STATE OF MONTANA
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
EXECUTIVE ORDER No. 16-2015

EXECUTIVE ORDER CONTINUING THE STATEWIDE INTEROPERABILITY GOVERNING BOARD

WHEREAS, Executive Order 10-2013 expires September 30, 2015;

WHEREAS, the Middle Class Tax Relief and Job Creation Act of 2012 created the First Responder Network Authority (FirstNet) to advance communications interoperability through the deployment of a nationwide public safety broadband network (NPSBN);

WHEREAS, the Middle Class Tax Relief and Job Creation Act of 2012 directs FirstNet to take all actions necessary to ensure the building, deployment and operation of the nationwide public safety broadband network, in consultation with federal, state, tribal and local public safety entities, including the leveraging of existing commercial wireless infrastructure to speed deployment of the network. State, tribal and local consultation will be a collaborative process, involving key stakeholders and leadership from each state;

WHEREAS, the Middle Class Tax Relief and Job Creation Act of 2012 established a State and Local Implementation Grant Program (SLIGP) within the U.S. Department of Commerce to provide grants to the states to assist in identifying, planning and implementing the most efficient and effective way to utilize and integrate the infrastructure, equipment and other architecture associated with the NPSBN and calls for states to certify and designate a governmental body and single point of contact to serve as the coordinator to assist with planning the NPSBN;

WHEREAS, the Statewide Interoperability Governing Body (SIGB) is a governance/advisory body recommended by U.S. Department of Homeland Security, Office of Emergency Communications, as a governing/advisory body for the planning and implementation of interoperable communications that are not limited to land mobile radio; and,

WHEREAS, Executive Order 10-2013 continued the SIGB and directed the SIGB to develop a long-term, viable plan for the ongoing operation and maintenance of the statewide land mobile radio system in Montana. The SIGB has developed a long-term plan and is currently considering strategies for implementation.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, STEVE BULLOCK, Governor of the State of Montana, under the authority vested in me by the laws and Constitution of the State of Montana, do hereby authorize the continuation of the SIGB. Moreover, I hereby authorize the Chief Information Officer (CIO) to hire (re-appoint) a Statewide Interoperability Coordinator, who shall report directly to the CIO to support the SIGB and FirstNet SPOC in the activities outlined in this Order.

PURPOSE:

The purpose of the SIGB is to advise the Governor, CIO and FirstNet regarding the state's public safety communications interoperability efforts. To that end, the SIGB shall:

A. provide advice and engage in the consultation with FirstNet as the NPSBN is planned, deployed and operated in Montana;
B. provide guidance and recommendations in identifying, planning, and implementing the most efficient and effective way to utilize and integrate existing infrastructure, including as appropriate, the facilities, equipment and other architecture associated with the NPSBN in Montana, as requested by FirstNet;
C. advise, coordinate and otherwise encourage the integration of public and private communications resources located in Montana, as requested by FirstNet;
D. engage public safety communications stakeholders and provide advice in the state's public safety communications interoperability efforts; and,
E. recommend strategies to the Governor for effective implementation of the SIGB's plan for the ongoing operation and maintenance of the statewide land mobile radio system in Montana.

The Statewide Interoperability Coordinator shall:

A. maintain the SIGB governance/advisory board and its working groups;
B. coordinate the state's public safety communications interoperability efforts under the guidance of the SIGB;
C. upon request by the SIGB assemble work groups to develop and implement key initiatives regarding the consultation with FirstNet and public safety communications interoperability; and,
D. manage the SLIGP grant and program activities;

COMPOSITION

A. SIGB members shall represent their respective agency or association and serve at the pleasure of the Governor in an advisory capacity as defined in MCA 2-15-102(1).
B. The SIGB consists of the following 15 voting members appointed by the Governor:
   - the Attorney General or his designee;
   - Governor's Office representative;
   - the Montana Chief Information Officer or his designee;
   - the Montana Department of Transportation Director or his designee;
   - the Montana Director of Indian Affairs;
   - a representative of the Montana Sheriffs and Peace Officers Association;
   - a representative of the Montana Fire Chiefs Association;
   - a representative of the Montana State Volunteer Firefighters Association;
   - a representative of the Montana EMS Association;
   - a representative of the Montana Association of Counties;
   - a representative of Montana Association of Chiefs of Police;
   - a representative of the Montana League of Cities and Towns;

- a representative of the Montana Department of Military Affairs; and,
- representatives of Montana's telecommunications industry.

C. The SIGB is attached to the Department of Administration for administrative purposes. The State Information Technology Services Division of the Department of Administration will provide technical, administrative and day-to-day assistance to the SIGB.

D. The names and addresses of the members appointed by the Governor shall be submitted by separate letter to the Secretary of State and the Department of Administration.

DURATION

The SIGB shall exist for a period of two years from the effective date of this Order unless otherwise ordered by subsequent Executive Order or legislative direction.

This Order is effective October 1, 2015.

GIVEN under my hand and the GREAT SEAL of the State of Montana this 2nd day of October, 2015.

STEVE BULLOCK, Governor

ATTEST:

, DEPUTY
for:
LINDA MCCULLOCH, Secretary of State