No serious medical concerns, emergencies from Arctic blast

Warren County emergency responders said a polar vortex that blasted the Midwest with subzero wind chills last week did not cause serious medical concerns in the local area.

Warren County Ambulance Chief Tim Flake said there were a total of 36 medical calls from Jan. 29 through Jan. 31, when temperatures were among the coldest in decades. None of the calls were specifically cold related, and were for reasons such as difficulty breathing, chest pains, falls or drug overdoses, Flake said.

However, the ambulance chief commented that the winter months in general

“Thankfully we’ve been able to address issues and correct them,” she commented. “There have not been any tragic situations.”

The animal control officers recommend animals to be taken inside during extreme cold unless that isn’t an option. Otherwise, Klingler said owners must provide minimum adequate shelter including an enclosed area with bedding to stay warm.