

**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 October 7, 2002  
Lower Colorado River Authority  
Shapiro Building Room 517  
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  
Wayne Wedemeyer, 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  
Debbie Opdahl, On behalf of the State of Texas  
Gary Weseman, on behalf of Austin Community College  
Walter LaGrone, on behalf of Travis County

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 September 9, 2002 Board Minutes**

There were no changes required in the draft minutes. Gary Weseman 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, hardware, and other property. but not limited to:**

**Greater Austin Area Telecommunications Network v. Ascension Health and Gonzalo Portillo, Jr., No. 265725, Travis County Court at Law (teardown at Andrews Elementary on May 31, 2002).**

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

Chairman Jordan moved to executive session at 1:36 p.m. Patrick reconvened from Executive Session at 2:00 p.m.

**Agenda Item No. 5:**

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

**A. Discussion of and Possible Action on the Service Level Agreement evaluation forms .**

Ron Roberts distributed the evaluation forms. They included a brief explanation and synopsis for clarity and to assist with filling them out. Patrick asked if the forms could be returned by next Board meeting. He also stated how important the information is and asked that everyone give it the attention it needs.

**B. Discussion of and Possible Action on repealing, amending, and adopting Administrative Rules and Policies and Procedures.**

Steve explained that he and Ron were seeking to gather the most recent By-laws possible. Present draft documents are available only. Also, Steve requested information on documents that showed AISD as the official Financial Manager for GAATN. Debbie stated that she had seen one, so did Martha, who also added that she would try to find it in her files. Steve went on to share that the By-laws could be reaffirmed if they are not found. Patrick agreed with this and requested it on agenda for November. Debbie noted that cards for citizens should also be present after Steve noted that there was no set time limit at the meetings for citizens. Debbie said she would get some sample cards to Ron and also some rules she had recently done at DIR for him to review.

**Agenda Item No. 6:**

**Discussion of and possible action on the Service Level Agreement renewal.**

There was discussion on when this should take place. Several participants felt the renewal should be with the budget and stated that this had been a topic before. Ron agreed to check minutes on when and what was said on the topic. Wayne moved to continue SLA until August 31, 2003 specified in the SLA Agreement. He added that the next vote on the SLA should be in January between the Network Rights discussion in December and Budget approval in February. The vote at that time will be for the following year. Further, the SLA should be modified to reflect this Board decision to move the SLA evaluation/vote to the January time frame. Walter LaGrone of Travis County seconded this. The motion passed unanimous.

**Agenda Item No. 7:**

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

After the report was handed out there was discussion on the amount still unused. Ashley and Martha explained that \$1.2 million of the \$1.8 million shown was planned to roll over and be used in this years GAATN budget. Wayne requested a report or letter from them to that effect for the inevitable questions that would be generated. Ashley stated that she would get that for him.

**Agenda Item No. 8:**

**Discussion of and possible action on the Technical Subcommittee Update.**

Tom shared that Martha and Ashley were bringing forward 3-5 proposals for the Tech Committee to review. Wayne asked about the ZNET conduit and its possible use. Specifically, how much did Patrick anticipate the conduit costing GAATN to use and could they actually use it? After discussion Patrick noted that the use was not looking like a problem but he had no idea on cost. He stated that his hope was to identify an opportunity for trading the conduit for fiber along A2N. He went on that he had hoped to talk with another participant about getting 12 strands from them for city use. Wayne asked if there would be a lease on the conduit yearly. No, said Patrick, he was thinking along the lines of a one-time trade situation akin to what the city had done with the right of way when it joined GAATN. Patrick felt this type scenario would be palatable to the city. It was generally agreed that what was good for GAATN was good for the city as well. Patrick's concerns again were that some 80% of the city usage of GAATN was along A2N, he was worried over the conduit for the future but stated that 12 strands additionally added would suffice for all long range planning the city would use. Heidi was asked to work up costs for the additional fiber to be added and Wayne noted that if any other participant needed fiber then bring that information to the Technical Subcommittee meeting. Patrick added that least cost routing should be looked at, some runs would not be necessary. Preliminary pricing from Heidi was around \$250,000 to \$350,000 roughly. Tom repeated that entities should bring their needs along A2N to the Tech meeting on the 16<sup>th</sup>, it was negligible cost to add 24 versus 12 strands to A2N.

Tom went on to mention the Pole Attachment Agreement now in place with Grande. He shared that Heidi had been working on the pole updates requested by Austin Energy. These should be 95% complete now. Patrick asked about costs for this but was told by Martha that it was not much.

**Agenda Item No. 9:**

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

Ashley shared that Larry Sellers had been doing some testing on GAATN fiber. She stated that she was working on 5<sup>th</sup> and Rio Grande to go underground for which she would keep everyone apprised. There was a new relocation on 7<sup>th</sup> street which affects GAATN on 5 poles, this is DIN fiber. She stated that she was budgeting for this occurrence accordingly. She requested Heidi to check pole lines and conduits along the route to make sure they were clear. She went on to state that she was looking at water and wastewater maps to determine possible uses for GAATN of abandoned pipes downtown, mainly on 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup>. She concluded her comments by asking which entities would be in the new NOCC, most stated that they were waiting on money for equipment. She questioned the need to spend money to reroute but Patrick explained that the thought was to hold something in reserve for the greatest flexibility possible, this was generally thought to be so by all. Wayne added that the fiber could sit for a year until he got equipment in there to utilize it. Ashley asked about the testing of the fiber dispersion. Wayne cleared up this mystery by stating that his vendors were happy with the information on the CD from Heidi.

**Agenda Item No. 10:**

**Confirm date, time and location for the next regular Board meeting as November 4<sup>th</sup> , 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 4:05 p.m.