Emergency Executive Order 18-03

Declaring an Emergency and Providing Assistance to Shelter Stranded Motorists

I, Mark Dayton, Governor of the State of Minnesota, by virtue of the authority vested in me by the Constitution and applicable statutes, do hereby issue this Executive Order:

Whereas, on January 22, 2018 a powerful winter storm with strong winds, heavy snowfalls, and blowing snow caused white out conditions affecting Steele County and areas across southern Minnesota, necessitating road closures and threatening public safety;

Whereas, dangerous driving conditions resulted in numerous traffic accidents and stranded vehicles, and these conditions created an imminent danger to persons and property, presenting an immediate need to activate emergency resources;

Whereas, the resources of the affected local and county governments are inadequate to meet the demands generated by the severe winter conditions;

Whereas, the Steele County Sheriff requested the assistance of the Minnesota National Guard, specifically use of the armory in Owatonna, Minnesota to support sheltering of stranded motorists; and

Whereas, weather conditions continue to deteriorate in southern Minnesota, and the counties of Blue Earth, Brown, Carver, Dakota, Goodhue, Faribault, Freeborn, Le Sueur, Martin, McLeod, Nicollet, Redwood, Renville, Rice, Scott, Sibley, Steele, Waseca, and Watonwan are under blizzard or winter weather warnings and travel in these areas is becoming increasingly difficult, it is expected that additional counties may require the assistance of the Minnesota National Guard to support sheltering of stranded motorists.
Now, Therefore, I hereby declare that:

1. The Adjutant General of Minnesota order to state active duty on or about January 22, 2018, in the service of the State, such personnel, equipment, and facilities of the military forces of the State as required and for such period of time as necessary to provide assistance and emergency relief services to any county that may require the assistance of the Minnesota National Guard to support sheltering of stranded motorists.

2. The Adjutant General is authorized to purchase, lease, or contract for goods and services necessary to accomplish the mission.

3. The cost of subsistence, transportation, fuel, pay, and allowances of said individuals shall be defrayed from the general fund of the State, as provided for in Minnesota Statutes, sections 192.49, subdivisions 1 and 2; 192.52; and 192.54, and as otherwise permitted by law.

Pursuant to Minnesota Statutes, section 4.035, subdivision 2, this Emergency Executive Order is effective immediately and must be filed with the Secretary of State and published in the State Register as soon as possible after its issuance. It remains in effect until the termination of the emergency conditions caused by the winter storm.

In Testimony Whereof, I have set my hand on this 22th day of January, 2018.

Mark Dayton
Governor

Filed According to Law:

Steve Simon
Secretary of State