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# SECTION 305 NGENC Executive Board

MINUTES

MARCH 13, 2018

11:30 EASTERN

CONFERENCE CALL

<b>FACILITATOR</b>	<i>Eric Curtit, Chair, S305 NGENC Executive Board</i>
<b>ATTENDEES</b>	<b>Board Members:</b> Eric Curtit, Tim Ziethen, Ray Hessinger, Michael Lestingi, Amanda Martin, John Oimoen, John Oimoen also as proxy for Arun Rao, Allan Paul, Kyle Gradinger, Mike Jenkins, Brian Beeler II <b>Support Staff:</b> Jon Dees, Shayne Gill, Jeff Gordon, Beth Nachreiner, Karim Karmali, Steve Hewitt
<b>ABSENTEES</b>	<b>Board Members:</b> Charlie King, Ron Pate, John Rosacker, Tim Hoeffner, Arun Rao, <b>Support:</b> Jason Biggs, Sal DeAngelo, Chris Witt, George Hull, Max Johnson, Patrick Centolanzi, Larry Salci

## DECISIONS MADE

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

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

**2. Roll Call –Steve Hewitt, NGENC Program Manager:**

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

**3. Action items Review – Steve Hewitt:**

Steve Hewitt noted that all open action items are included in the agenda.

The status of all open action items can be found below:

**Procurement Updates:**

A full progress report was provided at the NGENC Annual Meeting on both multi-state procurements (the Charger Locomotives and the single level cars). Presentations can be found on the NGENC website at [www.ngec305.org](http://www.ngec305.org).

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

**Agenda item 8**

**Charger Locomotives:**

**Agenda item 10**

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

Progress report was provided at the NGENC Annual Meeting – Presentation can be found at [www.ngec305.org](http://www.ngec305.org)

**Agenda item 9**

**Technical subcommittee Progress Report:**

Progress report was provided at the NGENC Annual Meeting – Presentation can be found at [www.ngec305.org](http://www.ngec305.org)

**Next update – 4-10-18**

**Finance and Administrative Subcommittee Monthly Progress Report:**

**As of 2-23-18:**

Two critical action items remain open:

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FRA Approval and execution of the revised NGEC Grant Agreement SOW – as of 2-23-18 FRA recommended changes to the proposed amended form submitted by Amtrak; Amtrak accepted the changes and informed FRA.

Finalizing and executing a contract for document control manager – in process.

**Agenda items 6 and 7**

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

A progress report was provided at the NGEC Annual Meeting – The presentation can be found at [www.ngec305.org](http://www.ngec305.org). The 3-8-18 conference call was canceled due to schedule conflicts. The next call of the group will be scheduled soon with the expectation that the topics list will be completed, and tasks will be assigned.

**Review/Finalize NGEC Two-page Educational Document:**

**Task Complete** – updated two-pager was formally released on 2-23-18 and remains available in hard copy or electronic version. Contact Steve Hewitt for additional copies.

**4.**

**Approval of the Minutes from the 2-23-18 NGEC Annual Meeting – Eric Curtit:**

On a motion by Allan Paul, NCDOT, and a second by John Oimoen, IDOT, the minutes from the 2-23-18 NGEC Annual Meeting were approved without exception.

**5.**

**Summary Overview/discussion NGEC 8<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting – Eric Curtit/Steve Hewitt:**

Eric Curtit called the NGEC Annual Meeting a good meeting, with some great presentations. He cited those given by the lead state and Siemens on the two NGEC equipment procurements – The Charger Locomotive and the single level coach cars - as very informative and interesting. Eric also noted that there was great participation from NGEC members and quite a few new faces. One of the advantages of having these face-to-face meetings is to be able to put a face to a name.

Eric added that there were logistical issues that also came out at the meeting that may not have been as easily brought to the forefront if not for having key members all in the room at the same time. One example was that a missing invoice was raised to the attention of the Chair and the Treasurer and is in the process now of being resolved. Eric thanked Tim Ziethen for acting on this so quickly.

Steve Hewitt added that the meeting was well attended with 68 participants. Feedback has been very good, with many expressing the positive feel of the meeting, and an excitement for the future of passenger rail in the US. All presentations are posted to the opening page of the NGEC website at [www.ngec305.org](http://www.ngec305.org).

**6.**

**Status of the FRA Grants Office review of the NGEC Grant Agreement SOW revisions – Tim Ziethen, Amtrak:**

Tim Ziethen reported that Amtrak has accepted the FRA's proposed changes to the SOW – the primary change recommended was to remove the historical context information related to 514. This makes for a cleaner document and speaks to going forward. Tim added that he understands the revised SOW is now in the final internal review stages in FRA although he is unsure of the timing.

Michael Lestingi, FRA, reported that Beth Nachreiner has informed him that the SOW has cleared "our office" and "is in the final loop".

**7.**

**Status – Document Control Management contract/next steps – Tim Ziethen, Amtrak:**

Tim Ziethen reported that he has received a revised SOW from Tammy Krause and has reviewed it. He is now putting it together as a sole source contract, following NGEC procedures which were provided to him last week by Steve Hewitt. Tim hopes to have it completed for final review by the end of this week or early next week.

**8.**

**Update – Multi-State Car procurement – Kyle Grading, Caltrans:**

- *Detailed Master Schedule was submitted by SCOA/Siemens on Jan 5. Caltrans/IDOT reviewed the schedule thoroughly and it was approved with a few updates requested for the next submittal. We had a meeting with SCOA/Siemens on 2/28 to resolve all the open items on the Master schedule.*
- *The next design review is scheduled for the week of 3/19 in Chicago. The discussion topics include end doors for IDOT, wheelchair lift, diagnostics, seats and safety appliances.*
- *Siemens will be visiting Chicago Maintenance Facility on March 19. They will be taking a facility tour, meeting with IDOT and Amtrak mechanical and operational staff to learn about the standard practices and tooling requirements in Illinois.*
- *The Mock up review is scheduled in the week of April 9 in Florida. We will be using Brightline's cars to review some of the components in the cars, such as toilet rooms, gangway, HVAC, communication system, etc.*
- *Caltrans has been developing and submitting Document Change Requests (DCR) to NGEN. Caltrans has submitted 15 DCRs last week and awaiting approval from NGEN. 12 out of those 15 items were HVAC related and three are related to Seat tracks, Door Operators, and Air Brake Control Valve.*

Kyle added that Michael Burshtin, Amtrak (current Document Control Manager) has been working closely with Caltrans and has assigned numbers to the DCRs and distributed them to the appropriate technical working groups.

## 9.

### Update – Charger Locomotives – John Oimoen, IDOT:

- Of the 33 units IDOT locomotive order, all 33 have been conditionally and finally accepted with Siemens.*
- 110 mph testing on the Chicago/St. Louis line was completed, the reports received by the FRA and the locomotives have been approved to run in the lead on the corridor.*
- 238.111a testing still needs to be completed on two Michigan corridors pending resolution of equipment and testing issues. The locomotives for the MI corridors are still being held in Pueblo until this testing is completed.*
- Twenty-One Chargers are currently in the Midwest, and two more are on their way.*
- 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 P42 locomotives by Amtrak.*
- Amtrak has started to re-deploy their P42 fleet from the Midwest to other locations.*
- WSDOT units are operating in revenue service*
- Caltrans locomotives are operating revenue service*
- The Failure Review Board is established and running, with all JPE's, Amtrak, Siemens and the new addition of Brightline as participants.*

## 10.

### Update - Mid-West Section 6 Activities – John Oimoen, IDOT:

John Oimoen reported that there were no new updates on this effort. The next monthly meeting will take place next week.

## 11.

### Other:

Ray Hessinger, NYSDOT, reported that Metro-North has begun the process for procuring Dual Mode Locomotives and has advertised a pre-bid meeting for potential builders to attend on 3-28-18. Ray provided the notice and information to Steve Hewitt last week for distribution to NGEN Technical subcommittee members. Steve reported that he sent it out on 3-8-18 to over 300 members of the industry, states, Amtrak and FRA, and that he has received some interest and feedback almost immediately.

Ray added that Metro-North is in discussions on potential DCRs to be submitted as the process moves forward. He also noted that on the most recent SAIPRC equipment capital working group call, Max Johnson, Amtrak, noted Amtrak's intent to procure Dual Mode locomotives as well, and the possibility of working through this procurement. Ray added that there will be a meeting later this week to discuss Amtrak and others who may wish to be a part of the procurement.

Eric Curtit commented that this is all great news, and that he is scheduled to have a call with Max Johnson later this week.

Steve Hewitt added that he and Max talked last week, and Steve provided him with all the NGEN equipment specifications to make him aware of the various types of specs already developed by the NGEN and a part of its inventory. The NGEN encourages Amtrak to use the NGEN specifications, if possible.

An update/progress report on the Metro-North Dual Mode Locomotive Procurement will become a standing agenda item

on the Executive Board and Technical subcommittee calls going forward. Steve Hewitt will add Ray Hessinger, NYSDOT, to the email list and call schedule for NGENC Technical subcommittee calls to provide the bi-weekly updates.

**Adjourn:**

With no other business forthcoming, Chairman Curtit adjourned today's call at 11:55am Eastern.

**The next conference call is 3-27-18**

**Decisions/Action Items**

**Procurement Updates:**

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

**As of 3-13-18:**

- *Detailed Master Schedule was submitted by SCOA/Siemens on Jan 5. Caltrans/IDOT reviewed the schedule thoroughly and it was approved with a few updates requested for the next submittal. We had a meeting with SCOA/Siemens on 2/28 to resolve all the open items on the Master schedule.*
- *The next design review is scheduled for the week of 3/19. The discussion topics include end doors for IDOT, wheelchair lift, diagnostics, seats and safety appliances.*
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Michael Burshtin, Amtrak (current Document Control Manager) has been working closely with Caltrans and has assigned numbers to the DCRs and distributed them to the appropriate technical working groups.

**The Charger - Diesel-Electric Locomotive Update As of 3-27-18:**

- b. Of the 33 units IDOT locomotive order, all 33 have been conditionally and finally accepted with Siemens.*
- b. 110 mph testing on the Chicago/St. Louis line was completed, the reports received by the FRA and the locomotives have been approved to run in the lead on the corridor.*
- c. 238.111a testing still needs to be completed on two Michigan corridors pending resolution of equipment and testing issues. The locomotives for the MI corridors are still being held in Pueblo until this testing is completed.*
- d. Twenty-One Chargers are currently in the Midwest, and two more are on their way.*
- e. 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 P42 locomotives by Amtrak.*
- f. Amtrak has started to re-deploy their P42 fleet from the Midwest to other locations.*
- g. WSDOT units are operating in revenue service*
- h. Caltrans locomotives are operating revenue service*
- i. The Failure Review Board is established and running, with all JPE's, Amtrak, Siemens and the new addition of Brightline as participants.*

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

The next monthly meeting will take place next week. (week of 3-19-18) – There was nothing new to report on today's call (3-13-18).

**Technical subcommittee Progress Report:**

Next update scheduled for 4-10-18

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**Finance and Administrative Subcommittee update as of 3-13-18:**

**Status Revised Grant Agreement SOW:**

Amtrak has accepted the FRA's proposed changes to the SOW – primarily the change recommended was to remove the historical context information related to 514. This makes for a cleaner document and speaks to going forward.

Michael Lestingi, FRA, reported that Beth Nachreiner has informed him that it has cleared "our office" and "is in the final loop".

**Status Contract for Document Control Manager:**

Tim Ziethen reported that he has received a revised SOW from Tammy Krause and has reviewed it. He is now putting it together as a sole source contract, following NGEC procedures which were provided to him last week by Steve Hewitt. Tim hopes to have it completed for final review by the end of this week or early next week.

**Acquisition and Ownership Best Practices Working Group – as of 3-27-18:**

A progress report was provided at the NGEC Annual Meeting – the Presentation can be found at [www.ngec305.org](http://www.ngec305.org)  
The previously scheduled 3-8-18 working group conference call was canceled due to several conflicts. The next call of the group will be scheduled soon with the expectation that the topics list will be finalized, and tasks will be assigned.

**Dual Mode Locomotive Procurement:**

Metro-North has begun the process for procuring Dual Mode Locomotives and has advertised a pre-bid meeting for potential builders to attend on 3-28-18. Metro-North is in discussions on potential DCRS to be submitted as the process moves forward. He also noted that on the most recent SAIPRC equipment capital working group call, Max Johnson, Amtrak, noted Amtrak's intent to procure Dual Mode locomotives as well, and the possibility of working through this procurement. Ray added that there will be a meeting later this week to discuss Amtrak and others who may wish to be a part of the procurement.

An update/progress report on the Metro-North Dual Mode Locomotive Procurement will become a standing agenda item on the Executive Board and Technical subcommittee calls going forward. Steve Hewitt will add Ray Hessinger, NYSDOT, to the email list and call schedule for NGEC Technical subcommittee calls to provide the bi-weekly updates.