

BUTTE COUNTY PRE-DISASTER MITIGATION PLAN

Appendix 1: Minutes from Public Meetings

VALE, SOUTH DAKOTA

Vale Town Pre-Disaster Mitigation Meeting Vale Fire Hall 1900, 7 Apr 09

1. A public meeting to discuss the Butte County Pre-Disaster Mitigation (PDM) Plan and to solicit input was held at the Vale Fire Hall on 7 April 09 at 1900. An attendance roster and meeting agenda are attached. The goal of the meeting was:

- To review the Butte County infrastructure list updated by the Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC) and validate items in the Vale area
- To determine and discuss the impacts of Winter Storms, Severe Thunderstorms (hail and/or high winds), Tornados, Floods, Wildfires, and HAZMAT events on infrastructure and the local residents of the area
- To suggest and develop ways to mitigate the impacts of such disasters on the local community
- To review past, current and potential mitigation projects in the Vale community
- To address community sheltering plans and issues

2. **Infrastructure.** During discussions attendees identified several facilities that should be added to the County list:

- Since cellular telephone communications are becoming more important in the area as a means of emergency communication, they suggested adding existing towers in the area.
- The Cottonwood Creek Bridge on Valley Township Road west of Vale is on the primary ingress/egress route for Vale. The bridge is in excellent condition; however, accumulation of debris in and along the creek bed, particularly dead and downed timber, poses a danger of obstructing flows during high water which could cause the creek to overflow the road and cut into the roadbed. This infrastructure item was not listed.
- The old Vale school building was added because of its potential for an emergency shelter for winter storms and severe thunderstorms/tornados. There is no emergency power source available. The building is owned by the township and has been leased in the past. Access to the basement requires entry to the building which is normally locked.
- The sewage lift station on Gaskill Street was discussed relative to events which result in extended periods of power outage. If the facility cannot operate, the town sewage system

BUTTE COUNTY PRE-DISASTER MITIGATION PLAN

backs up into residences and businesses after two to three days, creating public health and property damage concerns. The community water board is discussing the purchase of a three-phase emergency generator to power the station; however, the funding sources for an engineering study and subsequent purchase and installation of necessary switching and a generator will have to be identified before the project can progress.

- Local businesses were discussed.

- The Cafe is one of two facilities in town that serves meals and the only one which maintains a small inventory of food for public sale. They have no emergency power generation capability for cooking or refrigeration.

- The last Call Bar (old school gymnasium) provides limited food service but has an emergency generator.

- Leber Ag Services has small quantities of herbicides and pesticides but they do not pose significant HAZMAT dangers. Leber Ag has some stores of fuel that can be used in a local emergency and there is a business-owned emergency generator on site.

- Vale Second-Hand Store is located in the old Vale Community Center. The building has a 28' x 38' basement under the structure which is accessible from the exterior of the building. There is no emergency power source and no lighting in the basement.

3. **Risk.** There was a lengthy discussion on people, infrastructure and property at risk from the most probable disaster events that might affect the Vale area.

- The residential structures of Vale are stick-built, modular and mobile home type buildings. Most would be subject to destruction by a tornado. Property damage should be expected from summer storms with hail, microbursts, or extreme straight line wind. The most substantial buildings are the old school building and old community center. . Few buildings have basements because of the high water table. The town is a subject of concern for summer storms because of a concentrated number of people in a small area.

- The elevation of the townsite, including public and commercial infrastructure, makes risk from flooding low. One exception is the access concern on the Cottonwood Creek Bridge on Valley Township Road previously noted above. In addition, using the June 2008 flooding of the Belle Fourche River as a baseline, the Bismarck Bridge and three private residences north of Vale are at medium to high risk due to flooding. Except for limited sandbagging at the residences during normal spring flooding situations, evacuation is the best course of action under severe or extreme flooding conditions. The bridge approaches could be evaluated for installation of culverts to relieve pressure on the roadbed from water backed-up by the grade. Finally, the inundation maps from the Orman Dam Failure Plan need to be reviewed to identify other structures that may be at risk.

BUTTE COUNTY PRE-DISASTER MITIGATION PLAN

- The most significant concerns and highest risk to the Vale area are from blizzards and severe winter storms. These events cause significant access issues for emergency response and public safety, as well as for farm and ranching operations with livestock. Snow removal along access routes in the area is the major concern. Public safety and property damage issues are compounded when electrical power is interrupted for long periods, especially if temperatures remain below freezing.

- Risk due to wildland fire is low as assessed and discussed in the Community Wildfire Protections Plan. Land usage surrounding the town is primarily agricultural with irrigated row crops and alfalfa predominant. This provides a “green belt” around the town. Rural farms and ranches are at somewhat more risk.

- HAZMAT incident risks are assessed to be low. SD Highway 79 is approximately one mile west of the townsite and, although the predominant winds are from the west and northwest, a vehicle accident involving HAZMAT cargo would likely not require evacuation. The only significant hazard would be an accident on the Belle Fourche River Bridge on SD Highway 79 that results in materials entering the water and being distributed downstream. Agricultural chemicals in and around Vale are not of significant quantities to cause undue concern. Those at Leber Ag Services are stored, handled and used within OSHA and other applicable federal and state standards.

4. **Mitigation.** The attendees discussed past and current present mitigation projects in the Vale area. In addition, there was some brainstorming on other mitigation measures that could be undertaken in the community.

- The town has an emergency siren located at the fire hall. This warning system is tested weekly and during County-wide exercises. It has voice capability. It has been used for storm warning and can be used for evacuation notification.

- The volunteer fire department has upgraded equipment significantly during the last five years. Additionally, training classes on the Incident Command System and Wildland Firefighting have been conducted. Butte County has also upgraded communications equipment and procedures facilitating public warning, emergency response and incident management.

- Issues with the Cottonwood Creek Bridge and emergency power requirements for the sewage lift station are addressed above. Regarding the bridge, the land upstream where the cleanup is suggested is privately owned. As such, mitigation funding of a cleanup project may not be possible.

- Local and town access during winter storms is a significant issue with a general consensus that this area must be addressed by the County. There needs to be more emphasis on clearing main/primary roads into and surrounding Vale. Of the 40 firefighters on the fire department, only two live in town. Emergency medical response service is provided by Newell Ambulance Service, which responds from Newell 6 miles north of Vale. The town is effectively isolated unless or until Valley Township Road is cleared. Emergency services are ineffective until access is possible. Farming and ranching operations, especially livestock survival, are

BUTTE COUNTY PRE-DISASTER MITIGATION PLAN

seriously jeopardized unless snow removal on rural roads is targeted and timely. Attendees think the County needs to provide a snow removal plan which addresses priorities and policies. Sheriff Lamphere also suggested that known areas where drifting occurs would be candidates for snow fencing. However, private ownership of land requires cooperation of landowners to implement such mitigation measures.

- Proactive welfare checks could be conducted on people with medical issues, particularly those who require electrical power for medical equipment or supplemental breathing oxygen. This might be a community effort; one administered by the fire department, the Community Club, community volunteers or an emergency shelter activation tasking. It would require those affected to voluntarily provide information to County Dispatch to be input into their database and released to the fire department/local shelter manager. It would include emergency contact information (especially cell phone numbers) for key responders, township board members and individuals with medical issues.

- Public education must be developed and administered to make some suggested mitigation measures and programs successful. Such education programs are, in effect, also viable mitigation projects. Venues for public education in Vale include the Annual Fire Department Appreciation Picnic and the Vale Ag Fair. Data for phone rosters and medical information could be collected as part of the education efforts.

5. ***Shelters and Sheltering.*** Discussions on emergency shelters comprised a significant portion of the meeting. The Vale community, particularly the Vale Volunteer Fire Department, in cooperation with the Butte County Emergency Manager and the Vale Township Board, have been proactive in developing a winter storm shelter for the area in response to problems experienced during the November 2008 storm. During that event, portions of the area were without power in excess of five days. Access to deliver fuel for emergency generators and to deliver medical supplies was accomplished by the Sheriff's Department, the Vale Fire Department and other volunteers. Sometimes it was necessary to plow into and out of a residence each time, often using private equipment. A single facility in Vale would eliminate the requirement to make multiple visits. Consequently, work began to select and develop a shelter in Vale.

- Two facilities were ultimately selected. The Vale Fire Hall has been designated as the primary shelter and the local Emergency Operations Center. The County Emergency Manager (EM) has provided a portable 10 Kw generator, which is sufficient to provide power for emergency communications equipment, heating (blowers for propane furnace), and lighting in the fire hall. The building has been wired to standards to accept the generator.

The Vale Community Center was also selected and will serve as an alternate shelter site. The building had been wired for emergency power; however, since the heating system is electric, there is no generator of sufficient capacity available in Vale.

The concept of operations for a Vale shelter is to have capability to house 10-15 people for up to three days. The EM has prepositioned MREs and cots and blankets will be ordered for shelter operations. A Shelter Plan is being developed in cooperation with the American Red Cross. Two shelter managers who reside in town will need to be identified and trained and current activation procedures will need to be revised.

BUTTE COUNTY PRE-DISASTER MITIGATION PLAN

The two facilities designated as winter storm shelters are not structurally sufficient to serve as public tornado shelters. To serve that need, the old school building and the Vale Second-Hand Store are the best facilities for that purpose. Both facilities are addressed in the discussions above. A request to the Township Board was made to evaluate both facilities and make a recommendation to the County Emergency Manager. However, the Township will require assistance to funding an engineering analysis of the structures before making a recommendation. Until such time as that is completed, the old school basement will remain the public shelter.

A representative of the American Red Cross attended the meeting and provided valuable input on Vale's shelter program. He noted that the ability of the town to provide graduated levels of public support, ramping-up facilities and services as an event escalates is evident in current planning. He will arrange additional training in Butte County for potential shelter managers through the County EM.

6. The meeting adjourned at 2115.

Fred L. Wells III
Meeting Facilitator/Recorder

BUTTE COUNTY PRE-DISASTER MITIGATION PLAN

Attachment 1 to Vale Meeting Minutes

Agenda for Public Meeting for Vale Township

Tuesday, 7 April 2009, 1900 at Vale Fire Hall

Butte County Pre-Disaster Mitigation Plan

- Review Critical Infrastructure List
- Identify Risk to Infrastructure
- Potential for Mitigation from Natural Disasters
- Past Mitigation Projects
- Current Mitigation Projects
- Future Mitigation Projects
- Project Priorities
- Project Costs
- Project Funding

Shelter for Township Residents

- Type Required
- Utilization Projections
- Potential Locations/Facilities
- Activation & Operation
- Funding

Attachment 2 to Vale Meeting Minutes

Name	Agency	Mailing Address
Douglas Cox	Vale Fire Department	19142 136th Avenue, Vale, SD
Shirley Waddell	Vale	P.O. Box 176, Vale, SD
Russ Korzeniowski	Red Cross	1221 N. Maple Ave, Rapid City, SD
Robert Ruff	Vale Community Club	12960 194th Street, Vale, SD
Larry Backhaus	Vale Community Club	210 Anna, Vale, SD
Floyd Wulf	Vale Community Club	410 Anna/P.O. Box 103, Vale, SD
Marge Wulf	Vale Community Club	410 Anna/P.O. Box 103, Vale, SD
Keith Dunn	Vale Township	P.O. Box 154, Vale, SD
Colette Dun	Vale Township	P.O. Box 154, Vale, SD
David Leber	Vale Township	P.O. Box 107, Vale, SD
Paula Reedy	Vale Community Club	P.O. Box 104, Vale, SD
Scott Jensen	Butte County EM	839 5th Ave., Belle Fourche, SD 57717
Fred Wells	Wells Consulting	13060 193rd Street, Vale SD

BUTTE COUNTY PRE-DISASTER MITIGATION PLAN

NISLAND, SOUTH DAKOTA

Nisland Town Pre-Disaster Mitigation Meeting

Nisland Town Hall

1900, 18 Dec 09

1. A public meeting to discuss the Butte County Pre-Disaster Mitigation (PDM) Plan and to solicit input was held at the Nisland Town Hall on 18 Dec 2009 at 1900. An attendance roster and meeting agenda are attached. The goal of the meeting was:

- To review the Butte County infrastructure list updated by the Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC) and validate items in the Nisland and Fruitdale area
- To determine and discuss the impacts of Winter Storms, Severe Thunderstorms (hail and/or high winds), Tornados, Floods, Wildfires, and HAZMAT events on infrastructure and the local residents of the area
- To suggest and develop ways to mitigate the impacts of such disasters on the local community
- To review past, current and potential mitigation projects in the Nisland and Fruitdale communities
- To address community sheltering plans and issues

2. **Infrastructure.** During discussions attendees identified several items that should be added to the County list:

- The Owl Creek Bridge on US Highway 212 should be added. This is a critical structure.
- There was a suggestion and subsequent discussion on identifying alternate routes which could be used if main highways were closed or obstructed. Bridges on these routes would be important. These routes should be priorities for snow removal during winter storms to facilitate emergency response to rural residents. Routes suggested include:
 - Sonoma Road from Belle Fourche to Vale Cut-Off Road and Vale Cut-Off Road from Sonoma Road to SD Highway 79. This route provides alternative routing around US Highway 212 to the south.
 - Orman Road from Newell to Arpan Road and Arpan Road south from the intersection to US Highway 212. This provides an alternative route to the north of US Highway 212.

BUTTE COUNTY PRE-DISASTER MITIGATION PLAN

-- Valley Township Road from SD Highway 79 to Wetz Road east of the Town of Vale. This provides access to Vale for rural residents and facilitates emergency response to and from Vale.

- Water for the Nisland is provided by a public well and water storage facility. Water storage is sufficient for three days of operation without electrical power at the well. After three days, water can be provided to residents through a feed from Butte-Meade Water. The town has an agreement with Butte-Meade and can open valve to supply water in an emergency. The well was added to the list.

- Water to Fruitdale residents is provided by Butte-Meade Water.

- The sewage system in Nisland is gravity flow and does not require lift stations. The lagoons east of town adjacent to Whitewood Valley Road are considered low to medium risk for flooding. The June 2008 Butte County Flood did not affect the facility.

- Sewage treatment at Fruitdale is by private septic systems.

- Power to the Town of Nisland is provided by Black Hills Power. The substation at Maple Street and US Highway 212 was added to the infrastructure list.

- A suggestion to add the County Highway Shop on 2nd Street in Nisland was discussed. Because it houses road clearing equipment and there is a 1000 gallon storage tank for diesel fuel on site, it will be added infrastructure list. The highway facilities at Newell and Belle Fourche will also be added. None of these facilities are deemed to be at risk; however, access, particularly during winter storms is critical.

- The old Nisland school building was eliminated from consideration as a potential storm shelter since it is now privately owned and condition is unknown.

- Local businesses were discussed.

-- The Burnt Toast Cafe is one of two facilities in town that serves meals. They have no emergency power generation capability for cooking or refrigeration.

-- The Nisland Bar provides limited food service. They do not have an emergency generator.

3. **Risk.** There was a discussion on people, infrastructure and property at risk from the most probable disaster events that might affect the Nisland and Fruitdale area.

- The residential structures of Nisland and Fruitdale are stick-built, modular and mobile home type buildings. Most would be subject to destruction by a tornado. Property damage should be expected from summer storms with hail, microbursts, or extreme straight line wind. A few buildings have basements which do afford protection from tornadic activity. Both towns

BUTTE COUNTY PRE-DISASTER MITIGATION PLAN

are a subject of concern for summer storms and tornados because of the concentrated number of people in a small area.

- The Butte-Lawrence County Fair is held annually in August at the fairgrounds west of Nisland. The number of people who attend and the limited access to the facility presents a concern during severe thunderstorms, high winds, and tornado emergencies. A suggestion to identify potential issues and develop evacuation/emergency plans for the event was made. This is a good subject for a tabletop emergency exercise for the County first responders.

- The elevation of the townsites, including public and commercial infrastructure, makes risk from flooding low. Exceptions are ingress/egress concerns from the south due to Belle Fourche River bridges. At Nisland, the bridge on Whitewood Valley Road is critical. At Fruitdale, the bridge on Cobb Road is critical. Using the June 2008 flooding of the Belle Fourche River as a baseline, neither bridge was damaged. However, Cobb Road did experience flooding and was not passable until water levels dropped. Based on the June flood, there is one private residence are at medium to high risk due to flooding on Owl Creek. Except for limited sandbagging at the residences during normal spring flooding situations, evacuation is the best course of action under severe or extreme flooding conditions. Finally, the inundation maps from the Orman Dam Failure Plan need to be reviewed to identify other structures that may be at risk.

- The most significant concerns and highest risk to the Nisland and Fruitdale area are from blizzards and severe winter storms. These events cause significant access issues for emergency response and public safety, as well as for farm and ranching operations with livestock. Snow removal along access routes in the area is the major concern. Public safety and property damage issues are compounded when electrical power is interrupted for long periods, especially if temperatures remain below freezing. Nisland has limited capability for snow removal. Fruitdale has no capability.

- Risk due to wildland fire is low as assessed and discussed in the Community Wildfire Protections Plan. Land usage surrounding the town is primarily agricultural with irrigated row crops and alfalfa predominant. This provides a “green belt” around both Nisland and Fruitdale. Rural farms and ranches are at somewhat more risk.

- HAZMAT incident risks are assessed to be low for Fruitdale since the townsite lies 1 mile south of US Highway 212. However, the risk at Nisland is medium because US Highway 212 passes through the north side of town. The predominant winds are from the west and northwest. A vehicle accident involving HAZMAT cargo would likely require evacuation of residents near the highway. All HAZMAT storage in the area meets applicable federal and state standards and is not a concern due to remote locations.

4. **Mitigation.** The attendees discussed past and current present mitigation projects in the Nisland and Fruitdale area. In addition, there was some brainstorming on other mitigation measures that could be undertaken in the communities.

- Nisland has an emergency siren located at the fire hall. This warning system is tested weekly and during County-wide exercises. It has voice capability. It has been used for storm

BUTTE COUNTY PRE-DISASTER MITIGATION PLAN

warning and can be used for evacuation notification. Fruitdale has no warning system and, due to its location below a bluff south of Belle Fourche Reservoir, residents cannot hear the warning siren installed at Rocky Point State Recreation Area at the Reservoir. Many Fruitdale residents have NOAA Weather Radios. However, the consensus is to consider adding a public warning system for Fruitdale to the list of possible mitigation projects for Butte County.

- The Nisland-Arpan Volunteer Fire & Rescue Department has upgraded equipment significantly during the last five years. They now provide search and rescue services and changes to the Department's By-Laws require members to complete Firefighter 1 & 2 training within two years of joining. Additionally, classes on the Incident Command System and Wildland Firefighting have been conducted with at least 85% of members completing training.

- Potential damage to Belle Fourche River bridges from objects displaced by upriver flooding needs to be addressed. Periodic cleanup in the flood plain along the river would help reduce risk. However, land upstream where the cleanup is suggested is privately owned. As such, mitigation funding of a cleanup project may not be possible. In addition, roadway approaches for the Belle Fourche River bridges at Nisland and Fruitdale could be evaluated for installation of culverts to relieve pressure on the roadbed and reduce upstream flooding from water held back by the grades. Raising the Cobb Road roadbed and installing culverts would help keep access open by preventing flooding. Cost of material and installation may be prohibitive for the County.

- Local and town access during winter storms is a significant issue with a general consensus that this issue must be addressed by the County. There needs to be more emphasis on clearing main/primary roads into and surrounding Nisland and Fruitdale. Of the 18 firefighters on the Nisland Fire Department, only five live in town. Fruitdale fire protection is provided by Nisland-Arpan Fire & Rescue, a response distance of approximately 6 miles. Access is 1 mile south of US Highway 212 via Fruitdale Lane. Emergency medical response service to both communities is provided by Newell Ambulance Service, which responds from Newell. The towns are effectively isolated unless or until US Highway 212 is cleared. Emergency services are ineffective until access is possible. Farming and ranching operations, especially livestock survival, are seriously jeopardized unless snow removal on rural roads is targeted and timely. Attendees think the County needs to provide a snow removal plan which addresses priorities and policies. Perhaps assistance agreements between the State and County need to be strengthened.

- Proactive welfare checks could be conducted on people with medical issues, particularly those who require electrical power for medical equipment or supplemental breathing oxygen. This might be a community effort; one administered by the fire department, the church, community volunteers or as an emergency shelter activation tasking. It would require those affected to voluntarily provide information to County Dispatch to be input into their database and released to the fire department/local shelter manager. It would include emergency contact information (especially cell phone numbers) for key responders, township board members and individuals with medical issues. During periods of extended power failure, sheltering individuals with medical issues at a central location provides the safest and most effective use of resources.

BUTTE COUNTY PRE-DISASTER MITIGATION PLAN

- Public education must be developed and administered to make some suggested mitigation measures and programs successful. Such education programs are, in effect, also viable mitigation projects. Venues for public education in Nisland and Fruitdale need to be identified. Data for phone rosters and medical information could be collected as part of education programs.

- After discussion on the current projects listed in the 2004 PDM Plan, the consensus was to consider the Nisland Fire Hall as the town's most urgent project. The Fire Department has received additional engines and does not have sufficient room in existing facilities to house them as required by statute. In addition, a new facility would be able to provide better emergency sheltering and function as secondary County dispatch/EOC in the event a disaster event impact Belle Fourche. It would also have a public meeting room for town functions. The project has been designed. Funding is the issue which prevents construction.

BUTTE COUNTY PRE-DISASTER MITIGATION PLAN

5. *Shelters and Sheltering.* Discussions on emergency shelters comprised a significant portion of the meeting.

The Nisland community, particularly the Nisland-Arpan Volunteer Fire & Rescue Department, in cooperation with the Butte County Emergency Manager and the Nisland Community Church Board, have been proactive in developing a winter storm shelter for Nisland in response to problems experienced during the November 2008 storm. During that event, portions of the area were without power in excess of five days and travelers were stranded along US Highway 212. The Church was used for sheltering and subsequent coordination has taken place to make this a permanent arrangement. The Nisland Fire Department has a generator which can provide emergency power to meet minimum requirements. Permanent wiring for a generator hookup is still necessary. A larger generator is also desirable to enable food service and other amenities.

The concept of operations for a Nisland shelter is under development. The EM has prepositioned MREs at the Nisland Fire Hall. Cots and blankets are available from the EM and the American Red Cross for shelter operations once the number necessary is specified. A Shelter Plan should be developed and the American Red Cross has agreed to assist. Two shelter managers who reside in town will need to be identified and trained and activation procedures will need to be developed.

There is no shelter in Fruitdale. Attendees representing the town believe there is a need and would like to use the Community Hall. The EM can make MREs, cots and bedding available. However, emergency power hookup and a generator need to be sourced. In addition, the facility has only portable toilet facilities and there is no water service. An operations concept and formal shelter plan need to be developed.

The basement of the Nisland Community Church is structurally sufficient to serve as a public tornado shelter. There is no public tornado shelter in Fruitdale.

6. The meeting adjourned at 2110.

Fred L. Wells III
Meeting Facilitator

BUTTE COUNTY PRE-DISASTER MITIGATION PLAN

Attachment 1 to Nisland Meeting Minutes

Agenda for Public Meeting for Nisland

Friday, 18 December 2009, 1900, at Nisland Town Hall

Butte County Pre-Disaster Mitigation Plan

- Review Critical Infrastructure List
- Identify Risk to Infrastructure
- Potential for Mitigation from Natural Disasters
- Past Mitigation Projects
- Current Mitigation Projects
- Future Mitigation Projects
- Project Priorities
- Project Costs
- Project Funding

Shelter for Township Residents

- Type Required
- Utilization Projections
- Potential Locations/Facilities
- Activation & Operation
- Funding

Attachment 2 to Nisland Meeting Minutes

Name	Agency	Mailing Address
Randy Vallery	Nisland Fire Department	P.O. Box 169, Nisland SD 57762
Bill Heidrich	Nisland Fire Department	P.O. Box 92, Nisland, SD 57762
Scott Turo	Town of Nisland	P.O. Box 88, Nisland SD 57762
Carl Bruce	Nisland Fire Department	601 2nd Street, Nisland SD 57762
John Geib	Town of Nisland	P.O. Box 43, Nisland SD 57762
Jake Dell	Town of Nisland	201 Oak Street, Nisland SD 57762
Dave Mullaney	Town of Fruitdale	300 High Street, Fruitdale SD
Percy Bekken	Butte County EM	839 5th Avenue, Belle Fourche, SD 57717
Fred Wells	Wells Consulting	13060 193rd Street, Vale SD 57788

BUTTE COUNTY PRE-DISASTER MITIGATION PLAN

NEWELL, SOUTH DAKOTA

Newell Town Pre-Disaster Mitigation Meeting

Newell City Hall

1900, 19 Jan 2010

1. A public meeting to discuss the Butte County Pre-Disaster Mitigation (PDM) Plan and to solicit input was held at the Newell City Hall on 19 Jan 2010 at 1900. An attendance roster and meeting agenda are attached. The goal of the meeting was:

- To review the Butte County infrastructure list updated by the Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC) and validate items in the Newell area
- To determine and discuss the impacts of Winter Storms, Severe Thunderstorms (hail and/or high winds), Tornados, Floods, Wildfires, and HAZMAT events on infrastructure and local residents of the area
- To suggest and develop ways to mitigate the impacts of such disasters on the local community
- To review past, current and potential mitigation projects in the Newell community
- To address community sheltering plans and issues

2. **Infrastructure.** The group discussed local infrastructure, including businesses which have resources that may be needed to mitigate disaster events, and apartment housing with large number of people, especially elderly residents. While some of these facilities are not “critical” to disaster recovery, listing them provides a resource list that can be used by officials managing a response. The following facilities/businesses will be added to the County list:

- County/State shop at the corner of Girard Avenue and US Highway 212. This facility houses heavy equipment for road maintenance and snow removal. There are limited supplies of gasoline and diesel fuel on site. An emergency power source would be required if commercial power is not available.
- City Shop, located at the old State shop near the rodeo grounds off Girard Avenue, houses city equipment.
- Boom Concrete, located east of Girard Avenue has supplies of sand and gravel on hand.
- Newell Ranch Supply (Girard Ave.) has limited construction and repair supplies. Inventory may include emergency generators.

BUTTE COUNTY PRE-DISASTER MITIGATION PLAN

- Newell Conoco and Newell Sinclair (79-212 Servicer), located on US Highway 212/SD Highway 79 (South Dartmouth Ave.) have large quantities of gasoline and diesel fuel in above ground storage tanks. An emergency power source would be required to obtain fuel when commercial power is interrupted.

- TJ's Café (105 S. Dartmouth Ave.) and the Blue Line Diner (US Highway 212 east) have food service and could be used for food preparation during emergencies. Both lack emergency power generators.

- The Newell Hotel (313 Girard Ave.) has 12 rooms and limited food service. This facility may have an emergency generator. It is an excellent location to house stranded motorists during an emergency that closes highways when public shelter activation is not necessary.

- Newell Grocery (Girard Ave.) maintains a large food inventory. The city's public emergency storm shelter is located in the basement of the building. There is no emergency power generator at the facility.

- The Belle Fourche Irrigation District Offices are located on Dartmouth Ave. Their maintenance yard is collocated. They have some heavy equipment that may be available during a disaster event.

- Electric companies serving the City of Newell are Black Hills Power and Light, which supplies city power, and Butte Electric Coop, which provides power to rural residents south and west of Newell. The Butte Electric Coop offices and maintenance yard are located on South Dartmouth Avenue.

- Water for Newell is provided by a public well and water storage facility. Water storage capacity is 50,000-60,000 gallons, sufficient for two to three days of operation without electrical power at the well. After three days, water can be provided to residents through a feed from Butte-Meade Water. A new 150,000 gallon water storage tank will replace the old tank in the summer of 2010. Finally, the city is upgrading fire hydrants.

- The sewage system in Newell is gravity flow and does not require lift stations. Sewage lagoons are located northeast of the city.

- There is a small medical clinic located on Girard Avenue in Newell. It is not a 24-hour emergency facility. The nearest hospitals are located in Sturgis and Spearfish.

3. **Risk.** There was a discussion on people, infrastructure and property at risk from the most probable disaster events that might affect the Newell area.

- Residential structures of Newell are primarily stick-built, modular and mobile home type buildings. There is one trailer court, Prairie Vista Trailer, located within the city limits and there are three apartment/high occupancy dwelling facilities. Grand Valley Apartments (600 block - Girard Ave.) and Green Valley Apartments (400 block - Girard Ave.) house older/retired residents. Newell Townhouses (US Highway 212 east) is limited/low income housing.

BUTTE COUNTY PRE-DISASTER MITIGATION PLAN

Most residential buildings would be subject to destruction by a tornado. Property damage should be expected from summer storms with hail, microbursts, or extreme straight line wind. A few buildings have basements which do afford protection from tornadic activity and the city has a designated public storm shelter in the basement of the Newell Grocery Store. The concentrated number of people in the city is a concern during summer storms and tornados; however, the public warning system which was upgraded several years ago is judged to be sufficient.

- The elevation and location of the City, including public and commercial infrastructure, makes risk from flooding low. Using the June 2008 flooding of the Belle Fourche River watershed as a baseline, the Horse Creek Bridge on US Highway 212/SD Highway 79 south of town did not sustain damage so ingress/egress routes on major highways are not judged to be in danger. However, rural gravel roads such as Hope Road, were impassible due to localized flooding and bridge/culvert damage. Several residences were isolated by the June flood but no residential buildings were damaged. Emergency access to some locations is problematic during major flooding situations and evacuation of residents remains the best course of action under severe or extreme flooding conditions. Finally, the inundation maps from the Orman Dam Failure Plan should be reviewed to identify structures south of the Newell that may be at risk.

- The most significant concerns and highest risk to the Newell area is from blizzards and severe winter storms. These events cause significant access issues for emergency response and public safety, as well as for farm and ranching operations with livestock. Snow removal along access routes in the area is a concern. However, new County equipment located at the Newell shop and state-owned plows operating out of Newell have significantly improved capability of opening highways and roads to provide access, even in rural areas. Newell has good capability for snow removal and an effective snow removal plan. However, public safety and property damage issues are compounded when electrical power is interrupted for long periods, especially if temperatures remain below freezing.

- Risk due to wildland fire is low as assessed and addressed in the Community Wildfire Protection Plan. Land usage surrounding the town is primarily agricultural with irrigated row crops and alfalfa predominant. This provides a “green belt” around the city. Rural farms and ranches are at somewhat more risk.

- HAZMAT incident risks are assessed to be medium for Newell because US Highway 212/SD Highway 79 passes through the west and north sides of the city. The predominant winds are from the west and northwest. A vehicle accident involving HAZMAT cargo would likely require evacuation of residents depending on the accident site and material involved. All HAZMAT storage in the area meets applicable federal and state standards and, except for the large quantity of fuel storage at the two commercial service stations, is not a significant concern due to remote locations.

4. **Mitigation.** The attendees discussed past and current mitigation projects in the Newell area. In addition, there was some brainstorming on new mitigation activities that could be undertaken in the community.

BUTTE COUNTY PRE-DISASTER MITIGATION PLAN

- Newell has an emergency siren located at the City Park. This warning system is tested weekly and during County-wide exercises. It has voice capability. It has been used for storm warning and can be used for evacuation notification.

- The Newell Volunteer Fire Department has upgraded equipment significantly during the last five years. They have added a 1500 gallon pumper and the Department is adding/updating a tender which will be safer to operate on existing County roads and will increase water transport capacity. It will be operational for the summer 2010 fire season. In 2004 the Department received a \$100,000 grant to purchase 30 sets of bunker gear and 5 SCBA units with extra tanks. Additionally, classes on the Incident Command System and Wildland Firefighting have been conducted to improve capabilities. The Newell VFD now operates 3 brush units, 3, pumpers, and 2 tenders. They also have a county-surplus ambulance which can be used for equipment storage or crew transportation purposes. The fire hall has an emergency power generator.

- The Newell Ambulance Service, part of the County-operated service, has a facility located adjacent to the fire hall. The service operates two ambulances and has volunteer EMT crews on call. The hall has an emergency generator; however, there is no capability for housing personnel for extended operations. The service has received \$25,000 for building improvements and a new ambulance is programmed in the 7-year improvement plan.

- Potential damage to the Horse Creek bridges from objects displaced by upstream flooding needs to be addressed. Periodic cleanup in the flood plain along the river would help reduce risk. However, land upstream where the cleanup is suggested is privately owned. As such, mitigation funding of a cleanup project may not be possible.

- During disasters, proactive welfare checks could be conducted on people with medical issues, particularly those who require electrical power for medical equipment or supplemental breathing oxygen. This might be a community effort; one administered by the ambulance service, the fire department, the churches, community volunteers or as an emergency shelter activation tasking. It would require those affected to voluntarily provide information to City government or County Dispatch to be input into a database and released to the ambulance service/fire department/local shelter manager during emergency events. It should include emergency contact information (especially cell phone numbers) for key responders, City government officials as well as individuals with medical issues. During periods of extended power failure, sheltering individuals with medical issues at a central location provides the safest and most effective use of resources.

- Public education must be developed and administered to make some suggested mitigation measures and programs successful. Such education programs are, in effect, also viable mitigation projects. Venues for public education in Newell need to be identified. Data for phone rosters and medical information could be collected as part of education programs.

- After discussion on the current projects listed in the 2004 PDM Plan, the consensus was to add a new emergency service facility, combining the fire department and ambulance

BUTTE COUNTY PRE-DISASTER MITIGATION PLAN

service under one roof, to their list of mitigation projects. They currently own the land required for the facility and are exploring grants as a source of funding for the project.

- The Newell City Hall and Finance Office has no backup power capability. This issue will be discussed by the City government since the city hall could be used as an emergency operations center. Access to public records and capability to use the computer and telephone system would streamline management, particularly the logistics and financial aspects of a local public emergency.

- Discussion also highlighted a need for individuals involved in City government to receive training in the Incident Management System so they are better prepared to manage large scale emergencies in the community. Grant funding is available through State-administered programs and needs to be pursued. There is support for this initiative.

- While no new subdivisions are planned for the Newell area. It was pointed out that during the planning and approval phase of future developments, the local emergency organizations should review plans to ensure adequate ingress/egress for response and evacuation and that sufficient public warning systems will be available.

BUTTE COUNTY PRE-DISASTER MITIGATION PLAN

5. *Shelters and Sheltering.* Discussion on emergency shelters shows the City of Newell has been addressing needs of the community and travelers potentially trapped by road closures during winter storms.

The City of Newell, in cooperation with the Butte County Emergency Manager, the Newell School, and the Catholic Church, have been proactive in developing a winter storm shelter for the Newell area in response to problems experienced during the November 2008 storm. During that event, portions of the area were without power in excess of five days and travelers were stranded along US Highway 212. The Catholic Church was used for sheltering. Since that event, coordination has taken place to complete a previously planned transfer switch installation and wiring for an emergency generator at the Newell School. This makes the school gymnasium and kitchen facilities available for sheltering. The Newell Fire Department has a generator which can provide emergency power to meet minimum requirements and other amenities.

The City officials are working on a concept of operations and an agreement for activation and operation. The EM has prepositioned MREs, cots and blankets at the Newell Fire Hall. The American Red Cross is available to assist.

The basement of the Newell Grocery Store is structurally sufficient and is designated to serve as a public tornado shelter.

6. The meeting adjourned at 2100.

Fred L. Wells III
Meeting Facilitator

BUTTE COUNTY PRE-DISASTER MITIGATION PLAN

Attachment 1 to Newell Meeting Minutes

Agenda for Public Meeting for Newell *Tuesday, 19 January 2010, 1900, at Newell City Hall*

Butte County Pre-Disaster Mitigation Plan
Review Critical Infrastructure List
Identify Risk to Infrastructure
Potential for Mitigation from Natural Disasters
Past Mitigation Projects
Current Mitigation Projects
Future Mitigation Projects
Project Priorities
Project Costs
Project Funding

Shelter for Township Residents
Type Required
Utilization Projections
Potential Locations/Facilities
Activation & Operation
Funding

Attachment 2 to Newell Meeting Minutes

Name	Agency	Mailing Address
Douglas Cox	Vale Fire Department	19142 136th Avenue, Vale, SD
Vernon Howie	Newell Fire Department	P.O. Box 517, Newell SD 57760
Stan Parker	City of Newell	P.O. Box 24, Newell SD 57760
Kurt Hocking	City of Newell	P.O. Box 463, Newell SD 57760
Jennifer Parrow	Newell Finance Office	P.O. Box 405, Newell, SD 57760
Percy Bekken	Butte County EM	839 5th Avenue, Belle Fourche, SD 57717
Fred Wells	Wells Consulting	13060 193rd Street, Vale SD

BUTTE COUNTY PRE-DISASTER MITIGATION PLAN

BELLE FORUCHE, SOUTH DAKOTA

Belle Fourche Pre-Disaster Mitigation Meeting

Belle Fourche City Hall

1900, 11 Feb 2010

1. A public meeting to discuss the Butte County Pre-Disaster Mitigation (PDM) Plan and to solicit input was held at the Belle Fourche City Hall on 11 February 2010 at 1900. An attendance roster and meeting agenda are attached. The goal of the meeting was:

- To review the Butte County infrastructure list updated by the Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC) and validate items in the Belle Fourche area
- To determine and discuss the impacts of Winter Storms, Severe Thunderstorms (hail and/or high winds), Tornados, Floods, Wildfires, and HAZMAT events on infrastructure and local residents of the area
- To suggest and develop ways to mitigate the impacts of such disasters on the local community
- To review past, current and potential mitigation projects in the Belle Fourche community
- To address community sheltering plans and issues

2. **Infrastructure.** The group discussed local infrastructure, including businesses which have resources that may be needed to mitigate disaster events. While many of the facilities and businesses discussed are not “critical” to disaster recovery, listing them provides a resource list that can be used by officials managing a response. Also addressed was residential housing with a large number of elderly people and mobile home parks. The following facilities/businesses were discussed and some will be added to the County list:

- Qwest telecommunications facility located on 7th Avenue. This is a substantial brick building with no windows. It has a backup power source. It has not been affected by any recent events. Other communications facilities were not identified.

- The State DOT yard is located on SD Highway 34 west of the US Highway 85 intersection. This facility houses heavy equipment for road maintenance and snow removal. There are limited supplies of gasoline and diesel fuel on site. An emergency power source would be required if commercial power is not available.

- City Shop, located at the 506 Faulk Street, houses city equipment for maintenance and snow removal. There are limited supplies of gasoline (1000 gallons) and diesel fuel (500 gallons). The City Landfill, north of the city on 8th Street also has gasoline storage (1000

BUTTE COUNTY PRE-DISASTER MITIGATION PLAN

gallons). Alternative power source would be necessary to access fuel at both locations during power outages.

- The Butte County DOT office, located at 830 6th Avenue immediately behind the County Courthouse, is not included in the Government Infrastructure list. Nor is the Game, Fish & Parks Office and the Social Services Office at 609 5th Street. These will be added.

- The County Highway Shop, at 11163 Valley 1 Road, houses County heavy equipment and has diesel fuel and gasoline. Emergency power for fuel access during power outage would be necessary.

- Croell's Redimix, 19002 Helmer Road, has supplies of sand and gravel on hand. These resources were used during the 2008 flooding in Belle Fourche.

- Service stations in Belle Fourche were discussed as sources of fuel during emergencies. A complete list of stations will be obtained from the Belle Fourche Chamber of Commerce. None of the facilities are known to have emergency power sources, which would be necessary to access fuel supplies.

- A list of restaurants and motels in Belle Fourche will also be obtained from the Chamber of Commerce. In emergency events which do not require or justify activation of public shelters, these facilities might be available to house and feed stranded motorists and/or emergency workers. It is unknown if any of these facilities have emergency generators.

- Lynn's Dakota Mart (National Street), Leuder's Food Center (5th Ave.), and Pamida (1 N. 5th Ave.) maintain large food inventories. Status of emergency power at these locations is unknown.

- Two lumber yards, Dakota Lumber (US Highway 85 – north of the city) and Roundup Lumber and Building Center (on Roundup west of city center) were important sources of supplies for barricades during the 2008 flood.

- Electric companies serving the City of Belle Fourche are Black Hills Power and Light and Butte Electric Coop. The Black Hills Power substation located on 6th Avenue near the Fire Hall had to be sandbagged because of high water during the 2008 flooding.

- Water is provided by public wells. Water and sewage treatment is managed by the City Public Works Department. There have been upgrades and expansions as city growth occurred. Infrastructure has not been affected during flooding events and operated without interruption. The City has been proactive in funding projects to mitigate potential problems.

- Belle Fourche Regional Medical Clinic, located at 2200 13th Avenue, is not a 24-hour emergency facility. The nearest hospital is located in Spearfish.

- DM&E Railroad passes through the center of the city. Cargos are almost exclusively bentonite from the mines and processing facility west of town.

BUTTE COUNTY PRE-DISASTER MITIGATION PLAN

- Montana-Dakota Utilities provides natural gas service to Belle Fourche. There are several pumping stations within the city and a major facility north off US Highway 85. There is little risk to this infrastructure associated with catastrophic events which could affect the area.

3. **Risk.** There was a discussion on people, infrastructure and property at risk from the most probable disaster events that might affect the Belle Fourche area.

- Most residential structures of Belle Fourche are stick-built, modular and mobile home type buildings. There are several trailer courts located within the city limits. These include Tipperary, Riverside, Hillside, Prairie View, Oak Valley, Plains View, and Summit View. There are five facilities housing older/retired residents; Sun Point, Judy's Assisted Living, Country Estates, Palms (Diane's Assisted Living), and John Burn's Apartments. The senior housing facilities all have private snow removal.

Most residential buildings would be subject to severe damage or destruction by a tornado. Property damage should be expected from summer storms with hail, microbursts, or extreme straight line wind. Some buildings have basements which do afford protection from tornadic activity and the city has a public storm shelters in the basement of the First Interstate Bank on North 5th Avenue and the Community Center on National Street. The concentrated number of people in the city is a concern during summer storms and tornados; however, the public warning system which was upgraded several years ago is judged to be sufficient. This situation may change as development increases outside of the City and should be a consideration when plans are presented to City and County Planning Commissions. Additionally, the major rodeo events held each July concentrate large numbers of people at the rodeo grounds. Evacuation is problematic due to a single road for ingress and egress. Developing an alternate access route may a worthy project for the city.

- The elevation and location of the City, including public and commercial infrastructure, makes risk from flooding medium to high. Using the June 2008 flooding of the Belle Fourche River watershed as a baseline, flooding occurred at Aroua Street and US Highway 212 Bypass (Oak Valley Trailer Court), the Decar Addition, Elkhorn Street (several locations), 8th and Edmunds (housing), 4th and Edmunds (housing), and Willow Creek Road. Some of the flooding from Willow Creek appeared to be exacerbated by flows limited by culvert size. This may be an area the City could evaluate for future infrastructure improvement projects. The Redwater River Bridges on US Business 212 (near Elkhorn) and on Sonoma Road were passable during the flood but should be added to the infrastructure list due to their importance as access routes into and out of the City. Experience shows that rural gravel roads became impassible due to localized flooding and bridge/culvert damage. Emergency access to some rural locations is problematic during major flooding situations and evacuation of residents remains the best course of action under severe or extreme flooding conditions.

- Blizzards and severe winter storms affect the city but snow removal by city crews is effective and generally timely. SD DOT clears US Highways 85 and 212, as well as SD Highway 34, which are the primary access roads for the city. Transient motorists who become stranded by highway closures during storms can generally find shelter in the numerous motels.

BUTTE COUNTY PRE-DISASTER MITIGATION PLAN

Emergency and law enforcement response is generally unrestricted within the city. However, these events are a major concern for rural residents, creating significant access issues for emergency response and public safety, as well as for farm and ranching operations with livestock. Public safety and property damage issues are compounded when electrical power is interrupted for long periods, especially if temperatures remain below freezing.

- Risk due to wildland fire is low for the city but several subdivisions were assessed medium and high in the Community Wildfire Protection Plan. Land usage north and east is primarily agricultural with irrigated row crops and alfalfa predominant. This provides a “green belt” in those areas. However, south and west of the city the topography changes creating interface issues for subdivisions and developments in timbered areas of the northern Black Hills. Rural farms and ranches north and northwest are also at somewhat more risk than residents in or near the city.

- HAZMAT incident risks are assessed to be medium-high because US Highway 85 passes through the city just west of city center. US Highway 212 passes along the northern edge and US Highway 34 passes along the south. These highways carry significant numbers of tractor trailers hauling placarded HAZMAT cargos. The predominant winds are from the west and northwest. A vehicle accident involving HAZMAT cargo would likely require evacuation of residents depending on the accident site and material involved. A spot survey to identify types and frequency of HAZMAT cargos moving through the city should be done.

All HAZMAT storage in the area meets applicable federal and state standards and, while there are large quantities of fuel stored at commercial service stations, manufacturing chemicals at Ring Container west of town off US Highway 212, and agricultural chemicals at Finkbeiner Feed and Seed (77 N. 6th Ave.), there are no significant concerns.

4. **Mitigation.** The attendees discussed past and current mitigation projects in the Belle Fourche area. In addition, there was some brainstorming on new mitigation activities that could be undertaken in the community.

- Belle Fourche has several emergency sirens in the city itself and one located in the GF&P campground at Rock Point (Orman Dam). A new system was added on Sourdough Road, west of town. The warning system is tested weekly and used during County-wide exercises. It has voice capability. It has been used for storm warning and can be used for evacuation notification.

- The Belle Fourche Volunteer Fire Department has upgraded equipment significantly during the last five years. Since 2004 they have added a new tender, purchased with assistance from a federal grant. Three type 6 wildland engines have undergone significant upgrades. They have purchased a fire-retardant gel system. And, they have been able to secure new SCBA equipment from a BLM grant. The Department has three emergency generators housed at the fire hall. In the future as area growth continues, the Department will need to consider expanding their fire hall. They currently own sufficient adjoining land to accomplish the project.

BUTTE COUNTY PRE-DISASTER MITIGATION PLAN

- The Belle Fourche Ambulance Service, part of the County-operated service, currently operates from a facility located west of City Hall. The service purchased a new ambulance in 2006 and an intercept rig in 2008. There are 20 volunteer members on their roster. They provide 24-hour on-call service during the week and schedule shifts on weekends. The hall has an emergency generator; however, there is no capability for housing personnel for extended or expanded operations. The service is purchasing a new facility south of City Hall, which they will upgrade to accommodate crew quarters, training rooms and equipment storage. This building has a basement that may be sufficient for a public tornado shelter.

- Potential damage to property along Hay Creek from flooding needs to be addressed. Periodic cleanup and vegetation control along the creek to promote better drainage can be explored. However, except for park areas which are well maintained by the City, land upstream where the cleanup is suggested is privately owned. As such, mitigation funding of a cleanup project may not be possible. Deepening the creek bed through town and increasing capacity of culverts might also help prevent backup of flood waters. Grants are a potential funding source for this type of project and may help reduce the extent of flooding experienced in this area in 2008.

- The City of Belle Fourche has been proactive in mitigating flooding. They have erected a concrete barrier at their lift station. They have changed gate valves at 4th and Edmunds to improve drainage and prevent back flow from the river into residential areas. There is a current project to stabilize the Belle Fourche River bank near US Highway 85 in preparation for a highway expansion project. Finally, the flood maps are being updated to provide a better, more accurate picture of the floodplain. With the update, better planning for development and better identification of areas at risk will allow a more proactive approach to floodplain management. The city has sent an individual to training on floodplain management and code enforcement. This initiative will provide a strong basis for an active public education process on development and may identify future mitigation projects along the rivers in Belle Fourche. Education efforts need to include discussion and information on the national flood insurance program.

- Post analysis of community experience in recent blizzards/severe snow storms points to the need to plan for an aging population. Much law enforcement and emergency services effort was expended delivering medical supplies, particularly oxygen, and often required snow removal equipment to be diverted to gain access to remote locations. During disasters, proactive welfare checks could be conducted on people with medical issues, particularly those who require electrical power for medical equipment or supplemental breathing oxygen. This might be a community effort; one administered by the ambulance service, the fire department, the churches, community volunteers or as an emergency shelter activation tasking. It would require those affected to voluntarily provide information to City government or County Dispatch to be input into a database and released to the ambulance service/fire department/local shelter manager during emergency events. It should include emergency contact information (especially cell phone numbers) for key responders, City government officials as well as individuals with medical issues. In addition the public should be made aware that during periods of extended power outage, sheltering individuals with medical issues at a central location may provide the safest and most effective use of resources.

BUTTE COUNTY PRE-DISASTER MITIGATION PLAN

- Public education must be developed and administered to make some suggested mitigation measures and programs successful. Such education programs are, in effect, also viable mitigation projects. Venues for public education in Belle Fourche need to be identified and explored. Data for phone rosters and medical information could be collected as part of education programs.

- After discussion on the current projects listed in the 2004 PDM Plan, the consensus was to add developing the new ambulance service facility to the list. Continued upgrade of warning systems and identifying/pursuing projects to reduce effect of flooding also remain high on the City list.

- Discussion also highlighted a need for individuals involved in City government and City Services, such as the Community Center) to receive training in the Incident Management System so they are better prepared to manage large scale emergencies in the community. Grant funding is available through State-administered programs and needs to be pursued. There is support for this initiative.

- It was pointed out that during the planning and approval phase of future developments, the local emergency organizations should review plans to ensure adequate ingress/egress for response and evacuation and that sufficient public warning systems will be available.

5. ***Shelters and Sheltering.*** Discussion on emergency shelters shows Belle Fourche has been actively addressing needs of the community residents as well as travelers trapped by road closures during winter storms. There are still some areas that need clarification and shelter agreements need to be negotiated between the City, County and the Area Community Center, which is the designated public shelter.

The Community Center Director has attended Red Cross Shelter Manager training. The facility has been wired for an emergency generator, although there are still some issues with the installation, and a secure concrete pad is planned to house an available mobile generator. Cots, bedding kits and MREs are also on hand. The American Red Cross is available to assist during emergencies.

The shelter has been activated during recent winter storms. However, use was limited. City and County officials need to develop a formal concept of operations and an agreement for activation and operation. One important issue that must be addressed is a set of decision points on when opening a shelter is required, as opposed to assisting people to secure lodging and meals on the economy. Another issue is funding.

6. The meeting adjourned at 2100.

Fred L. Wells III
Meeting Facilitator

BUTTE COUNTY PRE-DISASTER MITIGATION PLAN

Attachment 1 to Belle Fourche Meeting Minutes

Agenda for Public Meeting for Belle Fourche

Thursday, 11 February 2010, 1900, at Belle Fourche City Hall

Butte County Pre-Disaster Mitigation Plan

- Review Critical Infrastructure List
- Identify Risk to Infrastructure
- Potential for Mitigation from Natural Disasters
- Past Mitigation Projects
- Current Mitigation Projects
- Future Mitigation Projects
- Project Priorities
- Project Costs
- Project Funding

Shelter for Township Residents

- Type Required
- Utilization Projections
- Potential Locations/Facilities
- Activation & Operation
- Funding

Attachment 2 to Belle Fourche Meeting Minutes

Name	Agency	Mailing Address
Fred Wells	Wells Consulting	13060 193rd Street, Vale SD
Percy Bekken	Butte County EM	
Vernon Howie	Newell VFD	
Dirk Hoffman	City of Belle Fourche	606 6th Avenue, Belle Fourche SD
Dave Mullaney	Town of Fruitdale	300 High Street, Fruitdale SD
Gary Hendrickson	City of Belle Fourche	606th 6th Avenue, Belle Fourche SD
Milo Dailey	Butte County Post	
Randy Schmidt	Belle Fourche VFD	
Mark Hespe	Belle Fourche VFD	
Darian Reede	Belle Fourche VFD	
Michelle Deyo-Amende	Belle Fourche ACC	1111 National Street, Belle Fourche SD