

7:10 -- 6/15

FLOOD WARNING

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RAPID CITY PUBLIC WORKS DIRECTOR LEONARD SWANSON SAID LAST NIGHT THE MOST MODERN FLOOD WARNING SYSTEM DEvised WOULD HAVE GIVEN RAPID CITY RESIDENTS ONLY A LITTLE MORE TIME TO EVACUATE THEIR HOMES IN ADVANCE OF THE RAPID CREEK FLOOD LAST FRIDAY. DURING A MEETING YESTERDAY MORNING A NATIONAL OFFICIAL~~S~~ HAD CALLED THE FLOOD WARNING SYSTEM "ARCHAIC."

SWANSON SAID LAST NIGHT THAT RESIDENTS OF THE AREA WERE GIVEN A 45 MINUTE WARNING TO EVACUATE BEFORE THE FLOOD CREST HIT RESIDENTIAL AREAS OF RAPID CITY... AND THE MOST MODERN ELECTRONIC SYSTEM WOULD NOT HAVE GIVEN THE COMMUNITY MUCH MORE THAN AN HOUR. SWANSON SAID IT WOULD BE BETTER PLANNING TO ATTEMPT TO ELIMINATE THE FLOOD POTENTIAL WITH METERING DAMS THAN TO DEPEND ON A WARNING SYSTEM.~~XXXXXX~~