GREATER AUSTIN AREA TELECOMMUNICATIONS NETWORK (GAATN) INTERLOCAL AGENCY

GAATN TECHNICAL SUBCOMMITTEE MEETING

MEETING HELD March 21, 2017 at 1:30 p.m.
AT Lower Colorado River Authority
LCRA Service Center, Room A504
3505 Montopolis Blvd.
Austin, Texas

MINUTES

1. **Call to Order (Including a roll call)**
   GAATN Technical Subcommittee Chairperson Jaime Guerra called the meeting to order at 1:30 p.m. The following announced as present at the start of the meeting:
   Jaime Guerra, on behalf of the University of Texas
   Harold Nall, on behalf of the University of Texas
   Gary Weseman, on behalf of Austin Community College
   Syd Falk, GAATN attorney
   John Kohlmorgan, on behalf of Austin ISD
   Wayne Egeler, on behalf of State of Texas DIR
   Jay Graves, on behalf of State of Texas DIR
   Bruce Hermes, on behalf of City of Austin
   Frank Ammons, on behalf of GAATN
   Dain Herbat, on behalf of Travis County
   Chris Gonzales, on behalf of BryComm
   Mace Royston, on behalf of Lower Colorado River Authority
   Mike LaMarre, on behalf of City of Austin
   Zach Pascouau, on behalf of GAATN
   Carlos DeMatos, on behalf of GAATN
   A quorum was established at roll call.
   Guests:
   Bryan Hammack, on behalf of Titus Systems

2. **Citizen Communications (3 minutes)**
   There were no citizen communications.

3. **Review and approve minutes from the regular Technical Subcommittee meeting of February 21, 2017 (5 minutes)**
   Jaime Guerra asked members to review the draft minutes. Dain Herbat moved to approve the draft minutes as presented from the February 21, 2017 meeting; Wayne Egeler seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

4. **Committee Chair's Update and Report (45 minutes):**
   A. **Seeking recommendation of Colorado Street GAATN relocate of infrastructure**

12. Executive Session

At 1:36 p.m., Subcommittee Chairman Jaime Guerra announced that GAATN was adjourning to Executive Session under Texas Government Code section 551.171 and one or more of sections 418.175 - 418.181 to discuss agenda items 4A and 8G. At 2:11 p.m., the GAATN Technical Subcommittee GAATN returned to open session.

[4A] Upon reconvening in open session, Gary Weseman moved to recommend for Board approval funding of $39,500 to JC Communications for the relocate of GAATN infrastructure on Colorado Street; Mike LaMarre seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

[8G] Upon reconvening in open session, Jaime Guerra stated that representatives from the Travis County Central Health District would be attending a future Board meeting. GAATN will need to find out what sites the Central Health District is interested in and how that would line up with the proposed network expansion projects. In addition, GAATN would need to know what they intend to use the fibers for.

Bruce Hermes recommended creating a list of discussion items and obtaining advice from legal counsel before having the Central Health District attend a Board meeting. Frank Ammons said that he would speak to Syd Falk, GAATN's lawyer, to find out if the Board is able to ask the Central Health District questions when they attend the Board meeting as invited guests.

5. Recess

At 2:12 p.m., Subcommittee Chairman Jaime Guerra called a recess for a special Meeting of the Board of Directors.

6. Reconvene GAATN Technical Subcommittee Meeting

Jaime Guerra reconvened the meeting at 2:15 p.m.

7. Roll Call

The following announced as present following the recess:
Jaime Guerra, on behalf of the University of Texas
Harold Nall, on behalf of the University of Texas
Gary Weseman, on behalf of Austin Community College
Syd Falk, GAATN attorney
John Kohlmorgan, on behalf of Austin ISD
Wayne Egeler, on behalf of State of Texas DIR
Jay Graves, on behalf of State of Texas DIR
Bruce Hermes, on behalf of City of Austin
Frank Ammons, on behalf of GAATN
Dain Herbat, on behalf of Travis County
Chris Gonzales, on behalf of BryComm
Mace Royston, on behalf of Lower Colorado River Authority
Mike LaMarre, on behalf of City of Austin
Zach Pascouau, on behalf of GAATN
Carlos DeMatos, on behalf of GAATN

A quorum was established at roll call.
Guests:
Bryan Hammack, on behalf of Titus Systems

8. Continuation of Committee Chair's Update and Report (45 minutes)

B. Austin Convention Center GAATN backup NOCC discussion

Frank Ammons stated that on March 7, 2017, Network Management reported that there was some concern with floor space square footage requirements for the backup NOCC. The approved TTG Engineers' (TTG) design calls for 814SF. Network Management, along with Bruce Hermes, met with Austin Convention Center Management who confirmed that GAATN would be granted 800SF for the room and 84SF for the generator. In order to gain back the 14SF the design is over by, TTG recommended switching to 36in deep cabinets versus the 48in originally planned.

Frank mentioned the University of Texas (UT) originally pushed for the 48in deep cabinets; however, Jaime Guerra stated that UT currently does not have any equipment that deep and that 36in would be acceptable. Dain Herbat asked if the cabinet size reduction was necessary for the overall design, or just a recommendation. Frank specified that it was a recommendation and it may be possible to fit the larger cabinets, but the smaller cabinets would guarantee the backup NOCC fits in the approved space.

Jaime asked the other Technical Subcommittee members if they would approve the cabinet size reduction if it became necessary for the design; all members agreed.

C. Review of Connector Alignment Projects under Network Manager spending authority

Frank Ammons presented a spreadsheet showing a snapshot of the recent connector audit. Frank stated that this spreadsheet shows most fibers are aligned in a vertical setting at the Super Node sites, however a few are still set horizontally. In order to have the whole network be uniform, GAATN solicited a quote to realign the fibers in a horizontal setting to vertical. Frank then presented a quote from Titus Systems for $9,290 to make these changes.

John Kohlmorgan asked when Network Management plans to schedule the realignment. Frank said that he would like to have this completed during the current fiscal year as long as Texas DIR's schedule allows for it.

Mike LaMarre asked what the cost increase would be for switching to LC high-density connectors. Frank stated that he was unsure what the cost increase would be to switch from ST to LC connectors and would ask for a quote for comparison to bring to a future Technical meeting.

D. Splice Audit Projects set to begin in FY18 and audit information updates to ensure proper results

Frank Ammons explained that Network Management was working on a spreadsheet to better track and accumulate data that was provided from the previous splice audits. This master sheet can be used to double check and ensure there are no issues in a particular splice audit or case. Going forward, Network Management will be soliciting bids from the vendors to perform new audits expected to begin in FY18. The purpose of these splice audits is to secure data and resolve any issues from the rings whose last audits were completed in 2011. With three vendors capable of auditing the splice cases, it should only take one year to complete all 11 rings if the funding is available.

Dain Herbat added that the network had many issues on the rings in the past before the first splice case audit. Since the audit, most of the issues were fixed and it created proper documentation that was not being kept beforehand. As a result, the network's reliability has greatly improved.

E. GAATN Entity specific node cable maintenance procedures

Jaime Guerra said that there was discussion in a previous meeting regarding a Travis County node cable serving one of the Cyrus One facilities on B1N. During the discussion, some members questioned who is responsible for maintenance on that cable, GAATN or the entity. Frank Ammons explained that Network Management's understanding is that if a node cable is lashed to a GAATN ring cable, the GAATN Maintenance Contractor maintains it; however, for anything else that is entity specific, the entity is responsible for the maintenance. John Kohlmorgan then asked who was responsible for the Travis County node cable in question. Dain Herbat stated that Travis County was the responsible party.

Jaime asked if an entity cable was lashed to a GAATN cable and a developer wanted GAATN to relocate the facility then reimburse GAATN, if GAATN would also relocate the entity cable. Frank expressed that in this situation GAATN would most likely relocate the entity cable; however, if the work was not going to be reimbursed, each entity lashed to the cable would be responsible for its portion of the cost.

F. Seeking approval for new node cable for Travis County A2N – Historic courthouse

Dain Herbat informed the subcommittee that Travis County obtained the former Federal Courthouse and that it wanted to connect the courthouse to A2N. The connection would come out of the back of the building, through the alleyway, and connect directly to A2N on Colorado Street at an existing splice case.

Gary Weseman moved to recommend for Board approval a new node cable for Travis County at the former Federal Courthouse; Mike LaMarre seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

G. Technical considerations for Travis County Central Health District GAATN membership interest

This item was discussed in executive session and action taken after executive session is reported earlier.

9. Maintenance Contractor's Report (5 minutes)

A. Maintenance updates

Chris Gonzales reported that the Maintenance Contractor completed inspections on A2N and B2N, correcting 11 deficiencies.

B. Material Inventory status

Chris Gonzales announced that there has not been a change in actual inventory since the last Technical meeting and that the updated, anticipated ship date for cable reel R707 is April 1, 2017.

C. Bentley COMMS Power Viewer Installation & Training update

Frank Ammons announced that all entity members have either taken or signed up for training with the exception of one DIR employee who will sign up before the week is over. All GAATN vendors have been asked to sign up for the training and all should have it completed by the end of next week. Frank also mentioned that some users were having issues with the software, stating it is a trail version and to contact him if that happens to anyone else.

10. Project and Budget Review (10 minutes)

A. GAATN Project Status report

Frank Ammons stated that since the last Technical Subcommittee meeting the Supernode FAP Audit has been completed and that many of Titus' active projects have been updated to reflect estimated completion dates. JC Communications' pending projects should have estimated completion dates by the next Technical Subcommittee meeting.

Jaime Guerra asked Network Management to add the A1N UT Replacement Office Building project to the report by the next Board meeting.

B. Job Budget Tracking review

Zach Pascouau reported that the FY17 MAC budget is currently 65% committed, and there is approximately $306k remaining for additional projects.

Mike LaMarre asked Network Management if the remaining 35% of the budget would be expended by the end of the fiscal year. Frank Ammons responded, stating that it is up to the Board members to decide and that he has presented multiple projects prior to and during FY17 that have not been approved for FY17. Dain Herbat asked if Frank could speak in detail to some of those projects and Frank mentioned the remaining Non-Armored Replacement projects for example as well as other projects in conjunction with the project priorities list populated by the Board Members.

11. Longhorn Dam Pathway Fiber Route Discussions (60 minutes)

A. Connection between D1N and B2S discussion

B. Connection from CTECC to a co-locate facility south of the river discussion

C. Connection from City Hall to a co-locate facility south of the river discussion

D. Connection between SRS and SRN discussion

At 3:21 p.m., Jaime announced that GAATN was adjourning to Executive Session under one or more sections of Texas Government Code 418.175 - 418.181 to discuss agenda items 11.A-D. At 3:43 p.m., Jaime announced that GAATN was reconvening in open session.

Upon reconvening in open session, Jaime requested that Network Management refine the design for the connection between D1N and B2S and look at the possibility of connecting two different entity locations on the rings.

John Kohlmorgan asked if SRS was still in consideration. Frank Ammons mentioned that Network Management is looking into SRS and is currently trying to secure a pathway for the connection and provide a couple different routes.

E. Agreement with Cyrus One discussion

Frank reported that he has reached out to Cyrus One regarding an agreement. Cyrus One will need square footage and power requirements from GAATN in order to proceed.

Dain Herbat questioned what the Technical Subcommittee's desire was regarding an agreement. John Kohlmorgan explained that a shared network access point is the intention. Dain recommended using a member node site for an access point as opposed to leasing in order to avoid monthly costs. John suggested that a shared solution would be more desirable; however, Dain believed that it would be extremely difficult for multiple entities to enter into agreements with Cyrus One as GAATN.

12. Executive Session

There were two executive sessions. As noted above, in the first, Items 4A and 8G were discussed; in the second closed session, Items 11A to 11D were discussed.

13. Confirm date, time, and location for the next Technical Subcommittee meeting as April 18, 2017 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 3:55 p.m.