

# GREATER AUSTIN AREA TELECOMMUNICATIONS NETWORK (GAATN) INTERLOCAL AGENCY

## GAATN TECHNICAL SUBCOMMITTEE MEETING

MEETING HELD February 18, 2020 at 1:30 p.m.

AT Lower Colorado River Authority  
LCRA Service Center, Room A502/503  
3505 Montopolis Blvd.  
Austin, Texas

### MINUTES

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

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

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

Jaime Guerra, on behalf of UT-Austin

Harold Nall, on behalf of UT-Austin

Gary Weseman, on behalf of Austin Community College

Steve Pyle, on behalf of State of Texas DIR

Ruben Reyes, on behalf of City of Austin

Mace Royston, on behalf of LCRA

Doug Wilson, on behalf of JC Communications

Dain Herbat, on behalf of Travis County

Frank Ammons, on behalf of GAATN

Carlos DeMatos, on behalf of GAATN

Bo Kinsey, on behalf of Travis County

Chris Gonzales, on behalf of BryComm

Sarah Eichelberger, on behalf of GAATN

A quorum was established at roll call.

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

#### 3. Review and approve minutes from the regular Technical Subcommittee meeting of January 21, 2020

Gary Weseman moved to approve the draft minutes from the regular Technical Subcommittee meeting of January 21, 2020; Steve Pyle seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

#### 4. Maintenance Contractor's Report

##### A. Maintenance updates

Chris reported that, since last month, the maintenance contractor completed inspections on A1N, A2N, and B2N with 36 corrected deficiencies; Jaime asked about trends the maintenance contractor is noticing; Chris said nothing new, just the normal wait time for pole transfers.

##### B. Material Inventory status

Chris reported that, on February 8, BryComm used 877 feet of reel 704 for the B2S emergency repair at Highway 71 and Thornberry. Chris said GAATN was torn down across the highway and had to get assistance from TxDOT and APD to shut down the highway for the repair on Sunday morning.

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

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

#### A. Allocation of 192-count fiber on subbrings

Frank said that network management was tasked with presenting proposed allocations on the subbrings that followed the same formula that the transport ring allocation subcommittee used to allocate A1N, A2N, SRS, and SRN in 2018. Frank said that there are two options on the table, either fully allocating the rings or leaving the unallocated strands as unallocated. Frank said that management needs for the Tech Committee to make a decision on this point so the contractors know how to splice in the field. Jaime said the Technical Subcommittee's decision is to leave the subbrings allocated as they currently are and letting entities purchase additional fibers on those rings through the GAATN Existing Unallocated Fiber Acquisition Policy (EUFAP).

#### B. Seeking recommendation for GAATN funded project C2S TxDOT Re-route at Manchaca and FM1626

This item was discussed in executive session for design review under Texas Government Code 481.181. Upon reconvening in open session, Dain Herbat moved to recommend for Board approval the C2S TxDOT Re-route at Manchaca and FM1626 utilizing GAATN stock reel 707; Steve Pyle seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

#### C. Seeking recommendation for Travis County funded project C1N Tax Office Building node insertion

This item was discussed in executive session for design review under Texas Government Code 481.181. Upon reconvening in open session, Jaime Guerra moved to recommend for Board approval the C1N Tax Office Building node insertion; Gary Weseman seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

#### D. Seeking recommendation for Developer funded project SRN/D1N/TIE CVS at Manor and Airport Relocation

This item was discussed in executive session for design review under Texas Government Code 481.181. Upon reconvening in open session, Jaime Guerra moved to recommend for Board approval the SRN/D1N/TIE CVS at Manor Road and Airport Blvd relocation, Gary Weseman seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

### 6. Network Manager's Update:

#### A. GAATN Backup NOCC project update

Frank reported that the contract between COA and IMEG was executed last week. Management met with IMEG and Public Works (PW) last week and received a list of six potential vendors that will be solicited for a bid. Frank will get an updated timeline from PW with regards to the solicitation for bids, but construction is still slated to begin August 2020 pending approvals by GAATN and City Council. Gary asked if Frank had heard anything about GAATN's request to review the bids; Frank said that Allison is looking into that. Jaime asked about IMEG's role during the evaluation and building process; Frank said they will act as a consultant on the project and they will also review the bids.

#### B. GAATN Project Status report

Frank reviewed the following upcoming and recently completed projects:

- SRN/A2N Capitol Complex re-routes – still pending conduit construction
- A1N/SRN Grove at Shoal Creek relocations – completed 2/13
- B2S Emergency Repair at SH71 and Thornberry – completed 2/9
- ACC B2S/B1S connection to co-location – completed 1/30
- AISD D1N Govalle Renovations – completed 2/18

Carlos discussed the teardown at SH71 and Thornberry; he said an unknown truck hit it and this is the second time GAATN has been hit in this area twice in the last year even with the fiber

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

installed above the 18 foot standard. TxDOT did not permit for a higher vehicle, and does not know which truck may have hit the cable. Chris said there is a lot of construction in the area of SH71 and HWY183. Dain asked about GAATN's options here; Frank said GAATN can choose to go underground at that crossing and said management will look to bring a proposal to the next Technical meeting. Carlos said there is another project in that area that will affect that crossing in the future anyways, so it would be a good idea to go ahead and go underground now.

### **C. Job Budget Tracking report**

Sarah said management is currently tracking 15 budget-affecting jobs totaling \$633k, or 88% of the FY20 MAC budget, leaving \$84k for additional jobs. Additionally, in FY20 GAATN is expecting to recover \$200k from reimbursements and recoveries for FY19 and FY20 jobs and damages.

- 7. Executive Session:** At 1:45 p.m., Jaime Guerra adjourned the GAATN Technical Subcommittee for closed session, under Tex. Gov't Code sections 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 5B, 5C, and 5D.

At 2:02 p.m., Jaime Guerra reconvened the GAATN Technical Subcommittee in open session for discussion and actions, if any, on matters considered in closed session. Agenda Items 5B, 5C, and 5D were the only items discussed.

- 8. Confirm date, time, and location for the next Technical Subcommittee meeting as March 24, 2020 at 1:30 p.m. at the LCRA Service Center, 3505 Montopolis Blvd., Room A504, Austin, TX.**

The date, time, and location for the next Technical Subcommittee meeting were confirmed; the meeting adjourned at 2:18 p.m.