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# SECTION 305 NGEN Executive Board

MINUTES

NOVEMBER 7, 2017

11:30 EASTERN

CONFERENCE CALL

<b>FACILITATOR</b>	<i>Eric Curtit, Chair, S305 NGEN Executive Board</i>
<b>ATTENDEES</b>	<b>Board Members:</b> Eric Curtit, Charlie King, Tim Ziethen, Michael Lestingi, Amanda Martin, Allan Paul, Jason Biggs for Ron Pate, John Oimoen, Arun Rao, Kyle Gradinger, Tim Hoeffner, Michael Jenkins, Brian Beeler II <b>Support Staff:</b> Jon Dees, Jennifer Bastian, George Hull, Tammy Krause, Sal DeAngelo, Jeff Gordon, Patrick Centolanzi, Martin Schroeder, Shayne Gill, Steve Hewitt
<b>ABSENTEES</b>	<b>Board Members:</b> Ron Pate, John Rosacker, Ray Hessinger, <b>Support:</b> Momo Tamaoki, Strat Cavros

## 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

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**3. Review of Action Items – Steve Hewitt:**

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

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**Procurement Updates:**

**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 10.**

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**Mid-West States – Section 6 progress report:**

The Section 6 plan is in its final draft stages and is currently going back and forth between IDOT and the FRA. John Oimoen, IDOT, expects that it will be finalized and ready to go within the month of November 2017.

**Agenda item 9.**

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**Finance and Administrative Subcommittee Update:**

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

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 NGEN activities and/or needs.

**Next FASC meeting 11-15-17 – next Exec Board Update 11-21-17**

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Contract Extensions:

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.

**Agenda item 7**

Filling the Vacant Chair position:

On today's call 10-24-17 – Tim Ziethen, Amtrak, was appointed as NEC Treasurer and Chair of the Finance and Administrative subcommittee.

**Task Complete**

**514 Subcommittee:**

Actions:

Final edits are being incorporated into the CIP by Amtrak. It should be completed and formatted shortly and will be sent to Brian Beeler when complete. Brian anticipates the CIP to be ready for consideration by the Executive Board by either the next Board call 11-7-17 or the one following that – 11-21-17.

**Next 514 Progress Report to the Executive Board– 11-7-17**

**Agenda item 11.**

**The Technical Subcommittee update:**

Filling the upcoming vacancy at Chair:

On the Executive Board call on 10-24-17, Charles King, Amtrak, was appointed as Chair of the Technical subcommittee and as Vice Chair of the NGEC Executive Board. Both appointments are effective COB 11-3-17.

**Task Complete**

Document Management:

On 11-2-17, the DCR for car weight change in the single level car specification was approved by the Technical subcommittee. It is now under review by consultant Larry Salci who will prepare a report with recommendations to the Review Panel. On 10-24-17 NGEC Chairman Eric Curtit formally re-convened the Single Level Car Specification Review Panel. On today's call (11-7-17) Mr. Salci will provide an update as to completion of the report and timeline will be set for Review Panel consideration of the report and its recommendations.

**Agenda items 5/6**

**Next Subcommittee full report to the Board – 11-21-17**

**Formation of the Acquisition and Ownership Best Practices Working Group:** On 11-2-17, the Equipment Acquisition and Ownership Working Group held a "kick-off" meeting with all members in attendance. The next call will take place on 11-30-17.

**Agenda item 12.**

**4. Approval of the Minutes from the 10-24-17 Conference call meeting – Eric Curtit:**

On a motion by Allan Paul, NCDOT, and a second by John Oimoen, IDOT, the minutes from the 10-24-17 Executive Board conference call were approved as presented.

**5. Status: Single level car DCR 003-155 on Weight change - Tammy Krause, Amtrak – NGEC Revision Control Coordinator:**

Tammy Krause reported that on 11-2-17, on the Technical subcommittee call, the Single Level Car Specification DCR on weight change was approved as amended. While the weight change is not as much as originally requested, a compromise was reached and the DCR was approved with all subcommittee voting members in agreement for the DCR as amended. The next step is for the Review Panel to review the DCR against the requirements document to ensure compliance. Larry Salci was tasked with preparing a report with recommendations for Review Panel consideration. Once the Panel receives the report it will meet to discuss and consider it. If approved, it is taken to the Executive Board for its consideration, and ultimately, its adoption.

Tammy also provided 3 documents related DCR 003-155 as an FYI to the Executive Board:

- The original submittal by California that includes the justification (DCR-00-0155 Support Info.pdf)
- The originally approved DCR by the Structural Group (DCR-003-155-to RCC.pdf)
- The final approved as amended DCR by the Technical Working Group (DCR-003-155R-toRCC.pdf)

**6. Single Level Car Specification Review Panel to review Weight Change DCR – timeline - Larry Salci:**

Larry Salci reported that he expects to complete the report with recommendations later today (11-7-17) and will be sending it to Steve Hewitt on 11-8-17 for distribution to the Single Level Car Specification Review Panel members for their review.

Steve Hewitt reviewed who the members of the panel are.

**Single Level Car Review Panel Members:**

Eric Curtit, Missouri DOT – Chair - [eric.curtit@modot.mo.gov](mailto:eric.curtit@modot.mo.gov)  
Ray Hessinger, NYSDOT – [raymond.hessinger@dot.ny.gov](mailto:raymond.hessinger@dot.ny.gov)  
Kevin Kesler, FRA – [kevin.kesler@dot.gov](mailto:kevin.kesler@dot.gov)  
Larry Salci, Consultant to the Panel – [Larry@salciconsult.com](mailto:Larry@salciconsult.com)  
Tammy Krause, Amtrak – technical support – [krauseT@amtrak.com](mailto:krauseT@amtrak.com)  
Steve Hewitt – NGEC support – [shewitt109@aol.com](mailto:shewitt109@aol.com)

**7. Scheduling the Review Panel Meeting - Eric Curtit, Missouri DOT – NGEC Chair:**

Eric Curtit and Steve Hewitt will set a date and time for the Review Panel to meet to consider the report and recommendations. It is anticipated that it will take place early next week. (week of 11-12-17)

The goal is to bring this forward to the Executive Board for its consideration on 11-21-17.

**8. Status: Casamar Contract extension through 9-30-19 – Eric Curtit:**

Eric noted that he has been following email exchanges regarding this extension and assumes all is moving along well. Shayne Gill, AASHTO, said "yes, I have everything I need now".

Eric expressed his appreciation to AASHTO for moving the extension along in an expedited fashion.

**9. Progress Report: Mid-West States – Section 6 - John Oimoen, IDOT:**

John Oimoen reported that the DRAFT Section 6 plan which had previously been sent to FRA for review, has come back with some changes. These changes are currently under review and John anticipates final approval of the Section 6 plan by the end of this year (2017).

**10. Status Update: Diesel-Electric Locomotive Procurement - John Oimoen:**

Jennifer Bastian provided the following update for inclusion in today's (11-7-17) Minutes:

- a) All locomotives have completed required testing and all reports have been submitted and received.*
- b) 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. There may be a window of opportunity to do this testing this month when the UP turns off cab signal in that territory.*
- c) IDOT and Siemens have signed conditional and final acceptance on 28 IDOT units.*
- d) IDOT Revenue service started 7/27/2017, with units placed in trailing position. Six (6 ea.) IDOT locomotives in*

lead position and more will be rolling out in the next few weeks.

- e) IDOT locomotives 4601 - 4631 have completed burn-in testing at TTCI. Locomotives 4632 and 4633 will go to TTCI 11/17. These are the last units of the order that are shipping from Siemens.
- f) The locomotives stored at TTCI will ship to Chicago, as soon as storage space becomes available. Storage space in Chicago is being freed-up with the re-deployment of P-42 locomotives by Amtrak, and now indicates room for 23 locomotives will be available soon.
- g) All WSDOT Locomotives have been delivered and have completed pre-revenue testing and are ready for revenue service.
- h) WSDOT has finalized their lease with Amtrak, it is currently in the signature process.
- i) All Caltrans Locomotives have been delivered and *all are* operating in lead service.
- j) 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 in Wilmington Del and included a visit to Siemen's customer service facility. Amtrak representatives were added and are participating in the meetings. The first Bi-weekly warranty meeting was held by Siemens, they have scheduled recurring meetings with the JPE's.

**11.  
514 Subcommittee – Monthly Progress Report – Brian Beeler II, NNEPRA for Maine DOT:**

Brian Beeler II reported that the CIP is very close to completion. He noted that he had just received the update from Amtrak's Max Johnson and Tim Ziethen and has sent the document out to all 514 members for a last "look over". Members have been given until COB on Thursday (11-9-17) to provide comments, and he anticipates getting the CIP finalized and sent to the NGEN Executive Board in time for its consideration on 11-21-17.

Regarding the move of 514 to SAIPRC – it is a work in progress. There is a SAIPRC face to face meeting of the working group on Monday 11-13-17 to identify a path forward for SAIPRC. Until the move is complete, Brian will keep the NGEN fully informed in the process.

**12.  
Acquisition and Ownership Best Practices Working Group – report on first call – Eric Curtit:**

Eric Curtit reported on the results of the first call of the Equipment Acquisition and Ownership Best Practices Working Group which took place on 11-2-17 with all members present.

The group agreed to use an outline of a paper that Larry Salci had prepared for FRA earlier this year as a starting point. Larry is to convert that presentation into a shorter "white paper" focusing on issues related to the working group's scope. Members of the group are asked to review the paper and submit comments in track changes to Steve Hewitt and Eric Curtit to be compiled into a revised paper.

The next call of the working group is scheduled for 11-30-17.

**13.  
Other – all:**

**Adjourn:**

With no other business forthcoming for today, Eric Curtit adjourned the call at 11:49 AM Eastern.

**The next conference call is November 21, 2017**

**Decisions/Action Items**

**Procurement Updates:**

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

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*SCOA's contractual obligations."*

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**Next FASC meeting 11-15-17 – next Exec Board Update 11-21-17**

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**Next 514 Progress Report to the Executive Board– 12-5-17**

**Document Management – Weight Change DCR Status:**

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**Acquisition and Ownership Best Practices Working Group:**

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The next call of the working group is scheduled for 11-30-17.

**ATTACHMENTS**

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

**S305 NGEC Executive Board Conference Call**  
**November 7, 2017**  
**11:30 AM – 12:30 PM Eastern**  
**Call in number: 888 585-9008 conference access: 559-120-127**

**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 10-24-17 conference call meetings                                    | Eric Curtit      |
| 5. Status: Single level car DCR on Weight change   | Tammy Krause     |
| 6. Single Level Car Specification Review Panel to review Weight Change DCR - timeline for completion | Larry Salci      |
| 7. Scheduling the Review Panel Meeting   | Eric Curtit      |
| 8. Status: Casamar Contract extension through 9-30-19  | Eric Curtit      |
| 9. Progress Report: Mid-West States – Section 6  | John Oimoen      |
| 10. Status Update: Diesel-Electric Locomotive Procurement  | Jennifer Bastian |
| 11. 514 subcommittee – Monthly Progress Report   | Brian Beeler II  |
| 12. Acquisition and Ownership Best Practices Working Group – report on first call                    | Eric Curtit      |
| 13. Other  | All              |

**Next Meeting -11-21-2017**

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