
SECTION 305 NGECE Executive Board

MINUTES

MAY 23, 2017

11:30 EASTERN

CONFERENCE CALL

FACILITATOR	<i>Eric Curtit, Chair, S305 NGECE Executive Board</i>
ATTENDEES	Board Members: <i>Eric Curtit, Michael Lestingi, Amanda Martin, John Oimoen, Jason Biggs for Ron Pate, Jon Dees for Paul Worley, Arun Rao, Michael Jenkins, Support Staff: Steve Hewitt, Patrick Centolanzi,</i>
ABSENTEES	Board Members: <i>Mario Bergeron, Darrell Smith, Ray Hessinger, Paul Worley, Tim Hoeffner, Ron Pate, Steve Keck, Brian Beeler II, John Rosacker, Support: Larry Salci, Dale Engelhardt, Jeff Gordon, Beth Nachreiner, Sal DeAngelo, Tammy Krause, Shayne Gill, Bryan Hong</i>

DECISIONS MADE

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

NGECE Chairman Eric Curtit, convened today's meeting.

Roll Call –Steve Hewitt, Manager, S305 NGECE Support Services:

Steve Hewitt called the roll and could not confirm the presence of a quorum due to the absence of Amtrak representation.

It was agreed that the meeting would proceed. No votes would be taken, and topic updates would be provided where the presenter was present.

3. Review of Action Items – Steve Hewitt:

All open action items were to be covered under today's agenda.

For the record, a status update of all open action items, as of the start of this meeting, is included below:

Mid-West States – Section 6 progress report:

The Mid-West States are close to getting the lease agreement in place with Amtrak for operating and maintaining the equipment. The hope, as of 5-9-17 was that the agreements would be in place within the next week or so bringing it that much closer to getting the equipment into revenue service.

The Section 6 report has been submitted to FRA.

Update – agenda item 5

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 agenda item 6.

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

- Developing a strategy to and implementation plan for requesting federal funds beyond the expiration of the current grant agreement (9-30-19).

The subcommittee continues to emphasize distribution of the two-pager educational document. Members who would like additional copies should contact Steve Hewitt.

The FASC members are requesting that the Legislative Outreach task force be re-convened to work on concepts for a regular update/report card/dash board for the Hill and other stakeholders. The concept is for a quarterly report like what APTA has developed.

- Syncing the Amtrak/AASHTO Support Services contract, and those of existing subcontractors, with the Grant Agreement. This effort is underway. There are several new requirements in the current grant to work through. These are primarily related to DBE requirements. Amtrak procurements is working through those requirements, and will be reaching out to AASHTO within a week or so.
- The next FASC conference call will take place on 5-31-17.

Next Finance and Administrative subcommittee update to the NGEN Executive Board – 6-6-17

Standing Subcommittee monthly update schedule:

Technical subcommittee – agenda item 7a
514 subcommittee – agenda item 7b
Finance and Administrative subcommittee – (next 6-6-17)

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.

Status Update/Next Steps – Agenda item 9

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, jennisfer.bastian@illinois.gov
Washington Department of Transportation – Ron Pate, Pater@wsdot.wa.gov - alternate -Jason Biggs, biggsjr@wsdot.wa.gov
Steve Hewitt - NGEN 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

Executive Board approval of Diesel-Electric Locomotive Specification Revision B:

The members of the Locomotive Review Panel have been confirmed (see agenda item 8a.)

A scope, schedule and budget for reviewing the DCRS for specification Revision B and developing the Review Panel Report with Recommendations has been submitted by Consultant Larry Salci, and was approved by NGEN Chairman Eric Curtit. AASHTO will prepare the contract modification accordingly and Mr. Salci will begin completing the assigned tasks.

The intent is to have the Report completed by 5-22-17 and submitted to the Review Panel, with Executive Board consideration on 6-6-17.

Status Update – Agenda item 8

4. Approval of the Minutes from the 5-9-17 Conference call meeting – Eric Curtit:

Due to the lack of a quorum, consideration of approval of the minutes from the last call were tabled.

5.

Progress Report: Mid-West States – Section 6-:

John Oimoen, IDOT, reported that the lease agreements with Amtrak are getting close – with 2-3 items remaining. Getting the agreements in place is critical to getting the equipment into revenue service.

The Section 6 plan is still with FRA and its review is ongoing.

Meetings with the Fleet Manager are taking place to discuss ongoing fleet issues for the Mid-West states. The effort is collaborative and working well.

6.

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

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

- a) Six Caltrans units have been delivered to Oakland and all have run the 500-mile burn in and have been conditionally accepted. The units have been through the pre-revenue joint inspection with Amtrak. All items identified at that inspection will be completed by tomorrow. They will then be ready for revenue service.*
- b) IDOT and Siemens have signed conditional acceptance on IDOT units: 4603- 4611. These units have also completed the 500-mile burn in.*
- c) WSDOT units 1400 and 1403 arrived in Seattle last weekend and are undergoing receiving inspections. 1401, 1402, 1403, 1404, 1406 have completed burn-in and are at TTCI. (Jason Biggs reported that two of the locomotives "are showing up today" and the burn-in testing should be completed this week). This would complete the burn-in for all WSDOT Chargers.*
- d) IDOT Locomotives 4604 and 4611 are in Chicago and completed the testing on the applicable Midwest corridors yesterday. Track Geometry done all corridors. The 238.111a testing on the Michigan and Chicago to St. Louis corridors will be run later due to PTC equipment.*
- e) Caltrans 238.111a test reports were also sent to Amtrak and Amtrak sent to FRA on 5/3.*
- f) The WSDOT 213.345 test report has been submitted by Amtrak to the FRA. WSDOT is waiting a letter from BNSF before this item can be closed out.*
- g) Letters were sent out by Amtrak to the host railroads 5/3 detailing the tests performed on the chargers and the intent to put into revenue service.*
- h) WSDOT and IDOT continue to meet with Amtrak to finalize their respective leases. Caltrans signed their agreement with Amtrak on 4/27. IDOT has two remaining items to work through. WSDOT is also getting close to signature.*
- i) JPE's are working with Amtrak and the FRA on the final items that need to be resolved before putting the units in revenue service. One is a purchase order between Amtrak and Siemens for Warrantee labor and equipment usage. A request for formal approval has also been made to the Office of Safety to release the units into Revenue service. We are waiting for the response.*
- j) Siemens warranty service locations are now established at the JPE's.*
- k) Wi-Tronix application, as required by Amtrak is being applied by FMI. One Caltrans unit has been equipped and IDOT units at TTCI have been equipped. Siemens projects Wi-Tronix will complete software in June. The units can go into revenue service only trailing units until this software is installed.*

John completed his report by, once again, commenting on all the "hard work by individuals and teams in getting us to this point."

7.

Standing Subcommittee Monthly Updates:

The subcommittee updates scheduled for today were tabled until the next call 6-6-17.

8. Status Update – Review of Diesel-Electric Locomotive DCRs for Revision B – Larry Salci:

Larry Salci was unavailable today, but Steve Hewitt reported that Larry had been working on the review over the weekend and had requested from Steve and was provided with the Diesel-Electric Locomotive Specification Revision A.

Steve is guessing that the timeline for completion of the review and development of the report may have slipped a bit due to Larry's ongoing workload, but expects the process to be completed without considerable delay.

9. Status/Next Steps – Acquisition and Ownership Best Practices Working Group – Eric Curtit:

Eric Curtit reported that he and Steve Hewitt were working on a brief that will encapsulate what it is the working group should accomplish and will send it out for member feedback. Following that input, it will be sent to NGEC Executive Board members for review and comment.

10. Adjourn:

With no other business forthcoming for today, Chairman Curtit adjourned the call at 11:45AM Eastern.

The next conference call is June 6, 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:

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The Section 6 plan is still with FRA and its review is ongoing.

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Next Finance and Administrative subcommittee update – 6-6-17

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Finance and Administrative subcommittee – 6-6-17

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The intent is to have the Report completed by 5-22-17 and submitted to the Review Panel, with Executive Board consideration on 6-6-17.

The schedule has slipped a bit, but no significant delay is anticipated.

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.

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ATTACHMENTS



**S305 NGEC Executive Board Conference Call
May 23, 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 5-9-17 conference call meeting | Eric Curtit |

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| 5. Progress Report: Mid-West States – Section 6 | Tim Hoeffner |
| 6. Status Update: Diesel-Electric Locomotive Procurement | John Oimoen |
| 7. Standing Subcommittee Monthly Update | |
| a. Technical subcommittee | Mario Bergeron |
| b. 514 subcommittee | Brian Beeler II |
| 8. Status Update: Review of Diesel-Electric Locomotive DCRs for Revision B | Larry Salci |
| 9. Status/Next Steps – Acquisition and Ownership Best Practices Working Group | Eric Curtit |
| 10. Other | All |

Next Meeting - June 6, 2017
