

GREATER AUSTIN AREA TELECOMMUNICATIONS NETWORK (GAATN) INTERLOCAL AGENCY

MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

February 10, 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: 302 957 038#

MINUTES

1. **Call to Order and Roll Call:** GAATN Board of Directors 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's attorney), Frank Ammons (GAATN)
Remote: Paul Hodge (Austin ISD), Mark Stavis (City of Austin), Gary Weseman (Austin Community College), Steve Pyle (State of Texas DIR), Jaime Guerra (UT-Austin), Robert Saddler (LCRA), Mike Lohrstorfer (Austin ISD), Bo Kinsey (Travis County), Harold Nall (UT-Austin)
A quorum was established at roll call.
GAATN Contractors (Remote): Doug Wilson (JC Communications), Chris Gonzales (BryComm)
Members joining/arriving after roll call: Jeremy Cantu (Austin Community College) – joined at 1:33p.m.
2. **Citizen Communications:** There were no citizen communications.
3. **Network Management SLA Mid-Year Feedback Session:**
The Board reviewed the mid-year SLA network management accomplishments and deliverables. The Board had the following mid-year feedback for management:
 - 1) Network Management, Engineering, and Planning – Good progress on TLC NOCC project (temp and permanent). Good progress on AE ticket backlog.
 - 2) Engineering Documentation – Great job on back NOCC design plans that were created in-house. Complete implementation of TLC routes.
 - 3) Damage Management and Disaster Recovery – Work on scheduling future tabletop exercise.
 - 4) Financial Management – Great job working with e-rate and tax ID issues. Keep up the good work!
 - 5) Section 5: Contract Administration – Keep up the good work.
 - 6) Section 6: Business Administration – Keep up the good work and remind folks to complete pending OMA training.
4. **Review and approve the minutes for the regular Board Meeting of January 6, 2026:**
Syd recommended an amendment to the unfinished sentence on Agenda Item 4D. Dain Herbat moved to approve the draft minutes as amended by Syd; Steve Pyle seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.
5. **Consent Agenda: GAATN Insurance Policy Renewals AND Item recommended at the January 27, 2026 Technical Subcommittee Meeting**
Jaime Guerra moved to approve the consent agenda as presented; Gary Weseman seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.
 - A. **Insurance Policy Renewals – Seeking approval for GAATN Insurance policies renewal for GAATN General Liability, GAATN Excess Umbrella, and GAATN Directors & Officers policies for a period of March 1, 2026 through February 28, 2027 through Higginbotham Insurance Agency in an amount not to exceed \$7,900 to be funded from the FY26 GAATN Insurance budget**
APPROVED ON CONSENT

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- B. Recommended by Tech Committee – Seeking approval for GAATN temporary tie cable for migration from temporary to permanent NOCC location at a cost not to exceed \$9,300 to be funded from the FY26 GAATN MAC budget**

APPROVED ON CONSENT

6. Board Chair Update – Discussion and possible action regarding:

- A. Seeking approval for proposal for GAATN National Joint Utility Notification System (NJUNS) Ticket backlog from 5/7/25 to 12/31/25 at a cost of \$17,117 to be funded from FY26 GAATN MAC**

Frank said this agenda item was reviewed at the January Tech meeting. He noted that, in January, the Board approved the proposal for addressing the past due NJUNS tickets from 2015 – May 6, 2025 at a cost of \$85k. He said that this proposal is for all next-to-go (NTG) NJUNS tickets from May 7, 2025 – December 31, 2025 at a cost of \$17k. He said that if any additional traffic control is required, the GAATN Network Manager will review and approve if it is under his spending authority, otherwise it will be brought to the Board for approval. He said that the discussion regarding Austin Energy (AE) pole applications is a later agenda item, but that clearing this NTG NJUNS ticket backlog is part of that process. Frank said NJUNS tickets will be an ongoing task, but this proposal is about clearing the backlog. Gary asked about the impact on the budget; Sarah noted that this will bring the total spent on NJUNS tickets for FY26 to \$102k and will leave a fund balance bottom line of \$1.58 million. Dain Herbat moved to approve the proposal for GAATN NJUNS ticket backlog from 5/7/25 to 12/31/25 at a cost of \$17,117 to be funded from the FY26 MAC budget; Steve Pyle seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.

- B. GAATN Backup NOCC Relocation**

Frank reported that the buildout of the permanent NOCC is on schedule and that GAATN is expected to place the temporary tie cable and begin migrating entities from the temporary to the permanent NOCC next month. Dain asked if it is wise to migrate to the permanent space before the agreement for the permanent NOCC is in place; Syd said technically GAATN does not have authority to occupy the permanent NOCC space until the City Council approves the interlocal agreement. Syd noted that GAATN does have a memorandum of understanding in place for occupying the temporary NOCC space. Frank asked Carlos to get everything in place, but not to schedule the cutover until the agreement is signed. Paul asked Carlos and Frank to let Austin ISD know when they need to migrate their powered equipment; Carlos said that would be scheduled at least two weeks in advance, so they will have sufficient notice. Carlos also noted that the City of Austin (COA) will be replacing the backup generator for the building, but he doesn't believe that it will result in a power outage.

- C. Permanent GAATN Backup NOCC agreements**

Syd said that he received an email from Chad Shaw that he had reviewed the agreement and had forwarded the agreement to several people in other city departments for their comments. Syd reminded the Board that this ILA used the same template as the previous NOCC ILA and only had minor changes to make it relevant to the new site. Syd does not anticipate any major pushback from the COA. Dain asked Mark if there was anyone at the COA that he could contact to expedite the review of the agreement; Mark said he would look into that.

- D. Financial Services Provider Agreement with Austin ISD**

Syd said he sent the draft SLA to AISD in November and is still awaiting feedback. Paul said that there had been further restructuring of executive management and that the Chief Technical Officer (CTO) and Chief Financial Officer (CFO) are not able to come to agreements on it. He said that they will be appointing a deputy superintendent that is over IT and operations. The CTO and CFO wish to wait until that position is filled and then that person will review and provide feedback for the draft SLA.

- E. GAATN NJUNS tickets and Austin Energy Pole Applications**

This agenda item was discussed in executive session under Texas Government Code 551.071. Upon reconvening in open session, no additional discussion was held and no action was taken.

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7. Network Manager's Update:

A. Project status report

Frank reported on the following recently completed job:

C2S TxDOT Oakhill Parkway Relocation Final Phase 3 – completed on 1/30/26

Total jobs tracked = 62 (46 active/planning; 16 completed)

B. Job budget report

Sarah reported that management is tracking 34 jobs totaling \$2.95 million. So far for FY26, 15 jobs have been completed and \$138k has been invoiced. \$2.8 million remains encumbered for the remaining 19 jobs, half of which are 100% reimbursable TxDOT projects. GAATN has received \$52k in damage claims and project reimbursements. For the Backup NOCC relocation, \$784k has been expended and \$795k remains encumbered. The fund balance bottom line is \$1.58 million.

C. Notification of GAATN Maintenance RFP to be issued February 2026

Sarah reported that the GAATN Maintenance RFP will be issued by Austin ISD on Friday, February 13. She said there will be a pre-proposal conference held via Microsoft Teams on Tuesday, March 3, and the RFP will close on Wednesday, March 25. She said that the evaluation subcommittee is comprised of Jaime, Paul, and Dr. Gardner.

- 8. Executive Session:** At 2:17 p.m. Chairman Herbat adjourned the GAATN Board of Directors Meeting for closed session, under Tex. Gov't Code section 551.071, to seek legal advice or to preserve confidentiality as permitted by law (including but not limited to pending, anticipated or contemplated litigation concerning) regarding Agenda Item 6E.

At 2:42 p.m., Chairman Herbat reconvened the GAATN Board Meeting in open session. Agenda Item 6E was the only item discussed. Any additional discussion held or action taken on agenda items discussed in executive session are noted in the agenda item summary.

- 9. Update Roll Call (only if executive session called):** An updated roll call re-confirmed a quorum.

10. Discussion and possible action regarding the financial report and current fiscal year budget issues

Sarah reviewed the overall financial report provided by AISD for the month ending December 31, 2025. She asked members to review and send her any questions.

11. Meeting and Action Items Summary:

- Delay cutover from temporary to permanent NOCC space until the permanent agreement is in place; scheduled cutover with entities as far in advance as possible.

12. Confirm date, time, and location for the next regular Board meeting on Tuesday, March 3, 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 2:48 p.m.