

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

**MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

September 5, 2023 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](http://www.gaatn.org)

Remote audio-only option for public access: (512) 831-7858, Access Code: 972 200 656#

**MINUTES**

**1. Call to Order and Roll Call:**

GAATN Board Vice-Chairman Gary Weseman called the meeting to order at 1:31 p.m.

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

Leslye Conoley, on behalf of City of Austin (on site)

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

Syd Falk, GAATN attorney (on site)

Bo Kinsey, on behalf of Travis County (remote)

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

Robert Saddler, on behalf of LCRA (remote)

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

Mike Lohrstorfer, on behalf of Austin ISD (remote)

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

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.

GAATN Contractors/Members of the public:

Chris Gonzales, on behalf of BryComm (remote)

Doug Wilson, on behalf of JC Communications (remote)

Marco Espericueta, on behalf of Austin Energy (remote)

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

**3. Review and Approve the minutes for the regular Board Meeting of August 8, 2023:**

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

**4. Consent Agenda Items Reviewed and Recommended for Approval at the August 22, 2023 Technical Subcommittee Meeting**

**A. Seeking approval for GAATN Disaster Recovery Plan as discussed and recommended by the Technical Subcommittee**

Jaime Guerra moved to approve the GAATN Disaster Recovery Plan as discussed and recommended by the Technical Subcommittee; Leslye Conoley seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

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

**A. Seeking approval to award AISD 24RFP006 GAATN Property Insurance to Brown & Brown Insurance Agency with an initial term of November 1, 2023 to October 31, 2024 with four possible one-year renewals and to choose one of four Hartford Inland Marine Property policy options**

Sarah reported that the RFP for GAATN Property Insurance was issued on 7/25 and closed on 8/22

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

and GAATN received one response from the current insurance agent. She reviewed the coverage options and premium costs. She said the evaluation subcommittee recommended keeping the same level of coverage with \$6 million stop loss and \$50k deductible at a cost of \$99,778. She noted that the next agenda item will include a request for a fund balance transfer to supplement the FY24 insurance line item to cover this policy and the other liability policies that GAATN has. Jaime Guerra moved to award AISD 24RFP006 GAATN Property Insurance to Brown & Brown Insurance Agency with an initial term of November 1, 2023 to October 31, 2024 with four possible one-year renewals and to bind the \$6 million stop loss \$50k deductible policy with a premium of \$99,778; Steve Pyle seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

**B. Seeking approval to transfer up to \$25k from GAATN Fund Balance to GAATN FY24 budget to increase GAATN Insurance budget line item by \$25k**

Sarah reported that, with the property insurance coverage that GAATN approved, a \$10k fund balance transfer would be necessary to supplement the FY24 GAATN Insurance budget line item. Leslye Conoley moved to approve the transfer of \$10k from the GAATN fund balance to the GAATN FY24 Insurance budget line item to increase it to \$110k; Steve Pyle seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

**C. Austin ISD 2022 Bond Impact to GAATN Super node sites and request to appoint related subcommittee**

Mike said there was no update on this item today.

**D. Seeking approval to adopt Backup NOCC Subcommittee and Technical Subcommittee recommendation to pursue Fire Station 4 as the new Backup NOCC location**

Frank reported that, at the August Technical meeting, the Technical Subcommittee voted to recommend the Backup NOCC Subcommittee's recommendation to proceed with pursuing Fire Station 4 as the new backup NOCC location. He said the rough estimate for the relocation, not including the decommissioning (approximately \$650k), is \$600k. He noted this does not include any potential project management fees from COA Public Works, if they need to be involved, and should be considered a rough estimate. Frank said this is just an approval to formally pursue Fire Station 4 as the new Backup NOCC location, but is not committing GAATN to any funding at this time. Frank said he met with the Fire Station Chief and the Chief wants to make sure that GAATN has given the green light to move forward. Once the project has been fully estimated, those firm costs will be brought back to the Board for project approval. Jaime Guerra moved to pursue Fire Station 4 as the new GAATN Backup NOCC location; Bo Kinsey seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

**E. New GAATN Backup NOCC Location Agreement**

Syd said that he recommends that GAATN get a tentative approval from COA for Fire Station 4 before proceeding with the ILA. Once GAATN gets that approval, he will begin engaging with COA legal to draft a new ILA for the new Backup NOCC using the original Backup NOCC ILA as a template. Syd doesn't think there will need to be much re-drafting of the ILA, so he anticipates it should go smoothly unless the COA requires special terms/conditions not in the original ILA.

**F. Seeking approval for C1S Permanent Repair at 405 Eberhart Lane in an amount not to exceed \$129k to be funded from GAATN FY24 MAC budget**

This agenda item was discussed in executive session under Texas Government Code 551.071 and 418.181. Upon reconvening in open session, Jaime Guerra moved to approve the C1S permanent repair at 405 Eberhart Lane in an amount not to exceed \$129k to be funded from the GAATN FY24 MAC budget; Steve Pyle seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

**G. Property damage claim for underground damage at B1N Hwy 183 and Technology Blvd on 8/1/23**

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

**H. Property damage claim against Wright Tree Services for damage to C1S at 405 Eberhart Lane on**

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

**6/27/23**

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

**I. 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 and 418.181. 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 reported on the following upcoming and recently completed projects:

- A1N upgrade project segment 10 – scheduled to complete 9/7
- A1N upgrade project segment 2 – scheduled to complete 9/21
- A1N upgrade project segment 8 – scheduled to completed 9/28
- C1N Emergency repair at Braker Lane (gunshot) – completed 8/28
- A1N Emergency repair at 4301 Speedway (bus) – completed 8/24

**B. Job budget report**

Sarah reported that management is tracking 35 jobs totaling \$2.75 million. So far for FY24, 2 jobs have been completed and \$85k has been invoiced. With the six delayed jobs removed from the encumbrances, the fund balance bottom line is \$1.24 million.

**C. Notification of RFP for GAATN Underground Locate Service to be issued in October 2023**

Sarah reported that the RFP for GAATN Underground Locate Service will be issued in October. She requested two Board volunteers to serve on the evaluation subcommittee along with Frank. Steve Pyle and Gary Weseman volunteered to be on the subcommittee.

- 7. Executive Session:** At 2:05 p.m., Gary Weseman adjourned the GAATN Board of Directors for closed session, under Tex. Gov't Code sections 551.071 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 5F, 5G, 5H, and 5I. At 2:18 p.m., Gary Weseman reconvened the GAATN Board in open session for discussion and actions, if any, on matters considered in closed 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 taken and all members that announced as present at the opening roll call reconfirmed their presence in the updated roll call. A quorum was re-established.
- 9. Discussion and possible action regarding the financial report and current fiscal year budget issues. (AISD, 10 minutes):**
- A. Financial Report**
- Sarah noted that there would not be a financial report this month as AISD is navigating the new system. She said next month would be the first report of the new fiscal year.
- 10. Meeting and Action Items Summary:** Frank noted the following action items from this meeting:
- Prepare formal request for Fire Station 4 as the new backup NOCC location.
- 11. Confirm date, time, and location for the next regular Board meeting on October 3, 2023 at 1:30**

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

**p.m. at City of Austin Permitting and Development Center 6310 Wilhelmina Delco Dr, Room 1202, Austin, TX 78752 and via Video Conference on Microsoft Teams.**

The date and time for the next regular Board meeting were confirmed. The location was corrected to LCRA Service Center at 3505 Montopolis Austin, TX 78744, Room A502 and via Microsoft Teams. The meeting adjourned at 2:23 p.m.