

**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 December 9, 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 1:34 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  
George Myrick (alt), on behalf of the University of Texas  
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 November 4, 2002 Board Minutes**

There were no changes required in the draft minutes. Gary Weseman made the motion to accept the minutes with the correction with a second from Wayne Wedemeyer. The motion passed unanimously.

**Agenda Item No. 4:**

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

Chairman Jordan had two items to discuss. The first was the Best of Texas Award that was given to GAATN. He stated that the ceremony went well and the award was very nice. Wayne suggested putting it on the website and Ron said he would see that it got done. Second issue was the Grande teardown, Patrick met with Tim Burns on this and he explained Grande's intent to pay. Patrick said they were accumulating invoices and Ashley added that as soon as they had the amount owed to GAATN as was owed to the contractor responsible, Red Simpson, then they would pay us instead. Patrick suggested posting this as an executive session item in January.

**Agenda Item No. 5:**

**Discussion of and possible action regarding the Financial Report and budget issues from AISD.**

Frederick Harris distributed the report. He then asked if there were any comments. Patrick noted that the City of Austin was ahead a quarter. John stated that the confusion about the payment had been cleared. Wayne asked about the payments and when they would be broken out. He also noted that AISD had already paid for the year. Patrick noted the \$1,500 administration cost had been received by Grande who had signed a pole attachment agreement with GAATN.

**Agenda Item No. 6:**

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

Tom Lott began by sharing the 2<sup>nd</sup> NOCC at City Hall had been a major topic at the meeting. He added that Ashley will cover the topic of strengthening the existing NOCC but noted that Heidi had been asked to split that project into phases. Tom stated that the use of abandoned pipes had been buried due to cost to access and upgrade. Tom also stated that GAATN had purchased conduit at 183 and Burleson and that Ashley's discussions with Austin Energy to cross under the river downtown was going well. Tom shared that the use of room 517 at Shapiro looked good for next year's use by GAATN. Another item was a meeting with Round Rock that both Tom and Jimmy Don Havins had attended. Round Rock interested in collaboration with GAATN as they are in and around the 183 area as well. Possible partnerships with Leander in the future were also mentioned and the GAATN Board was pleased to learn of these new possibilities. Specifically, AISD, ACC and UT as the Round Rock project has been education driven. Patrick stated that our placement is strand only in the 183 area and that collaboration would definitely help all involved. Tom added that Round Rock and Leander were sending plans and would follow up. He would keep the Board informed on this topic. Patrick shared that Round Rock Police Department also wanted to connect to Austin. Patrick noted that the 183 project may need to occur this year and instructed the Board to give that project new thought. There was discussion over sharing with Round Rock and Wayne suggested an IRU be investigated. Walter added that partnerships and collaboration with Williamson County was being discussed. Wayne asked Ashley to investigate a third of BIN network right costs rather than alter the network rights for just one ring. Other possibilities and scenarios discussed but the consensus was overwhelming interest in both Round Rock and Leander extensions and discussions.

**Agenda Item No. 7:**

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

Ashley began by updating the Board on 5<sup>th</sup> and West Ave. GAATN has been requested to go underground at this location by the developer. She stated that GAATN will be reimbursed for this project. Additionally, Austin Energy is giving us three four inch conduits at this location going west on 5<sup>th</sup> street, per Ashley. She then shared that there was a Right of Way move at ABIA, from Burleson Road to the telecommunication room. Its an \$18,000 job and one that will cause BIS to be down for a time, but she will follow up with exact information later to the Board. Wayne and others requested network rights electronically, Ashley stated she would send that out to everyone. Wayne added that it was good that changes were not totally taken off list as it allows for showing future possibilities. Patrick directed the Technical Subcommittee to take a look at the Network Rights and make sure that it gets the attention needed to be voted on in January.

Ashley then went through a project list for possible activity next year so that the Board would be aware of what was on the drawing board at this time. Wayne asked if the \$250,000 was still marked for Intel which she stated that it was. There was discussion on the holding account among the Board Members and also concern over the amounts for projects. Ashley explained that projects in the budget were things that are not going to happen this fiscal year, she had put this together as a two year outlook at the behest of the tech committee. She went on to explain that she had mistakenly doubled up the Intel project but that she had now caught the error. Patrick noted that some of the projects cost had come in under what was budgeted due to reengineering, such as the ARA/Carver project. John stated a need to know the fund balance and what was available. Gary noted that it was necessary to get the fund balance down a bit for next year, all agreed with this statement. Patrick suggested using the fund balance to pay less per participant next year or use it for a project like the hardening of Treaty Oak. Debbie noted that the holding account amount was low. There was discussion on tying it to something substantial and revisiting it as a topic yearly. Patrick made a motion to increase it to \$500,000, seconded by Frederick Harris. Discussion continued that it should at least be 5% of the total value of the network, or roughly \$700,000, this was made into a motion. The amended motion was passed unanimously.

Frederick then asked about discussions at the Board about Treaty Oak being sold. He was told that the topic came up every year. He then shared that surveyors had been out, but this was not new to the group. Patrick and Wayne stated that this had occurred before, hence the new NOCC going in at City Hall. This concluded the discussion.

**Agenda Item No. 8:**

**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); and**

**Greater Austin Area Telecommunications Network v. Oakwood Mobile Homes, Inc. d/b/a Oakwood Homes, and Paredes, Inc. d/b/a Superior Services, No. 266774, Travis County Court at Law (teardown at Daffan Lane on September 6, 2002).**

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

Chairman Jordan moved to executive session at 3:48 p.m. Patrick reconvened from Executive Session at 4:04 p.m. Patrick then requested that the Technical Committee to review the draft report from Larry Sellers and report back in January.

**Agenda Item No. 9:**

**Confirm date, time and location for the next regular Board meeting as January 6, 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.