
SECTION 305 NGENC Executive Board

MINUTES

MAY 9, 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, Allan Paul for Paul Worley, Steve Keck, Michael Jenkins, Arun Rao, Brian Beeler II</i> Support Staff: <i>Shayne Gill, Bryan Hong, Steve Hewitt, Jeff Gordon, Sal DeAngelo, Patrick Centolanzi, Dave "Emeritus" Warner</i>
ABSENTEES	Board Members: <i>Ray Hessinger, Paul Worley, Tim Hoeffner, Ron Pate, John Rosacker,</i> Support: <i>Larry Salci, Tammy Krause</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 all open action items are covered in today's agenda, other than the establishing the Acquisition Best Practices and lessons Learned Task Force. This task force has been formed, but the "kick off" is on hold pending completion of some of the more urgent work involving the procurement and many of those who will be on the new task force.

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 have completed the DRAFT Section 6 report for the new locomotives and submitted it to FRA. Section 6 compliance is a requirement before the new locomotives can be put into service. The Section 6 report is meant to be a living document.

Most of the lease agreements with Amtrak are very close to being finalized.

The Mid-West ownership board will be holding its first meeting very soon and will be developing By-Laws and operating procedures.

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)

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 See agenda item 7

Standing Subcommittee monthly update schedule:

Technical subcommittee – agenda item 7a (next 5-23-17)
514 subcommittee – agenda item 7b (next 5-23-17)
Finance and Administrative subcommittee – (next 5-9-17 – agenda item 7)

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.

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.l.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

Adoption of the Diesel – Electric Locomotive Change Requests for Revision B: On the last call – 4-11-17, the Chair called for the convening of the Locomotive Review Panel to review the change requests approved by the Technical subcommittee for what will ultimately be specification Revision B. The Chair requested that members confirm Review Panel members confirm their continued preparation and asked that consultant Larry Salci begin the steps necessary for preparing the Review Panel Report with recommendations. Larry is asked to submit a SOW for this effort to AASHTO and provide the Board with a timeline for completion.

Agenda item 8

4. Approval of the Minutes from the 4-25-17 Conference call meeting – Eric Curtit:

On a motion made by Allan Paul, NCDOT, and seconded by Arun Rao, Wisconsin DOT, the minutes from the 4-25-17 NGEC conference call meeting were approved without objection.

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

Arun Rao, Wisconsin, reported that the Mid-West States are close to getting the lease agreement in place with Amtrak for operating and maintaining the equipment. Arun is hopeful that the agreements will be in place within the next week or so bringing it that much closer to getting the equipment into revenue service.

On Section 6, Arun reported that the Section 6 report has been submitted to FRA.

Eric Curtit noted that “these are exciting times”, and he thanked the states, Amtrak and FRA for their hard work

and contributions to this monumental effort.

Beth Nachreiner, FRA, asked if a date was set yet for getting the equipment into revenue service.

John Oimoen, IDOT, reported that the exact date has yet to be determined as they are still doing some testing and there are a few things yet to be done, but "it should be coming shortly".

6.

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

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

- *Six Caltrans units have been delivered to Oakland and all have run the 500 mile burn in and have been conditionally accepted.*
- *IDOT and Siemens have signed conditional acceptance on IDOT units: 4603- 4611. These units have also completed the 500 mile burn in.*
- *WSDOT units 1400 and 1404 have completed the burn in and been conditionally accepted. 1401, 1402, 1403 & 1405 are in Pueblo and 1406 & 1407 left Sacramento 5/2 heading for Pueblo. The first two units 1400 & 1404 are on their way from Pueblo to Seattle.*
- *IDOT Locomotives 4604 and 4611 are in Chicago and are currently being used to perform the 238.111(a) testing on the Midwest corridors.*
- *238.111(b) testing was completed at WSDOT and reports have been submitted to Amtrak. Amtrak submitted copies of the reports to the FRA on 5/3. We have requested FRA confirmation of receipt to close out this item.*
- *Caltrans 238.111(a) test reports were also sent to Amtrak and Amtrak sent those to FRA on 5/3.*
- *The WSDOT 213.345 Test report is in preparation to submit to Amtrak.*
- *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.*
- *WSDOT and IDOT continue to meet with Amtrak to finalize their respective leases. Caltrans signed its agreement with Amtrak on 4/27.*
- *JPE's are working with Amtrak and the FRA on a list of final items that need to be resolved before the locomotives go into revenue service.*
- *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. The units can go into revenue service only trailing units until this software is installed.*
- *All Document Change Requests (DCR) for the PRIIA specification have been processed to conform the technical specification for as-built configuration.*

Jason Biggs added "good news" that WSDOT has received FRA approval on the 213.345 testing.

7.

Standing Subcommittee Monthly Updates:

Finance and Administrative subcommittee - Darrell Smith:

Darrell Smith reported that the Finance and Administrative subcommittee is looking at two key areas of work:

- 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/dashboard 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.

8.

Steps to complete Review and adoption of the D/E Locomotive Specification Revision B -Eric Curtit:

- a. Confirming Locomotive Review Panel Membership

Eric Curtit

Steve Hewitt reviewed the Review Panel membership (below) and received confirmation that all those listed are confirmed to continue their service on the panel.

Locomotive Review Panel:

Eric Curtit, Missouri DOT – Chairman
Arun Rao, Wisconsin DOT
Ray Hessinger, NYSDOT
Jason Biggs, Washington State DOT
Kevin Kesler, FRA
Larry Salci, Consultant to the Panel
Tammy Krause, Amtrak – technical support
Steve Hewitt – NGEC support

- b. Anticipated Timeline for completion of Review Panel Report - Steve Hewitt for Larry Salci:

Steve Hewitt reported that Larry Salci has provided the anticipated timeline for completion of the report and a schedule for Executive Board approval.

Larry anticipates having the Review Panel Report completed by Monday, 5-22-17 with a Review Panel call to consider the report, and its recommendations, taking place within the next week or so (as soon as it can be scheduled) and anticipation of having the Report with Recommendations ready for Executive Board consideration on the 6-6-7 Executive Board Conference call.

- c. Status: Preparation and submittal of SOW to AASHTO – Steve Hewitt for Larry Salci:

On 5-8-17, Larry Salci submitted the budget, schedule, and scope of work to AASHTO. On 5-8-17, Steve Hewitt confirmed the proposed budget, scope and schedule, as being what was requested, and Eric Curtit, on 5-9-17, provided his approval to AASHTO. AASHTO will now proceed with executing the modification of the ongoing contract with Mr. Salci to reflect this effort.

Steve Hewitt asked Shayne Gill, AASHTO, if he had everything he needs, by way of approval to proceed, and he confirmed he does.

Steve added that Larry Salci has been provided with the Summary sheet of the DCRS, as approved by the Technical subcommittee, and will now proceed to develop the Review Panel Report and Recommendations. Once Larry has completed the Report it will be sent to the Review Panel Members and Steve Hewitt will arrange a conference call of the Panel. Following Panel approval of the Report and Recommendations, it will be submitted to the Executive Board for its consideration, of what will be PRIIA Diesel-Electric Locomotive Specification Revision B.

9.

Adjourn:

With no other business forthcoming for today, Chairman Curtit adjourned the call at 11:53AM Eastern.

The next conference call is May 23, 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.

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Mid-West States – Section 6 progress report:

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The Section 6 report has been submitted to FRA.

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

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- 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.

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

Standing Subcommittee monthly update schedule:

Technical subcommittee – see agenda item 7a for update – next update - 5-23-17

514 subcommittee – see agenda item 7b for update – next update - 5-23-17

Finance and Administrative subcommittee – 6-6-17

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 NGEC 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.

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

**Next Generation
Equipment Committee**



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

**S305 NGEC Executive Board Conference Call
May 9, 2017
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 4-25-17 conference call meeting | Eric Curtit |
| 5. Progress Report: Mid-West States – Section 6 | Tim Hoeffner |
| 6. Status Update: Diesel-Electric Locomotive Procurement | John Oimoen |
| 7. Standing Subcommittee Monthly Updates | |
| Finance and Administrative Subcommittee | Darrell Smith |
| 8. Steps to complete Review and adoption of the D/E Locomotive Specification Revision B | Eric Curtit |
| d. Confirming Locomotive Review Panel Membership | Eric Curtit |
| e. Anticipated Timeline for completion of Review Panel Report | Larry Salci |
| f. Status: Preparation and submittal of SOW to AASHTO | Larry Salci |
| 9. Other | All |

Next Meeting -May 23, 2017
