

**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 6, 2007
Lower Colorado River Authority
Hancock Building, Board Conference Room
3701 Lake Austin Blvd**

Agenda Item No. 1:

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Gray Salada at 1:31 p.m

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

Gray Salada, on behalf of Austin Independent School District
John Kohlmorgan, on behalf of Austin Independent School District
Martha Krischke, on behalf of the City of Austin
David Kelly, on behalf of the State of Texas
Wayne Wedemeyer on behalf of the University of Texas
Brian Kunz, on behalf of the Lower Colorado River Authority

Joining the meeting in progress:

John House, on behalf of the University of Texas

GAATN Personnel present at the start of the meeting:

Bill Bennett, GAATN
James Gomez, GAATN
Syd Falk, GAATN Attorney

Guests

Lee Romans, CoCom Cabling Systems
Billy Gammon, William Gammon Insurance Agency

Agenda Item No. 2:

Citizen Communication

Not present.

Agenda Item No. 3:

Approval of the July 9, 2007 Board Minutes

Wayne Wedemeyer made the motion to approve the July Board minutes as written. The motion was seconded by David Kelly and passed by unanimous vote.

Agenda Item No. 4:

Discussion and possible action regarding the Board Chairperson Update.

- A. Capital Metro RFP discussion was delayed until the September Board meeting.

- B. William Gammon presented to the Board an updated summary of the analysis on GAATN damage history and options for consideration. He indicated that he was

optimistic that the insurance carrier would reimburse GAATN for at least a portion of the claims (approximately \$ 62,000) related to the policy period that expired 9/1/2006. As to changing the terms of the policy, Mr. Gammon stated that analysis of GAATN's repair history under various deductible schemes made little difference premium-wise. The only recommendation that he made was that GAATN stay with the \$50,000 cumulative deductible, writing into the policy a clause so that loss recovery expense would be included along with actual damage expenses toward that deductible. Under this arrangement, he anticipated that the premium for next year will stay at or below the current rate, especially combined with the apparent down-trend in the number of teardowns and similar incidents. Several Board members pointed out to Mr. Gammon that the down-trend was not coincidental, but is due to an ongoing improvement program on the network. At this time, one ring has been rebuilt, replacing all of the original self-support cable with armored cable as well as transitioning the cable to a higher position on the pole, wherever it was possible. This improvement program will continue for the next five to ten years, working across all the rings. Once completed, only about 30% of the network will still be original vintage lashed all-dielectric cable, the balance having been replaced by armored cable. It was also noted that GAATN's ongoing systematic plant inspection program allows the catching of many potential problems before they turn into more costly repairs.

Agenda Item No. 5:

Discussion and possible action regarding the PSIC Grant Program for State & Local First Responders to Improve Public Safety Communications during natural or man-made disasters.

Wayne Wedemeyer led the discussion of this federal grant program. It was noted that the final proposal was due on August 22, 2007 and that would be difficult for GAATN to respond in such a short time frame. It was suggested that other area governmental entities may already have applications for the grant prepared and that GAATN could possibly be added in to enhance their package, acting as the transport to whatever First Responder equipment that they were proposing. If additional money for GAATN could be piggy-backed on to these entities' proposals, GAATN could extend certain rings to connect to that entity and generally upgrade the network to offer greater reliability and redundancy. It was concluded that all GAATN participants should inquire with their Grant Writing personnel as well as with nearby towns, counties and multi-agency First Responder agencies to see if GAATN could be included in on their grant proposals.

Agenda Item No. 6:

Discussion and possible action regarding

There was nothing to discuss.

Agenda Item No. 7:

Executive Session:

Adjourn for closed session at 2:31 p.m., under one or more of Texas Government Code sections 551.071, 551.072, 551.074, and/or 551.076,

to seek legal advice 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;
- 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.

The regular session reconvened at 2:49 p.m. for discussion and actions, if any, on matters considered in the closed session. There were no items from executive session that required actions by the GAATN Board.

Agenda Item No. 8:

Discussion and possible action regarding the financial report and budget issues

Gray Salada distributed the June Budget Report which was discussed briefly. There were no questions.

Agenda Item No. 9:

Discussion and possible action regarding the Technical Subcommittee Update

A. Wayne Wedemeyer led the discussion of the A1N All-Dielectric Cable Project and informed the Board that the Tech Committee had voted to recommend going ahead on A1N with the replacement of a section of all-dielectric cable in conjunction with the previously approved renovation of the self-support elements. The total cost of the combined project is \$100,030 (replacement cable plus labor - see CoCom proposal # 606). Wayne Wedemeyer made the motion to approve this recommendation of the Technical Subcommittee. The motion was seconded by John Kohlmorgan and passed by unanimous vote.

B. Wayne Wedemeyer mentioned that the Tech Committee had discussed the importance of completing the Disaster Recovery Project and urged all Participants who have not yet responded to redouble their efforts to provide the necessary information regarding the criticality of their ring presence as well as the names with phone numbers of the Emergency Contact Persons.

Agenda Item No. 10:

Discussion and possible action regarding the Network Manager's Update. This item may necessitate an executive session due to protection provided by Government Code 551.076. This will be at the discretion of the Chairperson.

Martha Krischke reviewed the projects that are now planned, noting that the A1N All-Dielectric Cable replacement project is the only new one added since the last Board Meeting. She noted that this project would commence during the next budget year.

Agenda Item No. 11:

Confirm date, time, and location for the next regular Board meeting as September 10, 2007 at 1:30 p.m. in the Hancock Building at LCRA on Lake Austin Blvd.

A. Add any agenda topics for next month.

David Kelly of the State of Texas announced that they had two new locations where they need to attach node cables to GAATN rings, but he feared that the work needed to start BEFORE the next Board meeting.

The Board adjourned for closed session at 3:03 p.m., under one or more of Texas Government Code sections 551.071, 551.072, 551.074, and/or 551.076,

to seek legal advice about pending, anticipated or contemplated litigation concerning:

- F. Construction, equipment, and product warranty claims;

- G. Damage to GAATN fiber optic cables, equipment, hardware, and other property;
- H. Contractual or tort claims by or against GAATN; or
- I. the procedures and operations of the Board or the organization;

and/or to consider matters concerning

- J. Real property purchase, exchange, lease or value;
- F. Personnel matters; or
- G. Security devices or security personnel.

The regular session reconvened at 3:12 p.m. for discussion and actions, if any, on matters considered in the closed session. There were no items from executive session that required actions by the GAATN Board. The meeting of the Board of Directors adjourned at 3:14 pm.