
SECTION 305 NGENC Executive Board

MINUTES

APRIL 11, 2017

11:30 EASTERN

CONFERENCE CALL

FACILITATOR	<i>Eric Curtit, Chair, S305 NGENC Executive Board</i>
ATTENDEES	Board Members: <i>Eric Curtit, Dale Engelhardt for Mario Bergeron, Darrell Smith, Beth Nachreiner for Michael Lestingi, Amanda Martin, John Oimoen, Jason Biggs for Ron Pate, Steve Keck, Michael Jenkins, Brian Beeler II</i> Support Staff: <i>Shayne Gill, Bryan Hong, Steve Hewitt, Tammy Krause, Nathan Vocomil, Dave "Emeritus" Warner</i>
ABSENTEES	Board Members: <i>Mario Bergeron, Michael Lestingi, Ray Hessinger, Paul Worley, Arun Rao, Tim Hoeffner, Ron Pate, John Rosacker,</i> Support: <i>Allan Paul, Momo Tamaaki, Jeff Gordon, Larry Salci, Sal DeAngelo, Patrick Centolanzi</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, as of the start of this meeting, is included – below:

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.

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.

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

Formation of the Acquisition and Ownership Best Practices Task Force – The task force has been named, with Eric Curtit serving as its chair. Members include: Tim Hoeffner, Michigan DOT, Mike Jenkins, Oregon DOT, Ron Pate/Jason Biggs, WSDOT, John Oimoen/Jennifer Bastian, IDOT, Sal DeAngelo, FRA, Joe Paul, Amtrak, Paul Jamieson, SNC-Lavalin, Dick Bruss, NARP, Larry Salci, Consultant to the NGENC; and Steve Hewitt, NGENC Manager.

The Chair will sketch out a charge statement and begin setting a schedule and assignments over the next few weeks.

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)

Agenda item 7a.

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.

Standing Subcommittee monthly update schedule:

Technical subcommittee – 4-25-17

514 subcommittee – 4-25-17

Finance and Administrative subcommittee – 4-11-17

4. Approval of the Minutes from the 3-28-17 Conference call meeting – Eric Curtit:

On a motion made by Brian Beeler II, for Maine DOT, and seconded by John Oimoen, IDOT, the minutes from the 3-28-17 NGEC conference call meeting were approved without objection.

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

John Oimoen reported that work on the lease agreement with Amtrak continues with a series of meetings having taken place. John believes "we are close to the end". The last meeting, "hopefully", will take place today (4-11-17) to work through the last issues. Getting the agreements in place is critical to getting the new locomotives into revenue service.

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

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

** JPEs continue to work with Siemens on schedule and conduct weekly conference calls.*

** IDOT Locomotive 4604 is in Chicago and 4611 are in Chicago.*

** IDOT and Siemens are meeting in Chicago Tuesday 3/27 to sign conditional acceptance on IDOT units: 4603, 4604, 4605, 4606, 4607, 4608, 4609, 4610 & 4611. These units have all completed the 500 mile burn in.*

** All Maintenance Demonstrations have been successfully completed.*

** 238.111(b) testing is complete at WSDOT. 238.111(a) testing is complete at Caltrans. 238.111(a) testing has begun at IDOT, all yard tests complete and corridor road testing will begin on 4/19.*

** 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*

** WSDOT units 1400-1401 have been delivered to TTCI and 1400 has completed the 500 mile burn in and 1401, 1402 and 1403 are testing at TTCI this week.*

* *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 TTCT are being equipped. Siemens projects Wi-Tronix will complete software in June.*

* *All Document Change Requests (DCR) have been processed to conform the technical specification for as-built configuration.*

* *IDOT and its' Fleet Manager Contractor is now functioning in Chicago on a daily basis.*

Eric Curtit complimented John and his team noting that there has been "lots of good progress."

7.

Standing Subcommittee Monthly Activities Updates:

Finance and Administrative subcommittee – Darrell Smith:

Darrell Smith reported that the Finance and Administrative subcommittee met last week (4-5-17) and had a "good, long discussion", on "what do we do net in developing a strategy and implementation plan for future funding". Last year the FASC explored a series of options, and concluded that the NGEC can only be funded through federal funds as it is in the interest of the federal government that it be successful.

"Where do we go" beyond the current grant agreement which will expire 9-30-19. Many good thoughts were expressed during the 4-5-7 FASC call. On the next call, scheduled for 5-4-17, there will be more discussion and some action items will be set.

One initial step is to begin a review and update of the NGEC two-pager educational outreach document. This document has been broadly distributed and well accepted. It is a tool that can continue to be revised and updated.

Eric Curtit added that the subcommittee members agreed that the 2-pager can be revised to "better reflect the maintenance of the specifications and what goes into that process".

8.

Update: Acquisition and Ownership Best Practices Task Force – Next Steps/topics/assignments - Eric Curtit:

Eric Curtit reported that, in deference to the work that is being done to finalize agreements and get the new locomotives into service, he is not anticipating holding a meeting of the new task force for a month or so. At the appropriate time, he will formally start the work of the new task force.

Eric noted that it is clearly a part of "our mission statement" to develop best practices and provide leadership in acquisition and standardization.

Eric will send an email to all task force members calling for "topics and issues" in advance of the first call.

The members of the task force are:

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, jennifer.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

9.

Adjourn:

With no other business forthcoming for today, Chairman Curtit adjourned the call at 11:43AM 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 for update.

Mid-West States – Section 6 progress report:

Work on the lease agreement with Amtrak continues with a series of meetings having taken place. The last meeting work through the final issues is to take place today (4-11-17).

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.

The subcommittee is developing a strategy and implementation plan for successfully requesting future federal funding beyond the current grant agreement which expires on 9-30-19.

Next Finance and Administrative subcommittee update – 5-9-17

Standing Subcommittee monthly update schedule:

Technical subcommittee – 4-25-17

514 subcommittee – 4-25-17

Finance and Administrative subcommittee – 5-9-17

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. An email to all members will go out in advance of the first meeting calling for topics and issues.

ATTACHMENTS



S305 NGEN Executive Board Conference Call
April 11, 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 3-28-17 conference call meeting | Eric Curtit |
| 5. Progress Report: Mid-West States – Section 6 | John Oimoen |
| 6. Status Update: Diesel-Electric Locomotive Procurement | John Oimoen |
| 7. Standing Subcommittee Monthly Updates for March | |
| a. Finance and Administrative Subcommittee (FASC) | Darrell Smith |
| 8. Acquisition and Ownership Best Practices Task Force – next steps/topics/assignments | Eric Curtit |
| 9. Other | All |

Next Meeting -April 25, 2017
