
SECTION 305 NGENC Executive Board

MINUTES

MARCH 28, 2017

11:30 EASTERN

CONFERENCE CALL

FACILITATOR	<i>Eric Curtit, Chair, S305 NGENC Executive Board</i>
ATTENDEES	Board Members: <i>Eric Curtit, Mario Bergeron, Mario also as proxy for Darrell Smith, Michael Lestingi, Ray Hessinger, Paul Worley, Amanda Martin, John Oimoen, Arun Rao, Arun Rao also as proxy for Tim Hoeffner, Jason Biggs for Ron Pate, Michael Jenkins, Brian Beeler II</i> Support Staff: <i>Shayne Gill, Steve Hewitt, Larry Salci, Sal DeAngelo, Dale Engelhardt, Tammy Krause, Jon Dees</i>
ABSENTEES	Board Members: <i>Darrell Smith, Steve Keck, Ron Pate, John Rosacker,</i> Support: <i>Allan Paul, Momo Tamaoki, Jeff Gordon, Beth Nachreiner, Lynn Everett, Nico Lindenau, Vincent Brotski</i>

DECISIONS MADE

1. Roll Call –Steve Hewitt, Manager, S305 NGENC Support Services:

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

Welcome –Eric Curtit, Chair, S305 NGENC Executive Board:

NGEC Chairman Eric Curtit, convened today's meeting.

3. Review of Action Items – Steve Hewitt:

Steve Hewitt reported that there was no need to review the action items as primarily all will be covered under today's agenda. For the record, a status update is included – below:

514 Subcommittee: Update provided on 2-24-17 – NGENC Annual Meeting

Open Action: The Subcommittee needs to address the provision in the NGENC By-Laws that calls for Amtrak to have a leadership role within each Standing Subcommittee.

Next update: 3-28-17 - Agenda item 8b.

Mid-West States – Section 6 progress report:

The group continues to work on lease agreement with Amtrak.

Agenda item 5

Procurement Updates: Ongoing – see status updates within the minutes of this meeting.

Bi-Level procurement updates are tabled until new information is available and appropriate to share.

Diesel Electric Locomotive Procurement update - Agenda item 6

Finance and Administrative Subcommittee and New Grant Activities: (ongoing)

Syncing contracts with the new grant:

Darrell reported that because the current Amtrak/AASHTO contract (and AASHTO's contract with its sub-contractors) is in effect through 9-30-17, there is no need for action now. Once the 9-30-17 date draws near there will be an extension consistent with the new grant period and grant amount between Amtrak and AASHTO and AASHTO and its subcontractors as called for in the SOW and budget.

No action needed now.

John Oimoen, IDOT, will work on getting jobs numbers from the manufacturers for inclusion as a milestone in the reports. (ongoing)

Next Finance and Administrative subcommittee update – 4-11-17

Determining impacts of Iran Divestment Legislation and confirming contractual status with Iran and Siemens: NCDOT has received a response from Siemens and the NC DOJ has offered its determination. Allan Paul will provide status update under agenda item 8

Status update – Agenda item 9

Technical Subcommittee updates: The subcommittee continues to review relevant Bi-Level Specification changes that may pertain to the Single Level Specification Revision A, and will revise as appropriate through the DCR process.

The Subcommittee is completing its review of the Locomotive DCRs.

Next update: 3-28-17 – Agenda item 8a.

4.

Approval of the Minutes from the 3-14-17 Conference call meeting – Eric Curtit:

On a motion made by Paul Worley, NCDOT, and seconded by John Oimoen, IDOT, the minutes from the 3-14-17 NGEN conference call meeting were approved without objection.

5.

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

Arun Rao reported:

The Section 6 report draft is wrapping up and will be under review. This is the FRA Planning Requirement per the FRA Grant regulations.

The Mid-West Fleet Board is forming with state representatives having been identified. The Board expects to meet soon.

They are in the final stages of completing the lease agreement with Amtrak and expect to have it wrapped up over the next few weeks.

6.

Status Update: Diesel-Electric Locomotive Procurement – John Oimoen, IDOT:

John Oimoen provided the following update for inclusion in today's minutes:

- *Today, 3-28-17, in Chicago, signing of conditional acceptance on 9 locomotives is taking place. These units have all completed the 500-mile burn in at TTCI in Pueblo.*
- *All Maintenance Demonstrations have been successfully completed.*
- *IDOT and Amtrak now have signed agreements for storage, testing and commissioning the locomotives.*
- *WSDOT and IDOT continue to meet with Amtrak to finalize their respective leases.*
- *Amtrak/JPE insurance issues have come to resolution and are in the signature phase.*
- *Six Caltrans units have been delivered to Oakland*
- *Siemens warranty service locations are now established at the JPE's.*
- *Wi-Tronix application, as required by Amtrak is being applied by FMI. One Caltrans unit has been equipped and IDOT units at TTCI are being equipped. Siemens projects Wi-Tronix will complete software in June.*
- *LED Headlight issues have been resolved with UP and JPEs, Amtrak and Siemens will keep in contact with AAR technical group for future review.*
- *All Document Change Requests (DCR) have been processed.*
- *IDOT and its' Fleet Manager Contractor is now functioning in Chicago daily.*

Following the report, Jason Biggs, WSDOT, complimented and congratulated John Oimoen and his team as well as Amtrak and FRA on the great work in getting to this point.

Michael Lestingi, FRA, stated that he was in Pueblo last week and saw the Charger Locomotive in testing. He could view it from the inside as well. Michael complimented all on the work on the Locomotive and noted that it is

a great looking Locomotive, adding "what a beauty!"

Eric Curtit also congratulated all parties involved on the great accomplishment of getting the Locomotives to the point where they will soon be in service.

7.

Update: Formation of the Acquisition and Ownership Best Practices Task Force - Eric Curtit:

Eric Curtit reported on the status of establishing the Acquisition and Ownership Task Force. He noted that the following have volunteered to participate and asked that IDOT and WSDOT name their representatives. Below is the full list including IDOT and WSDOT:

a. Finalizing 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.I.jenkins@odot.state.or.us
Illinois Department of Transportation – John Oimoen john.oimoen@illinois.gov – alternate -Jennifer Bastian, jennisfer.bastian@illinois.gov
Washington Department of Transportation – Ron Pate, Pater@wsdot.wa.gov - alternate -Jason Biggs, biggsjr@wsdot.wa.gov
Steve Hewitt - NGEC Support Services: Steve Hewitt - Shewitt109@aol.com
Larry Salci – Consultant - larry@salciconsult.com
Paul Jamieson – Industry Member – SNC-Lavalin - Paul.Jamieson@snclavalin.com
Dick Bruss – Industry Member – NARP - rjembruss@gmail.com

b. Developing the charge statement

Eric noted that with members now identified, he will develop a draft charge statement and the first step will be to arrange an organizational conference call of the task force to agree on the charge and set a call schedule and assignments.

Mario Bergeron noted that mostly all, if not all, of the members are those who are currently involved in the effort to get the lease agreements finalized and the Locomotives into service, and he asked that "we take it slow" in getting the task force up and running to allow for the completion of the work at hand.

Eric agreed, and noted that he will do a rough sketch of what the task force will be doing and work it through at a slower pace to allow for the more immediate work to be completed.

8.

Standing Subcommittee Monthly Updates:

a. Technical subcommittee – Mario Bergeron:

The Technical subcommittee is in the process of reviewing the list of DCRs for the Diesel-Electric Locomotive specification. On the last call (3-23-17) an overview was provided by Tammy Krause and Rich Stegner. Questions and comments on the changes will be sent to Tammy and Richard and, on the next call – 4-6-17 – it is anticipated that the subcommittee will discuss any comments received and, possibly consider the changes for approval. If approved they will be sent to Chairman Eric Curtit who would then per NGEC procedures, re-convene the Locomotive Review Panel and ask Consultant Larry Salci to begin his review and prepare a Review Panel Report with recommendations.

Future of Electronics on Trains: On 3-23-17, Dale Engelhardt reprised the presentation he gave at the NGEC Annual Meeting and a follow-up discussion took place.

Dale has recommended to Chairman Bergeron that a working group be formed within the Technical subcommittee to address the topic of electronics on trains in the future. Subcommittee members interested in participating will send an email to that effect to Steve Hewitt prior to the next call (4-6-17). In the meantime, Dale will get Chairman Bergeron's input on how he wishes to proceed.

Mario added that the focus of the working group will be technology and he asked that, NGEC members think about naming members who would benefit from the experience and and from the exposure to engage in this working group as a "succession planning" opportunity.

Dale Engelhardt added that "lots of people have expressed interest in participating, and he noted that he (Dale) is actively pursuing it within Amtrak itself as well.

b. 514 subcommittee – Brian Beeler II:

Brian Beeler II reported that the 514 subcommittee is moving along well as it begins to work on the CIP major update, and has increased its call schedule from once a month to bi-weekly for the time being. The next call is scheduled for April 10th.

He expressed his thanks to Amtrak for providing the 1st DRAFT of the impact on states units used and how it will impact the budgets.

Brian anticipates that within a month they will have the actual capital budget changes. The first step is to see the impacts on units used and then see how capital budgets will potentially change.

Brian added that the subcommittee is just getting into the meat of the CIP project.

Brian explained that the CIP is on a major update year and will look at several priority areas such as; improving the reconciliation process and continuing to improve on transparency.

The subcommittee will see how concerns that have been raised in the past can be included in the new CIP.

Mario Bergeron asked if the Amfleet 1 refresh project had been discussed.

Brian responded that it had been raised, but with preliminary information provided – no details on impacts that may result. Brian added that it is exciting yet does present some challenges on the potential impacts on states.

Mario elaborated on the fact that the program is evolving rapidly noting that when the user group that has been created, first met on February 14th "we had one slide that listed stuff or items that were being considered."

The program has evolved quickly since that meeting with the recent approval by the Amtrak Board.

The "refresh" program is intended to enhance and refresh the look of the Amfleet cars. Items – "soft goods" – to be addressed include: carpets, wall paper, seat covers, and more, all driven by customer satisfaction and surveys.

Other items include: LED ready lights, cleaning of the cars – giving them special attention, and replacing floors in restrooms.

The project is to start now and will be implemented throughout the remainder of FY17 and into FY18.

There are additional – more demanding items – to be addressed as well such as PA systems and more demanding items.

The work will be done in the terminals – in back shops and at the Bear facility.

The intent is to support customer initiatives and implement the plan.

Brian Beeler commented that "we are excited about it but do need to hear more about the state budget impacts especially if they are in this fiscal year...we just need more details.

Mario concurred and said there will be a user group follow-up call to add clarification on the details.

9. Update: Contractual status with Iran and Siemens - Allan Paul:

This item was tabled for today.

10. Adjourn:

With no other business forthcoming for today, Chairman Curtit adjourned the call at 12:03PM Eastern.

The next conference call is April 11, 2017

Decisions/Action Items

Procurement Updates: (Ongoing)

On 1-17-17, the Chair tabled Bi-Level procurement updates until new information is available and appropriate to share.

Diesel-Electric Locomotive Procurement update was table for today – see agenda item 6

Mid-West States – Section 6 progress report:

The Section 6 report draft is wrapping up and will be under review. This is the FRA Planning Requirement per the FRA Grant regulations.

The Mid-West Fleet Board is forming with state representatives having been identified. The Board expects to meet soon.

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Finance and Administrative Subcommittee and New Grant Activities: (ongoing)

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No action needed now.

John Oimoen, IDOT, will work on getting jobs numbers from the manufacturers for inclusion as a milestone in the reports. (ongoing)

Treasurer's Report – Report was presented and accepted by the NGEN Executive Board on 2-24-17

Next Finance and Administrative subcommittee update – 4-11-17

Standing Subcommittee monthly update schedule:

Technical subcommittee – 4-25-17

514 subcommittee – 4-25-17

Finance and Administrative subcommittee – 4-11-17

Formation of the Acquisition and Ownership Best Practices Task Force – The task force has been named, with Eric Curtit serving as Chair. Members include: Tim Hoeffner, Michigan DOT and Mike Jenkins, Oregon DOT as well as representatives (yet to be named) from Illinois DOT, Washington State DOT and Amtrak and FRA. Larry Salci will also participate and Paul Jamieson, SNC-Lavalin has volunteered as well.

Members have been identified. The Chair will sketch out a DRAFT charge statement and an organizational call will be scheduled. The first call will be held after the completion of the more immediate efforts to complete the lease agreements.

ATTACHMENTS



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

S305 NGEC Executive Board Conference Call
March 28, 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 3-14-17 conference call meeting | Eric Curtit |
| 5. Progress Report: Mid-West States – Section 6 | Arun Rao |
| 6. Status Update: Diesel-Electric Locomotive Procurement | John Oimoen |
| 7. Update: Formation of the Acquisition and Ownership Best Practices Task Force | Eric Curtit |
| c. Finalizing members | |
| d. Developing the charge statement | |
| e. Setting a call schedule | |
| 8. Standing Subcommittee Monthly Updates for March | |
| a. Technical subcommittee | Mario Bergeron |
| b. 514 subcommittee | Brian Beeler II |
| 9. Update: Contractual status with Iran and Siemens | Allan Paul |
| 10. Other | All |

Next Meeting -April 11, 2017
