

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

MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

August 10, 2021 12:30 p.m.

Via Teleconference at (512) 831-7858, Conference ID 743 970 430#

MINUTES

1. Call to Order and Roll Call

GAATN Board Chairman Dain Herbat called the meeting to order at 12:37 p.m.

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

Frank Ammons, on behalf of GAATN

Dain Herbat, on behalf of Travis County

Jaime Guerra, on behalf of UT-Austin

Gary Weseman, on behalf of Austin Community College

Robert Saddler, on behalf of LCRA

Anthony Breckenridge, on behalf of City of Austin

Carlos DeMatos, on behalf of GAATN

A quorum was established at roll call.

2. Annual Network Management SLA Evaluation

The Board held the annual evaluation for the network management team for FY21; the management team overall scored 4.83 out of 5.

3. Short Break

4. Updated roll call

An updated roll call was taken at 1:20 p.m. after the break.

The following announced as present at the updated roll call:

Frank Ammons, on behalf of GAATN

Dain Herbat, on behalf of Travis County

Jaime Guerra, on behalf of UT-Austin

Gary Weseman, on behalf of Austin Community College

Anthony Breckenridge, on behalf of City of Austin

Carlos DeMatos, on behalf of GAATN

Syd Falk, GAATN attorney

A quorum was re-established at the updated roll call.

Steve Pyle, on behalf of State of Texas DIR – joined at 1:27 p.m.

Robert Saddler, on behalf of LCRA – rejoined at 1:30 p.m.

GAATN Contractors:

Chris Gonzales, on behalf of BryComm – joined at 1:28 p.m.

5. Citizen Communications: There were no citizen communications.

6. Review and Approve the minutes for the regular Board Meeting of July 13, 2021

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

7. Consent Agenda Items – Items recommended for approval at the July 27, 2021 Technical Subcommittee Meeting

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Jaime Guerra moved to approve Consent Agenda Items 7A and 7B; Gary Weseman seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

A. Seeking approval for A2N relocation at 98 Red River developer-funded project at no cost to GAATN

APPROVED ON CONSENT.

B. Seeking approval for B2S underground re-route at Ben White and Thornberry at a cost not to exceed \$70k to be funded by FY22 MAC

APPROVED ON CONSENT.

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

A. Update on future GAATN meetings format

Frank noted that the suspensions of the Texas Open Meetings Act (TOMA) that have allowed GAATN to meet solely via teleconference will end on September 1 and the full TOMA laws will be back in effect. As stated at the last Board meeting, pursuant to Section 551.127 since GAATN extends into three or more counties, GAATN may elect to hold meetings via videoconference with the stipulation that the one who is presiding over the meeting (the chair or vice-chair) be physically present at the meeting location that is open to the public. Sarah sent out a poll to members regarding their preferences with respect to future GAATN meetings. The polls were split evenly with regards to preference of in-person vs. remote meetings. Management met with the Board and Tech chairs, and it was decided that members will be able to choose whether they want to attend GAATN Board and Tech meetings in person or remotely using videoconference. Starting with the September 7 Board meeting going forward, those attending in person will come to the LCRA service center to the same building, same room as before (A502/503). Those attending remotely will be required to use their video camera and headset with a mic; in order for remote attendees to be counted as present for quorum considerations, they must be seen and heard on video. Management will send out further details regarding the hybrid meeting format and technical requirements for both remote and in-person attendees. Management does ask that any members who cannot be present (either physically or remotely) for any meeting to please give as much notice as possible so they can determine if a quorum will be met.

B. Elfatmi v. AT&T and GAATN, Cause No. D-1-GN-21 – 000547, 250th District Court, Travis County, amended complaint joining GAATN filed April 9, 2021

This item was reviewed in executive session under Texas Government Code 551.071 for attorney consultation. Upon reconvening in open session, there was no further discussion held or action taken.

C. Property damage claim against Asplundh for damage to C1N at Willamette Drive

This item was reviewed in executive session under Texas Government Code 551.071 for attorney consultation. Upon reconvening in open session, there was no further discussion held or action taken.

D. Property damage claim against Texstar for damage to SRN at Cameron Rd./52nd St.

This item was reviewed in executive session under Texas Government Code 551.071 for attorney consultation. Upon reconvening in open session, there was no further discussion held or action taken.

9. Network Manager’s Update

A. GAATN Backup NOCC status update

Frank reported that the GAATN backup NOCC has reached near final completion and he thinks that most of the contingency money paid to the City of Austin will be returned to GAATN after project completion and closeout. He said the final completion walk through is

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scheduled for Thursday and he sent the invite out to members in case they want to attend. Frank noted that the project has passed final inspections and the general contractor (GC) is ready to hand it over as completed to the City of Austin Public Works department. Public Works has requested from the GC some contract requirements, such as generator training, before the project can be considered complete; the training is scheduled for next week. Frank said management has been working with Public Works and the City of Austin Data Center Operations (DCO) team to make sure everyone is on the same page. He noted that management is meeting with GAATN's contractors to complete the A1N/A2N fiber project. There are ongoing conversations between management and the COA DCO team to determine if they will provide maintenance to the backup NOCC; a meeting is scheduled for tomorrow between Frank and the DCO manager as well as their corporate managers. Jaime asked if the training could be recorded; Frank said there will be video recordings of the training and several people will also be present at the training. Frank said he will take an action item to send a link to those videos out to members as soon as they are made available so they can share them with their employees.

B. Project status report

Frank reported on the following upcoming/recently completed projects:

- A1N upgrade Segment 5 – testing only scheduled to complete 8/10
- A1N upgrade Segment 6 – scheduled to complete 8/11
- A1N/A2N re-route to Backup NOCC – scheduled to complete 8/20 – Frank noted that management sent out a detailed GAATN alert about this large project. Management and the contractor are hopeful that there will be enough capacity to pull in the 432-count cable. If there is not enough capacity, then the backup plan is to have the 114-count cable that is currently there un-spliced on one end pulled out and to pull it back in to where it was in the event of an emergency so as to not keep the network in wrap longer than needed.
- SRS relocation at 218 S. Lamar – completed 8/5
- A2N relocation at 218 S. Lamar – completed 7/29
- B1N emergency repair at 11604 Stonehollow – completed 7/14
- UT A1N new node Gateway Apts – scheduled to complete 8/12
- AISD C1N Graham ES node replacement – scheduled to complete 8/19
- AISD D1N Eastside Memorial HS renovation – completed 7/13

C. Job budget report

Frank said that, with the B2S underground project approved, there will be five jobs approved for FY22 totaling \$491k of the \$653k budget. Additionally, \$823k in encumbrances for 19 jobs was carried over from FY21.

- 10. Executive Session:** At 1:52 p.m., GAATN Board Chairman Dain Herbat adjourned the GAATN Board 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 8B, 8C, and 8D.

At 2:17 p.m., Dain Herbat reconvened the GAATN Board in open session. Agenda Items 8B, 8C, and 8D were the only items discussed. Any further discussion held or action taken in open session on agenda items discussed in executive session will be noted in the summary for that agenda item.

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

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A. Financial Report

Frank reviewed the financial report for the month ending June 30, 2021. He asked members to send any questions to John or Sarah.

12. Meeting and Action Items Summary

- Send out generator training videos to members once available
- Add standing agenda item after executive session for updated roll call
- Schedule meeting with Travis County to discuss after action reports

13. Confirm date, time, and location for the next regular Board meeting on September 7, 2021 at 1:30 p.m. at LCRA Service Center 3505 Montopolis Austin, TX and via Video Conference on Microsoft Teams.

The date, time and location for the next regular Board meeting were confirmed; the meeting adjourned at 2:22 p.m.