

# GREATER AUSTIN AREA TELECOMMUNICATIONS NETWORK (GAATN) INTERLOCAL AGENCY

## GAATN TECHNICAL SUBCOMMITTEE MEETING

MEETING HELD June 18, 2019 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 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

Connor Vrba, on behalf of BryComm LLC

Chris Gonzales, on behalf of BryComm LLC

Sarah Eichelberger, on behalf of GAATN

Carlos DeMatos, on behalf of GAATN

Frank Ammons, on behalf of GAATN

John Kilgore, on behalf of State of Texas DIR

Gary Weseman, on behalf of Austin Community College

John Kohlmorgan, on behalf of Austin ISD

Bo Kinsey, on behalf of Travis County

Dain Herbat, on behalf of Travis County

Steve Pyle, on behalf of State of Texas DIR

A quorum was established at roll call.

Members of the public:

Wayne Wedemeyer, on behalf of the University of Texas

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

#### 3. Review and approve minutes from the regular Technical Subcommittee meeting of April 16, 2019 and the GAATN Design Meeting on May 21, 2019

Gary Weseman moved to approve the draft minutes from the April 16 regular Technical meeting as presented; Steve Pyle seconded the motion and it passed unanimously. Jaime Guerra moved to approve the draft minutes from the May 21 Design meeting as presented; Dain Herbat seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

#### 4. Maintenance Contractor's Report

##### A. Maintenance updates

Chris Gonzales reported that the maintenance contractor completed inspections on A2N, B1N, B1S, and B2S; they corrected 62 deficiencies with 53 items still pending between those rings, 95% of those being pole transfers which are waiting on other comms.

##### B. Material Inventory status

Chris reported that, on June 8, the maintenance contractor used 782 feet from R704 for the Emergency repair on SRN at IH35 and Camino LaCosta; City of Austin maintenance reel and an Austin ISD maintenance reel have been added to the report. Bruce asked for more information about the incident. Chris said the contractor for TxDOT had completed one side of the bridge and

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while completing the other side, a large piece of equipment accidentally hit and took down the cable. Carlos said GAATN will seek reimbursement for the temporary and permanent repairs, and it will not be necessary to shut down IH-35 to complete the repairs. Chris said the steel pole is bent and Austin Energy (AE) has ordered a new one but it will take about six months to get it in place, and then GAATN will need to do a transfer to the new pole.

### **5. Project and Budget Review**

#### **A. GAATN Backup NOCC Project Status Update**

Carlos said that IMEG has provided the revised stamped design and that management, as well as the Data Center Operations (DCO) staff at COA, is reviewing it. He will send out a link for members to review the revised design. Carlos said they will not move forward with the Request for Proposals (RFP) until the plans are approved by the Board and the Convention Center. Jaime said he doesn't think the Board or Tech Committee should need to approve the plans since they have already approved the concept and these are simply changes to the system supporting the space. Jaime asked about the substantive changes; Carlos said the major changes are that generator is slightly larger and is now placed in the roof of the convention center and so there is more available space in the actual room; the cost of the bigger generator is negligible. Jaime asked if the Convention Center had received the revised design; Carlos said he is waiting until management, DCO staff, and the GAATN members finish their review. Jaime asked Carlos to go ahead and send the revised design to the Convention Center to speed things along. Jaime asked Carlos to send the revised plans out and to add it as an agenda item at the next Board meeting. John Kohlmorgan asked about the recent media coverage about tearing the Convention Center down or rebuilding it; Carlos said he spoke with the facilities manager and was assured that the Convention Center is not going anywhere – it may be expanding, but the rooms and infrastructure pathway will not change. Carlos said there may be an expansion of their exhibit areas and parking lot but, as of now, there are no plans to tear it down.

#### **B. Treaty Oak Decommissioning Project**

Carlos said that the decommissioning of A2N was completed yesterday and went very well; SRS is scheduled to be decommissioned tomorrow. SRN is scheduled for the following Tuesday and Wednesday (6/24 and 6/25), and then Treaty Oak will be completely decommissioned. COA will need one day after SRN is decommissioned to remove their equipment. Jaime asked Carlos if there was any stranded equipment that would make sense for GAATN to take over; Carlos said most of it is too old. Carlos said he will get in touch with AISD to see if they need the contractor to demo that equipment while they are pulling the cables out later next week. Jaime requested to delay agenda items 5C, 5D, and 5F until the end for executive session and to move to Agenda Item 5E and continue in the stated agenda order.

#### **C. Seeking recommendation for B2S reroute at 288-ct along Burleson Road to make use of Fiberlight acquisition not to exceed \$142k**

This agenda item was discussed in executive session under Tex. Gov't Code section 418.181 ("H.B. 9"). Upon reconvening in open session, Jaime said this item will move to the next Technical meeting for further discussion of the strand count.

#### **D. Seeking recommendation for GAATN 288-count tie cable SRN to SRS, Kealing MS to Travis HS**

This agenda item was discussed in executive session under Tex. Gov't Code section 418.181 ("H.B. 9"). Upon reconvening in open session, Jaime said this item will move to the next Technical meeting for further discussion of the strand count.

#### **E. Seeking recommendation for ACC EUFAP request to purchase 12 strands on B1S**

Carlos said ACC requested the purchase of 12 strands on B1S through the GAATN Existing Unassigned Fiber Acquisition Policy (EUFAP) for a total cost of \$52,766.88. The cost is based off of

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Attachment B of the EUFAP policy. They will be assigned the brown buffer tube, which is not currently used. There are currently 30 strands and four buffer tubes available before this purchase. Dain Herbat moved to recommend for Board approval the ACC EUFAP request to purchase 12 strands on B1S; John Kohlmorgan seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

### **F. Review re-design of node cables for the following AISD campuses:**

This agenda item was discussed in executive session under Tex. Gov't Code section 418.181 ("H.B. 9"). Upon reconvening in open session, John asked for these to be added to the Board agenda.

- 1) **Doss elementary school 7005 Northledge Dr, Austin, TX 78731 – Ring B1N Full Campus Replacement**
- 2) **Govalle elementary school 3601 Govalle Ave, Austin, TX 78702 – Ring D1N Dual Campus Migration**
- 3) **Manchaca elementary school 1218 W. FM 1626, Austin, TX 78748 - Ring C1S Dual Campus Migration**
- 4) **TA Brown elementary school 7801 Guadalupe St, Austin, Texas 78752 – Ring B1N Full Campus Replacement**

### **G. GAATN Project Status report**

Carlos reported that he sent out the latest network activity schedule this morning. Carlos discussed the following pending projects:

- SRN Damage at Camino LaCosta
- AISD replacement and new nodes – A1N Mathews ES (replacement), scheduled for 6/25; B1S Southfield Bldg (new), scheduled for 6/27

Jaime notified the committee that UT will have BryComm do some maintenance work to replace the A2N node cable that goes into campus, since other entities use that cable. He said it was chewed up by squirrels but BryComm is having some issues with obtaining permits for the construction. Chris said they are having issues with Right-of-Way because there are a lot of construction conflicts they are having to resolve with every contractor within 1,500 feet of the proposed traffic control plan, so it could take another six weeks or so. Jaime asked Carlos to add the UT work to the project status report. Jaime asked Carlos about the damage at IH-35 and St. John's and whether the repairs would be reimbursed; Carlos confirmed that all damage related repairs will be fully reimbursed. Carlos said the permanent repair will be done to GAATN standards with 192-count fiber and the replacement length will be about a mile.

### **H. Job Budget Tracking report**

Sarah reviewed the preliminary FY19 EOY and FY20 BOY budget reports. In FY19, 18 jobs totaling \$603k were approved; 15 of those jobs totaling \$420k will be completed and paid out in FY19 and three jobs totaling \$183k will be completed and paid out in FY20. She will provide a final report at the July Board meeting.

### **I. FY20 GAATN Cost Avoidance Report Update**

Sarah notified members that she will send out the cost avoidance calculation spreadsheet by the end of next week and they will need to populate the data for their entity. Sarah will work with UT to get updated pricing for the circuits.

## **6. Committee Chair's Update and Report – discussion and possible action on:**

### **A. Pole-attachment lease agreement subcommittee update**

Carlos reported that the subcommittee will meet on Thursday, June 27 to discuss GAATN pathway ownership as well as other applicable items. This will be a standing agenda item until the subcommittee makes a recommendation. The members of the subcommittee are Jaime, Ruben, Bo, and network management.

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- 7. Executive Session:** At 2:04 p.m., Jaime Guerra adjourned the GAATN Technical Subcommittee for closed session under Tex. Gov't Code section 418.181 ("H.B. 9"), to preserve confidentiality as permitted by law on Agenda Items 5C, 5D, and 5F.

At 2:35 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 5C, 5D, and 5F were the only items discussed. Upon reconvening in open session, the following actions took place: Agenda Items 5C and 5D will move to the next Technical meeting for further discussion of strand counts. Agenda Item 5F will be on the July Board Agenda for notification/approval.

- 8. Confirm date, time, and location for the next Technical Subcommittee meeting as July 23, 2019 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 2:42 p.m.