



STATE OF MONTANA

STATEWIDE E9-1-1 SOLUTION

Rather than fund dozens of stovepipe systems, the state can pursue funding for a single, E9-1-1 network, thereby reducing overall expenditures by eliminating duplication. The State of Montana Public Safety Services Bureau (PSSB), in meeting these strategic initiatives, has aggressively pursued and received Federal FY03 funding in the amount of \$2,235,375. In addition, the Montana Sheriffs and Peace Officers Association (MSPOA), by way of a Service Level Agreement executed 5/15/2003, has made the Public Safety Services Bureau the funding authority for a similar grant. This grant, in the amount of \$1,987,000, provides for the deployment of an emergency notification service. The statewide E9-1-1 solution will provide a turnkey E9-1-1 network, emergency notification service, database services, customer premise equipment (CPE), maintenance, monitoring and training and Phase II Wireless E9-1-1 readiness.

A statewide inventory and site survey of all 58 Public Safety Answering Points (PSAPs) funded by a Public Safety Foundation of American grant (awarded to the Public Safety Services Bureau) was completed in December 2003. Panel discussions with wireless and local exchange carriers and the PSAPs have provided an overview of the statewide project and feedback from the stakeholders.

Faced with the challenge of selecting the best technical solution for Montana as well as drafting and issuing an RFP to select a vendor(s) for statewide E9-1-1 deployment and Phase II Wireless readiness the PSSB hired L. R. Kimball and Associates to develop a recommendation to the State (PSSB) on the solution that meets all the objectives.

The process included the following steps:

- Baseline assessment
- Functional needs analysis
- Education and outreach
- Identify options/alternative solutions (incl. governance & maintenance options)
- Identify/recommend solution for Montana
- Issue Request for Proposal (RFP)
- Award contract
- Deploy solution

For more information: <http://www.mt.gov/itsd/techmt/pssb.asp>

