two River Public Health department. This meeting was a strategy meeting on several projects that we jointly have going on to include disaster recovery updates, and functional needs registry TRIMRS and the MRC.

October 15	Attended the employee appreciation luncheon put on by the Buffalo County Board of Commissioners, and attended the quarterly NAEM meeting in Grand Island.
October 17	Attended an in person FEMA recovery scoping meeting with the City of Kearney officials at city hall.
October 18	Participated in the by monthly TRIMRS steering committee meeting. I participated by Zoom conference call.
October 19	Hosted the monthly amateur radio meeting at the EOC.
October 23	Met with the long-term recovery group at the United Way in Kearney. This group received about \$200,000.00 in grant funds from two donors that wish to remain anonymous. The LTRG is now moving forward to hire a coordinator and several case management people with this funding for continued help in individual disaster recovery.
October 28	Attended the Buffalo County Mutual Aid meeting at Kearney fire station 1.
October 30	Attended the City of Kearney winter operations meeting held at the Kearney Library.
October 31	Met via conference call with the (Buffalo Watch) representative to discuss the best way to develop a private notification group for the medical community. After the call this group was created by myself, and is now ready for contact information from the medical community for emergency type notifications.
November 5	Attended the annual NDOT winter operations meeting in Grand Island.
November 6	Attended the Emergency Management CONFAB and Regional PET meeting in North Platte.
November 7	Hosted the Greater Kearney Area COAD meeting at the EOC where we discussed the need to have continued meetings, recruitment of additional members and a short tabletop.
November 8	Hosted the monthly NRIN meeting at the EOC.
November 13	Participated in the Community Health Assessment program at the Kearney Library. Attended the LTRG Long term recovery group meeting in Kearney at the Kearney area community foundation building.

November 20	Attended the end of year South Central MRC meeting held in Grand Island.
November 25	Participated in the FEMA / City of Kearney Disaster Site inspection meeting at city hall, and hosted a weather community partners webinar at the EOC.
December 4	Attended the Regional Emergency Management CONFAB meeting in Grand Island.
December 11	Hosted the NAEM meeting at the EOC.
December 19	Participated in the FEMA follow up meeting at the Buffalo County highway department for the March DR4420 disaster.
December 23	Attended the county board meeting to discuss the MOU agreement with the Great Plains United Methodist volunteer disaster response.
December 30	Participated in an ice jam webinar hosted by the NWS. This weekly webinar is to discuss the development of ice jams on local rivers causing possible localized flooding issues.

**January 2019
Monthly Activities**

- ✓ Updates, preventive maintenance, and testing were conducted 2 times on the Response Unit and 4 times at the EOC. The VOIP lines are still not working in the EOC. The MRU was used for the Community Active Shooter Full Scale Exercise on the 24th.
- ✓ Meeting with a responder agency Chief or Command Staff; I spoke with the Gibbon Assistant Fire Chief, Amherst Fire Chief and Assistant Fire Chief in person.
- ✓ ID cards were made on four different days during the month for jail volunteers, service providers, county employees, and Justice Center card holders. New Statewide Credential ID cards were made for the Sheriff's office sworn officers, Tele-communicators, Civil Process and support staff. Jail staff still need to have pictures taken for the cards. Assessors, Buildings and Grounds, and Register of Deeds offices ID cards have all been completed.
- ✓ Several updates to the Buffalo Watch Notification system for those individuals and offices that sent changes for the city/county personnel were completed.

✓ Community partners throughout Kearney participated in the Active Shooter Drill at the Event Center. Emergency Management, Public Health, Good Samaritan Hospital, EMA, Kearney Fire, Kearney Regional Medical Center, Kearney PD, Buffalo County Sheriff's Office, Buffalo County Dispatch and Nebraska State Patrol participated in the exercise.
✓ The Platte River and the South Loup Rivers were checked several times over the month for Ice Jam issues.
✓ The Buffalo County ARES/MARC Amateur Radio club and Buffalo County Emergency Management participated in the winter field day communications exercise. This exercise provided the opportunity to test and operated all amateur radios in the EOC. 2 HF radios, 2 meter and D-Star. The exercise was a success for both short and long range communications. Both Voice and CW were tested.
✓ I conducted an Emergency Management/EOC presentation to UNK students during the month at the EOC.

February 2019 Monthly Activities

✓ Updates, preventive maintenance and testing were conducted 1 time on the Response Unit and 3 times at the EOC. The VOIP lines are still not working in the EOC.
✓ Meeting with a responder agency Chief or Command Staff; I spoke with the Elm Creek Fire Chief and Assistant Chief by phone on the 15th, the Miller Fire Chief on the 20th and spoke with the Assistant Fire Chief for Elm Creek in person.
✓ ID cards were made on two different days during the month for jail volunteers, service providers, county employees, and Justice Center card holders. Additional statewide c.redential ID cards are in the process for jail staff, district court and the Highway department. Statewide Cards were also made for the community of Ravenna during the month to include Law Enforcement, Fire, EMS, city council, library, and public works.
✓ Several updates to the Buffalo Watch notification system for those individuals and offices that sent changes for the city/county personnel were completed.
✓ The Platte River and the South Loup Rivers were checked several times over the month for Ice Jam issues.
✓ I participated in Medical Response Corp. assistance with Special Olympics in Kearney.
✓ I conducted an Emergency Management/EOC presentation to UNK students during the month at the EOC.
✓ I opened the EOC for a number of Winter Weather Webinars during the month
✓ An ICS Planning Section Chief training was held in the EOC on the 26th to the 28th.

March 2019 Monthly Activities

- ✓ Updates, preventive maintenance, and testing were conducted 1 time on the Response Unit and the EOC was in full operation most of the month. The VOIP lines are still not working in the EOC.
- ✓ Meeting with a Responder agency Chief or Command Staff; throughout the month I have spoken with all of the fire chiefs via phone several times and in person several times with Shelton, Gibbon, Elm Creek and Pleasanton. I have also spoke with each elected official in all the communities via phone and or in person throughout the month with the exception of Kearney.
- ✓ ID cards were made on two different days during the month for jail volunteers, service providers, county employees, and justice center card holders. Additional statewide credential ID cards were made for jail staff, and district court.
- ✓ March 25th through the 29th was severe weather awareness week. During that week Buffalo County participated in the Statewide Tornado Drill held on the 27th.
- ✓ March 21st Severe Weather Spotter training was hosted by this office at the fairgrounds put on by the NWS we had about 75 participants.
- ✓ 25th I was at the (FRC) Family Resource Center in Gibbon all day
- ✓ Several updates to the Buffalo Watch Notification system for those individuals and offices that sent changes for the city/county personnel were completed.
- ✓ The Platte River and the South Loup Rivers were checked several times over the month for ice jam issues.
- ✓ I took FEMA IA staff around to look at damage in Gibbon, Ravenna and Pleasanton.
- ✓ I opened the EOC twice for winter weather/flooding webinars during the month.
- ✓ The EMPG quarterly report was completed and submitted to NEMA.
- ✓ The EMPG reimbursement requests were submitted through the grants management system to NEMA.
- ✓ Much of this offices activity was dedicated to the flooding disaster in Buffalo County and its communities from the 13th through the end of the month and continues through April.

April 2019 Monthly Activities

- ✓ Updates, preventive maintenance, and testing were conducted 2 times on the Response Unit and the EOC was in operation most of the month due to the flooding event. Major updates have been completed on all the computers in the EOC. The fix ticket for the VOIP lines that are not working in the EOC had been closed out by County IT without being fixed.
- ✓ Meeting with a responder agency Chief or Command Staff; throughout the month I have spoken with the fire chiefs Gibbon, Elm Creek via phone several times.
- ✓ ID cards were made on 5 or 6 different days during the month for jail volunteers,

service providers, county employees, and Justice Center card holders. Additional Statewide Credential ID cards had been completed for district court, the Highway department.
✓ I attended the annual Nebraska Emergency Management conference April 2nd through the 5th.
✓ Much of the month had been taken up with disaster recovery activities.
✓ Due to Kearney PD in need of additional office space at the Law Enforcement Center, at the direction of the Sheriff and the Police Chief I moved my office fulltime to the EOC so that PD could use the Emergency Management office at the LEC.
✓ A DRC (disaster recovery center) was opened and operational April 16th through the 19th at the Gibbon Baptist church.
✓ Several updates to the Buffalo Watch notification system for those individuals and offices that sent changes for the city/county personnel were completed.
✓ I participated in the Disaster Applicants briefing during the month.

May 2019 Monthly Activities
✓ Updates, preventive maintenance, and testing is conducted more often and regularly in the EOC now that the EOC is the full time office of the Emergency Manager. There were 2 updates and testing completed on the MRU. The MRU new cameras were installed, a few adjustments needed to be made to the PTZ camera on the mast.
✓ The MRU was used at the Kearney Expo May 9th through the 11th. Everything worked well in the unit.
✓ Meeting with a responder agency Chief or Command Staff; throughout the month I have spoken with the fire chiefs Gibbon, Elm Creek, Amherst, Pleasanton and Miller via phone this month.
✓ I participated in the Kearney Airport full scale exercise by providing a participants and safety briefing, was a controller, evaluated the exercise and held the hot wash after the exercise was completed.
✓ I attended the Police week ceremony put on by Kearney PD.
✓ I attended and hosted a four-day Resource Unit Leader training at the EOC.
✓ ID cards were made on three different days during the month for jail volunteers, service providers, county employees, and Justice Center card holders. Additional Statewide Credential ID cards were completed for the County Board this month. Over 200 ID cards had been made since the beginning of the year.
✓ Work continues on the 5 year rewrite of the Buffalo County LEOP.
✓ I participated in 6 different conference calls/meetings with FEMA and NEMA this month moving the disaster recovery process forward.
✓ Much of the month continues to be taken up with disaster recovery activities and other severe weather events.

- ✓ Several updates to the Buffalo Watch Notification system for those individuals and offices that sent changes for the city/county personnel were completed.

**June 2019
Monthly Activities**

- ✓ Updates, preventive maintenance, and testing were conducted in the EOC and MRU. There were updates and testing done twice on the MRU. The MRU new cameras have been installed, the wiring for the mast camera was run on the outside of the flexible conduit on the mast which needed to be corrected.
- ✓ Meeting with a responder agency Chief or Command Staff; throughout the month I have spoken with the fire chiefs from Gibbon in person, and Elm Creek, Amherst, Pleasanton and Miller via phone this month. I stopped in to Kearney fire this month and spoke to everyone that was in the station, the fire chief and fire inspector were not there at the time.
- ✓ ID cards were made on 2 different days during the month for jail volunteers, service providers, county employees, and Justice Center card holders.
- ✓ Work continued on the 5 year rewrite of the Buffalo County LEOP throughout the month. With the exception of one fire department providing equipment updates the LEOP had been completed and sent in to NEMA.
- ✓ I hosted and participated in a two day knowledge center software training at the EOC. This software is an incident management tool between first responders the EOC and the medical community.
- ✓ NEMA conducted grant monitoring with this office submitting documents and a phone conference as well as an in person visit to verify equipment purchases with grant dollars.
- ✓ I conducted a severe weather preparedness walkthrough for the Glenwood public school.
- ✓ The 4th quarter report for the 2018 EMPG grant was completed and sent in to NEMA this month.
- ✓ The 2019 EMPG grant application and outline objectives were completed and submitted to NEMA for approval.
- ✓ Work continues on disaster recovery activities and other severe weather events.
- ✓ I have made several updates to the notification system for those individuals and offices that have sent me changes for the city/county personnel.

**July 2019
Monthly Activities**

- ✓ Updates, preventive maintenance, and testing were conducted in the EOC and MRU. There were updates and testing done twice on the MRU. The MRU was caught in the floodwaters and was driven through flooded streets to prevent major damage. However, while driving it through the flooded streets it broke the fan and

ruined the radiator. Damage was \$2700.00 Insurance covered all but the \$500.00 deductible. The MRU was used as the command post for the Kearney floods and for the Kearney annual cruise night.
✓ Meeting with a responder agency Chief of Command Staff; throughout the month, I have spoken with the fire chiefs in Gibbon and Elm Creek several times in person, spoke via phone with the fire chiefs in Amherst, Pleasanton, Shelton, Kearney and Miller. I stopped in to Kearney fire this month and spoke to everyone that was in the station, the fire chief and fire inspector were not there at the time.
✓ ID cards were made on 2 different days during the month for jail volunteers, service providers, county employees, and Justice Center card holders. In addition, additional ID cards have been made for several volunteers that have helped after the flooding.
✓ Work was completed on the 5-year rewrite of the Buffalo County LEOP throughout the month.
✓ The EMPG grants for 2019 was completed and submitted to NEMA.
✓ The 4th quarter EMPG report was completed for the 2018 grant and submitted to NEMA as was the 4th quarter reimbursement request. An additional \$20,000.00 was requested for unmet funding for the 2018 grant. NEMA approved these funds.
✓ Several interviews were conducted with local TV, radio and newsprint due to the July 8th and 9th flooding event.
✓ I met with FEMA and NEMA and took them around the county for individual damage assessments on July 25th and then met with another group of FEMA and NEMA on July 29th to conduct public damage assessments within the county.
✓ Work continues on disaster recovery activities both now for the March event and the July event. Much of this month has been dedicated to Disaster response and recovery for the Kearney and Buffalo County flooding that occurred July 8th though the 14th.
✓ I have made several updates to the motification system for those individuals and offices that have sent me changes for the city/county personnel.

August 2019 Monthly Activities
✓ Updates, preventive maintenance, and testing were conducted in the EOC and MRU. There were updates and testing done twice on the MRU once during the National night out event.
✓ Meeting with a responder agency Chief or Command Staff; throughout the month, I have spoken with the fire chiefs in Gibbon and Elm Creek several times via phone and spoke with the Shelton fire chief in person.
✓ ID cards were made on 4 different days during the month for jail volunteers, service providers, county employees, and Justice Center card holders. In addition, additional ID cards had been made for several volunteers that have helped after the flooding.
✓ Emergency Management participated in National Night out at Harmon Park in Kearney.

✓ The 5-year rewrite of the Buffalo County LEOP has been completed and the new emergency manuals have arrived. Distribution took place over the next several months.
✓ Set up was completed for the Knowledge Center Functional exercise at the EOC on the 19th.
✓ I conducted a Severe Weather walk through at the First Presbyterian Church in Kearney.
✓ Emergency Management hosted the Comm-T training at the EOC in the conference room the 12th through the 16th.
✓ I conducted a tour and talked to the new KPD officers on the EOC and its operations
✓ Knowledge Center Functional exercise at the EOC was held on the 21st.
✓ The Emergency Management inventory was completed and turned in to the County Clerk's office on the 29th.
✓ Several more interviews with local TV, radio and newspaper had been conducted on the continuing recovery process of the July flooding event.
✓ Work continues on disaster recovery activities for the March event and the July event. Much of this month has continued to be dedicated to Disaster recovery for the Kearney and Buffalo County flooding that occurred July 8th through the 14th.
✓ Emergency Management tracked volunteers; hours of work and location that were assisting citizens recover from the disaster in Buffalo County. This was on going throughout the month.
✓ I have made several updates to the notification system for those individuals and offices that have sent me changes for the city/county personnel.

September 2019 Monthly Activities
✓ Updates, preventive maintenance, and testing was conducted in the EOC and MRU. There were updates and testing done one on the MRU once during the month and then used on an incident on the 19th.
✓
✓ Meeting with a responder agency Chief of Command Staff; throughout the month, I had spoken with the fire chiefs in Gibbon and Shelton fire chiefs in person. Stopped in to talk with Kearney Fire personnel when delivering the 2019 LEOP. However, the only one there was Mandy Steele at the time.
✓ ID cards were made on 2 different days during the month for jail volunteers, service providers, county employees, and Justice Center card holders.
✓ Several of the new 2019 Buffalo County LEOP's were distributed throughout the month.
✓ Work continues on disaster recovery activities for the March event and the July event. Much of this month has continued to be dedicated to disaster recovery for the Kearney and Buffalo County flooding that occurred July 8 th though the 14 th .

- ✓ I have made several updates to the notification system for those individuals and offices that have sent me changes for the city/county personnel.

**October 2019
Monthly Activities**

- ✓ Updates, preventive maintenance, and testing was conducted in the EOC and MRU. There were updates and testing done twice on the MRU.
- ✓ Meeting with a responder agency Chief or Command Staff; throughout the month, I have spoken with the fire chiefs in Pleasanton and Amherst fire chief in person and the Fire Administrator for Kearney fire.
- ✓ ID cards were made on 3 different days during the month for jail volunteers, service providers, county employees, and Justice Center card holders.
- ✓ Several more of the new 2019 Buffalo County LEOP's were distributed throughout the month.
- ✓ Work continues on disaster recovery activities for the March event and the July event. Much of this month had continued to be dedicated to disaster recovery for the Kearney and Buffalo County flooding that occurred July 8th through the 14th. This included several meetings on both the individual and public assistance.
- ✓ I have made several updates to the notification system for those individuals and offices that have sent me changes for the city/county personnel.
- ✓ A new DVR was replaced in the EOC this month.
- ✓ I participated in a UNK student talk with Sherry Marrow and Sheriff Miller at the EOC. We spoke with 6 students from UNK.

**November 2019
Monthly Activities**

- ✓ Updates, preventive maintenance, and testing was conducted in the EOC and MRU. There were updates and testing done once on the MRU.
- ✓ Meeting with a Responder agency Chief or Command Staff; throughout the month, I have spoken with the fire chief from Elm Creek VIA the phone a couple times this month.
- ✓ ID cards were made on 2 different days during the month for jail volunteers, service providers, county employees, and Justice Center card holders.
- ✓ More of the new 2019 Buffalo County LEOP's were distributed over the month.
- ✓ I attended the unveiling of the new Hot Meals USA feeding unit for disasters at the Walmart parking lot this month.
- ✓ There were issues with 3 TV's in the EOC not connecting to the cable system. A Spectrum tech had to come in and fix the issue.
- ✓ I have been working with County IT to try and fix a Slingbox that is used to remote spectrum cable to outside locations from the EOC.

✓ Work continues on disaster recovery activities for the March event and the July event through the COAD, LTRG, FEMA, as well as other groups and agencies.
✓ I have made several updates to the Notification system for those individuals and offices that have sent me changes for the city/county personnel. The Notification system was used a couple different times for the City and the County for closings due to weather.
✓ I participated in a Leadership Kearney talk with Myron Kouba at the EOC. We spoke to over 30 individuals about County Board activities and Emergency Management.

December 2019 Monthly Activities
✓ Updates, preventive maintenance, and testing was conducted in the EOC and MRU. There were updates and testing done once on the MRU.
✓ Meeting with a Responder agency Chief or Command Staff; throughout the month, I have spoken with the fire chief from Elm Creek in person and stopped into Kearney fire and spoke with the Fire administrator Jason Whalen and the fire investigator Jerry Thompson. I also spoke with the Amherst Fire Chief Glenn Brown via the phone.
✓ ID cards were made on 3 different days during the month for jail volunteers, service providers, county employees, and Justice Center card holders.
✓ Updates were made in the direction and control section in the Buffalo County LEOP.
✓ After County IT reset the Slingbox back to factory settings I wasn't able to get it to work as it should. I was able to make a number of changes to the settings to make the system work.
✓ Work continues on disaster recovery activities for the March event and the July event through the COAD, LTRG, FEMA, as well as other groups and agencies. The LTRG hired a coordinator and two caseworkers to help those affected by the flooding that are still in need of assistance.
✓ I have made several updates to the notification system for those individuals and offices that have sent me changes for the city/county personnel. Several updates have been made in the system for county employees that had not signed up for notifications in the past that did not get the closing information during the latest government closings.
✓ I participated in an emergency management discussion on the response and recovery of the flooding events in Buffalo County with the Kiwanis
✓ I attended the NACO conference in Kearney from December 11th through the 13th.
✓ I took the EM truck in to have two recall issued fixed.
✓ I hosted the NWS webinar for the pending winter storm at the EOC for community partners.

Notable Items

2019 Flooding

The most notable item for 2019 was probably the flooding across the state of Nebraska, in both March and July. Which affected many parts of rural Buffalo County and many of the communities, to include Pleasanton, Ravenna, Gibbon and Shelton in March, and Elm Creek, Odessa, Kearney and again Ravenna and Gibbon in July. Both floods caused Millions and Millions of dollars in damage to Public and Private Infrastructure in Buffalo County. By the end of 2019, Buffalo County and many of the communities were still recovering from the floods.



RESPONSE UNIT ACTIVITIES (MRU)



- On January 24th the MRU was used for the Community Active Shooter Full Scale Exercise at the Viaero Event Center.
- On May 8th the MRU was used to conduct communications checks at the Fort Kearney Recreation area for the upcoming Kearney Outdoor Expo.
- On May 9th, 10th and 11th the MRU was used during the Game and Parks Fort Kearney Outdoor Expo. Providing communications and weather awareness to the event.
- On July 9th the MRU was used as the incident command post for the Kearney floods.
- On July 20st the unit was used during the Kearney Cruise Night event.
- On August 6th the MRU was set up for National Night Out at Harmon park.
- The MRU was also used in incident response at the request of the Shelton Fire Chief and Sheriff's office and by the Kearney Police Department.
- The MRU was also used during a number of presentations throughout the year for UNK students for safety classes, UNK Leadership, and networking IT preceptorial classes.
- A new camera system was purchased for the MRU. The old system was removed and the new system was installed and configured by a local company. The old system was 10 years old and started having camera and power supply issues.

NOTIFICATION SYSTEMS



This is the Fourth year using Buffalo Watch on the Everbridge platform.

The Everbridge system provides notifications through cell phone, text, e-mail, SMS messages for weather notifications, voice and landline phones for GEO notifications and pre-developed group notifications, and is IPWAS, WEA and EAS capable. A new Federal mandate started in 2019 that now requires Monthly test of the IPAWS system. This office is completing these tests.

One new group has been added to the Buffalo Watch system in the last year to improve public and first responder notification. In 2019 “Medical Community Alert” was added. This alert was added to assist and notify the medical community of large scale medical events that may be occurring in the general area, this could be increased overdose rate, and influx of drugs in the community, large scale increase in illnesses, mass casualty events ETC. As a recap the following public notification groups exists in the system: Fraud Alert, Buffalo County Inmate Escape, Emergency Alerts, Endangered Missing Advisory, YRTC Escape and Amber Alerts.

Buffalo County Emergency Management continues to use and improve social media notifications and information through Facebook and Twitter. The Emergency Management Facebook page now has 3731 followers and when emergencies and incidents happen thousands of people within Buffalo County are reached. The page is used for weather notification, educational, planning, preparedness and recovery information. The twitter account is mainly used for weather type notification and has about 265 individuals and/or groups following at this time. The social media and the Buffalo Watch system were integral vital parts in notifying and providing information to Buffalo County residents during and after both flooding events in Buffalo County.

