

By Carolyn Lee

The Imperial Republican

Traffic advisories warning people to stay at home during the Christmas weekend pertained more to people traveling to and from eastern Nebraska and Colorado than to Chase County itself.

According to the National Weather Service in North Platte, Chase and Lincoln Counties received just over four inches of snowfall, while Perkins County received just over three inches of snow. However, winds up to 50 miles per hour made visibility and driving difficult Thursday, Friday and Saturday.

Paul Kunnemann, Chase County Emergency Manager, said his department wasn't called to perform any duties during the weekend.

Both the Imperial Police and Chase County Sheriff's Departments reported no accidents or major problems.

Sheriff Tim Sutherland said a snow blockage on the dam overlooking Enders Reservoir was reported, but the State Roads Department cleared it.

A comment wasn't available from the roads department office in Imperial Tuesday.

The county roads department's secretary, Billie Muehlenkamp, said she received no complaints or reports of problems from the county commissioners.

Imperial City Clerk/Administrator Jo Leyland said city crews were out about 3 a.m. Saturday morning clearing big drifts across some streets. "They didn't stay out too long," she noted, with some employees clocking three hours of overtime.

Leyland said the city had budgeted about \$8,000 for snow removal this fiscal year, which doesn't include wages. She said the budget is looking "OK."

The outlook for the rest of this week shows a chance of snow flurries on Saturday, according to the National Weather Service, with highs of upper 20s to low 30s and lows of 11 to 13 degrees.

Sutherland summed it up. "All citizens and people traveling through did a good job. They were being smart and intelligent" about traveling and driving.