

SLIGP 2.0 Grant Closeout Report				2. Award or Grant Number:	46-10-S18046
				4. EIN:	46-6000364
1. Recipient Name	South Dakota Bureau of Information and Telecommunications			6. Report Date (MM/DD/YYYY)	6/25/2021
3. Street Address	700 Governor's Drive			7. Reporting Period End Date: (MM/DD/YYYY)	3/31/2021
5. City, State, Zip Code	Pierre, SD 57501			8. Final Report	
				Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
				No <input type="checkbox"/>	
9. Project/Grant Period				10. Reserved for Reviewer	
9a. Start Date: (MM/DD/YYYY)	3/1/2018	9b. End Date: (MM/DD/YYYY)	3/31/2021		
11. Program Activities					
11a. Identify the activities you performed during SLIGP2.0 grant period of performance					
	Activity Type (Planning, Governance Meetings, etc.)	Was this Activity Performed during the grant period? (Yes/No)	Total Project Deliverable Quantity (Number)	Description of Activity Deliverable Quantity	
1	Governance Meetings	Yes	13	Cumulative number of governance, subcommittee, or working group meetings related to the NPSBN held during the grant period	
2	Individuals Sent to Broadband Conferences	Yes	5	Cumulative number of individuals sent to national or regional third-party conferences with a focus or training track related to the NPSBN using SLIGP 2.0 grant funds during the grant period	
3	Convened Stakeholder Events	Yes	1	Cumulative number of events coordinated or held using SLIGP 2.0 grant funds during the grant period, as requested by FirstNet.	
4	Staff Hired (Full-Time Equivalent)(FTE)	Yes	1.20	Cumulative number of state/territory personnel FTEs who began supporting SLIGP 2.0 activities during the grant period (may be a decimal).	
5	Contracts Executed	Yes	1	Cumulative number of contracts executed during the grant period.	
6	Subrecipient Agreements Executed	No	0	Cumulative number of agreements executed during the grant period.	
7	Data Sharing Policies/Agreements Developed	No		Yes or No if data sharing policies and/or agreements were developed during the grant period.	
8	Further Identification of Potential Public Safety Users	Yes		Yes or No if further identification of potential public safety users occurred during the grant period.	
9	Plans for Emergency Communications Technology Transitions	Yes		Yes or No if plans for future emergency communications technology transitions occurred during the grant period.	
10	Identified and Planned to Transition PS Apps & Databases	Yes		Yes or No if public safety applications or databases within the State or territory were identified and transition plans were developed during the grant period	
11	Identify Ongoing Coverage Gaps	Yes		Yes or No if participated in identifying ongoing coverage gaps using SLIGP 2.0 funds during the grant period.	
12	Data Collection Activities	No		Yes or No if participated in data collection activities as requested by FirstNet	

11b. Please provide a description of each activity reported in response to Question 11; any challenges or obstacles encountered and mitigation strategies you employed; and any additional project milestones or information.

11.a.1: We held 13 governance meetings during our period of performance. SLIGP grant, FirstNet/NPSBN, and Public Safety Broadband were agenda items and discussed at each meeting. FirstNet AT&T and FirstNet Authority were notified of each meeting and attended regularly. These governance meetings provided great direction for the SLIGP grant activities including the FirstNet Opt-in recommendation to the Governor, the creation of the broadband subcommittee which will continue long after the grant period, and the recommendation of interoperability applications used on the FirstNet platform.

11.a.2: We attended 5 broadband conferences during the period of performance. These events were very valuable for networking, learning, and documenting items to keep South Dakota informed on the NPSBN from a national perspective.

11.a.3: We received approval from FirstNet Authority to engage stakeholders involved with the 2019 Sturgis Rally. We were able to meet with multiple local first responders from various disciplines with FirstNet consultant, FirstNet Authority personnel, and state representatives.

11.a.4: We were able to perform the grant activities with one full time FTE, and 20% time of another FTE. Our FirstNet SPOC (Single Point Of Contact) was a long time Public Safety Communications employee and also provided direction to the full time FTE who was our state FirstNet project manager. Our project manager had years of experience working with broadband and networking technologies so by combining that expertise with the expertise of radio knowledge in our SPOC it made for a great team effort on the convergence of LMR and LTE.

11.a.5: We executed one contract during the period of performance. Our governance council approved the contract to survey our public safety personnel on their mobile usage including what provider, what applications they use, and other misc. information. The contract was to create, help with administration tasks, and produce a final report of which we submitted back to the governance council and have used to help direct further decisions.

11.a.6: We did not have any Subrecipient Agreements Executed during the period of performance.

11.a.7: We did not have any Data Sharing Policies/Agreements Developed during the period of performance.

11.a.8: All 13 quarters of the period of performance we had Further Identification of Potential Public Safety Users. The main purpose of the allowable grant activities was to provide outreach and inform the public safety community in our state about FirstNet. We worked hard at that through presentations, one-on-one meetings, phone calls, emails, social media, and any methods allowable via the grant. Every public safety stakeholder we engaged with we were sure to inform them of the FirstNet project. Examples: We had folks in SD Civil Air Patrol wanting to get on FirstNet, so we worked with FirstNet to advocate for them and FirstNet did expand the Extended Primary Subscriber paid program to include the Civil Air Patrol as a whole and not just pilots. Worked with the Oglala Sioux Tribe who became the first agency on tribal lands to subscribe to FirstNet. As a joint effort between the State of SD and FirstNet Authority, the National Tribal Government Liaison together with our project manager traveled to all nine of the tribal lands in South Dakota to provide outreach and information about FirstNet.

11.a.9: During 12 quarters of the period of performance we worked on Plans for Emergency Communications Technology Transitions. Discussed statewide interoperability and collaboration applications with the governance council and eventually the broadband subcommittee. Our project manager was on a Department of Homeland Security interoperability task force with industry experts and used this experience and document created to discuss with broadband subcommittee. Research continued throughout the performance period on how to transition to mobile broadband capabilities. Working with the State Office of Emergency Management to add mobile broadband to all public safety communication planning for any/all major events such as the Sturgis Rally, State Fair, etc. A major obstacle of FirstNet is the lack of inherent immediate broadband/data interoperability. It does not exist by the virtue of being a FirstNet customer thus the states are on our own to create it. Our mitigation strategies were to research (through the subcommittee) and investigate the public safety industry looking for a common application we could implement statewide that would provide the needed interoperability.

11.a.10: During 10 quarters of the period of performance we Identified and Planned to Transition PS Apps & Databases. Public safety applications and databases within the state have been identified through our survey and discussed during governance council meetings. Discussion took place to determine transition plans including adding FirstNet and broadband to the South Dakota Interoperable Communications Plan.

11.a.11: During 12 quarters of the period of performance we worked on Identify Ongoing Coverage Gaps. Every stakeholder we visit with, every meeting we held, every presentation we presented, coverage was a topic of discussion. We also discussed coverage with AT&T / FirstNet & FirstNet Authority at every meeting. The challenge we had with the coverage gaps was degraded services when switching current AT&T commercial users to FirstNet users. Complaints of less coverage area, no service, and more dead spots were common. We mitigated the problem with weekly calls to AT&T including with the RAN director, meetings with senior AT&T leadership, and eventually just wait until AT&T built the FirstNet core and the network was mature enough to work as promised.

11.a.12: Data Collection Activities: We did not have any Data Collection Activities during the period of performance.

<p>11c. Did you perform activities during the last quarter of the grant that haven't been reported previously (i.e., new programmatic activities, staffing changes)? If so, please describe.</p> <p>Gave a presentation as part of a webinar panel for APCO International, hosted by IWCE/APCO International and sponsored by AT&T/FirstNet. Title of webinar was Multi-Agency Interoperability & On-Scene Awareness Made Possible with Apps on FirstNet. SD FirstNet Project Manager and an Emergency Manager of a large county represented South Dakota by participating in focus groups organized by the FirstNet Authority to discuss selecting and fielding apps for operational purposes. We submitted and were approved for a budget modification as we had plenty of budget monies but were over in a few categories. Our governance council (SD Public Safety Communications Council) met (03/18/21) in person and via video conference with discussion from the broadband subcommittee https://boardsandcommissions.sd.gov/Meetings.aspx?BoardID=24</p>
<p>11d. Please share any lessons learned or best practices that your organization implemented during your SLIGP 2.0 project.</p> <p>A big lesson learned is that we are at the point of digital usage whereas every first responder will always have a public safety broadband device on their person. That device may be a smartphone, tablet, smart watch, sensor, or in most cases multiple devices. We need to take advantage of that so the usage of the device(s) can enhance their day-to-day shifts as well as in an emergency.</p> <p>As public safety is quickly operationalizing mobility solutions, the industry has a limited window of opportunity to mitigate inevitable potential problems if not evaluated properly prior to full-scale utilization. The potential issues include items such as interoperability issues, unsecure application issues, non-centralized applications, non-supported applications, duplicative efforts, leverage economies of scale, and silos of incompatible duplicative data.</p> <p>Currently the state has the SD Public Safety Communications Council (https://sdpsc.sd.gov/). The council's primary work is on interoperability for public safety in South Dakota. This is a very effective council that primarily discusses and works with the state radio system (LMR). A lesson learned is that we need resources to continue this type of communication with the mobile broadband capabilities. So, as a best practice the council has approved a Public Safety Mobile Broadband Subcommittee chaired by the FirstNet project manager to discuss and research applications, processes, and the current landscape of broadband usage in public safety today. The committee members worked with collaboration applications as a proof of concept for interoperable communications. We have learned that this kind of collaboration is invaluable and has given multiple agencies across the state the opportunity to review, test, work with, and experiment with the mobile broadband interoperability concept brought on through the FirstNet platform. Because this is a new concept for many, having an opportunity to see it firsthand has been invaluable, and has engaged many discussions to continue to improve these concepts.</p>

12. Personnel

12a. Staffing Table - Please include all staff that contributed time to the project with utilization. Please only include government staff employed by the state/territory NOT contractors.

Job Title	FTE%	Project (s) Assigned
Grant Manager	20%	Overall administration of the process, the project team and overall effort.
Program Manager	100%	Work on all the grant activities to complete the grant program, including assuring completion of progress reports, and ensuring grant compliance. Responsible for coordination with stakeholders, contractors, Native American nations, and the public.

13. Contractual (Contract and/or Subrecipients)

13a. Contractual Table – Include all contractors. The totals from this table should equal the “Contractual” in Question 14f.

Name	Subcontract Purpose	Type (Contract/Subrec.)	RFP/RFQ Issued (Y/N)	Contract Executed (Y/N)	Start Date	End Date	Total Federal Funds Allocated	Total Matching Funds Allocated
Contractor/ Consultant	Not executed contract	Contract	N	N	N/A	N/A	\$ 7,909.00	\$ -
Televate, LLC	Create/Manage Public Safety Survey & Reports	Contract	N	Y	6/5/2019	12/31/2019	\$ 29,091.00	\$ -
Total Funds Allocated to Contracts							\$37,000.00	\$0.00

14. Budget Worksheet

Columns 2, 3 and 4 must match your project budget for the entire award and your final SF 424A. Columns 5, 6, and 7 should list your final budget figures, cumulative through the last quarter

Project Budget Element (1)	Federal Funds Awarded (2)	Approved Matching Funds (3)	Total Budget (4)	Final Federal Funds Expended (5)	Final Approved Matching Funds Expended (6)	Final Total Funds Expended (7)
a. Personnel Salaries	\$ 310,000.00	\$ 40,000.00	\$ 350,000.00	\$ 268,033.84	\$ 80,537.33	\$ 348,571.17
b. Personnel Fringe Benefits	72,000.00	8,000.00	80,000.00	63,722.01	14,931.12	78,653.13
c. Travel	7,760.00	24,000.00	31,760.00	10,658.97	4,936.82	15,595.79
d. Equipment	-	-	-	-	-	-
e. Materials/Supplies	-	25,800.00	25,800.00	2,523.98	-	2,523.98
f. Contractual	37,000.00	-	37,000.00	29,091.00	-	29,091.00
g. Other	11,000.00	14,110.00	25,110.00	25,163.91	-	25,163.91
h. Indirect	-	-	-	-	-	-
i. Total Costs	\$ 437,760.00	\$ 111,910.00	\$ 549,670.00	\$ 399,193.71	\$ 100,405.27	\$ 499,598.98
j. Proportionality Percent	80%	20%	100%	79.90%	20.10%	100%

15. Additional Questions: Read each statement below. Rate your level of agreement or disagreement with each statement and answer follow-up questions to provide additional information.

Statement	Agree/Disagree	Additional Questions	Response
15a. SLIGP 2.0 funds were helpful in planning for the integration with the NPSBN.	5-Strongly Agree	What was most helpful? What challenges did you encounter?	Having the funds for full time FTE to focus on the project. Without the funds we would not have been as involved. Able to establish the public safety broadband subcommittee to gain valuable insights directly from the first responders. The challenges were some of the allowable activities did not allow us to go further with some of our research and testing.

<p>15b. I plan to continue any SLIGP 2.0 program activities beyond the SLIGP 2.0 period of performance.</p>	<p>5-Strongly Agree</p>	<p>What do you plan to accomplish after the period of performance?</p>	<p>We plan to continue utilizing the FTE to be responsible for public safety interoperability relating to broadband, and the statewide coordination of applications and platforms that augment the statewide communications system already in place.</p> <p>We plan to continue the momentum, rapport, and trust with the Public Safety Community we have built through the SLIGP2.0 FirstNet grant.</p> <p>Utilize the broadband subcommittee to evaluate applications and work on new governance and policies surrounding emergency communications utilizing mobile broadband.</p>
<p>15c. SLIGP 2.0 funds were helpful in informing my stakeholders about FirstNet.</p>	<p>5-Strongly Agree</p>	<p>What was most helpful? What challenges did you encounter?</p>	<p>By having the funding for the FirstNet program manager, we were able to utilize this person to present at various conferences, SD Public Safety Communications Council meetings, and many local emergency planning committee meetings.</p> <p>The challenge in the beginning was presenting on the "promise" of the FirstNet concept. Later it was a challenge as AT&T's network was being built and we experienced degraded service, damaging the reputation of the program. Now with more towers built and AT&T's network performing much better the stakeholders are more willing to listen and embrace FirstNet.</p>
<p>Statement</p>	<p>Agree/Disagree</p>	<p>Additional Questions</p>	<p>Response</p>
<p>15d. SLIGP 2.0 funds were helpful in maintaining a governance structure for broadband in my state/territory.</p>	<p>5-Strongly Agree</p>	<p>What was most helpful? What challenges did you encounter?</p>	<p>Currently the state has the SD Public Safety Communications Council (https://sdpsc.sd.gov/) The council's primary work is on interoperability for public safety in South Dakota. This is a very effective council that primarily discusses and works with the state radio system (LMR). The council has approved a Public Safety Mobile Broadband Subcommittee to continue this type of communication with the mobile broadband capabilities. This subcommittee is chaired by the FirstNet project manager and has been discussing applications, processes and the current landscape of broadband usage in public safety today.</p> <p>This council and the subcommittee will remain in place after the grant period.</p> <p>No major challenges.</p>
<p>15e. SLIGP 2.0 funds provided resources that were helpful in preparing for FirstNet planning activities in my state/territory (e.g. staffing, attending broadband conferences, participating in training, procuring contract support etc.).</p>	<p>5-Strongly Agree</p>	<p>What was most helpful? What challenges did you encounter?</p>	<p>If not for the SLIGP 2.0 funds we would not have been able to attend the majority of the events we were able to. Especially the national events. By attending these events we were able to learn, network with other states, determine best practices, and bring program information and these new ideas back to our state.</p> <p>No major challenges.</p>
<p>15f. Overall, SLIGP 2.0 funds were helpful in preparing for FirstNet.</p>	<p>5-Strongly Agree</p>	<p>What was most helpful? What challenges did you encounter?</p>	<p>Without the funds we would not have had the opportunity to have a full-time person to monitor and work on the program. This person was able to attend meetings, do research, monitor social media, news articles, view webinars and focus on what FirstNet is and how to best prepare South Dakota as it became available.</p> <p>We were able to keep aware of the program from the concept, design, and ultimately into the hands of the first responders on the street and in the field.</p> <p>The challenge was in talking about a concept in the early years of the program and without a real tangible item with various questions that took time to be answered.</p>

16. Certification: I certify to the best of my knowledge and belief that this report is correct and complete for performance of activities for the purpose(s) set forth in the award documents.

16a. Typed or printed name and title of Authorized Certifying Official: Jeff Pierce, Project Manager	16c. Telephone: 605-773-4347
16b. Signature of Authorized Certifying Official: <i>Jeff Pierce</i> <small>Jeff Pierce (Jun 25, 2021 10:06 CDT)</small>	16d. Email Address: Jeff.Pierce@state.sd.us
	16e. Date: 6/25/2021

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