

GREATER AUSTIN AREA TELECOMMUNICATIONS NETWORK (GAATN) INTERLOCAL AGENCY

GAATN TECHNICAL SUBCOMMITTEE MEETING

January 28, 2025, at 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: 953 304 037#

MINUTES

1. Call to Order (Including a roll call):

GAATN Technical Subcommittee Chairman Jaime Guerra called the meeting to order at 1:30 p.m.

The following announced as present at the start of the roll call:

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

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

Dain Herbat, on behalf of Travis County (remote)

Jaime Guerra, on behalf of UT-Austin

Chris Phillips, on behalf of LCRA (remote)

Justin Slocum, on behalf of Austin ISD (remote)

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

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

Jeremy Cantu, on behalf of Austin Community College (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.

Members arriving after roll call:

Paul Hodge, on behalf of Austin ISD (remote) – joined at 1:37 p.m.

Matt Molina, on behalf of City of Austin (remote) – joined at 1:43 p.m.

GAATN contractors:

Chris Gonzales, on behalf of BryComm (remote)

2. Citizen Communications: There were no citizen communications.

3. Review and approve minutes from the regular Technical Subcommittee meeting of November 19, 2024

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

4. Maintenance Contractor's Report

A. Maintenance report

Chris reported that, since the previous meeting, the maintenance contractor completed inspections on B1S, B2S, C1N, C1S, and C2S with 39 corrected deficiencies between the five rings. He said there was nothing out of the ordinary to report. Jaime asked if missing ground wires are part of the inspection; Chris said no because they are maintained by Austin Energy (AE). Jaime asked about an entry note on the report; Chris said that note was there because they had permitted a couple of poles on A2N for a project and AE required that pole to be bonded. Jaime asked if the inspector would correct that on a routine basis; Chris said that inspecting bonding is not part of routine maintenance but would be something inspected by AE during the pole application process for projects. Chris said that if AE notes that it needs to be addressed, then they will take care of it. Jaime

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asked Frank if network management would want to see if the maintenance contractor should make any observation or make notes regarding bonding.

B. Inventory report

Chris said that, since the last meeting, there have been no changes to the inventory report.

5. Network Manager's Report

A. Project status report

Frank reported on the following upcoming and recently completed projects:

- A1N ACCD Backup NOCC Decommissioning – scheduled to complete 1/29/25
- SRS ACCD Backup NOCC Decommissioning – scheduled to complete 2/5/25
- SRN ACCD Backup NOCC Decommissioning – scheduled to complete 2/12/25
- A2N ACCD Backup NOCC Decommissioning – scheduled to complete 2/26/25
- A2N splice case audit – ongoing through 2/28/25
- B1N COA Emergency repair at B1N18 (brittle fiber) – completed 1/23/25
- C1S Permanent repair at Eberhart Lane – completed 1/8/25
- C1N Emergency repair at 6200 Loyola Lane (gunshot) – completed 1/2/25
- AISD C1N Pecan Springs Elementary node decommissioning – completed 1/13/25
- Total FY25 Jobs Tracked = 91; 55 active/planning, 36 completed

B. Network incident report

Frank reported on the following incidents:

- C1N Emergency repair at 6200 Loyola Lane occurred on 1/2/25 due to a gunshot by an unknown person, which is presumed to be due to New Year's celebratory gunfire. BryComm completed an emergency repair and there is no claim to pursue.
- B1N COA Emergency repair at Case B1N18 occurred on 1/23/25 to repair a COA broken fiber; the cause was presumed brittle fiber. The cable is a 24-count cable which is temporarily being used by COA, UT, TC due to a TxDOT project; the manufacturer date is 2006 and it is suspected that the damage was caused by a combination of the hard freeze in addition to a micro being inside the case itself.

C. Job budget report

Sarah reported that management is tracking 47 jobs totaling \$3.7 million. So far for FY25, 14 jobs have been completed and \$484k has been invoiced. She reported that she added the \$261k proposal as a placeholder which brings the fund balance bottom line to \$1.13 million. She noted that the \$261k proposal, if approved, would bring the total amount approved for the Backup NOCC relocation to \$788k. Jaime asked if there were any other expected costs not represented on the tracker; Sarah said that the general contractor room buildout and the secondary fiber path were the two costs not yet included because they are not known at this time.

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

A. Seeking recommendation for Board approval for classification and disposition of GAATN Stock Fiber reels R647 and R704 in accordance with GAATN Materials and Disposition Policy

Frank reviewed the two 114-count reels with less than 1k feet remaining. He said that, in accordance with the GAATN Materials and Disposition Policy, management recommends classifying reels R647 and R704 as disposable and allowing the maintenance contractor to dispose of them. He noted that GAATN's standard is now 192-count, and the remaining footage of these reels is low, so they are unlikely to be useful to GAATN for future repairs. Jaime Guerra moved to recommend for Board approval to classify GAATN Stock Fiber reels R647 and R704 as disposable and allow the maintenance contractor to dispose of them in accordance with GAATN's policy; Dain Herbat seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

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B. Backup NOCC Decommissioning

Frank reviewed the updated GAATN Backup NOCC decommissioning schedule, which includes the schedule for the cutover of the four transport rings as well as the window for AISD to remove the designated equipment as approved by the Board. He said that management has been working with COA Right-of-Way, LJA, and BryComm to ensure that permits are received in a timely manner; the permits needed for A1N, SRS, and SRN were approved last week which was a big win. He said that the A1N cutover is taking place today as noted on the schedule and in the GAATN Alerts. He noted that the A2N permit will require separate approval, and he will be working closely with those groups to ensure it is received on time. He said that management will also be working with Austin ISD and the Convention Center to coordinate the equipment removal from the NOCC between February 2-March 3.

C. Backup NOCC Relocation

Frank reported that, since the last Technical Subcommittee meeting, the Board approved the agreement for the professional architectural and engineering from CBRE Design Collective, which is the architect designing the overall City building renovation. The agreement was executed with CBRE, and they were given the notice to proceed. CBRE has scheduled a kickoff meeting for January 31, which will include Jaime as well as management and COA Data Center Operations. He said it will take them about 4-5 weeks to complete the design before it is handed over to the general contractor to provide a quote for the buildout. He expects the buildout for the permanent NOCC will be completed between August and December 2025. Frank said that questions arose at the January Board meeting regarding power requirements; the NOCC Subcommittee met to discuss those issues, and their recommendations will be discussed during the next agenda item in executive session. Frank also reported that the fiber re-routes for the Backup NOCC relocation are in the permitting process and management is working with COA ROW to reiterate the importance of these permits; he said that the only pole application associated with this re-route has been approved by AE. He said that great progress has been made with the temporary backup NOCC; the mini split was installed. The only thing that remains is the outside fiber placement.

D. Backup NOCC Subcommittee update and recommendations

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

E. Seeking recommendation for GAATN Permanent NOCC room layout/equipment installation, splicing, and terminations at a cost not to exceed \$261k to be funded from the FY25 and FY26 MAC budgets

This item was discussed in executive session under Texas Government Codes 551.089 and 418.181. Upon reconvening in open session, Jaime Guerra moved to recommend for Board approval the GAATN Permanent NOCC room layout/equipment installation, splicing, and terminations at a cost not to exceed \$261k to be funded from the FY25 and FY26 MAC budgets; Dain Herbat seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

- 7. Executive Session:** At 1:52 p.m., GAATN Technical Subcommittee Chairman Guerra adjourned the GAATN Technical Subcommittee for closed session, under Tex. Gov't Code sections 551.089 and 418.181 ("H.B. 9"), to preserve confidentiality as permitted by law (including but not limited to pending, anticipated or contemplated litigation concerning) regarding Agenda Items 6D and 6E.

At 2:23 p.m., Chairman Guerra reconvened the Technical Subcommittee in open session. Agenda Items 6D and 6E were the only items discussed in executive session. Any additional discussion held, or action taken on items discussed in executive session is noted in the summary for that agenda item.

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- 8. Updated roll call upon reconvening in open session (only if Executive Session taken):** An updated roll call was taken and all that announced as present at the opening roll call, re-confirmed their presence. Additionally, Paul Hodge and Matt Molina announced as present. A quorum was re-confirmed.

- 9. Confirm date, time, and location for the next Technical Subcommittee meeting as February 25, 2025, at 1:30 p.m. at City of Austin Permitting and Development Center 6310 Wilhelmina Delco Dr, Room 1202, Austin, TX 78752 and via Microsoft Teams Videoconference.**
The date, time, and location for the next Technical Subcommittee meeting were confirmed; the meeting adjourned at 2:25 p.m.