

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

MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

July 9, 2024, 1:30 p.m.

City of Austin Permitting and Development Center

6310 Wilhelmina Delco Dr, Rm 1202, Austin, TX 78752

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: 272 539 352#

MINUTES

1. Call to Order and Roll Call:

GAATN Board Vice-Chairman Gary Weseman called the meeting to order at 1:30 p.m.

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

Paul Hodge, on behalf of Austin ISD (remote)

Mark Stavis, on behalf of City of Austin (remote)

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

Bo Kinsey, on behalf of Travis County (remote)

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

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

Mace Royston, on behalf of LCRA (remote)

Mike Lohrstorfer, on behalf of Austin ISD (remote)

Harold Nall, on behalf of UT-Austin (remote)

Syd Falk, GAATN attorney (remote)

Carlos DeMatos, on behalf of GAATN (remote)

Sarah Eichelberger, on behalf of GAATN (remote)

A quorum was established at roll call.

GAATN Contractors:

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 June 4, 2024:

Steve Pyle moved to approve the draft minutes as presented; Jaime Guerra seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

4. Board Chairperson Update – Discussion and possible action regarding:

A. GAATN FY25 Board and Technical Subcommittee Chair and Vice-Chair elections

GAATN Board Chair – Dain Herbat elected

- Jaime Guerra nominated Dain Herbat as GAATN Board Chair; Mace Royston seconded the nomination. Jaime Guerra moved to close nominations; Steve Pyle seconded, and the motion passed unanimously. Gary Weseman moved to elect all nominees; Steve Pyle seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

GAATN Board Vice-Chair – Gary Weseman elected

- Jaime Guerra nominated Gary Weseman as GAATN Board Vice-Chair; Bo Kinsey seconded the nomination. Jaime Guerra moved to close nominations; Mace Royston seconded, and the motion passed unanimously. Gary Weseman moved to elect all nominees; Steve Pyle seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

GAATN Technical Subcommittee Chair – Jaime Guerra elected

- Bo Kinsey nominated Jaime Guerra as GAATN Technical Subcommittee Chair; Steve Pyle

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seconded the nomination. Steve Pyle moved to close nominations; Mace Royston seconded, and the motion passed unanimously. Gary Weseman moved to elect all nominees; Steve Pyle seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

GAATN Technical Subcommittee Vice-Chair – Steve Pyle elected

- Jaime Guerra nominated Steve Pyle as GAATN Technical Subcommittee Vice-Chair; Bo Kinsey seconded the nomination. Jaime Guerra moved to close nominations; Steve Pyle seconded, and the motion passed unanimously. Gary Weseman moved to elect all nominees; Steve Pyle seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

B. Texas Open Meetings Act training requirements

Syd explained the required Texas Open Government training to the members. Sarah reviewed the training available on the Texas Attorney General’s website and said that she would send the training links to the members. She requested that members complete the training and email their certificates to her by October 1. Syd said that he would also give a more targeted training in person during the November 12 Board meeting.

C. GAATN Insurance Claims discussion

Sarah reviewed the GAATN Property Insurance policy, including deductible and per occurrence levels. She reviewed the claim history over the last five years. She stated that the most recent RFP for this policy was issued last year and there was only one response, which was from GAATN’s long time carrier of this policy. She expressed concern that GAATN could potentially lose this coverage in the future if it submits too many claims. She stated that this policy is really intended for catastrophic loss. She noted that the recent weather events are concerning, and extreme weather is becoming more common, and these events could potentially cause catastrophic loss to the network. Syd agreed with Sarah that this policy is best saved for catastrophic loss events. The Board directed Sarah to request a quote from the current carrier for additional deductible and per occurrence level options for the Board to consider at the upcoming renewal in October.

D. GAATN Fiscal Manager duties and formation of a Fiscal Manager service level agreement

Paul said that AISD didn’t have any updates for this agenda item, since they are busy with the beginning of fiscal year duties. He said they should be able to revisit this again after July.

E. GAATN Backup NOCC decommissioning

Carlos reported that the decommissioning is moving along as expected and he believes that the cable relocations will begin after the election and continue into January. He recommended that members plan to vacate their equipment as soon as feasibly possible. He asked members to reach out to him if they need assistance with planning their equipment move.

F. GAATN Backup NOCC relocation and subcommittee update

This agenda item was discussed in executive session under Texas Government Codes 551.071, 551.089, and 418.181. Upon reconvening in open session, no further discussion was held, and no action was taken.

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

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

5. Network Manager’s Update:

A. Project status report

Carlos reported on the following upcoming and recently completed projects:

- A2N Splice Case audit – change order is pending
- SRS Upgrade project Segment 3 – scheduled to complete 7/15/24
- C2S TxDOT Oak Hill Parkway/US290 Phase 4 – completed 6/19/24
- C2S TxDOT Oak Hill Parkway/US290 Phase 3 – completed 6/5/24

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- B2S Emergency repair Sematech Tower/Marshalling Yard – completed 6/29/24
- Placement of 8 poles on San Antonio St. – completed 6/26/24
- AISD C1N node fiber splicing – completed 6/26/24
- COA B2S Fire Station 22 node re-install – completed 6/24/24
- COA D1N Austin Energy HQ new node install – completed 6/12/24

B. Job budget report

Sarah reported that GAATN completed 30 GAATN-budget impacting projects in FY24; 17 additional MAC jobs had some expenditures paid in FY24 and the remaining encumbrances will transfer to the FY25 MAC budget. A total of \$1,144,108 was paid for MAC expenses in FY24. GAATN recovered \$161,648 in project reimbursements and damage claims for FY24.

6. **Executive Session:** At 2:17 p.m., GAATN Board Vice-Chairman Gary Weseman adjourned the GAATN Board of Directors Meeting for closed session, under Tex. Gov't Code sections 551.071, 551.089 and 418.181 (“H.B. 9”), 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 4F and 4G. At 2:40 p.m., Gary Weseman reconvened the GAATN Board Meeting in open session. Agenda Items 4F and 4G were the only items discussed. Any additional discussion held, or action taken in open session on item discussed in executive session will be noted in the summary for that agenda item.
7. **Update Roll Call (only if executive session called):** An updated roll call was held upon reconvening in open session and all members that announced as present at the initial roll call re-confirmed their presence at the updated roll call. A quorum was re-established.
8. **Discussion and possible action regarding the financial report and current fiscal year budget issues**
Sarah reviewed the financial report for the month ending May 31, 2024. She asked members to review and send her any questions. She noted that the preliminary end of fiscal year 2024 report should be ready for next month’s Board meeting.
9. **Meeting and Action Items Summary:**
Sarah noted the following action items from this meeting:
 - Request property insurance quotes for increased deductible and per occurrence limits for the renewal in October. Bring those quotes to the Board for consideration.
 - Send members links to Texas Open Meetings Act and Texas Public Information Act training. Members will complete both trainings and send their certificates to Sarah by October 1.
10. **Confirm date, time, and location for the next regular Board meeting on August 6, 2024, at 1:00 p.m. at LCRA Dalchau Service Center 3505 Montopolis, Bldg. A, Room A502, Austin, TX 78744, and via Microsoft Teams Videoconference.**
The date, time, and location for the next regular Board meeting were confirmed; the meeting adjourned at 2:45 p.m.