GREATER AUSTIN AREA TELECOMMUNICATIONS NETWORK (GAATN) INTERLOCAL AGENCY

MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS
March 5, 2024 1:30 p.m.
LCRA Dalchau Service Center
3505 Montopolis Drive, Austin, TX 78744, Building A, Room A502/503
Teams Videoconference link provided 72 hours prior to meeting on homepage of www.gaatn.org
Remote audio-only option for public access: (512) 831-7858, Access Code: 143 995 224#

MINUTES

1. **Call to Order and Roll Call:**
   GAATN Board Chairman Dain Herbat called the meeting to order at 1:32 p.m.
   The following announced as present at the start of the meeting:
   Steve Martin, on behalf of City of Austin (remote)
   Gary Weseman, on behalf of Austin Community College (remote)
   Dain Herbat, on behalf of Travis County (on site)
   Steve Pyle, on behalf of State of Texas DIR (remote)
   Jaime Guerra, on behalf of UT-Austin (remote)
   Robert Saddler, on behalf of LCRA (remote)
   Harold Nall, on behalf of UT-Austin (remote)
   Syd Falk, GAATN attorney (on site)
   Frank Ammons, on behalf of GAATN (remote)
   Carlos DeMatos, on behalf of GAATN (remote)
   Sarah Eichelberger, on behalf of GAATN (remote)
   A quorum was established at roll call.
   Members joining after roll call:
   Paul Hodge, on behalf of Austin ISD (remote)
   GAATN Contractors:
   Doug Wilson, on behalf of JC Communications (remote)
   Chris Gonzales, on behalf of BryComm (remote)

2. **Citizen Communications:** There were no citizen communications.

3. **Review and Approve the minutes for the regular Board Meeting of February 6, 2024:**
   Gary Weseman moved to approve the draft minutes as presented; Steve Martin seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

4. **Board Chairperson Update – Discussion and possible action regarding:**
   A. **GAATN FY24 Cost Avoidance Report**
      Sarah reviewed the FY24 Cost Avoidance Report, which illustrated that the seven GAATN members saved an estimated combined $22.5 million annually by being a part of GAATN. She noted that benchmark pricing was obtained from DIR for 1gig and 10gig circuits and from entity-reported averages for 40gig and 100gig circuits; those benchmarks were applied across all entities. She said that all entities completed their reports by the deadline. The FY24 GAATN Cost Avoidance Report is a good resource for entities to give to their leadership and governing boards. It is posted on the GAATN SharePoint site, and is also posted on the GAATN website www.gaatn.org on the home page, under the "About GAATN" video as well as on the "General Info" tab.
   B. **Seeking approval for GAATN Fund Balance transfer in the amount of $700k and FY24 Budget Line Item Adjustments**

Sarah reported that this agenda item is for the annual fund balance transfer request and budget line item adjustment. Management met with the MAC vendor to estimate the project expenses that will be paid out for the remainder of FY24 and this request is to supplement to MAC labor/cable budget and the Bentley Management budget line items. Management is requesting that the Board approve a fund balance transfer in the amount of $700k to be allocated to MAC labor ($620k), MAC cable ($75k), and Bentley Management ($5k). The supplementation of the MAC budget is for already approved and forecasted projects. She reported that the remaining fund balance after this transfer will be approximately $1.98 million. Sarah noted that when management presents the draft annual budget, the presentation includes the financial forecast which shows illustrates the fact that GAATN plans to draw down from that fund balance to supplement projects each fiscal year. She reminded members that the fund balance is surplus funds from previous fiscal years, and does not include the $2.1 million in emergency set aside. Sarah said that once the transfer and budget line item adjustment is approved, management will work with Austin ISD to initiate the transfer and budget adjustment, and make the adjustments to the appropriate purchase orders. Dain asked about the impact of this transfer on the Backup NOCC relocation. Sarah said it doesn't affect it because this transfer was already planned for previously approved projects. The funds that are being transferred are fund already encumbered for these projects. Steve Pyle moved to approve the GAATN fund balance transfer of $700k and FY24 budget line item adjustments as presented; Jaime Guerra seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

C. Austin ISD 2022 Bond construction impact at GAATN super node sites

Frank said that management has met with Austin ISD and has received more information about the impact to the GAATN super node sites at the AISD campuses that are undergoing rebuilds and renovations. He said that management will bring more in depth information to the upcoming Tech meeting and will review potential options for the GAATN super nodes.

D. GAATN Backup NOCC decommissioning

Frank reported that the Board approved the remaining costs of the re-route of the four transport rings in the last Board meeting. Frank noted that since the last Board meeting, the GAATN Board Chair and Tech Chair met with the City of Austin (COA) Board members to discuss potential in-kind contributions that the COA can provide for the decommissioning and relocation of the Backup NOCC. Frank said the COA is looking further into it, but that there were three items of interest that came out of that meeting. Dain said one of the items is that GAATN is looking for a 10-year guarantee for the new NOCC. He said another one is that GAATN is going to request priority for any permits that need to be pulled. Frank said the third is regarding the wreck out of the Backup NOCC room itself and whether the COA can include that as part of their demolition. Dain asked members to reach out to him or Frank if they have any other ideas of concessions to request from the COA.

E. GAATN Backup NOCC relocation, associated agreement, and subcommittee update

Frank reported that management met with the COA Historic Preservation Office to determine what is needed for the submission for the Historic Landmark Commission approval. Frank said he was notified Thursday that the application was processed but there is an application fee in order to review the application. Frank said he sent them a copy of the ILA regarding payment of fees, but if they still require the fees, then he has received permission to pay those fees on the CTM procard.

F. Property damage claim against JD Abrams/Lone Star Paving for damage to C1N at IH-35 and Rutherford on 9/20/21

Syd said there is nothing new to report on this item, except that one of the defendants has a new attorney that Gunnar has spoken with and the new attorney is of the opinion that this lawsuit should be settled.

5. Network Manager's Update:

A. Project status report

Frank reported on the following upcoming and recently completed projects:

- SRS Upgrade Segment 4 – scheduled to complete 3/21/24
- SRS Upgrade Segment 6 – scheduled to complete 3/28/24
- SRS Upgrade Segment 1 – scheduled to complete 4/4/24
- C1N Emergency repair at 817 E. Braker – to be scheduled shortly after election moratorium
- D1N relocation at 1017 Springdale developer project – to be scheduled before next meeting
- TC NE Metro Park to Foothills developer entity project – to be scheduled before next meeting
- UT B1N JJ Pickle Node redundancy install – completed 2/5/24

B. Job budget report

Sarah reported that management is tracking 51 jobs totaling $3.4 million. So far for FY24, 19 jobs have been completed and $585k has been invoiced. There are 32 pending jobs with $2.85 million encumbered. GAATN has recovered $162k in damage claim and project reimbursements this fiscal year. The addition of the remaining Backup NOCC decommissioning costs that was approved in the last Board meeting brought the fund balance bottom line to $703k. Sarah noted that she will add in the FY25 MAC budget at the beginning of the fiscal year and the fund balance bottom line will increase at that time.

6. **Executive Session:** There was no executive session.

7. **Update Roll Call (only if executive session called):** There was no updated roll call.

8. **Discussion and possible action regarding the financial report and current fiscal year budget issues:** Sarah reported that GAATN has taken in $2.29 million in revenue for FY24 and expended $1.36 million, leaving a fund balance of $2.67 million for the month ending January 31, 2024. She asked members to review the entire report and send her any questions they may have.

9. **Meeting and Action Items Summary:** There were no action items from this meeting.

10. **Confirm date, time, and location for the next regular Board meeting on April 2, 2024 at 1:30 p.m. at LCRA Dalchau Service Center 3505 Montopolis Drive, Building A, Room A502, Austin, TX 78744 and via Video Conference on Microsoft Teams.**
The date, time, and location for the next regular Board meeting were confirmed; the meeting adjourned at 2:00 p.m.