

# SECTION 305 NGEC

## Executive Board Conference Call Meeting

MINUTES      AUGUST 6, 2013    11:30AM EASTERN    CONFERENCE CALL

<b>FACILITATOR</b>	<i>Bill Bronte, Chair, S305 NGEC Executive Board</i>
<b>ATTENDEES</b>	<b>Executive Board Members:</b> <i>Bill Bronte, Mario Bergeron, Dan Black, Paul Nissenbaum, LeAnna Wall, Ron Pate, Eric Curtit, Ray Hessinger, John Oimoen, Johnson Bridgwater, Allan Paul as representative for Paul Worley</i> <b>Support:</b> <i>Steve Hewitt, Ashok Sundararajan, Dave Warner, Patrick Centolanzi, Leo Penne, Kevin Kesler, Chad Edison, David Ewing, Shayne Gill, Andy House, Darrell Smith, Vincent Brotski, Jeff Gordon, Sara Sarkhill, Leo Penne,</i>
<b>ABSENTEES</b>	<b>Board Members:</b> <i>Kevin Lawson, Paul Worley, Tammy Nicholson,</i> <b>Support:</b> <i>Tim Hoeffner, Shayne Gill, Dale Engelhardt, Brian Beeler II, Melissa Shurland, Jason Biggs, Nico Lindenau,</i>

### WELCOME/ROLL CALL/ACTION ITEMS REVIEW

1.	<p><b>Opening – Bill Bronte-chair:</b></p> <p>Chairman Bronte opened this conference call meeting of the NGEC Executive Board and asked Steve Hewitt to call the roll.</p>						
2.	<p><b>Roll Call – Steve Hewitt, Manager, S305 NGEC Support Services:</b></p> <p>After the call of the roll, it was determined that a quorum was present.</p>						
3.	<p><b>Action Item Review –Steve Hewitt:</b></p> <table border="1" style="width: 100%; background-color: #e0ffe0;"> <tr> <th style="text-align: center; padding: 5px;">Review of Open Action Items</th> </tr> <tr> <td style="padding: 5px;"> <p>The locomotive procurement remains as a standing agenda item to keep the Board updated as to its progress. <b>IDOT</b> is responsible for providing bi-weekly updates. <b>Agenda item #9</b></p> </td> </tr> <tr> <td style="padding: 5px;"> <p>Jeff Gordon will continue to provide the AASHTO. Amtrak and FRA public affairs officers with email notifications of NGEC activities. (ongoing)</p> </td> </tr> <tr> <td style="padding: 5px;"> <p>The working group established during the February 20, 2013 Executive Board workshop to develop proposed strategic goals building on the approved NGEC Vision has developed a draft concept paper and, once finalized by the group will bring it forward to the Executive Board. The intent is to possibly have a draft out to Board members prior to the August 6<sup>th</sup> conference call for purposes of discussion. <b>Status: The concept paper has been vetted to a few select stakeholders "for a reality check" and their comments are being discussed in a call of the working group following today's Board call – Agenda item #7 will provide a brief update of working group activities to date.</b></p> </td> </tr> <tr> <td style="padding: 5px;"> <p>Strategic discussions regarding future funding for the NGEC and educational opportunities will remain a standing agenda item for Board calls. All members are asked to be on the alert for opportunities to educate congress or other key audiences on what the NGEC is, what it has accomplished and what it hopes to accomplish in the future. If there are suggestions of new strategies or opportunities members should submit them to Steve Hewitt and Bill Bronte. Members should continue to think about ways to capitalize on the strong support received by a number of regional and national organizations.</p> </td> </tr> <tr> <td style="padding: 5px;"> <p>Three key issues should be the focus as it is likely there will be no new funding through the appropriations process this year:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. How do we continue to stretch out our current funds to continue beyond March 31, 2014?</li> </ol> </td> </tr> </table>	Review of Open Action Items	<p>The locomotive procurement remains as a standing agenda item to keep the Board updated as to its progress. <b>IDOT</b> is responsible for providing bi-weekly updates. <b>Agenda item #9</b></p>	<p>Jeff Gordon will continue to provide the AASHTO. Amtrak and FRA public affairs officers with email notifications of NGEC activities. (ongoing)</p>	<p>The working group established during the February 20, 2013 Executive Board workshop to develop proposed strategic goals building on the approved NGEC Vision has developed a draft concept paper and, once finalized by the group will bring it forward to the Executive Board. The intent is to possibly have a draft out to Board members prior to the August 6<sup>th</sup> conference call for purposes of discussion. <b>Status: The concept paper has been vetted to a few select stakeholders "for a reality check" and their comments are being discussed in a call of the working group following today's Board call – Agenda item #7 will provide a brief update of working group activities to date.</b></p>	<p>Strategic discussions regarding future funding for the NGEC and educational opportunities will remain a standing agenda item for Board calls. All members are asked to be on the alert for opportunities to educate congress or other key audiences on what the NGEC is, what it has accomplished and what it hopes to accomplish in the future. If there are suggestions of new strategies or opportunities members should submit them to Steve Hewitt and Bill Bronte. Members should continue to think about ways to capitalize on the strong support received by a number of regional and national organizations.</p>	<p>Three key issues should be the focus as it is likely there will be no new funding through the appropriations process this year:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. How do we continue to stretch out our current funds to continue beyond March 31, 2014?</li> </ol>
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2. The Board needs to give serious thought on next steps in the absence of new funding.
3. We are already very frugal, but we do need to remember that state members must have funds, at the minimum, for travel reimbursement to remain actively involved.

On July 23, 2013, it was agreed that Leo Penne, Steve Hewitt, Shayne Gill, and Darrell Smith will meet in DC on August 6<sup>th</sup> and review the status of current expenditures and get a sense of what funding may be available beyond March 31, 2014. They will report on their findings on the August 20<sup>th</sup> conference call of the Executive Board.

**Status: The Finance subcommittee met on July 31, 2103 and had some discussions and related action items in regard to austerity. Item # 10 – a brief report from Finance subcommittee chair Dan Black.**

The FRA (Paul Nissenbaum) will continue to look for potential areas of flexibility in regard to providing funds to keep the NGEC going beyond March 31, 2014, and will keep the Board apprised of the status of this effort. **Agenda item 11**

The Technical subcommittee has been provided with a draft document requested by the APG that categorizes ADAAG items with regard to feasibility. The subcommittee will report back to the Executive Board on its feasibility assessment after its August 15<sup>th</sup> conference call. The Board anticipates providing a letter to the Access Board with its recommendations by the time the Access Board begins its update process (September 15, 2013) **Status: a timeline was established by the Technical subcommittee is on schedule. The next steps in the timeline are: August 8<sup>th</sup> comments from the Technical subcommittee working groups are to be submitted to Melissa Shurland. Melissa will compile the comments and incorporate them into a draft document by August 12<sup>th</sup> for dissemination to the full Technical subcommittee for discussion on its August 15th conference call.**

Bill Bronte to check with Leo Penne and Shayne Gill (AASHTO) in regard to AASHTO holding the intellectual property in the interim as the NGEC determines its future organizational structure. **Status: From AASHTO, Leo Penne and Shayne Gill were on today's call and they will begin looking into the issue of holding the NGEC intellectual property. Vincent Brotski, Amtrak Legal, was also on the call and asked why the NGEC was not holding the intellectual property itself. Steve Hewitt responded that a previous Amtrak counsel had advised the NGEC (quite some time ago) that because the NGEC was not a formal entity, it could not copyright the intellectual property.**

**It was agreed that an off line call with Vincent Brotski, Steve Hewitt, Leo Penne and Bill Bronte would be scheduled. (Steve Hewitt will work with Bill Bronte's calendar and send out a meeting notice.)**

The SFTF core team is finalizing its review of task 1 of the Section 6/Fleet deployment project, with the next step being review by the full SFTF by July 26, 2013 and it is anticipated that task 1, as revised by the contractor through feedback from the SFTF, should be sent to the full Executive Board by its August 6<sup>th</sup> or August 20<sup>th</sup> call. **Status: The SFTF is reviewing task 1. Comments are due to Eric Curtit by COB August 8<sup>th</sup> and a discussion will take place on the next SFTF call - August 12<sup>th</sup>. The intent is, if consensus is achieved at the SFTF, it will take the report to the Executive Board on its next call- August 20, 2013. Steve noted, however, that there are a lot of comments to the draft, thus far, and the SFTF discussion on Monday may be complex and the the next steps and timing could be revised.**

The ATF has approved revised NGEC contract procedures. Steve Hewitt will distribute those procedures to the Executive Board following today's Board call. Consideration of approval of the procedures will be an agenda item for the Board on August 6<sup>th</sup>. **Status: Consideration of approval by the Board is scheduled for today under agenda item #5**

Requests for additional copies of the Backgrounder should be submitted to Steve Hewitt along with the number requested and an address to send them to. ongoing


**4. Approval of the minutes from July 9 and 23, 2013 – Bill Bronte:**

As a quorum was not established on the July 23, 2013 call, the minutes from July 9<sup>th</sup> had been tabled until such time as a quorum was confirmed. With a quorum confirmed today, Chairman Bronte entertained a motion to approve the minutes from July 9, 2013 and July 23, 2013.

On a motion by Allan Paul, NCDOT, and a second by Ron Pate, Washington State DOT, the minutes from the July 9 and 23, 2013 conference calls were approved without objection or exception.

**5. Discussion/Consideration of approval: Revised contract procedures -Bill Bronte/Darrell Smith:**

Darrell Smith reiterated that, as he reported on the last call, the Administrative task force (ATF) has updated the original NGECC procedures based on current practices, and in line with the OIG's recommendation in its audit of the NGECC. Darrell described the proposed changes to the section dealing with new contracts as mostly clarifications, but primarily staying the same as the current procedures. He noted that the most significant changes have to do with the section for change orders and modifications; and for the processing of invoices. The invoice process has been streamlined to address the audit recommendation that invoices are turned around within 30 days.

Steve Hewitt noted that the ATF held an electronic vote in consideration of the revised procedures and achieved unanimous consensus on July 23, 2013. Board members were provided with the ATF approved procedures on July 23, 2013 in anticipation of a vote to adopt on today's call.

If the procedures are adopted, Darrell advised, members should "familiarize themselves with them and follow them." He also emphasized that "no work begins until a contract is fully approved."

Leo Penne, AASHTO, noted that AASHTO had reviewed the revised procedures as well, and were "fine with them."

Once adopted, the procedures will be provided to the auditors, no approval by the auditors is required.

With no further discussion, Bill Bronte called for a motion to adopt the revised procedures, as approved by the ATF, and distributed to the Board on July 23, 2013.

A motion to adopt was offered by Dan Black, Amtrak, with a second by Allan Paul, NCDOT.

Bill Bronte asked Steve Hewitt to poll the voting Board members:

Bill Bronte, Caltrans – aye  
Mario Bergeron, Amtrak – aye  
Dan Black, Amtrak – aye  
Paul Nissenbaum, FRA, - aye  
Eric Curtit, Missouri DOT– aye  
John Oimoen, IDOT – aye  
Ray Hessinger, NYSDOT – aye  
Allan Paul, NCDOT – aye  
Johnson Bridgwater, Oklahoma DOT – aye  
Ron Pate, Washington State DOT – aye  
LeAnna Wall, Wisconsin DOT – aye

With a quorum having been established, and all members present voting in the affirmative, the chair determined that consensus had been achieved and the motion carried.

**6. Review/consider amended tasks and costs – Larry Salci Contract to Review Rev A -Bill Bronte/Leo**

**Penne:**

Leo Penne reported that he had contacted Larry Salci, who has agreed to submit the list of tasks and estimated costs for conducting a review of Trainset Revision A.

Once the scope of work and cost estimate has been received by AASHTO, Chairman Bronte, through Steve Hewitt, will submit the scope to the ATF for its approval. In order to expedite this effort an electronic vote may be taken.

**7.**

**Status Update: Locomotive procurement - John Oimoen, IDOT:**

John Oimoen, IDOT, reported that all parties involved in the procurement "have been working feverishly to reach resolution" on the remaining items. The goal is to have the RFP finalized by the end of this week (if not sooner) for release to the industry. John noted "there have been challenges, but we are almost there."

Bill Bronte commented that the challenges faced during this procurement effort "speaks volumes to the need for an NGEC entity...there are just so many differing rules among states."

John Oimoen replied that he agreed, and "would second" that sentiment.

**8.**

**Finance subcommittee report -Dan Black:**

Dan Black reported that the Finance subcommittee met on July 31, 2013, and began to discuss austerity measures that could be taken.

Dan reported that there is about \$291,000 in contingency funds in the current budget; and there is approximately \$200,000 for two additional RFP's that have not yet been moved. The Board does have the ability to eliminate those two projects (or alter them) as an austerity measure.

Currently the NGEC Grant agreement and budget runs through March 31, 2014.

With the current spend rate of about \$100,000 per month a quick estimate shows:

If the contingency money (\$291,000) is freed up for use by the Committee it could extend the NGEC budget to until June 30, 2014; if the \$200,000 currently targeted for two projects (the follow up to the Section 6 and exploring Finance options) is added used for the austerity budget, the NGEC could extend until September, 30, 2014. With additional measures taken such as a reduction in the travel budget the NGEC could stretch its resources until November 30, 2014.

Darrell Smith pointed out that "if we extend the budget beyond March 31, 2014, we will need to change the scope of work in our current grant agreement and ask the FRA for approval."

In concluding his comments, Dan note that "we are looking to the Board" for direction.

Bill Bronte responded, "develop the plan a bit more in a formal sense and bring it to back" for further discussion and consideration.

Bill also asked, "If we do move out that far (November, 2014) what is the availability of potential new funding out there? Do we need to look at wrapping this all up and go forward without the NGEC (I hope not)?"

He asked for other thoughts on the matter.

David Ewing commented that "legislatively we need to look at this in a timeline. Going forward is a tough crystal ball to look at." This session the appropriations bills from both the House and Senate were pulled from the floor – nothing has been passed. There are 9 legislative days left in this session and that means a continuing resolution (CR) is likely. The length of the CR is uncertain. "Moving to austerity on the income and expense side" makes sense.

Paul Nissenbaum, FRA, commented to Dan Black and Darrell Smith "You've laid out a lot of issues...we (FRA) need to better understand the number spent to date and the burn rate status...we need to know what we have and what we

have spent, and then we should concurrently plan for options.”

Some of the options Paul referred to were:

“A legislative approach; an administrative approach – looking for funds from elsewhere – and, lastly, an approach none of us wants to see, - the shut the door alternative.”

Paul reiterated that he will need basic information on the financial side to evaluate this better.

Bill asked Dan Black and Darrell Smith to provide us with a more formal report on the financial status as Paul has laid out.

Darrell Smith we will do an update and, will be meeting with AASHTO to get a better status of their current spending and their anticipated expenses through March 31, 2014.

Bill Bronte asked if the burn rate is steady or are there significant changes in it.

Darrell noted that there are some changes – right now with PB invoices there will be a jump in the spend rate. Leo Penne, AASHTO, stated that “by August 20, 2013 (the next Board call) we can give you a better idea of expenses to date and what is left...we will spend less than budgeted due to the fact there have been fewer meetings held than originally planned...by August 20<sup>th</sup> we will have a good estimate.”

Paul Nissenbaum noted that there is always a lag in invoices at each approval level “getting information as to what was spent and looking at which items are constant and which are varied will help paint a clearer picture for us to see what levers we need to pull going forward.”

It was agreed, ultimately, that Dan Black and Darrell Smith will develop an updated financial status report and get it to Steve Hewitt to distribute to the executive Board in advance of the August 20<sup>th</sup> call. This will be an update of the report given to the Board at the February, 2013 annual meeting.

David Ewing commented “this has been a good discussion – austerity is here and more severe all the time.” Bill Bronte emphasized “I do not want to see us shut this down.”

David answered “knowing which lever to pull will help, knowing the sequence and getting a handle on the costs is important.”

He added, “simultaneously, if FRA continues to look under rocks and if Amtrak and the states do as well...it behooves us all to do that.”

Bill Bronte commented “even more than the concept paper” being developed by the NGEC Future working group, “defining the NGEC’s future is vital. We need to lay out the value of the NGEC as it moves forward.

#### **9.**

#### **NGEC Funding and Strategy Discussion: Steps to move to Austerity, looking for potential flexibility (FRA), and Reauthorizing the NGEC – Bill Bronte:**

Item #9 was blended into the Finance discussion under item #8.

#### **10.**

#### **Status Update: NGEC Future Working Group Draft Concept paper - Bill Bronte:**

Bill Bronte introduced a brief overview of the status of the working group’s efforts to develop a concept paper. By stating “even more than the concept paper, defining the NGEC’s future is vital. We need to lay out the value of the NGEC as it moves forward.”

The concept paper has been developed and was “test marketed” to a few stakeholders “for a reality check to see if there are fatal flaws. We got comments back and will be discussing those on our call immediately following this call.” Bill continued, “we had hoped to have the paper to you by today, but we now are looking at getting it to you for a discussion on August 20<sup>th</sup>.

It was agreed that most of the next conference call will be devoted to discussion about the concept paper and the call would resume its one and a half hour duration as opposed to recent practice of having a one hour call. The Board cannot devote the full meeting to the concept paper due to the fact that other key items have been assigned today for consideration/discussion on the call, and those items should not be pushed back.

Paul Nissenbaum agreed with Bill's comments and emphasized that "the imperative is higher now than it was" and it makes us look at "what's the next phase for this committee as we approach reauthorization." He noted that the concept paper "is a good discussion document. It is not the answer, but is a place to start. There are issues to work through which we will do once we get the full input from the Board."

Mario Bergeron, who has reviewed the draft concept paper, commented "it is a great job, and a good start at entertaining options." He reminded the members that "the initial fleet is going to be very small, relatively speaking, so it may be good to do a phased in approach – a small fleet first – in light of the size of the fleet and looking ahead." Bill Bronte added – "let's make the fleet larger – we have passengers ready to ride".

Mario agreed and said "our goal is to turn paper into steel."

#### **11.**

##### **Filling the Board Vacancy created by Al Ware's Resignation - Bill Bronte:**

Bill Bronte initiated the discussion of the vacancy created by Al Ware's resignation from Georgia DOT, and that state having shown no indication of interest in remaining on the Board. Bill noted that Al was not only a Board member, but also the Secretary of the Board and the chair of the Administrative task force. Bill emphasized how vital these positions are. The ATF "is an integral part of our process – it lays out procedures for us to move forward and ensures that we all do our jobs correctly." Bill continued, "Al and his predecessor, Rod Massman did a good job of establishing an administrative framework for the NGENC."

Bill Bronte asked if any member of the Board is interested in assuming the role of Secretary, with the primary responsibility being that of chair of the ATF, he or she should let Bill know.

Bill also noted that "we also need another state Board member...Tim Hoeffner, Michigan has been an adjunct member working with us and with the SFTF – should I reach out to Tim to see if he is interested or has the time to become a Board member?"

The general sense was that Tim would certainly be the right place to start given his involvement as an "adjunct" member of the Committee.

Other suggestions were also discussed, with Steve Hewitt pointing out that "we still need more state members of the committee beyond just filling the Board slot. A state does not have to be a member of the Board to be a committee member and to participate on any of the subcommittees or task forces."

Ron Pate, Washington State DOT commented that "the more, the better – maybe Oregon would be interested."

Patrick Centolanzi, FTA, asked about Pennsylvania and Ray Hessinger asked about Connecticut.

Steve Hewitt noted that all of these states would be great, and are good suggestions, and added that "we have approached all of them over the years without success." Connecticut is somewhat involved because they have assigned a contractor as their representative to the Technical subcommittee. This is ok within our by-laws for the subcommittee, but not for the Board. For the Board it must be a state DOT member.

In response to a suggestion that the Board freezes membership until the financial situation is resolved and there is a better sense of the future, Steve Hewitt responded "we really need to add a state member to the Board to fill the vacancy because the by-laws specifically call out for 9-11 state members and right now we are at 10." In response to a comment – "change the by-laws", Steve responded, "the by-laws call for 9-11 because the number of states must remain an odd number to ensure a majority can be determined especially if a block vote is required – the state block would carry the full block if it has a majority in concurrence. The Board can opt to either fill the slot to get back to 11 or it can drop a state and reduce to 9. Reducing the number of states would not be good for a variety of reasons including perception."

The discussion continued with regard to other potential members. Virginia was mentioned as a possible state, as was Maryland. Texas was mentioned. Steve noted that Maryland had been an original member of the Board, but had resigned a few years back and opted not to remain on the Board. He noted, too, that Texas had been a member of the

Technical subcommittee, but had dropped out a long time ago.

Ultimately, it was agreed that:

Bill Bronte will reach out to Tim Hoeffner, Michigan DOT to see if he would be interested in filling the Board vacancy.

Ray Hessinger, NYSDOT, will reach out to Pennsylvania and Connecticut to see of their interest.

Ron Pate, Washington State DOT, will reach out to Oregon.

Shayne Gill, AASHTO, will talk to all of the states during SCORT and will ask Secretary Schneider, IDOT, and new chair of SCORT, to make a personal pitch during SCORT, for membership in the NGEC.

It was also agreed, that, if Tim Hoeffner says yes to Board membership he would have that seat, but the effort to recruit other states will continue, as we need members in all of the subcommittees and task forces and we need to have "new blood" for Board membership as terms expire.

Bill Bronte closed the discussion with a reminder to current members "if anyone is interested in becoming the Board Secretary and chair of the ATF, please let me and Steve Hewitt know."

**12.  
Adjourn:**

With no further business to come before the Board today, Chairman Bronte asked for a motion to adjourn.

On a motion by Allan Paul, NCDOT and a second by Ray Hessinger, NYSDOT, and no objections noted, the Chair adjourned this meeting of the Executive Board at approximately 12:35PM EDT.

**The next Executive Board conference call is August 20, 2013**

**Decisions/Action Items**

The locomotive procurement remains as a standing agenda item to keep the Board updated as to its progress. **IDOT** is responsible for providing bi-weekly updates.

Jeff Gordon will continue to provide the AASHTO, Amtrak and FRA public affairs officers with email notifications of NGEC activities. (ongoing)

The Future of the NGEC working group expects to release its DRAFT concept paper to the Executive Board members in advance of the August 20<sup>th</sup> Executive Board call. The concept paper will be the primary agenda topic (although not the only topic) on August 20<sup>th</sup>. The call will be extended to 1:00pmED to allow for ample time for discussion.

Dan Black and Darrell Smith will present an update of the budget presentation given in February at the Annual Meeting. This presentation will give Board members an update on the status of current expenses and anticipated expenses going forward to March 31, 2013. It will show what we have and what we have spent.

As part of this effort, AASHTO will provide a "good" estimate of what has been spent and what is left in the Support Services budget.

FRA will continue to "look under rocks" to see if there is some flexibility in other programs which may provide additional funds for the NGEC.

The Technical subcommittee has been provided with a draft document requested by the APG that categorizes ADAAG items with regard to feasibility. The subcommittee will report back to the Executive Board on its feasibility assessment after its August 15<sup>th</sup> conference call. The Board anticipates providing a letter to the Access Board with its recommendations by the time the Access Board begins its update process (September 15, 2013) ongoing

Bill Bronte, Steve Hewitt, Shayne Gill, Leo Penne and Vincent Brotski will hold a conference call discussion in regard to AASHTO holding the NGEC intellectual property in the interim as the NGEC determines its future organizational structure. Steve Hewitt will work with Bill Bronte's calendar to set up the call.

The SFTF core team is reviewing task 1 of the Section 6 project and will meet on August 12<sup>th</sup> to review all comments submitted. A determination of next steps will take place on the August 12<sup>th</sup> SFTF call. The Board will be kept apprised of the status.

The Executive Board unanimously approved the revised contract procedures, as presented by the ATF. These procedures will be posted to the website.

Requests for additional copies of the Backgrounder should be submitted to Steve Hewitt along with the number requested and an address to send them to.

A sole source contract for Revision A review by consultant Larry Salci is being prepared. Salci will provide the anticipated cost and tasks to AASHTO. AASHTO will present the proposed contract to Darrell Smith (acting chair of the ATF) and he will determine if an electronic vote process should be used to expedite the contract rather than wait till the end of August for the next ATF call.

Filling the vacancy on the Board:

Bill Bronte will reach out to Tim Hoeffner, Michigan DOT to see if he would be interested in filling the Board vacancy.

Ray Hessinger, NYSDOT, will reach out to Pennsylvania and Connecticut to see of their interest.

Ron Pate, Washington State DOT, will reach out to Oregon.

Shayne Gill, AASHTO, will talk to all of the states during SCORT and will ask Secretary Schneider, IDOT new chair of SCORT to make a personal pitch during SCORT, for membership in the NGEC.

**ATTACHMENTS**



The NGEC will provide national leadership in standardization, acquisition, financing and management of passenger rail equipment.



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**S305 NGENC Executive Board Conference Call**  
**August 6, 2013**  
**11:30 AM – 12:30 PM EDT**  
**Call in number: 866 299 7945 passcode: 1601544#**  
**Agenda**

- |   |                           |
|---|---------------------------|
| 1. Open the Meeting   | Bill Bronte               |
| 2. Roll Call  | Steve Hewitt              |
| 3. Action Items Review  | Steve Hewitt              |
| 4. Approval of Minutes from July 9 and 23, 2013   | Bill Bronte               |
| 5. Discussion/Consideration of approval: Revised contract procedures  | Bill Bronte/Darrell Smith |
| 6. Review/consider amended tasks and costs – Larry Salci Contract to Review Rev A   | Bill Bronte/Leo Penne     |
| 7. Status Update: Locomotive procurement  | John Oimoen               |
| 8. Finance subcommittee report  | Dan Black                 |
| 9. NGENC Funding and Strategy Discussion: Steps to move to Austerity, looking<br>for potential flexibility (FRA), and Reauthorizing the NGENC | Bill Bronte               |
| 10. Status Update: NGENC Future Working Group Draft Concept paper   | Bill Bronte               |
| 11. Filling the Board Vacancy created by Al Ware's Resignation  | Bill Bronte               |
| 12. Other   | All                       |