

GREATER AUSTIN AREA TELECOMMUNICATIONS NETWORK (GAATN) INTERLOCAL AGENCY

GAATN TECHNICAL SUBCOMMITTEE MEETING

MEETING HELD May 19, 2020 at 1:30 p.m.

Via Teleconference at (512) 831-7858 Conference ID: 991 765 747#

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 meeting:

Jaime Guerra, on behalf of UT-Austin

Dain Herbat, on behalf of Travis County

Gary Weseman, on behalf of Austin Community College

John Kohlmorgan, on behalf of Austin ISD

Steve Pyle, on behalf of State of Texas DIR

Bruce Hermes, on behalf of City of Austin

Sarah Eichelberger, on behalf of GAATN

Frank Ammons, on behalf of GAATN

Carlos DeMatos, on behalf of GAATN

A quorum was established at roll call.

Members of the public:

Chris Gonzales, on behalf of BryComm

Doug Wilson, on behalf of JC Communications

2. Citizen Communications: There was no citizen communications.

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

Gary Weseman moved to approve the draft minutes from the April 21, 2020 Technical Subcommittee meeting as presented; Dain Herbat seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

4. Maintenance Contractor's Update

A. Maintenance report

Chris reported that, since the last meeting, the maintenance contractor completed inspections on C2S and D1N; 31 deficiencies were corrected between the two rings.

B. Inventory report

Chris reported that, on May 11, 850 feet of reel 704 was used for the emergency repair at 7612 Bluff Springs Road.

5. Network Manager's Update

A. GAATN Project Status report

Frank reviewed the following upcoming/completed projects:

Upcoming -

- SRN/D1N tie CVS at Manor Road and Airport Blvd relocation – scheduled to complete 5/29

Completed -

- SRN/A2N conduit relocation at Waller Creek Park – completed 5/18
- B1N TxDOT Relocation @ 620 and 2222 Phase 2 – completed 5/13
- B2S Emergency repair at 7612 Bluff Springs Road – completed 5/11 (damage claim pending)
- C1S Emergency pole replacement at 11517 Menchaca Road – completed 5/2 (damage claim pending)

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- B1N TxDOT Relocation @ 620 and 2222 Phase 1 – completed 4/23

Other project issues –

Frank discussed the issues that BryComm and management are having with the A1N segments 1-4 upgrade projects under GAATN active projects. He said management and BryComm had planned to complete these projects in this fiscal year, but now it doesn't look like that will happen due to Austin Energy (AE) permits. He said that COVID 19 has slowed the permitting process down tremendously.

- Segment 1 – Permitting with AE has been difficult and there will be a lot of electrical make ready work for this project.
- Segment 2 – AE has put a hold on A1N segment 2 project application due to other comms performing a project along that same route. Dain asked if there is any chance to partner with the other comms; Frank said no, because AE will not allow it. Jaime asked if it's possible that GAATN's make ready cost will be less because of the other comms completing their project before GAATN; Frank said he hopes so, but he doesn't know. Jaime asked why it is taking longer to complete these projects when there is less traffic overall which should make performing outside plant work easier; Frank said the Right-of-way and AE permits that GAATN has applied for are taking longer to process. Chris said, because most of the downtown fiber is original build, one of the main issues is that there are multiple transitions along the route and AE is looking for GAATN to correct those transitions. Frank said that AE looks at all of these projects as new projects, even though they are replacing old fiber with new fiber, and when comms request permits for new projects, they have to perform pole audits for AE.

B. Job Budget Tracking report

Sarah said, since the last meeting, she added the emergency repairs at B2S 7612 Bluff Springs Road and C1S 11517 Menchaca Road to the report. She said management is tracking 18 budget-affecting jobs totaling \$674k, leaving \$64k remaining for additional jobs. Jaime asked if the report would need to be adjusted since the A1N upgrade segments 1-4 will not be completed this fiscal year; Sarah said yes GAATN will be billed for the fiber for those projects and possibly some engineering.

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

A. GAATN Technical Guidelines update

Frank noted that at the last Technical meeting, management brought splice case audits for approval and a member asked for a procedure for splice case audits. Frank reviewed a draft addition to the GAATN Technical Guidelines pertaining to splice case audits. Dain and Jaime said they wanted more explanation in the text such as "leave enough slack for future splicing." Jaime asked that management work the language a little more and bring it back to the next Technical meeting. Jaime asked if the Technical Subcommittee wanted a policy or procedure for splice case audits. Sarah pointed out that the GAATN Maintenance Policy and Procedure would be the appropriate place to include such a clause. Jaime asked management to also bring a draft update to the GAATN Maintenance Policy and Procedure to the next Technical Meeting for consideration.

B. Seeking recommendation for splice case audits for B1S and B2S

This agenda item was deferred to the next Technical meeting pending updates to the Technical Guidelines and the GAATN Maintenance Policy and Procedure.

7. Executive Session: There was no executive session.

8. Confirm date, time, and location for the next Technical Subcommittee meeting as June 16, 2020 at 1:30 p.m. via teleconference.

The date, time, and location for the next Technical Subcommittee meeting were confirmed; the meeting adjourned at 1:58 p.m.