

SECTION 305 NGEC Executive Board

MINUTES

JULY 21, 2015

11:30 EASTERN

CONFERENCE CALL

FACILITATOR	<i>Eric Curtit, Chair, S305 NGEC Executive Board</i>
ATTENDEES	Board Members: <i>Eric Curtit, Mario Bergeron, Ray Hessinger Darrell Smith, Michael Lestingi, John Oimoen, John Oimoen as proxy for Arun Rao, Allan Paul for Paul Worley, Tammy Nicholson, Eric Curtit as proxy for Ron Pate, Momoko Tamaoki, Brian Beeler</i> Support Staff: <i>Shayne Gill, Bryan Hong, Steve Hewitt, Larry Salci, Jeff Gordon, Beth Nachreiner, Vincent Brotski, Sal DeAngelo, Patrick Centolanzi</i>
ABSENTEES	Board Members, <i>Paul Worley, John Rosacker, Arun Rao, Tim Hoeffner, Michael Jenkins</i> Support: <i>Jason Biggs, Strat Cavros, Martin Schroeder, Dale Engelhardt, Nico Lindenau, Tammy Krause, Dave Warner</i>

DECISIONS MADE

1.

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

Chairman Curtit, opened today's meeting and asked Steve Hewitt to call the roll.

2.

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

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

3.

Review of Action Items – Steve Hewitt:

Steve Hewitt noted that all action items would be covered on today's agenda.

The current status of all action items are listed below.

Action Items Status

Mid-west States – Section 6 progress report: The RFP for a fleet manager is now under IDOT legal review. This is the last step in the approval process. The RFP for a fleet maintainer is under development by Michigan DOT. The states are meeting on a monthly basis with task forces working on specific issues as well. (ongoing)

Agenda item 5

514 Subcommittee update: 514 is now focusing on the task at hand of getting equipment operating at a state of good repair. (ongoing)

Agenda item 10

The Finance and Administrative subcommittee continues to look at potential funding options and strategies for the future of the NGEC: (ongoing)

On the last Board call, FASC Chair, Darrell Smith reported that the subcommittee is in the process of establishing a Legislative Outreach Task Force.

Status: Darrell Smith, Eric Curtit and Steve Hewitt met, via conference call, on July 17th to establish the task force objectives, and to begin outreach to potential members.

Objective:

- Identify what materials the NGEC should have to make its case for future Federal funding
- Identify the process required to obtain new Federal grant funds
- Develop a timeline to obtain funding before October 1, 2017, and identify roles/responsibilities to get it

done

Task Force Chair - Eric Curtit
Task Force Support- Steve Hewitt

Members:

MO - Jay Wunderlich - jay.wunderlich@modot.mo.gov
Amtrak - Mariah Morales - Mariah.morales@amtrak.com

Potential members:

CA – Giles Giovinazzi – Giles.Giovinazzi@dot.ca.gov
MD—Andy Dentamaro – adentamaro@mdot.state.md.us
VT – Karen Songhurst Karen.songhurst@state.vt.us
WA – Alison Camden camdena@wsdot.wa.gov

Urgent DCR --Bi-Level Car weight change:

Status: On July 16th, the Review Panel met to discuss and consider the Report and recommendations for C.3 prepared by Larry Salci. The Panel approved the report, with minor edits and it has been distributed to all Board members for today's call.

Under agenda item #7 Larry Salci will provide a summary of the report and the Panel's recommendation. The Board may consider the report for approval under agenda item #8.

Chairman Curtit following the NGENC process had re-convened the Bi-Level Review Panel.

The Bi-Level Review Panel Members are:

Eric Curtit, Missouri DOT – Chair
Arun Rao, Wisconsin DOT
Tammy Nicholson, Iowa DOT
John Tunna, FRA
Larry Salci, Consultant to the Panel
Tammy Krause, Amtrak will provide technical support
Steve Hewitt – support

Timeline/progress update: Agenda item 8.

4. Approval of the Minutes from the 7-7-15 conference call meeting – Eric Curtit:

On a motion by Tammy Nicholson, Iowa DOT, and a second by Michael Lestingi, FRA, the minutes from the 7-7-15 Executive Board conference call were approved without exception.

5. Progress Report: Mid-West States – Section 6 – John Oimoen, IDOT for Tim Hoeffner, Michigan DOT:

In the absence of Tim Hoeffner, John Oimoen provide an brief update on the status of the Mid-West's section 6 efforts:

Progress is being made on the issue of governance and ownership – a draft ownership document is under review by the states' general counsels.

The RFP for a Fleet manager should be released shortly – final steps are being taken by IDOT to make that happen.

6. Status Update: Bi-Level Car Procurement – Momoko Tamaoki:

Momoko Tamaoki, provided the following update on the status of the Bi-Level Procurement into the meeting record:

Car shell structural testing in Rochelle is continuing.

Several FAI's are underway this week, with more to follow over the next few weeks.

Design Review: There are 18 hot list items yet to be closed - 4, or so, are design related actions.

RFCs: Product status teams are meeting today.

An updated production schedule was submitted by the manufacturer on June 29th – Caltrans and FRA reviewed it and felt that it lacked detail. The manufacturer has provided a revised schedule with additional detail. Caltrans, IDOT and FRA are reviewing the new information.

7.

Review Panel Report and Recommendations – summary overview – Larry Salci:

Larry Salci provided the background of the Urgent DCR process and provided a summary of the report he prepared, and the Review Panel approved.

Larry noted that he had discovered a couple of typos, since the meeting of the Review panel, and would make those corrections, once the report is approved, and provide the final corrected report to Steve Hewitt for posting to the web site.

Larry recommended that the DCR be approved – while it changes the dry weight of the cars, it will not affect performance.

Michael Lestingi, FRA, asked if the change being considered for this procurement also changes the underlying specification.

Larry responded that it is a change to the specification. He noted that Dr. John Tunna, FRA, had mentioned this during the Review Panel call, and had recommended a paragraph being added to the report that recommended that the NGENC do a full analysis (after this procurement) to see if weight reductions can be achieved.

Mario Bergeron asked if the specification change would mean that the Requirements document would also have to be changed.

Larry stated that the specification “mirrors” the Requirements document, so, if the weight requirement is in that document, yes it would also have to be changed.

Jeff Gordon, FRA, commented that he was looking at the Requirements document, and the weight was not in there, so there would not need to be a change made to it.

Larry looked at the Requirements document and concurred “it’s not in there...we are ok to do (vote to approve) the change just to the spec.”

With no further discussion, Chairman Curtit called for a motion to accept the Review Panel Report and recommendations as contained in Technical Specification Revision C.3.

8.

Consideration of Approval Bi-Level Car Report C.3 – Eric Curtit:

A motion to accept the Review Panel Report – Technical Specification Revision C.3 - was offered by Allan Paul, NCDOT, and seconded by, Ray Hessinger, NYSDOT.

Michael Lestingi asked if this motion included the recommendation that the NGENC take another look at weight after this procurement is completed – for future procurements.

Mr. Curtit said that it is in the report, and, as such, is a part of the motion being considered.

Steve Hewitt was asked to call the roll:

Eric Curtit, Missouri DOT – aye
Eric Curtit as proxy for Ron Pate, Washington State DOT – aye
Mario Bergeron, Amtrak – aye
Darrell Smith, Amtrak – aye
Michael Lestingi, FRA – aye
Ray Hessinger, NYSDOT - aye
John Oimoen, IDOT – aye
John Oimoen as proxy for Arun Rao, Wisconsin DOT – aye
Allan Paul for Paul Worley, NCDOT – aye
Tammy Nicholson, Iowa DOT - aye

Momoko Tamaoki, Caltrans – aye
Brian Beeler, NNEPRA – for Maine DOT – aye

With a quorum having been established and all votes having been cast in the affirmative, Chairman Curtit determined that consensus has been achieved and Bi-Level Revision C.3 is adopted.

**9.
Diesel-Electric Locomotive Procurement – John Oimoen:**

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

FDR follow-up action items are being processed for closure.

The First Article Inspections (FAI) for the engine room lighting was held on 7/15; the XITCS FAI will be held during the last week of July. The FAI for the traction alternator will be conducted in early August.

Manufacturing for the first locomotive carbody has begun. Some delays have been experienced due to materials and vendor QA, but are being managed within the project's schedule float by the contractor. The contractor is working to verify the extent of the schedule impact.

No further RFCs are anticipated. Fourteen draft (DCRs) are being prepared Tammy Krause has been contacted.

The last meeting for the diesel exhaust fluid (DEF) review and application team was held on 7/13/2015, and they are working with Amtrak to identify storage locations.

The locomotive weight is 271,000 lbs (+/-) and the calculated P2 force is still within specified limits. Weight is being closely monitored.

Overall, things are going well.

**10.
Status Update: 514 Subcommittee – Ron Pate:**

In the absence of Ron Pate, there was no 514 update for today.

**11.
Other/Adjourn:**

With no further business to come before the Board today, Vice Chairman Bergeron adjourned the meeting at 12:05 PM Eastern.

The next call is August 4, 2015

Decisions/Action Items

Mid-west States – Section 6 progress report: Progress is being made on the issue of governance and ownership – a draft ownership document is under review by the states' general counsels. The RFP for a Fleet manager should be released shortly – final steps are being taken by IDOT to make that happen.

514 Subcommittee update: No update was provided for today's call. (ongoing)

The Finance and Administrative subcommittee continues to look at potential funding options and strategies for the future of the NGECC: (ongoing)

Eric Curtit will chair the Legislative Outreach Task Force and is reaching out to potential members.

Urgent DCR Bi-Level Car Weight Change – Review Panel Memo: On today's call, the NGECC Executive Board approved Bi-Level Car Technical Specification Revision C.3.

ATTACHMENTS



**S305 NGEC Executive Board Conference Call
July 21, 2015
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 the July 7, 2015 Call | Eric Curtit |
| 5. Progress Report: Mid-West States – Section 6 | Tim Hoeffner |
| 6. Status Update: Bi-Level Car Procurement | Momoko Tamaoki |
| 7. Review Panel Report and Recommendations – Bi-Level Car Weight Change DCR | Larry Salci |
| 8. Consideration of Approval Bi-Level Car Report C.3 | Eric Curtit |
| 9. Status Update: Diesel-Electric Locomotive Procurement | John Oimoen |
| 10. Status Update: 514 subcommittee | Ron Pate |
| 11. Other | All |

Next Call: August 4, 2015