

**GREATER AUSTIN AREA TELECOMMUNICATIONS  
NETWORK (GAATN)  
INTERLOCAL AGENCY**

**625 East 10<sup>th</sup> Street, 6<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Austin, Texas 78701**

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS  
MEETING HELD September 9, 2002  
Lower Colorado River Authority  
Shapiro Building Room 433  
3701 Lake Austin Blvd**

**Agenda Item No. 1:**

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Patrick Jordan at 1:30 p.m.

The following Board members announced as present:

Patrick Jordan, on behalf of the City of Austin  
George Mirick (alt.), on behalf of the University of Texas  
Frederick Harris, on behalf of Austin Independent School District  
Tom Lott, on behalf of the Lower Colorado River Authority  
Jimmy Don Havins, on behalf of the Lower Colorado River Authority  
Martha Riekenberg (alt.), on behalf of the City of Austin  
John Kohlmorgan (alt.), on behalf of Austin Independent School District  
Dave Kelly, On behalf of the State of Texas  
Gary Weseman, on behalf of Austin Community College

GAATN Personnel present:

Ronald Roberts, Project Coordinator  
Ashley Caron, Project Manager  
Stephen Fogel, GAATN Attorney

**Agenda Item No. 2:**

**Citizen Communication**

Chairman Jordan welcomed Heidi Cottingham from CoCom Cabling Systems to the meeting.

**Agenda Item No. 3:**

**Approval of August 5<sup>th</sup> and August 21<sup>st</sup> , 2002 Board Minutes**

There were no changes required in the draft minutes. Tom Lott made the motion to accept the minutes with a second from Frederick Harris. The motion passed unanimously.

**Agenda Item No. 4:**

**Executive Session: Adjourn for closed session, under Tex Gov't Code section 551.071, to seek legal advise about pending or contemplated litigation for:**

- A. Construction, equipment, and product warranty claims; and**
- B. Damage to GAATN Fiber Optic Cables, equipment, hardward, and other property.**

**Reconvene for discussion and decisions, if any, on matters considered in closed session.**

Chairman Jordan moved to executive session at 1:34 p.m. Patrick reconvened from Executive Session at 1:46 p.m.

**Agenda Item No. 5:**

**Discussion of and possible action on the Board Chairman Update.**

Patrick requested that the GAATN Project Coordinator and the Technical Committee discuss the list server for the Technical Committee. Patrick put forward an idea for separate list servers for information and one for GAATN Business, his concern about this topic had been raised due to the distribution of potentially important material and a need to keep said information more accountable. Gary suggested using the Board list server also. Martha explained that the length of personnel on that list grew out of a need to notify folks in times of damage. Ron stated that he would bring it up at the Technical Committee and work with Gary to see that whatever was decided gets done.

**Agenda Item No. 6:**

**Discussion of and possible action on the Financial Report from AISD**

Frederick Harris distributed the July Financial Report. Patrick noted that GAATN was now in its new Fiscal year as of September 1<sup>st</sup> and asked about the carry forward. The locate service was mentioned to which Ron shared that he had been successful in transferring the duties to Lone Star and would continue to monitor this closely. Martha stated she was looking at some \$300,000 left from the construction related monies originally established as \$1.9 million the past year. Patrick noted that the carry over looked substantial and shared reservations about how much cushion to consider next budget cycle. Frederick asked what index had been used previously. Ashley answered that the holding account funds had been set at \$400,000. Patrick shared that a lot was based on risk and he foresaw a bigger risk this year based on issues with fiber degradation and squirrel damage (some 6 or 7 miles had been replaced due to squirrels). Patrick added that conditions for increasing budget for GAATN included annexation and population increase (more schools).

Martha added that the holding account was some 20% of the budget, which seemed low. She also added that construction expenditures that didn't happen this year would more than likely happen next. She foresaw an increase in this area. Ashley added that some \$900,000 was anticipated for construction already next year. John asked about a COA check that was sent, mentioned he would have preferred to hold it and requested better communication on this issue in the future. Martha and Ashley replied that they would be sending a check in next year for the same thing.

**Agenda Item No. 7:**

**Discussion of and possible action on the Technical Subcommittee Update. (Lott, 20 minutes)**

Tom noted that a good portion of his information had already been discussed. He mentioned the Fiber testing going on through CoCom. The testing had been initiated through a request at UT, they sought to establish capabilities of the GAATN plant. Heidi stated that testing was in progress for Chromatic and Polarization dispersion of the GAATN fiber. Tom mentioned the GAATN Pole inventory as well, which initiated discussion on this topic by Patrick, who stated that Grande Communications had contacted Ron about attaching to GAATN poles. Ron had sent the agreement to them and reported that they questioned the one time administration fee. There was some discussion of this, but no action taken. Ron then shared that he anticipated a check from them soon and that he would follow up via phone with Grande about any concerns they had.

Tom added that the alternate routes for the new NOCC were still being reviewed by the Technical Sub-Committee and then he concluded his report.

**Agenda Item No. 8:**

**Discussion of and possible action on the Network Manager's Update**

Ashley shared that the disaster recovery and the new NOCC routes had her busy. She also added that a rep from a Colorado based company was coming to speak with the Technical Sub-Committee. Tom asked about the precedent this set. Steve Fogel added that limits on the presentation are possible and gave his ideas. Martha noted that the forum should be the Technical Sub-Committee and not the Board for the presentation. There was a concern about getting bogged down with vendors, which Steve Fogel noted was controllable by allotting set times. Tom suggested that the vendors contact Ron to get on agenda.

Ashley mentioned 5<sup>th</sup> street going buried and rerouting the super ring and A2N to the new NOCC. This was a topic that the Tech Committee would be looking at on the 18<sup>th</sup> of September. Ashley then requested the year end financials from Frederick so she could start on the budget and concluded her update.

**Agenda Item No. 9:**

**Confirm date, time and location for the next regular Board meeting as October 7, 2002 at 1:30 p.m. in room 517 of the Shapiro Building at LCRA on Lake Austin Blvd.**

Time and location for next meeting was confirmed and the meeting was adjourned at 3:05 p.m.