

**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 August 1, 2005
Lower Colorado River Authority
Shapiro Building Room 517
3701 Lake Austin Blvd**

Agenda Item No. 1:

The meeting was called to order by Vice-Chairman Gray Salada at 1:34 p.m.

The following Board members announced as present at the start of the meeting:

Gray Salada, on behalf of Austin Independent School District
Tom Lott, on behalf of the Lower Colorado River Authority
Brian Kunz, on behalf of the Lower Colorado River Authority
John Kohlmorgan, on behalf of Austin Independent School District
Walter LaGrone, on behalf of Travis County
Martha Riekenberg-Krischke, on behalf of the City of Austin
Gary Weseman, on behalf of Austin Community College
Dave Kelly, on behalf of the State of Texas
Wayne Wedemeyer, on behalf of the University of Texas

GAATN Personnel present at the start of the meeting:

Ronald Roberts, Project Coordinator
Ashley Caron, Project Manager
Syd Falk, GAATN Attorney
Heidi Cottingham, Maintenance Contractor

Agenda Item No. 2:

Citizen Communication

No citizens were present and Gray moved onto the next agenda item.

Agenda Item No. 3:

Approval of July 11, 2005 Board Minutes.

Wayne moved to accept the minutes, with a second from Walter. The subsequent vote was unanimous.

Agenda Item No. 4:

Discussion and possible action regarding the Board Chairperson Update.

Vice-chairman Gray Salada had no updates but Wayne added that Cap Metro was again looking into wireless projects and Vice-Chairman Salada stated that he would set up a meeting with them soon to discuss opportunities.

Agenda Item No. 5:

Executive Session:

Adjourn for closed session, under one or more of Tex. Gov't Code sections 551.071, 551.072, 551.074, and/or 551.076, to seek legal advise about pending, anticipated or contemplated litigation concerning:

- A. Construction, equipment, and product warranty claims;
- B. Damage to GAATN fiber optic cables, equipment, hardware, and other property; or
- C. Contractual or tort claims by or against GAATN; or
- D. the procedures and operations of the Board or the organization; and/or

to consider matters concerning

- E. real property purchase, exchange, lease or value;
- F. personnel matters; or
- G. security devices or security personnel.

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

Gray moved to executive session at 1:42 pm and back in regular session at 2:16 p.m. There was a motion by Wayne to move agenda item 6 to follow agenda item 8 and continue with pertinent discussions in open session. The motion was seconded by John and passed unanimously. There were no actions required from executive session.

Agenda Item No. 6: Formerly 7

Discussion of and possible action regarding the Technical Subcommittee Update.

Ashley stated that the AISD projects to the 2 new schools could come from the unidentified projects, from the consultant allocation, from other projects that look doubtful to occur and also from a savings on the insurance. Wayne asked about risk of using the unidentified project funds and was told by Ashley that there was no risk. Heidi added that there was a great benefit in securing the position should the developers force utilities to go buried, that benefit being that, once its in place, the they have to pay. Heidi also noted that there was a section that was self-support and that it would be eliminated by the new proposed route. Ashley commented that the city may choose to take up that particular section of cable to both preserve the position and also as a back up for the equipment should the added length become an issue. Wayne motioned to approve the new fiber path and school but discuss leaving the fiber up at another time and Tom added that the money would come from unidentified projects. This was seconded by John and passed unanimously. There was an additional school that AISD desired to add on B1S and Tom motioned to approve the new addition with a second from Walter, this too was approved unanimously. AISD also requested a reroute of C2S to allow for the addition of a new school. This reroute would benefit the City of Austin as well who has a fire station in the area that has been on a long spur for years. The Board reviewed the reroute and it was accepted. One aspect of the reroute was that GAATN could get an assignment on the poles in place and should the developers decide to relocate that plant it would be at their expense.

A. GAATN Room Access

Tom stated that GAATN Participants needed to get this done and Ashley added that the card reader had become a problem over the weekend. John was very concerned about not being able to get access and also with access problems that the maintenance contractor had experienced over the weekend. Gray asked about the malfunction and was it software or other but Ashley was unclear of the reason. John asked that Patrick report back to the GAATN Board about the issue. Gray added that a back up plan was needed beyond Ashley's

suggestion to call Ken Murphy who has a key. Ashley added that she would pursue a key as well and Wayne suggested investigating a secondary entrance option for GAATN, such as a secondary card reader.

Agenda Item No. 7: Formerly 8

Discussion and possible action regarding the Network Manager's Update (COA, 10 minutes).

Ashley stated that she was adding the handhold reinforcements into the budget at the \$144,000 quoted price. She then discussed the Cap Metro project concerning the train/trolley being discussed along 3rd or 4th street. The quote for all utilities to accommodate the project on 3rd street was \$190 million and if it went down 4th street then it would cost \$65 million for the utilities to relocate. If the project becomes a CIP project then GAATN would have to pay or a reroute could be developed should GAATN not be financially able to comply. The quoted amount for GAATN to comply with the project was \$3 million dollars which is twice as much as all of last years budget. Wayne asked Ashley and Heidi to look at options.

Ashley then shared that a city resolution had been adopted to bury 42 miles of utilities throughout Austin. This would be a 20 year project. She added that Austin Energy had estimated (without right of way) that it would cost close to \$180 million dollars. This is not an ordinance yet, just a resolution and Ashley stated that she would monitor any activity.

She then discussed the CSC repaving and Martha explained the circumstances around the permit and her efforts to correct. Martha is still in contact with Dale French and hopes for the outcome to be positive for GAATN.

John raised a concern that GAATN needed to contact personnel at the higher levels of city government to explain who and what GAATN is and how important it is to so many departments and agencies. He expanded his comments to note that GAATN is non-profit and not a multimillion dollar company. He further added that a spokesperson, or a group of GAATN advocates, should talk with the city and see if there was a way of reducing red tape and unnecessary costs to GAATN. As far as meetings go, Toby Futrell was suggested as well as Mayor Wynn, he then requested that Ron make this a formal agenda item and to pursue channels to find out who can go and when.

Agenda Item No. 9: Formerly 6

Discussion and possible action regarding the financial report and budget issues.

John explained the accounting irregularity from last month. Walter asked about ending balance for GAATN and was told that the figure of \$972,000 was going to be very close per John. Gray reminded the Board that the final budget numbers would not be available until the October meeting.

Agenda Item No. 9:

Confirm date, time and location for the next regular Board meeting as September 12, 2005 at 1:30 p.m. in room 517 of the Shapiro Building at LCRA on Lake Austin Blvd.

A. Add agenda items for next month.

Time for next regular meeting was confirmed as **1:30 p.m. on September 12, 2005** but Tom added that he may try and pursue another meeting room to avoid the new rule concerning the number of cards granted for access. He added that he would let Ron know if this was accomplished. The meeting was adjourned at 3:46 p.m.