

STATE OF MONTANA  
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR  
EXECUTIVE ORDER No. 10-2013

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**EXECUTIVE ORDER CONTINUING THE STATEWIDE INTEROPERABILITY  
GOVERNING BOARD**

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WHEREAS, Executive Order 13-2011 expires September 30, 2013;

WHEREAS, Executive Order 13-2011 established a Statewide Interoperability Governing Body (SIGB) to govern the operation of the statewide public safety land mobile radio (LMR) system formerly operated by Interoperability Montana and funded in majority by the U.S. Department of Homeland Security (DHS);

WHEREAS, the SIGB was tasked with overseeing and coordinating the completion of the statewide public safety LMR backbone, and that task is 97% complete;

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) and broadband technologies;

WHEREAS, the SIGB is a governance/advisory body recommended by SAFECOM, DHS, Office of Emergency Communications, as a governing/advisory body for planning and implementation of interoperable communications that are not limited to land mobile radio;

WHEREAS, "Section 6302. State and Local Implementation" of 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 point of contact officer to serve as the coordinator to assist with planning the NPSBN;

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 and expansion of its membership. Moreover, I hereby authorize the Chief Information Officer to hire (re-appoint) a Statewide Interoperability Coordinator (SWIC), who shall report directly to the Chief Information Officer to implement activities under LMR, SLIGP and the NPSBN.

**PURPOSE:**

The purpose of the SIGB is to plan, develop and promote public safety interoperable communications in Montana. Interoperable communications include land mobile radio and broadband technologies. **To that end, the SIGB shall:**

- A. continue to oversee and coordinate the completion of the statewide public safety LMR backbone by strategic planning and prioritization of tasks, resources and grant dollars to local jurisdictions as required by the DHS;
- B. engage all public safety stakeholders in the development of a long-term, viable plan for the ongoing operation and maintenance of the public safety LMR system in Montana;
- C. oversee and provide guidance in the implementation of the SLIGP;
- D. provide oversight of and consult with FirstNet as the NPSBN is deployed in Montana;
- E. encourage all public safety stakeholders to participate in the FirstNet NPSBN; and
- F. coordinate and otherwise encourage the integration of public and private communications resources as requested by FirstNet .

**The Statewide Interoperability Coordinator shall:**

- A. maintain the SIGB governance/advisory board and its chartered working groups;
- B. oversee and coordinate the daily operation of the state’s interoperability efforts under the guidance of the SIGB to include interoperability communications policy development, grant and contract coordination and stakeholder outreach. These duties include management of the SLIGP;
- C. assemble work groups to develop and implement key initiatives regarding public safety LMR and broadband technologies;
- D. update the Statewide Communications Interoperability Plan to include broadband goals and objectives;
- E. manage the SLIGP grant and program activities;
- F. update and coordinate the implementation of the Statewide Communications Interoperability Plan; and
- G. provide recommendations to the Montana Department of Military Affairs for the inclusion of interoperable public safety communications, including LMR and Broadband, in the Montana Homeland Security Strategic Plan.

**COMPOSITION**

- A. The SIBG consists of the following 13 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
  - two representatives of the Montana telecommunications industry (non-voting).

- B. 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.
- C. 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, 2013.



GIVEN under my hand and the GREAT SEAL of the State of Montana, this 1 day of October, 2013

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Steve Bullock', written over a horizontal line.

STEVE BULLOCK, Governor

ATTESTED:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Linda McCulloch', written over a horizontal line.

LINDA MCCULLOCH, Secretary of State

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Eric Steen', written below the signature of Linda McCulloch.