

# GREATER AUSTIN AREA TELECOMMUNICATIONS NETWORK (GAATN) INTERLOCAL AGENCY

## MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

March 8, 2022 1:30 p.m.

LCRA Service Center at 3505 Montopolis, Austin, Texas 78744

Building A, Room A502/503

Teams Videoconference link provided 72 hours prior to meeting on homepage of [www.gaatn.org](http://www.gaatn.org)

Remote audio-only option for public access: (512) 831-7858, Access Code: 169 247 064#

## 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:

Gary Weseman, on behalf of Austin Community College (remote)

Steve Pyle, on behalf of State of Texas DIR (remote)

Dain Herbat, on behalf of Travis County (on site)

Anthony Breckenridge, on behalf of City of Austin (remote)

Bo Kinsey, on behalf of Travis County (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 the start of the meeting:

Ruben Reyes, on behalf of City of Austin (remote)

Jaime Guerra, on behalf of UT-Austin (remote)

Robert Saddler, on behalf of LCRA (remote)

GAATN Contractors/Members of the public:

Chris Gonzales, on behalf of BryComm (remote)

Doug Wilson, on behalf of JC Communications (remote)

Wayne Wedemeyer, on behalf of UT-Austin (remote)

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

### 3. Review and Approve the minutes for the regular Board Meeting of February 8, 2022

Dain Herbat moved to approve the draft minutes as presented; Gary Weseman seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

### 4. Consent Agenda Items recommended by the Technical Subcommittee at its February 22, 2022 meeting

Jaime Guerra moved to approve Consent Agenda Items 4A and 4B; Gary Weseman seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

#### A. Seeking approval for C1N permanent repair at 1202 East St. Johns Avenue not to exceed \$57k to be funded from the FY23 MAC budget

APPROVED ON CONSENT.

#### B. Seeking approval to re-connectorize GAATN supernode site NE Early College High School project not to exceed \$43k to be funded from the FY22 MAC budget

APPROVED ON CONSENT.

## **GREATER AUSTIN AREA TELECOMMUNICATIONS NETWORK (GAATN) INTERLOCAL AGENCY**

### **5. Board Chairperson Update – Discussion and possible action regarding:**

#### **A. Agreement between City of Austin and GAATN for maintenance of the GAATN Backup NOCC**

Frank said that he expects to be able to present the Tech committee with the pricing for the levels of service recommended by the Backup NOCC maintenance subcommittee. Then, if the Tech committee recommends it for Board approval, an agreement can be drafted and executed. Frank said he thinks it should be a simple one to two page agreement.

#### **B. Discussion of recent emergency power incident at GAATN Backup NOCC**

Frank discussed a recent power outage at the facility of the GAATN Backup NOCC and noted that it is only the fourth such power outage in the facility's history. Members discussed an issue related to the generator and Frank noted that management is working with the City of Austin Data Center Operations team and the electrical designer, IMEG, to determine if this was an equipment malfunction or a design error. Jaime said that if it was an equipment malfunction then it should be covered under the one-year warranty. Frank said management will continue to investigate this matter and report back to the Tech committee at the next meeting.

#### **C. Insurance acquisition review and claims assertion**

Sarah discussed the GAATN damage claims policy and how it may be negatively impacting GAATN's ability to get insurance renewals in the future. She noted that management is working with GAATN's insurance agents to review past claims and see how GAATN's policy might need to be revised to ensure GAATN remains insurable. She said the last time this policy was updated was 2012 and it is due to be reviewed and updated. Management will work with GAATN's insurance agents and GAATN legal and then bring this item back to the next Board meeting to review potential appropriate claim policy changes.

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

This 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.

#### **E. Property damage claim for damage to B1N 11604 Stonehollow Drive on 10/18/21**

Sarah noted that the total costs of the emergency and permanent repairs is approximately \$56k and that management has gone back and forth with the insurance adjuster and answered all of their questions. Currently, management is waiting to hear back from the adjuster on the outcome of this claim and will continue to keep the Board informed until the claim is closed.

#### **F. Property damage claim for damage to C1N 1202 E. St. John's on 1/1/22**

This 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.

### **6. Network Manager's Update**

#### **A. Project status report**

Frank reviewed the following upcoming/recently completed projects:

- TC C2S/B1N Balcones WL Preserve new node –completed 2/24
- UT A1N Colorado Apartments new node – completed 3/1

#### **B. Job budget report**

Sarah said that management is tracking 38 jobs totaling \$1.6 million. So far, \$597k has been invoiced and \$1 million is encumbered.

### **7. Executive Session:** At 1:59 p.m., Dain Herbat adjourned the GAATN Board of Directors meeting for closed session, under Texas Government 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 Items 5D and 5F.

## **GREATER AUSTIN AREA TELECOMMUNICATIONS NETWORK (GAATN) INTERLOCAL AGENCY**

At 2:26 p.m., Dain Herbat reconvened the GAATN Board of Directors meeting in open session. Any additional discussion held or action taken on items discussed in executive session will be noted in the summary for that agenda item.

**8. Update Roll Call (only if executive session called):** An updated roll call was held upon reconvening in open session. All members who announced as present at the initial roll call were present except Anthony Breckenridge. Additionally, Ruben Reyes, Jaime Guerra and Robert Saddler joined after the initial roll call and announced as present at the updated roll call.

**9. Discussion and possible action regarding the financial report and current fiscal year budget issues. (AISD, 10 minutes):**

**A. Financial Report**

Sarah reviewed the AISD financial report for the month ending January 31, 2022. She asked members to review and send her any questions. Dain asked Sarah if she thought that across the board inflation would have a negative impact to GAATN next year. She said one of the main concerns was the increase in locate ticket rates, but that it had actually decreased in the last few months to 2019 levels due to some major road construction projects completing. However, she noted there are more road construction projects that will start soon and this expense will continue to fluctuate. That being said, she expects GAATN's budget to be in good shape in FY23 due to the \$200k increase and the healthy fund balance and set aside GAATN currently has.

**10. Meeting and Action Items Summary:**

Frank noted the following action items for network management and legal from this meeting:

- Follow up on the Backup NOCC power incident at the GAATN Technical meeting
- Follow up on the GAATN damage claims policy at the GAATN Board meeting

**11. Confirm date, time, and location for the next regular Board meeting on April 5, 2022 at 1:30 p.m. at LCRA Service Center 3505 Montopolis Austin, TX and via Video Conference on MicrosoftTeams.**

The date, time and location for the next regular Board meeting were confirmed; the meeting adjourned at 2:32 p.m.