



**Our Vision: The NGEC will provide national leadership in standardization, acquisition, and management of passenger rail equipment.**

## SECTION 305 NGEC Executive Board

MINUTES

MAY 21, 2019

11:30 EASTERN

CONFERENCE CALL

<b>FACILITATOR</b>	<i>Eric Curtit, Chair, S305 NGEC Executive Board</i>
<b>ATTENDEES</b>	<b>Board Members:</b> Eric Curtit, Charlie King, Tim Ziethen, Ray Hessinger, Mike Murray for Michael Lestingi, Amanda Martin, John Oimoen, John Oimoen for Arun Rao, Allan Paul, Mike Jenkins, Brian Beeler II, <b>Support Staff:</b> Steve Hewitt, Jeff Gordon, Tammy Krause, Patrick Centolanzi
<b>ABSENTEES</b>	<b>Board Members:</b> Michael Lestingi, Ron Pate, John Rosacker, Kyle Gradinger, Tim Hoeffner, Arun Rao, <b>Support:</b> John Bell, Momo Tamaoki, Jon Dees, Beth Nachreiner, Shayne Gill, Strat Cavros, Michael Burshtin, Byron Comati, George Hull

### DECISIONS MADE

**1.**

**Welcome – Eric Curtit, Chair, S305 NGEC Executive Board:**

Chairman Curtit opened the call and asked Steve Hewitt to call the roll.

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

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

**3.**

**Action items Review – Steve Hewitt:**

Steve Hewitt noted that most open action items are covered under the agenda.

The status of one action item not covered specifically by today’s agenda:

**Distribution of the NGEC two-pager – educational document 5-21-19:**

The new educational (two-pager) document was released at the Annual Meeting on 2-22-19 and is available in hard copy or electronically.

To date, (5-21-19) 240 hard copies and 352 electronic copies have been distributed.

Contact Steve Hewitt at [shewitt109@aol.com](mailto:shewitt109@aol.com). If hard copy, let Steve know where to send them and how many.

**METRA Equipment Procurement Effort as of 4-9-19:**

John Oimoen, IDOT, provided an overview of the METRA Equipment Procurement effort on 4-9-19:

An RFP is on the street for 200-400 bi-level cars. They are going through the process now. Interested parties must respond by August 2019.

METRA has the NGEC specification, but John does not know if the plan to use it or if they will be in contact with the NGEC or not.

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**Next Update – as appropriate**

**4.**

**Approval of the Minutes from the 4-23-19 conference call meeting – Eric Curtit, MoDOT:**

On a motion offered by Allan Paul, NCDOT, and a second by John Oimoen, IDOT, the minutes from the 4-23-19 conference call meeting were approved as presented.

**5.**

**Update – Multi-State Rail Car Procurement – Steve Hewitt for Kyle Grading, Caltrans:**

Steve Hewitt provided the following update from Caltrans for inclusion in today's (5-21-19) minutes:

*All FDR System Level and related submittal approvals for the standard coach are at a Conditional Approval level or greater. Those submittals conditionally approved are ongoing documents that will be updated and submitted periodically.*

*Siemens held a new café car & galley PDR meeting with IDOT on 5/7 and 5/8/2019 in Chicago. Amtrak and a representative from FDA were present for the meetings. Caltrans cab car PDR sessions are scheduled for week of May 20. Reviews that week will include Carshell, Cab Layout, and F-end H-type coupler.*

*The first 14 carshells are in production at Siemens Sacramento Facility. Carshells #1 and #2 are in the final assembly phase. Carshell #1 is mostly complete except seats, ceiling panels, luggage shelves, trap doors and double sliding steps as well as smaller components. ATR for car #2 is ready for installation on the car. Carshells 3 and 4 are proceeding based on material availability, which has been improving throughout the month of April. Carshell #5 started final assembly. Carshell #6 is in final assembly with installation of rivets and nuts in preparation for component assembly to begin. Carshell #'s 7, 8, 9, 10 and 11 are in various stages of integration or storage.*

*The FAI process continues and FAIs have occurred for the Carshell Complete, Digital Communication System, Lighting System, Couplers, Sanitary System, Sidewall Lining, FRP Panels, Brake System, Interior Doors, Truck Frame, Flooring and heated panel and Battery Charger, HVAC, Full Truck, Sliding Step, Seats, Electrical Cabinet, Windows, Analog Communications and Fully Assembled Bogie, Double Sliding Step, Vestibule FRP Panels, Wheelset and Gap Filler. Open items are being addressed and the FAIs are revisited for closure by the customer team as needed. FAI Closure Approval has been provided to SCOA/Siemens for Lighting, Digital Communication, HVAC, Truck Frame, Analog Communications, Passenger Windows, Brakes, Couplers, and Wheelsets. The FAI for the Trap Door is scheduled for June 5<sup>th</sup>.*

**6.**

**Update: Amtrak Equipment Procurements – Charlie King, Amtrak:**

Charlie King reported:

On the Locomotive Procurement:

The process continues – no changes to report.

On the car procurement:

Amtrak has received responses to the RFP from several 5 or 6 vendors. Amtrak is partnering with the states that are a part of the review process.

There are some suitable candidates in the submissions – with some questions that will need to go back to them for answers.

The intent is to do the best to have a "fair and level battlefield to provide the best possible equipment".

**7.**

**Update: Metro-North Dual Mode Locomotive Procurement – Ray Hessinger, NYSDOT:**

Ray Hessinger reported that the due date for proposals was last Friday (5-10-19). Submittals were received from the short-listed car builders and Metro-North has initiated its review of those submissions.

**8.**

**Treasurer's Update – FASC Activities Update – Tim Ziethen, Amtrak:**

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Current Balance and Spend Rate as of 5-21-19:

Total Grant: \$1,250,000.00  
Spent to date: \$401, 255.35  
Balance: \$848,744.65

Based on the current run rate and accounting for a bump up in costs for the annual meeting – the balance should cover another 38-40 months.

Status – Requesting additional no-cost grant agreement extension:

FRA has informed Amtrak that an additional one year no-cost extension can be requested and would be received favorably. It would be approved through the normal approval process.

FRA has suggested that Amtrak wait until the current agreement gets closer to the end date before applying for another extension, but that it will be received favorably.

The current extension expires 9-30-20.

#### **9.**

##### **Update: Equipment Acquisition and Ownership Working Group – Eric Curtit:**

The Equipment Acquisition and Ownership Working Group last met on 4-18-19.

Since then, Eric Curtit has reached out to Amtrak and Caltrans to get an ETA for getting the missing sections or parts of sections, completed and out for review. (The section on Implementation (team leader – Caltrans) has not yet been submitted, and the section on Revenue service is incomplete pending input from Amtrak).

Eric continues to anticipate the remaining draft material soon and that duplications will be resolved by a complete (all sections) review by the working group. The sections submitted are written in a similar voice and will be tightened up before being distributed to the full Executive Board for its review and comment.

Eric continues to look for some time in late June or early July for a full DRAFT to be ready for distribution to the NGEN Executive Board for review.

#### **10.**

##### **Update: Document Control – Tammy Krause:**

Tammy Krause provided the following update on 5-21-19:

- a. Status: Revision B.2 – completing technical writing for 305-003 Rev B.2 specification document

The technical writer was delayed in her anticipated timeline for completion, but Tammy expects to get the final completed document by the end of this week.

- b. Status: Single Level Trainset Specification Revision:

Nothing new to report on the status of revising the Single level Trainset specification. Tammy has reached out to two of the technical working group team leaders to see if their workload has reached the point where they may prefer her looking for another team leader.

- c. Status: Electronics on Trains Working Group - development of DTL software specification:

New team leader – David Brabb – and the team have begun working on the DTL software specification, but also want to make changes to the hardware specification as well.

David has sent out a survey to his team members to get input in what they would like to see the group work on as David develops its work plan.

- d. Status: Verifying/updating all Technical working group member lists:

This is unchanged, as Tammy awaits input from the team leaders.

**11.  
Other:**

Eric Curtit reported that he has made an outreach to VIA Rail (Mario Bergeron) to see if there is a willingness to provide periodic updates on how the VIA Rail equipment procurement is progressing. Mario has responded that he will get back to Eric on this.

With no other business forthcoming, Eric Curtit adjourned the meeting at 11:49am Eastern.

**The next conference call will be 6-4-19**

**Decisions/Action Items**

**Update – Multi-State Rail Car Procurement as of 5-21-19:**

**See agenda item 5 in the minutes.**

**Metro North Dual Mode Locomotive Procurement – Update as of 5-21-19:**

The due date for proposals was last Friday (5-10-19). Submittals were received from the short-listed car builders and Metro-North has initiated its review of those submissions.

**Next update – 6-18-19**

**Document Control Update – 5-21-19:**

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- d. Status: Verifying/updating all Technical working group member lists:  
  
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**Next update – 6-4-19**

**Equipment Acquisition and Ownership Best Practices Working Group – 5-21-19:**

The Equipment Acquisition and Ownership Working Group last met on 4-18-19.

Since then, Eric Curtit has reached out to Amtrak and Caltrans to get an ETA for getting the missing sections or parts of sections, completed and out for review. (The section on Implementation – team leader – Caltrans - has not yet been submitted, and the section on Revenue service is incomplete pending input from Amtrak).

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**Next Update 6-18-19**

**Charger Updates from States and Amtrak:**

On 10-23-18, at Chairman Curtit’s request, States and Amtrak provided summary updates on the Charger Locomotives now that they have been placed in service. The Chairman will be asking for these updates on a periodic basis, with the next update planned for the NGEC 2019 Annual Meeting – 2-22-19.

On 2-22-19 at the Annual Meeting, Charger experience updates were provided and captured in the minutes of that

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meeting.

**Next update – as appropriate.**

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**S305 NGEN Executive Board Conference Call  
May 21, 2019  
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 4-23-19 conference call meeting  | Eric Curtit    |
| 5. Update: Multi-State Car Procurement   | Kyle Gradinger |
| 6. Update: Amtrak Equipment Procurements   | Charlie King   |
| 7. Update: Metro-North Equipment Procurement   | Ray Hessinger  |
| 8. Treasurer's Update – FASC Activities update   | Tim Ziethen    |
| Current Balance and Spend Rate as of 5-21-19<br>Status – Requesting additional no-cost grant agreement extension |                |
| 9. Update: Equipment Acquisition and Ownership Working Group   | Eric Curtit    |
| 10. Update: Document Control   | Tammy Krause   |
| e. Status: Revision B.2 – completing technical writing   |                |
| f. Status: Single Level Trainset Specification Revision  |                |
| g. Status: Electronics on Trains Working Group - development of DTL software specification                       |                |
| h. Status: Verifying/Updating all Technical working group member lists   |                |
| 11. Other  | All            |

**Next Call-6-4-19**