GREATER AUSTIN AREA TELECOMMUNICATIONS NETWORK (GAATN)
INTERLOCAL AGENCY

GAATN TECHNICAL COMMITTEE MEETING
September 15, 2026 at 1:30 p.m.
City of Austin Permitting and Development Center
6310 Wilhelmina Delco Dr, Rm 1208, Austin, TX 78752
Videoconference: Link available at least 72 hours prior on www.gaatn.org
Audio-only: (512) 831-7858, Access Code: 935 965 745#

MINUTES

1. **Call to Order (Including a roll call):**
   Technical Committee Chairman Jaime Guerra called the meeting to order at 1:30 p.m.
   The following announced as present at the start of the meeting:
   On site: Jaime Guerra (UT-Austin)
   Remote: Paul Hodge and Mike Lohrstorfer (Austin ISD); Gary Weseman and Justin Slocum (Austin Community College); Mark Stavis (City of Austin); Bo Kinsey (Travis County); Steve Pyle (State of Texas DIR); Chris Phillips (LCRA); Harold Nall (UT-Austin); Frank Ammons, Carlos DeMatos, Sarah Eichelberger (COA/GAATN staff); Chris Gonzales (Contractor/BryComm)
   A quorum was established at roll call.

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

3. **Review and approve minutes from the Technical Committee meeting of August 18, 2026:**
   Bo Kinsey moved to approve the draft minutes as presented; Steve Pyle seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.

4. **Maintenance Contractor's Report**
   A. **Maintenance report**
      Chris reported that, since the last meeting, the maintenance contractor completed routine inspections of C1S and B1N with 24 corrected deficiencies between the two rings. There was nothing out of the ordinary to report other than an uptick in pole transfers.
   B. **Inventory report**
      Chris said there have been no changes to this report since the last meeting.
   C. **NJUNS tickets report**
      Chris reported that nearly all NJUNS tickets on purchase orders have been completed. Currently, there are 159 next-to-go tickets in GAATN's queue.

5. **Network Manager's Report**
   A. **Job status report**
      Frank reported on the following recently completed jobs:
      - TLC Redundant Pathway Bore – completed 9/9/26
      - C1N Emergency Repair at 5000 Blk Manor Rd. #2 – completed 9/9/26
      - C1N Emergency Repair at 5000 Blk Manor Rd. #1 – completed 9/8/26
      - AISD A1N Rosedale Elementary node decommissioning – completed 8/28/26

      Total Jobs Tracked = 85 (71 active/planning; 14 completed)
   B. **Network incident report**
      Frank reported on the following recent network incidents:
      - 9/9/26 C1N 5500 Blk Manor Rd. – cause of incident was vandalism in the same location as the day prior. BryComm performed an emergency repair to restore the network. Management filed police reports for both incidents.

- 9/8/26 C1N 5500 Blk Manor Rd. – cause of incident was vandalism. BryComm performed an emergency repair to restore the network.
- 8/20/26 C2S 4000 Blk Staggerbrush Rd. – cause of incident was brush fire. BryComm performed an emergency repair to restore the network.

C. Job budget report

Moves, Adds, and Changes (MAC) budget: Sarah reported that management is tracking 31 jobs totaling $3.76 million. So far for FY27, 2 jobs have been completed and $168k has been invoiced. To date, $27k has been recovered for project reimbursements.

Maintenance budget: Sarah reported that 5 repairs totaling $52k have been invoiced. The remaining budget in the Maintenance "Additional Work" budget is $141k.

6. Committee Chairperson's Update – discussion and possible action on:

A. Seeking recommendation for Board approval of TxDOT Cap Ex UTAC 100% reimbursable project at a cost not to exceed $446,011.30 to be funded from the GAATN MAC budget

This agenda item was discussed in executive session under Texas Government Codes 418.181 and 551.089. Upon reconvening in open session, Jaime Guerra moved to recommend for Board approval the TxDOT Cap Ex UTAC 100% reimbursable project at a cost not to exceed $446,011.30 to be funded from the GAATN MAC budget; Gary Weseman seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.

B. Seeking recommendation for Board approval of changes to the GAATN Maintenance Procedure/Policy

Frank reviewed proposed redlined revisions to the GAATN Maintenance Procedure/Policy to update the timeline of a full cycle of splice case audits from five to ten years. Additional redlined revisions included updates to more clearly define "Additional Work" under the maintenance contract. Jaime Guerra moved to recommend the redlined revisions to the GAATN Maintenance Procedure/Policy as presented for Board approval; Steve Pyle seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.

C. GAATN updated Entity Ring Priority Rankings

Sarah reviewed the updated Entity Ring Priority Rankings. She noted that there was only one change on the critical entities list with B1S and C1N switching spots as 7th and 8th. She noted that the new rankings will replace the old list in the GAATN Disaster Recovery Plan.

D. GAATN Project Priority Rankings review

Frank reviewed the Project Priority Rankings, last completed in FY23. Frank noted that this ranking sheet would go out to the members to review and re-rank the projects if their priorities have changed. He said that he would include a blurb to give a little background about each of the projects on the list.

E. Discussion of feasibility to utilize fiber detection system for GAATN

Jaime said that UT's utility department was approached by Texas 811, who works with this vendor that sets up fiber detection systems. In theory, you could put this equipment on a dark fiber strand that is buried underground, and they are able to detect if someone is digging, and 811 can cross reference that with any dig tickets to determine if they are digging without a permit and send an inspector. For GAATN, this technology would have the ability to immediately alert network management if fiber has been cut and it would pinpoint the location of the cut on a map. It could probably also detect if a pole that GAATN is attached to was hit, but the fiber didn't break as well as if someone is handling a splice case or trying to saw into the fiber. He said that the deployment of this system on GAATN would probably cost upwards of $1 million. He noted that he could see one of these units going into a GAATN super node site, and the entity that hosts the super node site would probably need to provide an internet connection for the system. The system requires a single fiber for each route up to 75 kilometers each way. Mark said he is familiar with this technology, as it was used by the military to detect the placement of IEDs, and it was very helpful for that purpose. However, he found it cost prohibitive for the city. The members discussed the pros and cons of the

system. Jaime noted that while he wanted to bring it to the members' attention that this technology exists, it doesn't seem like there's enough of an appetite to explore further.

7. **Executive Session:** At 2:11 p.m., Committee Chairman Guerra adjourned the GAATN Technical Committee Meeting for closed session, under Tex. Gov't Code sections 418.181 ("H.B. 9") and 551.089 to preserve confidentiality as permitted by law for Agenda Item 6A. At 2:16 p.m. Committee Chairman Guerra reconvened the Technical Committee Meeting in open session. Agenda Item 6A was the only item discussed. Any additional discussion held or action taken on items discussed in executive session are noted in the agenda item summary.

8. **Updated roll call:** An updated roll call re-confirmed a quorum.

9. **Confirm date, time, and location for the next Technical Committee meeting as October 20, 2026, at 1:30 p.m. at City of Austin Permitting and Development Center 6310 Wilhelmina Delco Dr, Room 1208, Austin, TX 78752 and via Microsoft Teams Videoconference.**
   The next meeting details were confirmed; the meeting adjourned at 2:20 p.m.