EDUCATION & LOCAL GOV'T IC
JANUARY 23, 2012
Exhibit 8

STATE OF MONTAN
OFFICE OF THE GOVER
EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 1

Establishing a Statewide Interoperability Governing Board to direct the operation of the statewide public safety radio system formerly operated by Interoperability Montana

WHEREAS, the public safety of citizens and public safety responders of Montana is of paramount importance; and

WHEREAS, inter- and intra-jurisdictional interoperable public safety communications are critical to the mission of protecting the safety of citizens and public safety responders of Montana; and

WHEREAS, the State of Montana and U.S. Department of Homeland Security (DHS) have invested large sums of public funds in an effort to develop, deploy and administer a statewide interoperable public safety radio system in Montana; and

WHEREAS, that effort was largely driven by Interoperability Montana (IM) an association of local and state jurisdictions which ceased operations on June 30, 2011; and

WHEREAS, on June 1, 2011, in anticipation of IM's dissolution, I appointed a temporary Task Force to manage the transition of the grants, equipment and other resources under IM's control to other jurisdictions and entities; and

WHEREAS, that temporary Task Force has established the framework and processes that will enable the State of Montana and its local jurisdictions to continue to make progress on the goals and objectives laid out in Montana's Homeland Security Strategic Plan and the State Communications Interoperability Plan; and

WHEREAS, the temporary Task Force requires additional authority to move beyond the immediate transition from IM and to implement the ongoing initiatives and projects that remain in process and to address the long-term future of statewide public safety radio.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, BRIAN SCHWEITZER, Governor of the State of Montana, pursuant to the authority vested in me by the laws and Constitution of the State of Montana, do hereby establish a Statewide Interoperability Governing Board (SIGB) and do hereby authorize the Chief Information Officer to hire a Statewide Interoperability Coordinator, who shall report directly to the Chief Information Officer to implement the directions of the Board.

I. PURPOSE

The purpose of the SIGB is to ensure the future of interoperable communications in Montana as described in Montana's Homeland Security Strategic Plan (HSSP) and State Communications Interoperability Plan (SCIP).

To that end the SIGB shall:

A. Continue to manage the orderly transition of IM assets, resources and grant dollars to local jurisdictions as required by DHS; and
B. Engage all public safety stakeholders in the development of a long-term, viable plan for the continued development and ongoing operation and maintenance of the public safety radio system in Montana.

The Statewide Interoperability Coordinator shall:

- Oversee the daily operation of the state's interoperability efforts under the guidance of the SIGB to include grants coordination, outreach and policy development
- Coordinate interoperability and communications projects
- Maintain governance structures
- Assemble work groups to develop and implement key initiatives
- Update and implement the SCIP

II. COMPOSITION

A. The SIGB shall consist of five voting members appointed by the Governor:

- The Attorney General or his designee
- Governor's Office representative
- The Montana State Chief Information Officer, or his designee
- The Director of the Montana Department of Transportation, or his designee
- A representative of the Montana Sheriffs and Peace Officers Association

B. The SIGB is attached to the Department of Administration for administrative purposes. The 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.

III. 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 immediately.

GIVEN under my hand and the GREAT SEAL of the State of Montana, this 30 day of September 2011.

BRIAN SCHWEITZER, Governor

ATTEST:

Linda McCulloch, Secretary of State