

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

**625 East 10th Street, 6th Floor
Austin, Texas 78701**

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS
MEETING HELD November 19, 2003
Co Com Cabling Systems
16021 N. IH 35
Pflugerville, Texas 78660**

Agenda Item No. 1:

The meeting was called to order by Vice-Chair Debbie Opdahl at 1:33 p.m.

The following Board members announced as present:

Martha Riekenberg, on behalf of the City of Austin
John Kohlmorgan, on behalf of Austin Independent School District
Tom Lott, on behalf of the Lower Colorado River Authority
Walter LaGrone, on behalf of Travis County
Earbie Metheny, on behalf of Travis County
John House, on behalf of the University of Texas
Dave Kelly, on behalf of the State of Texas
Debbie Opdahl, 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
Heidi Cottingham, Maintenance Contractor

Agenda Item No. 2:

Citizen Communication

There were no citizens present.

Agenda Item No. 3:

Discussion and Possible Action on the Vote for the Network Rights.

Ashley distributed the Network Rights for approval. This was delayed at the last Board meeting to allow ACC to review and make changes. Gary Weseman had made some minor changes, which were now reflected in the updated Network Rights. Some questions were raised about the percentage changes and a previously distributed copy was brought out for comparison. The motion to approve was made by Tom Lott and seconded by Walter LaGrone. The Network Rights for 2004-2005 passed unanimously.

Agenda Item No. 4:

Discussion and Possible Action on the purchase of in-place conduit at TxDOT and Montopolis.

Ashley shared that Austin Energy had contacted CoCom and her about GAATN fiber being left on the pole at this location. TxDOT is apparently widening the lanes and the poles are going away, there is conduit available for purchase. There is actually two conduits available but only B2S will populate one conduit. Cost for the conduit is \$11,811 a piece. Ashley added that conduits were usually sold in pairs and Martha noted that GAATN traditionally purchased conduit by pairs. Martha noted that usually a sub-ring and a super ring would go in each conduit which was not the case here. She added that recovery would be faster if something were to happen to one conduit. Ashley added that the new toll road would be a mile down the highway and that growth was expected. She added that the cost to bore under would be in the \$70,000 to \$80,000 range, far from the cost of the conduit charge that Austin Energy is asking. Martha addresses concerns on the condition of the conduit by noting that historically the conduit that Austin Energy has is in very good condition. She could not think of a time that an issue arose from Austin Energy's sale or use of conduit. She also explained the cost factor and how Austin Energy derives the amounts proposed, it is a division of the participants to the cost. Ashley added that there were around a dozen conduits at this location belonging to other entities.

John Kohlmorgan noted that the cost should come out of the maintenance item bucket and not the scheduled projects.

Tom moved to purchase the conduit out of the maintenance item balance with a 'not to exceed' amount of \$36,000. This was seconded by John Kohlmorgan and passed unanimously.

Agenda Item No. 5:

Discussion and Possible Action on the Official Phone contact for GAATN.

Ron stated it had been brought to his attention that a phone contact for GAATN was never formalized. He explained that Heidi had noted the need for this after a tear-down in which noone could locate anyone for GAATN. The result was damaged fiber that could have been avoided. The thought here is to have a listed phone number that could possibly route callers to specific information that will assist in a variety of proactive plant protection in the field. Several avenues were discussed and the Technical Subcommittee favored it, the decision was made to research specifics and take it to the Board in December.

Agenda Item No. 6:

Discussion and Possible Action on the Confidentiality Agreement for GAATN.

Ron began by noting that the Confidentiality Agreement has been discussed at several meetings but had never been approved by a vote. He added that the GAATN Attorney had approved a draft version for present use and that some had been sent out for review and approval for signing with some of the various companies GAATN is involved with at present. The Agreement will benefit the present policy of GAATN to screen requests. Ron submitted a copy to the Maintenance Contractor for review and signature. He stated that he would email a copy out to the Board and Technical Subcommittee to review. It was requested that the Confidentiality Agreement appear as an agenda item for the regular Board meeting on December 1st.

Agenda Item No. 7:

Confirm date, time and location for the next regular Board meeting as December 1, 2003 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 2:15 p.m.