

# GREATER AUSTIN AREA TELECOMMUNICATIONS NETWORK (GAATN) INTERLOCAL AGENCY

## GAATN TECHNICAL SUBCOMMITTEE MEETING

July 25, 2023 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](http://www.gaatn.org)

Remote audio-only option for public access: (512) 831-7858, Access Code: 661 990 982#

## 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:

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

Jaime Guerra, on behalf of UT-Austin (on site)

Leslye Conoley, on behalf of City of Austin (remote)

Bo Kinsey, on behalf of Travis County (remote)

Justin Slocum, on behalf of Austin ISD (remote)

James Denman, on behalf of LCRA (remote)

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

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

Paul Hodge, on behalf of Austin ISD (remote)

Carlos DeMatos, on behalf of GAATN (remote)

Sarah Eichelberger, on behalf of GAATN (remote)

A quorum was established at roll call.

GAATN Contractors:

Doug Wilson, on behalf of JC Communications (remote)

Chris Gonzales, on behalf of BryComm LLC (remote)

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

### 3. Review and approve minutes from the regular Technical Subcommittee meeting of June 20, 2023

Gary Weseman moved to approve the draft minutes as presented; Harold Nall seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

### 4. Maintenance Contractor's Report

#### A. Maintenance report

Chris reported that, since the last meeting, the maintenance contractor completed inspections on SRS and A1N with 18 corrected deficiencies. There was nothing out of the ordinary to report.

#### B. Inventory report

Chris said there were no changes to this report since the last meeting.

### 5. Network Manager's Report

#### A. Project status report

Carlos reported on the following recently completed projects:

- B2S Emergency repair at 6010 E. Riverside Drive – completed 7/12
- C1S Emergency repair at 405 Eberhart Lane – completed 6/27
- B2S/D1N Longhorn Dam Pedestrian Bridge conduit relocation – completed 6/15

Jaime asked Chris about two UT-specific projects:

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- C1N project is pending ROW, there are still a few conflicts to resolve.
- UT Tie cable is pending EMR work by Austin Energy (AE). Jaime said he would like an estimated timeline on when UT will see progress on both of those projects from Chris.

### **B. Network status report**

- 7/12/23 – Carlos said that AE contacted GAATN management to let them know that GAATN B2S cable was on the ground at 6010 E. Riverside Drive in front of a Dollar General store. Part of the cable was damaged and the entities affected were DIR, Travis County, and Austin ISD. BryComm completed an emergency repair and is currently assessing the permanent repair. Carlos said as part of the emergency repair, entity fibers were rolled over. Management will work with BryComm and AISD to ensure their backup link is rolled over to active fibers. Bo said that Travis County had a node cable ripped down in front of a Dollar General store on Ross Road and upon speaking with the store manager, they found it was a Dollar General truck. Carlos said they will speak with the store manager at Riverside and see if anyone witnessed anything.
- 6/27/23 – Sarah said that management was notified of a network outage on 6/27 at Eberhart Lane and BryComm went out to the scene and witnessed Wright Tree Services a little up the road performing tree services. BryComm noticed that the damaged cable was directly below where a tree had just been cut down, and the damage appeared to be from a chainsaw. BryComm performed an emergency repair on 6/27 and is currently assessing the permanent repair. Sarah reached out to AE and they confirmed that Wright was doing work for them when the damage occurred. Management sent a damage notification letter to Wright Tree to which they responded and admitted that they caused the damage. Once management receives the proposal for the permanent repair from BryComm, and that is reviewed by the Technical Subcommittee, they will send the total cost of the damage to Wright.

### **C. Job budget report**

Sarah reported that management is tracking 32 jobs totaling \$2.6 million with \$1 million in expected reimbursements. She noted that, per a request made at the last Board meeting, management met with BryComm and identified six jobs that can be delayed until after the Backup NOCC relocation is funded. Those six jobs currently have encumbrances totaling \$247k. Leslye asked if delaying these jobs would have a negative impact on the network; Carlos said the delay would not cause any negative impact. Jaime asked management to bring this information to the August Board meeting for review and possible action if needed.

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

### **A. Review of GAATN Disaster Recovery Plan**

Jaime asked members to review the GAATN disaster recovery plan and then make any suggestions. Members made a few minor suggested changes. Jaime asked if the attachments to the plan were complete; Sarah said they were all posted on the GAATN SharePoint, and the only attachment that will require entity action at this time is the Ring Priority Restoration Ranking sheet. She notified members that she would send that out to each entity, along with a copy of their respective site list, so that entities can rank the rings in order of priority. The remainder of this agenda 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.

### **B. Austin ISD 2022 Bond Projects Impact to GAATN Super node Sites (Travis HS, Northeast ECHS, and Crockett HS)**

Paul did not have any update in regards to the upcoming campus construction. He expects to have more information after August once the architects are onboarded.

### **C. Seeking recommendation for GAATN Backup NOCC Decommissioning project**

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This agenda 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.

### **D. GAATN Backup NOCC relocation**

This agenda 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.

- 7. Executive Session:** At 2:12 p.m., Chairman Jaime Guerra adjourned the GAATN Technical Subcommittee for closed session under Tex. Gov't Code sections 551.089 and section 418.181 ("H.B. 9"), to preserve confidentiality as permitted by law regarding Agenda Items 6A, 6C, and 6D.

At 2:59 p.m., Chairman Jaime Guerra reconvened the GAATN Technical Subcommittee in open session. Agenda Items 6A, 6C, and 6D were the only items discussed in executive session. Any additional discussion held or action taken on items discussed during executive session will be noted in the summary for that agenda item.

- 8. Updated roll call upon reconvening in open session (only if Executive Session taken):**

An updated roll call was taken and all members that announced as present at the opening roll call also announced as present at the updated roll call. A quorum was re-established.

- 9. Confirm date, time, and location for the next Technical Subcommittee meeting as August 22, 2023 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 3:01 p.m.