

OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR  
STATE OF MONTANA

STEVE BULLOCK  
GOVERNOR



ANGELA MCLEAN  
LT. GOVERNOR

February 4, 2015

Sheriff Leo Dutton  
Chair, Statewide Interoperability Governing Board

Sheriff Dutton,

Thank you for the recommendations forwarded to me last month by the SIGB to ensure a long-term, viable plan for operation and maintenance of the public safety LMR system in Montana. I know this has been a long road and we will continue to work together to ensure that we have a complete and well-maintained statewide public safety radio communications system to ensure the safety and security of Montanans in every corner of the state.

While this recommendation did not arrive in time to be included in my FY16-FY17 budget, I have included \$2 million in my long-range planning budget request this year. I look forward to working with the SIGB over the next two years to come up with a plan to address and fund the final build-out of the system as well as ongoing maintenance.

When the current Executive Order expires in October 2015, I will carefully consider the recommendations here, including transferring the administrative duties and adjusting the purposes and duties of the Board.

I want to extend my sincere appreciation for the amount of time that members of the SIGB as well as staff in many state and local agencies and organizations have dedicated to this issue over the years. While statewide interoperability may not be the hottest topic, it truly is critical work for our state and I am grateful to you for ensuring this work gets done.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Steve Bullock".

STEVE BULLOCK  
Governor

Cc: Attorney General Tim Fox  
Director Sheila Hogan, DOA  
Director Mike Tooley, MDT  
SIGB Members