
SECTION 305 NGEN Executive Board

MINUTES

OCTOBER 10, 2017

11:30 EASTERN

CONFERENCE CALL

FACILITATOR	<i>Eric Curtit, Chair, S305 NGEN Executive Board</i>
ATTENDEES	Board Members: Eric Curtit, (Eric Curtit also as proxy for Tim Hoeffner) Tammy Krause for Mario Bergeron, Jeff Gordon for Michael Lestingi, Laima Bashir, Amanda Martin, Allan Paul, Jason Biggs for Ron Pate, Arun Rao, Michael Jenkins, Brian Beeler II Support Staff: Jon Dees, Brent Thompson, Bill Auve, Larry Salci, Shayne Gill, Patrick Centolanzi, Steve Hewitt
ABSENTEES	Board Members: Mario Bergeron, Michael Lestingi, John Oimoen, Momo Tamaoki, Tim Hoeffner, Ron Pate, John Rosacker, Support: Shayne Gill, Larry Salci,

DECISIONS MADE

1. Welcome –Eric Curtit, Chair, S305 NGEN Executive Board:

Chairman Curtit, Missouri DOT, convened today's meeting and asked Steve Hewitt to call the roll.

Roll Call –Steve Hewitt, NGEN Program Manager:

Steve Hewitt called the roll and confirmed the presence of a quorum

3. Review of Action Items – Steve Hewitt:

All of the actions items were covered under today's agenda, but for the record, a status update of all open action items, as of the start of this meeting, is included below:

Procurement Updates: (Ongoing)

Status Update – Multi-state Car Procurement (Caltrans - Lead State):

As of 9-7-17: "Contract Negotiations are still underway to determine if proposed substitute subcontractor is able to fulfill SCOA's contractual obligations."

Diesel-Electric Locomotive Procurement update:

Agenda item 6.

Mid-West States – Section 6 progress report:

The most recent Section 6 plan went to FRA on 9-13-17. Details in the plan include Fleet management, ownership changes etc. The plan will be a living document and will be continually updated.

Agenda item 5.

Finance and Administrative Subcommittee – contract extensions:

Status as of 9-12-17:

On 9-26-17 the AASHTO/Amtrak extension was executed; as was the AASHTO contract with NGEN Program Manager Steve Hewitt. Contracts have been extended through 9-30-19 – the life of the Grant Agreement. Other approved sub-contractor contract extensions are in process.

Full Finance and Administrative subcommittee progress report – agenda item 7.

514 subcommittee:

Issue: 514 – Where does it belong? - It was agreed on 9-12-17, that NGEC members should provide thoughts/suggestions/comments to Eric Curtit, Steve Hewitt and Brian Beeler over the next few weeks, for further discussion, potentially, on the next Executive Board call – 9-26-17.

On 9-26-17, per NGEC By-Laws, Eric Curtit referred the request to the FASC for its consideration and for a recommendation.

Next 514 Progress Report – Agenda item 9.

Formation of the Acquisition and Ownership Best Practices Working Group: On 9-26-17, it was agreed that Steve Hewitt will send the memo to the working group members and schedule a kick-off meeting for some time in October. Steve will work with Eric on some potential dates and times for the first call. Steve will send the memo to working group members when he sends out the calendar notice for the first call.

Agenda item 10.

Opening comments: Eric Curtit:

Eric Curtit thanked all those attending today's call, and informed those who may not be aware, that Darrell Smith – the NGEC Treasurer and Chairman of the Finance and Administrative subcommittee is no longer with Amtrak. Eric noted that Darrell had long been an integral part of the NGEC, and one who served in several key roles on behalf of Amtrak. These roles, per the NGEC By-Law, and its statute, are reliant upon Amtrak's involvement.

Eric introduced Laima Bashir, Amtrak, interim VP for Finance and Planning Analysis, to provide an update to the NGEC Board on the changes that are taking place.

Laima confirmed that Darrell Smith was no longer at Amtrak and that they are now hiring for that position. She also noted that the VP for the Finance department, Chuck Farmer is also no longer with Amtrak and that she was serving as the interim VP for Finance and Planning Analysis. She noted that Bill Auve, who was also on the call today, and Eric (Rik) Smith worked on some of the NGEC issues with Darrell, and had some understanding of what his responsibilities were. Either she or Bill or, possibly Erik will be on these calls representing Amtrak Finance and will provide support to the Committee. Laima also noted that Amtrak is aware that Darrell was providing a lot of support to the NGEC.

Eric Curtit reiterated that "Darrell did a lot" and he stressed that Amtrak, who is the grant holder has always served in the role of Treasurer of the NGEC, as a Board member, and as Chair of the Finance and Administrative subcommittee.

Laima replied that "we understand and we will get a plan in place" to fulfill those roles.

Eric Curtit offered his help and that of Program Manager Steve Hewitt, as Laima and staff sort things out. Eric added that he looks forward to working with Laima and stressed that "Amtrak is a key part of the NGEC".

Jason Biggs, WSDOT, asked if Steve Hewitt would provide contact information to the NGEC Board for Laima Bashir and Bill Auve. Steve Hewitt replied that he has added Laima to the contact list and will do the same with Bill Auve. Steve will also send the email addresses to the NGEC Board members and support staff.

4.

Approval of the Minutes from the 9-26-17 Conference call meetings – Eric Curtit:

On a motion by Allan Paul, NCDOT, and a second by Ray Hessinger, NYSDOT the minutes from the 9-26-17 Executive Board conference call were approved as presented.

5.

Progress Report: Mid-West States – Section 6 –Arun Rao, Wisconsin DOT:

Arun Rao stated that not much has happened regarding Section 6 requirements since the last call. The most recent update to the Section 6 plan is with FRA waiting.

6.

Status Update: Diesel-Electric Locomotive Procurement – Steve Hewitt:

John Oimoen was unavailable today, but Steve Hewitt provided the most recent update he had been given from IDOT during last week's (10-5-17) NGEC Technical subcommittee call. Steve read that report into the record of today's

meeting:

- a) All locomotives have completed required testing and all reports have been submitted and received. 110 mph hour testing in MI and the Chicago/St. Louis line will take place when all PTC logistics and software are up and in place.
- b) IDOT and Siemens have signed conditional and final acceptance on 28 IDOT units.
- c) IDOT Revenue service started 7/27/2017, with units placed in trailing position. IDOT locomotives began revenue service in Lead Position as of 8/24/2017, but that was suspended on 9/1, due to a forward-facing camera download problem with Wabtec LDRS-V. This is the data storage for the video recorder. Wabtec, Siemens and Amtrak are addressing. Units continue to operate in trailing position. A software update was installed last week. Two of the three issues were resolved. Wabtec will be trying another software update this week to address the remaining download problem. One unit continues in Lead position, others are being used run in trailing position.
- d) IDOT locomotives 4616 - 4629 have completed burn-in testing at TTCI. Locomotive 4630 is at TTCI and will be tested with 4631 next week. Locomotives 4632 and 4633 will go to TTCI later this month. These are the last units of the order that are shipping from Siemens.
- e) The locomotives stored at TTCI will ship to Chicago, as soon as storage space becomes available. Storage space in Chicago is limited, until the P-42 locomotives are re-deployed by Amtrak.
- f) The Wi-tronix system has been installed on all the units in Chicago. The necessary software has also been installed which allows the remaining units to be placed in Lead Position for revenue service. The software has also been installed on all Caltrans and WSDOT units.
- g) All WSDOT Locomotives have been delivered and have completed pre-revenue testing and are ready for revenue service.
- h) WSDOT is finalizing their lease with Amtrak; they are down to one last item that they are working on.
- i) The Failure Review Board has been established, with two meetings taking place so far with all JPE's included and Siemens. The meeting for October was held on October 5th in Wilmington Del and included a visit to Siemen's customer service facility. Amtrak representatives were added and participated in the meetings.

7.

Finance and Administrative subcommittee progress report – Eric Curtit/Steve Hewitt:

Eric Curtit and Steve Hewitt provided the FASC monthly progress report:

Moving 514 to SAIPRC:

The FASC is preparing By-Law revisions that will remove 514 from the B-Laws and Operating procedures of the NGEC.

On the last call, held on 9-27-17, the FASC agreed to begin a review of the grant agreement SOW and will propose amendments for moving 514. Also, at the suggestion of Amtrak's Grants office, the subcommittee will review the SOW for possible revisions, beyond just the move of 514 to SAIPRC, to reflect current NGEC activities and/or needs.

The support services contract between AASHTO and Amtrak has been extended to run through the life of the grant agreement - 9-30-19. AASHTO has executed an extension to the contract of the NGEC Program Manager also through 9-30-19 and is in the process of extending the other sub-contractor contracts.

The next meeting of the subcommittee is 10-18-17.

Steve Hewitt added that he usually prepares the DRAFT agendas for the Finance and Administrative subcommittee calls as well as for the Executive Board and the Technical subcommittee. The Chairs of those respective committees then review and change or approve the agenda and Steve sends them out to all members. Steve asked Laima Bashir how he should proceed for the FASC call scheduled for next week – 10-18-17.

Laima asked that Steve provide the DRAFT agenda to herself and to Bill Auve.

Eric Curtit asked that Steve cc the co vice chairs of FASC (Ray Hessinger, NYSDOT and Brent Thompson, WSDOT) as well while Amtrak is getting things sorted out.

8.

Technical subcommittee progress report – Steve Hewitt/Tammy Krause for Mario Bergeron:

Steve Hewitt provided the following update on behalf of Mario Bergeron and Tammy Krause:
The Technical subcommittee continues to monitor the progress of the "Charger" locomotive, and we receive an update from IDOT on a bi-weekly basis.

As reported in the last Technical subcommittee update to the Executive Board (8-29-17), the Technical subcommittee established a working group to look at the future of electronics on trains. Since the last update, Cynthia Dietz, the working group chair, has taken a new position with MPI in Boise and Tom Sisler, SNC-Lavalin, has been named as the new Chair. The working group continues to meet bi-weekly and is currently reviewing a draft requirements document for DTL software.

Document control - the changes to the PRIIA Diesel-Electric Locomotive Specification which will comprise Revision B, as adopted by the Executive Board, is currently with the technical specification writer. Also - a scope of work to continue the technical writer services through the life of the current grant agreement has been submitted to AASHTO.

The Single level car specification Revision B is progressing. As of 10-5-17, there have been 11 DCRs submitted - of those 2 are under evaluation, 5 were accepted, 2 were rejected and 2 were accepted as amended. Accepted as amended means that the working group made some changes to the proposed DCR.

A new item which the subcommittee is following is the efforts of the AAR TAG committee on LED on Headlights. On 10-5-17, the subcommittee began receiving what will be monthly updates from Tarek Omar, FRA's representative to the TAG committee.

On 10-5-17, Chairman Bergeron suggested that the subcommittee request an update from IDOT on the status of the DEF-UREA implementation. Steve Hewitt will be reaching out to Jennifer Bastian to make the request.

Shayne Gill, AASHTO, commented that he had received the SOW for an extension with the spec writer, from Tammy Krause, but needs to have the budget scope as well.

Steve Hewitt will provide the grant agreement SOW and budget with this specific item highlighted, to Tammy Krause and to AASHTO following today's call.

Eric Curtit expressed his appreciation to AASHTO (Shayne Gill and Strat Cavros) for working hard to get the consultant contracts "buttoned up" – as they are critical to the work of the NGECC.

9.

514 subcommittee progress report – Brian Beeler II:

Brian Beeler reported that not much had changed since the last NGECC Board call (9-26-17) regarding the major update to the CIP. It is 99.9% complete and he had hoped to have it ready by this meeting to bring it to the Board for its consideration. Unfortunately, that has not happened. There are some FRA edits that have been requested, and that had been submitted to Amtrak (to Darrell Smith). "We need to find out from Amtrak who will add the FRA edits to the document. "

Bill Auve, Amtrak, agreed to follow up with Amtrak staff (Max Johnson and Meredith ...) on this and have them get back to Brian with Amtrak's recommendations.

Brian also reported that he is pleased that the process has begun to respond to the request that 514 be moved from the NGECC to SAIPRC.

10.

Acquisition and Ownership Best Practices Working Group – Eric Curtit:

Eric Curtit reminded members that he and Steve will be scheduling the kickoff meeting of the working group soon. The intent was to get it scheduled in October, but schedules have been so busy this month that it has not been possible to do so.

11.

Adjourn:

With no other business forthcoming for today, Eric Curtit adjourned the call at 11:52AM Eastern.

The next conference call is October 24, 2017

Decisions/Action Items
<p>Procurement Updates: (Ongoing)</p> <p>Status Update – Multi-state Car Procurement (Caltrans - Lead State):</p> <p>As of 9-7-17: <i>"Contract Negotiations are still underway to determine if proposed substitute subcontractor is able to fulfill SCOAs contractual obligations."</i></p> <p>Ongoing</p> <p>Diesel-Electric Locomotive Procurement update – see agenda item 6 for update.</p>
<p>Mid-West States – Section 6 progress report:</p> <p>The most recent Section 6 plan went to FRA on 9-13-17. Details in the plan include Fleet management, ownership changes etc. The plan will be a living document and will be continually updated. There was nothing new to report on this activity today (10-10-17).</p>
<p>Finance and Administrative Subcommittee – Contracts Extension status:</p> <p>Moving 514 to SAIPRC:</p> <p>The FASC is preparing By-Law revisions that will remove 514 from the B-Laws and Operating procedures of the NGEC.</p> <p>On the last call, held on 9-27-17, the FASC agreed to begin a review of the grant agreement SOW and will propose amendments for moving 514. Also, at the suggestion of Amtrak's Grants office, the subcommittee will review the SOW for possible revisions, beyond just the move of 514 to SAIPRC, to reflect current NGEC activities and/or needs.</p> <p>The support services contract between AASHTO and Amtrak has been extended to run through the life of the grant agreement - 9-30-19. AASHTO has executed an extension to the contract of the NGEC Program Manager also through 9-30-19 and is in the process of extending the other sub-contractor contracts.</p> <p>The next meeting of the subcommittee is 10-18-17.</p> <p>With the change at Amtrak – Steve Hewitt was asked to provide the DRAFT agenda for the 10-18-17 FASC call to Laima Bashir and Bill Auve and to cc the co-vice chairs – Ray Hessinger and Brent Thompson.</p> <p>Next full Finance and Administrative subcommittee progress report – 11-7-17</p>
<p>514 Subcommittee Progress Report: (ongoing)</p> <p>See agenda item 9 for complete report.</p> <p>Actions:</p> <p>CIP update: Bill Auve, Amtrak to ask Max Johnson to connect with Brian Beeler regarding Amtrak's recommendations on the FRA edits to the CIP document.</p> <p>Next 514 Progress Report – 11-7-17</p>
<p>The Technical subcommittee continues to monitor the progress of the "Charger" locomotive.</p> <p>As reported in the last Technical subcommittee update to the Executive Board (8-29-17), the Technical subcommittee established a working group to look at the future of electronics on trains. Since the last update, Cynthia Dietz, the working group chair, has taken a new position with MPI in Boise and Tom Sisler, SNC-Lavalin, has been named as the new Chair. The working group continues to meet bi-weekly and is currently reviewing a draft requirements document for DTL software.</p> <p>Document control - the changes to the PRIIA Diesel-Electric Locomotive Specification which will comprise Revision B, as adopted by the Executive Board, is currently with the technical specification writer.</p>

A scope of work to continue the technical writer services through the life of the current grant agreement has been submitted to AASHTO. Shayne Gill has asked for a Budget scope as well as the SOW. Steve Hewitt will provide Tammy Krause with the Grant agreement budget and SOW for the Technical writer.

The Single level car specification Revision B is progressing. As of 10-5-17, there have been 11 DCRs submitted - of those 2 are under evaluation, 5 were accepted, 2 were rejected and 2 were accepted as amended. Accepted as amended means that the working group made some changes to the proposed DCR.

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On 10-5-17, Chairman Bergeron suggested that the subcommittee request an update from IDOT on the status of the DEF-UREA implementation. Steve Hewitt will be reaching out to Jennifer Bastian to make the request.

Standing Subcommittee monthly update schedule:

Technical subcommittee – next update – 11-7-17
514 subcommittee – next update – 11-7-17
Finance and Administrative subcommittee – 11-7-17

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Ongoing.

Equipment Acquisition and Ownership Best Practices Working Group Members:

Eric Curtit, Missouri DOT, Chair - Eric.curtit@modot.mo.gov

Sal DeAngelo, FRA Salvatore.deangelo@dot.gov

Joe Paul – Amtrak – joseph.paul@amtrak.com

Tim Hoeffner - Michigan DOT - Hoeffnert@michigan.gov

Michael Jenkins – Oregon DOT - Michael.J.jenkins@odot.state.or.us

John Oimoen - Illinois DOT- john.oimeon@illinois.gov

Jennifer Bastian – Illinois DOT – Designated Alternate – Jennifer.bastian@illinois.gov

Jason Biggs – Washington State DOT – Designated Alternate – biggsjr@wsdot.wa.gov

Momo Tamaoki, Caltrans – momoko.tamaoki@dot.ca.gov

Paul Jamieson – Industry Member – SNC-Lavalin - Paul.Jamieson@snclavalin.com

Dick Bruss – Industry Member – NARP - rjembruss@gmail.com

Steve Hewitt - NGEC Support: Steve Hewitt - Shewitt109@aol.com

Larry Salci – Consultant - larry@salciconsult.com

ATTACHMENTS



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

**S305 NGEC Executive Board Conference Call
October 10, 2017
11:30 AM – 12:30 PM Eastern**

Agenda

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| 1. Welcome and Open the Meeting | Eric Curtit |
| 2. Roll Call | Steve Hewitt |
| 3. Action Items Status Review | Steve Hewitt |
| 4. Approval of Minutes from the 9-26-17 conference call meetings | Eric Curtit |
| 5. Progress Report: Mid-West States – Section 6 | Tim Hoeffner |
| 6. Status Update: Diesel-Electric Locomotive Procurement | John Oimoen |
| 7. Finance and Administrative subcommittee progress report | Eric Curtit |
| 8. Technical subcommittee progress report | Mario Bergeron |
| 9. 514 subcommittee progress report | Brian Beeler II |
| 10. Acquisition and Ownership Best Practices Working Group | Eric Curtit |
| 11. Other | All |

Next Meeting -10 -24- 2017
