GREATER AUSTIN AREA TELECOMMUNICATIONS NETWORK (GAATN) INTERLOCAL AGENCY

MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS
March 3, 2026, 1:30 p.m.
LCRA Red Bud Center
3601 Lake Austin Blvd., Rm 225, Austin, TX 78703
Videoconference: Link available at least 72 hours prior on www.gaatn.org
Audio-only: (512) 831-7858, Access Code: 230 186 971#

MINUTES

1. **Call to Order and Roll Call:**
   GAATN Board Chairman Dain Herbat called the meeting to order at 1:30 p.m. The following announced as present at the start of the meeting:
   On site: Dain Herbat (Travis County), Syd Falk (GAATN attorney)
   Remote: Paul Hodge (Austin ISD), Mark Stavis (City of Austin), Gary Weseman (Austin Community College), Steve Pyle (State of Texas DIR), Jaime Guerra (University of Texas), Robert Saddler (Lower Colorado River Authority), Mike Lohrstorfer (Austin ISD, Alternate), Harold Nall (University of Texas, Alternate), Frank Ammons (GAATN), Carlos DeMatos (GAATN), Sarah Eichelberger (GAATN), Doug Wilson (JC Communications), Chris Gonzales (BryComm)

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

3. **Review and approve the minutes for the regular Board Meeting of February 10, 2026:**
   Dain Herbat moved to approve the draft minutes as presented; Steve Pyle seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

4. **Board Chair Update – Discussion and possible action regarding:**
   A. **GAATN Backup NOCC Relocation**
      Frank reported that the tie cable needed for the migration from the temporary to the permanent NOCC space has been installed. All technical preparations are complete, and the project is now awaiting finalization and City Council approval of the permanent NOCC agreement.
   B. **Permanent GAATN Backup NOCC agreements**
      Syd reported that he has been corresponding with Chad Shaw, the city attorney reviewing the draft agreement. Chad has forwarded the document to the City's Real Estate Department to review the license agreement portion. Since that attachment originated from the Real Estate Department, Syd is optimistic that it will be acceptable. Chad will also identify a City Council sponsor for the agreement when it is ready for consideration. Dain asked how long it typically takes to place an item on the City Council agenda; Mark responded that it usually takes several weeks.
   C. **Financial Services Provider Agreement with Austin ISD**
      Paul reported that, as noted at last month's meeting, the district is working to fill a deputy superintendent position who will oversee both the CTO and CFO. Once the position is filled, the incoming deputy superintendent will review the draft agreement.
   D. **GAATN NJUNS tickets and Austin Energy Pole Applications**
      Frank reported that on February 6, management, Dain, Mark, and Dr. Gardner met with Austin Energy Deputy General Manager Lisa Martin to discuss National Joint Utility Notification System (NJUNS) tickets and third-party communications. On February 9, management met with AE's Pole Attachment Services (PAS) group to review third-party communication moves that AE had previously instructed GAATN to coordinate. During that meeting, PAS requested that GAATN provide specific cases where third-party communications are causing delays and propose potential solutions to allow

the pole applications to advance. A follow-up meeting was held on March 2 to review those cases, potential resolutions, and next steps. Progress from that meeting will allow GAATN to move forward on two previously denied project applications. Field meetings will be scheduled to evaluate solutions for two additional rejected applications. Frank noted that there was also discussion regarding what AE classifies as routine maintenance versus work that requires a pole attachment application. AE stated that any work involving multiple spans requires a pole attachment application. Frank reaffirmed that GAATN has communicated to AE that it will not coordinate with third-party entities directly, and AE has accepted this position. His recommendation is that GAATN continue working with AE on a case-by-case basis under the current approach.

5. **Network Manager's Update:**
   A. **Project status report**
   Frank reported on the following job statuses:
   1. **B1S Permanent Repair at Bluff Springs** – This pole application can move forward with solution approved by AE.
   2. **COA A1N University Park new node** – This pole application can move forward with temporary solution approved by AE.
   3. **COA C1N Austin Resource Recovery new node** – A leaning pole and street crossing need to be addressed in order for pole application to move forward. Management and AE will circle back in two weeks on this. This project will be brought to the next Technical Committee meeting for recommendation.
   4. **COA B2S 2400 Grove Blvd B** – AE has to review further due to low spans that are unable to be raised without encroaching on the power space on the pole. Management and AE will circle back in two weeks on this.
   5. **A1N & A2N Upgrade Project at TC Ronald Earle Building** – Management received an "on hold" pending NJUNS status for its application, for these jobs which management and BryComm previously met with AE onsite to address required tree trimming. The tree trimming was noted as a post-inspection violation (PI gig) for an entity-specific project. Management is confirming GAATN's position in the NJUNS queue. Frank noted that GAATN is receiving an increased number of PI gigs because AE is now requiring every pole to be grounded, which exceeds National Electrical Safety Code requirements.
   6. **SRN DIR Relocation of State of Texas Insurance Building** – Management received notice that DIR will be demolishing the State Insurance Building, which will require GAATN's SRN cable to be re-routed. Steve reported that DIR has asked the Texas Facilities Commission (TFC) to provide a redundant conduit path for the relocation. No timeline has been provided yet. Depending on TFC's ability to supply the conduit, GAATN may either utilize the new path or develop its own alternative route. Dain asked whether the existing cable is the original 114-count fiber and if an upgrade to 192-count would be appropriate; Carlos said it is original and confirmed an upgrade would be appropriate. Frank noted that this matter will be brought to the Technical Committee once additional information is available from DIR. Dain also asked whether DIR has funding for the cable relocation. Steve stated that the cost is likely not DIR's responsibility, as TFC and the State Preservation Board are mandating the re-route, and DIR is simply another GAATN entity using the cable. He added that DIR also has its own cable in the same area that will need to be relocated. Steve will seek clarification on financial responsibility, and Dain offered to join any discussions with the state if needed.
   7. **TC Foothills Health and Human Services to Precinct 2** – Carlos reported that management met with Cap Metro last week to discuss the requested 30-foot height requirement for the railway crossing. Cap Metro agreed to allow GAATN to overlash at the existing height, which removes a major obstacle for the project. Frank, who attended the meeting, confirmed that Cap Metro is allowing the crossing to remain at its current height because it is an existing installation.

Management will follow up to confirm whether new crossings will be required to meet a 30-foot minimum. Chris noted that several NJUNS tickets are delaying construction on North Loop. BryComm is reviewing these and may need to re-engage AE. He also reported that the team identified a potential re-route to bypass the affected poles and has submitted a permit for that alternative. With Cap Metro's approval in place, the project is now progressing.

B. Job budget report

Sarah reported that management is tracking 35 jobs totaling $2.95 million. So far for FY26, 16 jobs have been completed and $268k has been invoiced. $2.65 million remains encumbered for the 19 jobs not completed. GAATN has received $52k in reimbursements for projects and damage claims. The fund balance bottom line is $1.58 million.

C. GAATN Maintenance RFP issued February 13, closing March 25

Sarah reported that the RFP for GAATN Maintenance was issued by Austin ISD on February 13 and will close at 2 p.m. CST on March 25. An optional pre-proposal meeting for potential bidders was held earlier that morning at 10 a.m. CST on March 3. The deadline for RFP questions is 5 p.m. CST on March 10, and responses will be posted to Bonfire by March 13. The evaluation subcommittee will review the proposals and present a recommendation at the April 21 GAATN Technical Committee Meeting and the May 5 GAATN Board Meeting.

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 reviewed the overall GAATN financial report provided by AISD for the month ending January 31, 2026. She asked members to review and let her know if they have any questions.

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

10. **Confirm date, time, and location for the next regular Board meeting on Tuesday, April 7, 2026, at 1:30 p.m. at LCRA Red Bud Center 3601 Lake Austin Blvd., Room 225, Austin, TX 78703, and via Microsoft Teams Videoconference.**
The next meeting details were confirmed; the meeting adjourned at 2:05 p.m.