

## PSAP Grant Program Grant Ranker

# View Application--57--Radio Console Replacement

**Grant Period:** 2009

**Tier:** Replacement of technically outdated wireless E-911 equipment or service to enable primary PSAP to maintain current service levels to the general public (**TECHNICALLY OUTDATED**)

**Grant Program:** Continuity and Consolidation **Grant Type:** Individual PSAP

**Priority:** Other (**OTHER**)

**Primary PSAP Applicants:** Botetourt County GIS-Communications

**Jurisdictions Served:** Botetourt

### Project Director:

Spencer Suter  
Emergency Services Manager  
205 N Roanoke St Suite 1 Fincastle, VA 24090  
540-473-8301 (phone)  
540-473-8288 (fax)  
ssuter@botetourt.org

### Project Description:

The goal of this project is to provide more useful and reliable local and regional interoperable communications through procurement of a new, 3-position dispatch radio console .We are in receipt of a quote to replace our old console and would proceed immediately with procurement processes upon grant award. Anticipated completion would be December 31, 2008. The equipment procured would be expected to provide for our needs for at least 6 or 7 years, with replacement dictated by advances in technology and demands of the service. Botetourt County pledges to support the project through maintenance fees, grant matches, etc.

**Total Project Cost** \$155,000.00

**Amount Requested:** \$124,000.00

**Matching Funds:** \$31,000.00

**Additional Local Funds:** \$0.00

### Statement of Need:

Botetourt County dispatch currently employs a 3 position Motorola Console which our vendor has indicated is nearly obsolete. Installed in 1998, the system has worked relatively well, though there are some inherent problems with it including difficulties with interoperability. Our existing system is also reliant on many "back room" relays including plug-in cards with contacts and individual components. Our maintenance provider has indicated that failure of any of these components is likely and replacement parts are becoming difficult to procure. Botetourt County is also facing decreasing revenues due to the housing slump and recently completed several major infrastructure projects including a 23 million dollar regional jail facility and water

treatment plant.

### **Project Impact:**

Implementation of this system will enable us to quickly phase out aftermarket ANI boards which currently introduce frequent and serious communication disruption. Additionally, our dispatchers will be able to more easily communicate with adjacent localities and everyday users. The open infrastructure of the new console would allow global ANI interpretation, allowing usage of FleetSync language native to Kenwood radios (99% of our field units). Installation will allow systematic removal of aftermarket circuit boards in mobiles and portables which are currently causing a myriad of problems.

### **Consequence of Not Receiving:**

We will likely continue to experience our existing problems and patch the console as long as we can. We will also continue to experience frequent and disruptive ANI alarm problems which we could alleviate with a new console.

**Part of Long Term or Strategic Plan?:** Yes

**Likelihood of Completion Unfunded?:** 0%

**Other Available Funding Sources?:** No

**Percent of Grant Funding Requested To Total Funding Cost?:** 80%

**Is Project Locally Sustainable?:** Yes

### **Comprehensive Project Description:**

We propose to replace our existing, 10 year-old radio console with a new, 3-position + supervisor P25 compliant system. The system we have quoted will allow both native and remote P25 operation allowing direct connection to P25 base stations and repeaters in both encrypted and an open format. As opposed to our existing system, the proposed solution will also allow reliable patching of channels without audio loss or delays. Integrated paging capabilities and planned coordination with the regional ComLink project and STARS is central to the project to ensure truly functional communications.

### **What type of interface or compatibility solution will be used between existing equipment and/or software and that which you intend to purchase?:**

The CPE (computers) utilized will be stand-alone to ensure that cross-corruption is not possible. Necessary interfaces will be installed to enable effective voice recording and headset operations for dispatching. On a larger scale and as mentioned in the previous section, we will be coordinating with local, state and regional initiatives already underway such as ComLink and STARS.

### **What is the overall relationship of your project to your PSAP or locality's established long-range future plans?:**

This is the 3rd stage of our plan to bring our Emergency Communications Center up to date. The first step is currently underway and involves procurement of a new E-911 phone system. The second step is in the form of a sister grant request being submitted with this one - Its purpose is to procure reliable voice recording system.

### **How will the equipment purchased will support future technologies for PSAP readiness?:**

With an open infrastructure and P25 compliance will ensure that the console is ready for any new technologies on the horizon. The system is also highly scalable for future expansion.

### **Budget and Budget Narrative:**

Our current maintenance service provider has quoted \$155,000 to complete this project. If successful with this request, the County is prepared to provide \$31,000 (20% of \$155,000) of local matching funds. Thus, we are requesting the remaining \$124,000. The funds will cover all costs for equipment, installation, interfacing and training.

### **Ongoing Expenses:**

Botetourt County will provide all costs associated with maintenance of the new console in subsequent budgets.

### **Evaluation:**

We will easily recognize the success of the project through an instantly available increase in communication capabilities. Call processing times will decrease as a result and citizen service / system user comments should reflect the positive change.

### **What are the short term, intermediate, and/or long-term outcomes desired for this project?:**

Our goal for the short term is an immediate increase in available communications with adjacent jurisdictions, as well as regular users. We will see existing system disruptions greatly reduced from the start. In the intermediate and long term, we foresee a tremendous improvement in flexibility and scalability with regard to interfaces with new technology. Examples would be STARS and ComLink.

### **What measures will be used to determine outcomes?:**

Reduction in call processing time. Interviews with users and recipients of the service. Comparisons with currently baseline measurements of communication disruption and functionality levels.

### **How will data be collected and how will evaluations be conducted?:**

Baseline information is already available through logs of service disruption. New logs will be compared against old to determine success levels. Interviews of users and service recipients will determine levels of improvement.

### **How will data be presented?:**

Data will be recorded in report format for requestors to view upon request. General improvements will be self-evident.

### **Attachments**