

# Window on the Clearwater®

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## County's Coon Building offices to reopen Monday

Clearwater County offices at the Coon Building on Michigan Ave. have been closed since the severe thunder and wind storm early Tuesday morning, but are expected to be back open Monday.

The pitched roof on the front of the building was severely damaged by the winds. It was picked up as a piece, twisted and moved about four feet. According to Clearwater County Commission Chair Don Ebert the pitched roof was pretty much destroyed.



**This photo shows how much the pitched roof moved during the storm.**

Fortunately, there was an older flat roof under it that leaked some, but saved many of the offices and contents from serious damage. According to Ebert the leaking occurred when water from the rain accompanying the storm pooled on the flat roof and went mainly into the Extension Office.

The pitched roof was put on prior to the county's purchase of the building. Lew Mangum's crews have removed the pitched roof covered the flat roof with plastic and sealed it to secure it for winter. During the winter, the commissioners will need to decide what kind of permanent roofing system they will put on the building. Ebert said the quick action of Mangum's crews saved the building and contents from further damage.

Friday, crews worked to repair holes in the back part of the building which houses the Road Department. Debris from the storm hit that part of the roof and damaged it, according to Commissioner Stan Leach. He said the building was originally built for a business that sold boats and motorcycles.

The building houses Department of Motor Vehicle Licensing, Juvenile Court Services, Lewis Clark State College Outreach, Extension, Emergency Management and temporarily Cross Point. The building is insured by ICRMP and there is no estimate of damage costs at this point.

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Contents of the building were covered and secured until roof repairs were completed. (Photo courtesy of Don Gardner)



The pitched roof damaged by the wind storm had to be removed leaving this debris pile until it was put in a dumpster for removal. (Photo courtesy of Don Gardner)