

# SECTION 305 NGEC Executive Board

MINUTES

MAY 8, 2018

11:30 EASTERN

CONFERENCE CALL

|                    |   |
|--------------------|---|
| <b>FACILITATOR</b> | <i>Eric Curtit, Chair, S305 NGEC Executive Board</i>  |
| <b>ATTENDEES</b>   | <b>Board Members:</b> <i>Eric Curtit, Charlie King, Tim Ziethen, Ray Hessinger, Michael Lestingi, Amanda Martin, Jason Biggs for Ron Pate, Kyle Gradinger, Arun Rao, Arun Rao also as proxy for John Oimoen, Mike Jenkins, Brian Beeler II, Support Staff:</i> <i>Sal DeAngelo, Jeff Gordon, Shayne Gill, Dave "Emeritus" Warner, Michael Burshtin, Steve Hewitt, Tammy Krause, Larry Salci</i> |
| <b>ABSENTEES</b>   | <b>Board Members:</b> <i>Ron Pate, Tim Hoeffner, Allan Paul, John Oimoen, John Rosacker, Support:</i> <i>Beth Nachreiner, George Hull, Patrick Centolanzi, Jon Dees, Strat Cavros</i>   |

## DECISIONS MADE

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

Chairman Curtit, Missouri DOT, convened today's meeting 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 all open action items are included in the agenda.

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

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

##### As of 4-24-18:

- *Caltrans, IDOT, and Amtrak's Public Health Team met on 4/6 to go over the Galley Updates. Discussions were productive, and information offered by Amtrak was very helpful. The follow up meeting will take place in summer 2018.*
- *Caltrans, IDOT, Amtrak and the FRA team visited the Brightline's West Palm Beach facility in the week of April 9. We reviewed some of the components in the cars, such as toilet rooms, gangway, HVAC, communication system, etc.*
- *Caltrans, IDOT, SCOA, and Siemens met in Sacramento, CA on 4/16 for the executive board meeting. We discussed the status of design review, high-level schedule overview, as well as areas of concerns.*
- *The production of the first Carshell has begun on 4/6.*
- *The design review meeting is taking place in Sacramento, CA this week. The discussion topics included exterior doors, double sliding steps, communication system – Analog, trap doors, electrical system. The meetings have been productive, and a lot of action items are being closed.*
- *Caltrans has been developing and submitting Document Change Requests (DCR) to NGEC. All DCRs have been sent to the appropriate working group(s) and discussion and votes are pending.*

A revision of DCR 160 has been worked on and was submitted to the Interiors working group. The working group is meeting today and is hopeful of moving the amended DCR forward to the Technical subcommittee.

Agenda item 9

#### The Charger - Diesel-Electric Locomotive Update as of 4-10-18:

1. *Of the 33 units IDOT locomotive order, all 33 have been conditionally and finally accepted with Siemens.*
2. *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.*
3. *Twenty-Three Chargers are currently in the Midwest.*
  4. *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.*
  5. *WSDOT units are operating in revenue service*
  6. *Caltrans locomotives are operating revenue service*
  7. *The Failure Review Board is established and running, with all JPE's, Amtrak, Siemens and the new addition of Brightline as participants.*
  8. *A recurring bi-weekly warranty meeting is being held by Siemens and includes all JPE's, Amtrak, Siemens, MARC and Brightline.*

**Mid-West Section 6 Update:**

John Oimoen reported that the FRA and the states continue to go back and forth on the plan, but he believes they are close to finalizing it. John is hopeful it will be finalized sometime next month.

Agenda item 10

**Metro North Dual Mode Locomotive Procurement as of 4-24-18:**

Metro North held an information meeting in NYC on 3-28-18 for entities interested in the Dual Mode Locomotive procurement. The meeting was well attended with all major locomotive builders well represented. NYSDOT, Connecticut DOT, and Amtrak were also present at the meeting.

Metro North will be working with the MTA Board on the information gathered from the meeting and hopes to be releasing an RFP (which will be a 2 step RFP process) by late May or early June 2018.

The specification is to be based on the PRIIA Dual Mode locomotive specification with modifications. Metro North will bring those modifications to the NGEC, but not until after the release of the RFP.

Ray Hessinger, NYSDOT, will continue to keep the NGEC apprised as the process moves forward.

Agenda item 11

**Finance and Administrative Subcommittee/Treasurer's update as of 4-10-18:**

- a. Status of the FRA Grants Office review of the grant agreement SOW changes:

Michael Lestingi, FRA, reported that NNEPRA (for SAIPRC) has not yet submitted a revised SOW for the SAIPRC grant agreement to include the move of the 514 responsibilities from the NGEC to SAIPRC. Michael will follow up.

- b. Status – Document Control Management (DCM) contract:

Strat Cavros, AASHTO, reported that they have not yet received the formal contract proposal from Tammy Krause on her letterhead addressed to AASHTO. All information provided from Amtrak/NGEC is complete – but that info needs to be on TLK Associates letterhead and addressed to AASHTO to be executed. Tammy was informed on 4-18-18 of this request but has yet to submit it. Steve Hewitt will follow up with Tammy and ask her to act on this asap so that the contract can be signed/executed.

- c. Resolution of unpaid AASHTO invoice:

Tim Ziethen reported the Amtrak has gone ahead and processed the invoice for payment but is still waiting for FRA to provide them "with a path forward". Until then, Amtrak is at risk.

Michael Lestingi will follow up with FRA staff to get this resolved. Eric Curtit will call Michael on this as well.

Agenda items 5 and 6

**Document Control Update:**

As of 4-24-18:

Michael Burshtin, Amtrak, has prepared the summary of changes spreadsheet with all of those that have been

dispositioned out of the Technical working groups with recommendations of accepted, accepted as amended or rejected. The spreadsheet has been sent by Steve Hewitt to the Technical subcommittee members and will be considered for approval on 5-3-18.

There are several DCRs being considered by the Interiors working group, as amended, including the Seat Track DCR. It is anticipated that the working group will come to a determination on these DCRs and send their recommendations to Michael for inclusion on the summary of changes spreadsheet to be considered on 5-3-18.

There is an additional DCR under review by the VTI working group, and it too, may be dispositioned for inclusion on the spreadsheet and considered for approval by the Technical subcommittee on 5-3-18.

If all these actions take place – it will mean that all the DCRS submitted for this specification will have been brought forth for consideration by the Technical subcommittee.

Agenda item 7

**Acquisition and Ownership Best Practices Working Group – as of 4-24-18:**

Eric Curtit and Steve Hewitt will get together to pick a date for the next call and get the calendar invite out to working group members asap along with an agenda and documentation from members to react to per the last call.

Agenda item 12

**4.**

**Approval of the Minutes from the 4-24-18 Conference Call Meeting – Eric Curtit:**

On a motion by Arun Rao WisDOT, and a second by Michael Lestingi, FRA, the minutes from the 4-24-18 Executive Board Conference Call Meeting were approved without exception.

**5.**

**Status Update – FRA Grant – Michael Lestingi, FRA:**

- a. FRA approval/execution of the revised NGEC SOW and the update on SAIPRC SOW revisions

Michael Lestingi reported that both the NGEC revisions and those from NNEPRA for SAIPRC have been received and are moving through final legal review at FRA. FRA has all it needs, and Michael expects that the agreements will be signed and back out sometime next week.

- b. Status – unreimbursed payment to Amtrak of AASHTO invoice – awaiting FRA response

Michael Lestingi reported that FRA has still not found a way to make the reimbursement since the previous grant has been closed out. He and Eric Curtit will connect off-line to further discuss a way forward.

**6.**

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

- a. Status – Document Control Management contract with TLK Associates, LLC (Tammy Krause)

Tim Ziethen reported that the contract between TLK Associates, LLC (Tammy Krause) and AASHTO has been executed and is effective for the 12-month period beginning 5-1-18 through 4-30-19.

- b. NGEC spend rate – balance – and a look ahead to future funding strategies

Tim Ziethen reported that the amount spent to date is \$190, 231.84. The spend rate is well under the planned amount contained in the SOW and budget. The total grant amount was \$1,250,000.

The FASC is looking at strategies to obtain future funding. The focus is on obtaining future federal grants going forward, but, potentially, requesting a 12 month no-cost extension of the current grant agreement since this appears to be allowed if no additional funds are requested, may be the way to go as a stop gap measure.

Maximizing the use of the two-page educational document which highlights the NGEC Results to date and its Goals going forward is critical piece of the educational effort. On the last FASC call, it

was discussed/suggested that States provide the two-page fact sheet to their Governmental Affairs staff to add to their packets when meeting with Hill staff. At least two organizations (SPRC and CSG-ERC) have included a request for continuing NGEC funding in their Outside Witness Testimony submitted to the Senate THUD subcommittee for FY 2019. Thus far, 165 hard copies and over 300 electronic versions of the most recent two-pager (2-23-18) have been distributed to congressional staff, states and industry stakeholders.

Thank you to Steve Hewitt for providing the updated information.

- c. Status – Ok for distribution of the NGEC Grant Quarterly progress Report

On the most recent FASC call, it was agreed that Tim Ziethen would check with Amtrak Grants to get the ok to provide the quarterly NGEC Grant Progress reports that are submitted to FRA to FASC and Executive Board members (and Steve Hewitt). On 5-8-18, Tim reported that Amtrak grants has approved the distribution of the report. Tim asked Michael Lestingi, FRA, if he believes that FRA would also be ok with the distribution of this PDF document to Board members and FASC members. Michael responded that FRA has no problems with this.

Tim will provide the report to Steve Hewitt and he will make the distribution.

## **7.**

### **Technical subcommittee update – Charlie King, Amtrak:**

Recent Critical Decisions/Action Items:

1. Disposition of the Summary of Changes for the Single Level Car Specification Revision B:

*On 5-3-18, the Technical subcommittee approved the Summary of Changes for the Single Level Car Specification Revision B. The Summary of Changes was put together by Michael Burshtin following the disposition of DCRS submitted to the appropriate Technical Working Groups. All the recommendations contained in the Summary of Changes were approved by the Technical subcommittee by roll call vote - with all members present voting in the affirmative. The Summary of Changes for Revision B has been sent to Chairman Curtit and he has, through Steve Hewitt, provided it to the appropriate Review Panel members for their review. Per the NGEC procedures, the Review Panel consultant, Larry Salci, will compare the approved changes against the Requirements Document to ensure compliance, and will prepare a Review Panel Report with recommendations for the panel members to consider. Following that, the Panel will meet to consider the Review Panel Report and its recommendations. Once it is approved by the Panel, it will be sent to Executive Board members for consideration of the report, its recommendations, and the adoption of the changes to the Single Level Car Specification that will be incorporated into Revision B.*

2. Directing the Interiors Working Group to develop a strategy for establishing a range of seat track locations:

*While all recommendations contained in the Summary of Changes were approved by the Technical subcommittee, one DCR - 160A created a lot of discussion. It had been initially rejected as DCR 160 but was amended and resubmitted to the Interiors working group for consideration. It was accepted as amended as DCR 160A, and in that form, it was approved by the full Technical subcommittee on 5-3-18. However, the discussion on the 5-3-18 call, and before that call, demonstrated that, while the current DCR which will change the seat track location as identified in the current spec, it was agreed that to better achieve standardization going forward and to improve the specification, a strategy for creating a drawing that identifies a range of locations should be developed. The Interiors working group has been asked to take on the task of developing that strategy and will keep the Technical subcommittee apprised as to their progress.*

Charlie also noted that a lot of good work went into this effort and he expressed his appreciation to all involved including those on the Technical subcommittee and the Technical working groups.

Document Control Update and Transition – Michael Burshtin and Tammy Krause:

Michael Burshtin welcomed Tammy Krause on board and reported that he and Tammy have begun the transition process. Tammy will now take the lead as the document change manager and will input new forms and follow the DCR process. Tammy will take over the job that Michael has been doing the last few months and what she had been doing prior to that while with Amtrak. Tammy will also update the Document list and the Document Management Procedure to make them current.

Tammy reported that she has been having conversations with Camren Cordell, the specification technical writer and they are going through all the documents by age and listing goals for updating them all.

The new locomotive Revision is up and as is the reference document 305-912 Rev B is completed. The Technical Requirements document for the Dual Mode Locomotive has been updated and will be sent to Steve Hewitt later today.

Eric Curtit thanked Charlie, and all involved for getting things moving along.

**8. Timeline for Review Panel consideration of Single Level Car Specification Revision B – Eric Curtit/Larry Salci:**

Larry Salci, consultant to the NGEC Review Panels provided an anticipated timeline for completion of his review and the preparation development of a report with recommendations for Review Panel consideration.

Larry expects to have the report completed by 5-18-18 and distributed to the Review Panel members by Steve Hewitt at that time. Steve Hewitt will work with Eric Curtit to set up a Review Panel conference call based on Mr. Salci's anticipated timeline. The intent now is to look at 5-24-18 or 5-25-18 for a meeting of the Review Panel.

Larry Salci will submit the budget and schedule for this task to AASHTO today.

As a reminder, Steve Hewitt reiterated who the members and support for the Review Panel that will make recommendations to the Executive Board on Revision B are:

Eric Curtit, Missouri DOT - Chair  
Ray Hessinger, NYSDOT  
Allan Paul, North Carolina DOT  
Jason Biggs, Washington State DOT  
Jeff Gordon, FRA  
Larry Salci, Consultant to the Panel  
Michael Burshtin, Amtrak – technical support  
Tammy Krause, DCM – technical support  
Steve Hewitt – NGEC support

**9. Update – Multi-State Car procurement – Kyle Gradinger, Caltrans:**

- *Caltrans, IDOT, and Amtrak's Public Health Team met on 4/6 to go over the Galley Updates. Discussions were productive, and information offered by Amtrak was very helpful. The follow up meeting will take place in summer 2018.*
- *Caltrans, IDOT, Amtrak and the FRA team visited the Brightline's West Palm Beach facility in the week of April 9. We reviewed some of the components in the cars, such as toilet rooms, gangway, HVAC, communication system, etc.*
- *Caltrans, IDOT, SCOA, and Siemens met in Sacramento, CA on 4/16 for the executive board meeting. We discussed the status of design review, high-level schedule overview, as well as areas of concerns.*
- *The production of the first Carshell has begun on 4/6.*
- *The design review meeting is taking place in Sacramento, CA this week. The discussion topics included exterior doors, double sliding steps, communication system – Analog, trap doors, electrical system. The meetings have been productive, and a lot of action items are being closed.*
- *The next design review meeting will take place in the week of June 18 in Boise, Idaho.*

Kyle also thanked all those involved for getting the DCRs through the Technical subcommittee process and moving them forward.

**10. Locomotive Update – Mid-West Section 6 Activities –Arun Rao, Wisconsin DOT for John Oimoen, IDOT:**

John Oimoen provided the following Locomotive update and noted there was nothing new to report on the Section 6 plan. Arun Rao read the report into the record:

*Of the 33 units IDOT locomotive order, all 33 have been conditionally and finally accepted with Siemens.*

*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-Three Chargers are currently in the Midwest.*

*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, though the PTC installation schedule is delaying this re-deployment.*

*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 Brightline as participants.*

*A recurring bi-weekly warranty meeting is being held by Siemens and includes all JPE's, Amtrak, Siemens, MARC and Brightline.*

**11.**

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

Ray Hessinger reported that Metro North is finishing up the specification to be included in the RFP with an expectation that this should occur by the end of the week.

He also noted that by the end of the month, Metro North will be going to the MTA Board for approval to advertise. Assuming the request is approved, the ad for the Dual mode Locomotive should be out by mid-June at the earliest.

**12.**

**Setting a date for the next Acquisition and Ownership Best Practices conference call – Eric Curtit:**

Eric reported that he and Steve Hewitt will be sending out a date for the next meeting of this working group along with documentation to move the effort forward. The activities of the working group have been delayed somewhat by the many other critical activities that have been the focus of the NGEC in recent months, but the work of this group remains critical and "we have not forgotten about it".

**13.**

**Other:**

Brian Beeler II, NNEPRA for Maine DOT asked from an NGEC and SAIPRC perspective the status of Amtrak's upcoming equipment procurements and asked if the NGEC specs will be used.

Charlie King, as Amtrak's CMO, commented "we are looking to put together an RFP on power and an RFI on cars". He noted that Amtrak is using the PRIIA specs for a baseline and will also open an aperture for all available possibilities including worldwide. Amtrak will also consider the possibility of DMU equipment.

Over the next 30-60 days more will have developed, and Charlie will keep the NGEC Executive Board apprised and will be happy to be on the agenda to brief the Board.

Ray Hessinger commented that "we, as 209 states and those with state supported service, see a need to figure out our role and how we will participate." He added, "through this committee and SAIPRC, we believe is a good place to caucus among ourselves and find common ground and a how to interface with Amtrak on this."

Charlie King emphasized that he and Tim Ziethen both also "sit on SAIPRC and on the NGEC and it is not our intention to be going off on our own. We expect to have state involvement and input."

Charlie also noted that Richard Anderson, Amtrak's President and CEO has brought a different view from traditional restraints in his look at replacing Amtrak's equipment. Mr. Anderson states that Amtrak is not a freight railroad that moves people, it is a passenger railroad. Charlie noted that it is exciting to see a different set of questions being asked.

He also emphasized that the RFP and RFI will be vague to open the aperture up to get broad involvement and to look for options for the future.

Ray Hessinger added, "NY supports the approach and knows that our check book will be involved".

Charlie responded, "we understand ... right now we are on a fact-finding mission."

**Adjourn:**

With no other business forthcoming, Chairman Curtit adjourned today's call at 12:05pm Eastern.

**The next conference call is 5-22-18**

### Decisions/Action Items

#### Status Update – Multi-state Car Procurement (Caltrans - Lead State) 5-8-18:

- *Caltrans, IDOT, and Amtrak's Public Health Team met on 4/6 to go over the Galley Updates. Discussions were productive, and information offered by Amtrak was very helpful. The follow up meeting will take place in summer 2018.*
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#### Mid-West Section 6 Update 5-8-18:

There was nothing new to report on 5-8-18.

#### Metro North Dual Mode Locomotive Procurement 5-8-18:

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He also noted that by the end of the month, Metro North will be going to the MTA Board for approval to advertise. Assuming the request is approved, the ad for the Dual mode Locomotive should be out by mid-June at the earliest.

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**Task Complete**

- b. NGEC spend rate – balance – and a look ahead to future funding strategies

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**Technical subcommittee update 5-8-18:**

Recent Critical Decisions/Action Items:

1. Disposition of the Summary of Changes for the Single Level Car Specification Revision B:

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compliance, and will prepare a Review Panel Report with recommendations for the panel members to consider. Following that, the Panel will meet to consider the Review Panel Report and its recommendations. Once it is approved by the Panel, it will be sent to Executive Board members for consideration of the report, its recommendations, and the adoption of the changes to the Single Level Car Specification that will be incorporated into Revision B.

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Document Control Update and Transition 5-8-18:

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The new locomotive Revision is up and as is the reference document 305-912 Rev B is completed. The Technical Requirements document for the Dual Mode Locomotive has been updated and will be sent to Steve Hewitt later today.

**Acquisition and Ownership Best Practices Working Group 5-8-18:**

Eric Curtit and Steve Hewitt will be sending out a date for the next meeting of this working group along with documentation to move the effort forward.

**Attachments**

**S305 NGEC Executive Board Conference Call**

**May 8, 2018**

**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 4-24-18  | Eric Curtit      |
| 5. Status Update: FRA Grant  | Michael Lestingi |
| a. FRA approval/execution of the revised NGEC and update on SAIPRC SOW revisions         |                  |
| b. Status – unreimbursed payment to Amtrak of AASHTO invoice – awaiting FRA instructions |                  |
| 6. Treasurer's/FASC Update   | Tim Ziethen      |
| a. Status – Document Control Management contract with TLK Associates LLC                 |                  |
| b. NGEC spend rate – balance – a look ahead to future funding strategies                 |                  |
| c. Status – Ok for distribution of the NGEC Grant Quarterly Progress Report              |                  |
| 7. Technical subcommittee Update   | Charlie King     |
| Recent Critical Decisions/Action items:  | Charles King     |

- Disposition of the Summary of Changes for Single Level Car Specification Revision B
- Directing the Interiors working group to develop a strategy for establishing a range for seat track locations

- 
- Document Control update and transition: Michael Burshtin/Tammy Krause
    - a. Updating Document Control Procedures – DCB and Technical working group membership Tammy Krause
    - b. Updating PRIIA Technical Documentation List Tammy Krause
    - c. Ongoing specification updates – overview/status update Tammy Krause
  - 8. Timeline for Review Panel consideration of Single Level Car Revision B Summary of Changes Larry Salci
  - 9. Update - Multi-State Car Procurement Kyle Gradinger
  - 10. Update - Mid-West Section 6 Activities Arun Rao
  - 11. Update: Metro-North Dual Mode Locomotive Procurement Ray Hessinger
  - 12. Setting a date for the next Acquisition and Ownership Best Practices conference call Eric Curtit
  - 13. Other All

**Next Call -5-22-18**