
SECTION 305 NGEC Executive Board

MINUTES

SEPTEMBER 12, 2017

11:30 EASTERN

CONFERENCE CALL

FACILITATOR	<i>Eric Curtit, Chair, S305 NGEC Executive Board</i>
ATTENDEES	Board Members: Eric Curtit, George Hull for Mario Bergeron and for Darrell Smith, Ray Hessinger, Michael Lestingi, Arun Rao, Eric Curtit as proxy for John Oimoen, Jason Biggs for Ron Pate, Allan Paul, Michael Jenkins, Brian Beeler II Support Staff: Jon Dees, Jeff Gordon, Beth Nachreiner, Sal DeAngelo, Steve Hewitt, Patrick Centolanzi
ABSENTEES	Board Members: Mario Bergeron, Darrell Smith, John Oimoen, Tim Hoeffner, Ron Pate, John Rosacker, Amanda Martin, Momo Tamaoki, Support: Shayne Gill, Larry Salci, Tammy Krause

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.

Roll Call –Steve Hewitt, NGEC Program Manager:

Steve Hewitt called the roll and, at first a quorum was not established, but, as the meeting got underway, additional members called in and the presence of a quorum was confirmed.

3. Review of Action Items – Steve Hewitt:

All actions items are to be covered under today's agenda, but for the record, a status update of all open action items, as of the start of this meeting, is included below:

Procurement Updates: (Ongoing)

On 1-17-17, the Chair tabled Bi-Level procurement updates until new information is available and appropriate to share. An update will be provided on today's call (9-12-17) – **Agenda item 7.**

Diesel-Electric Locomotive Procurement update as of 8-29-17 – **Agenda item 6.**

Mid-West States – Section 6 progress report:

Status as of 8-15-17: The Mid-West Fleet Pool Board held its initial meeting on 7-26-17. By-Laws were approved and Officers were elected.

On the Mid-West Locomotives – they are in service on several routes.

Agenda item 5.

Finance and Administrative Subcommittee – contract extensions :

Status as of 8-15-17: Darrell Smith received word on 8-15-17 that the agreement had cleared the section where Amtrak addresses the new FRA requirements regarding plan goals for DBE. This item has now cleared Amtrak, and its purchasing department will be in touch with AASHTO soon to move forward with the contract extension between Amtrak and AASHTO through the life of the grant agreement (9-30-19). AASHTO will then, in turn, work with the sub-contractors to do the same with those contracts.

Next update on this activity– Agenda item 8.

514 subcommittee next update: 9-12-17 – agenda item 9.

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.

Eric Curtit reported on 5-23-17 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 NGECE Executive Board members for review and comment. (ongoing)

Status as of 8-15-17: In recent conversations with Steve Hewitt, Eric has begun to re-focus his attention on the formation of the Acquisition and Ownership Working Group. As you will recall, the Board agreed to wait until the Locomotive procurement process was complete and the equipment was in service so that those involved would have the time and ability to provide their input and insight into the efforts of the working group. With that process coming to completion, Eric intends to begin the activities of the working group soon. He has noted that his intent is to capture the things we've learned and to develop best practices for ownership and acquisition. More will follow on this in the coming weeks.

Agenda item 9.

4.

Approval of the Minutes from the 8-29-17 Conference call meetings – Eric Curtit:

On a motion by Allan Paul, NCDOT, and a second by Brian Beeler II, NNEPRA for Maine DOT, the minutes from the 8-29-17 Executive Board conference call were approved as presented.

5.

Progress Report: Mid-West States – Section 6 – Eric Curtit and Arun Rao:

Eric Curtit noted that many of the Mid-West states are not available today as they are traveling to a multi-state meeting in Michigan among the Mid-West states, FRA and Amtrak regarding several items including lease agreements.

Arun Rao reported regarding Section Six requirement activities, the effort continues to move forward – the next meeting will take place in a few weeks, and there will be more to report on following that meeting.

6.

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

John Oimoen was unavailable for today's call (9-12-17), but provided the following update for inclusion in today's minutes. Steve Hewitt read the report into the record:

- a) *JPEs continue to work with Siemens on schedule and conduct bi-weekly conference calls.*
 - b) *All locomotives have completed required testing and all reports have been submitted and received. 110 mph hour testing in MI and the Chicago/St. Louis line will take place when all PTC logistics and software are up and in place.*
 - c) *All Caltrans locomotives are in revenue service.*
 - d) *IDOT and Siemens have signed conditional and final acceptance on 23 IDOT units.*
 - e) *IDOT Revenue service started 7/27/2017, with units placed in trailing position. IDOT locomotives began revenue service in Lead Position as of 8/24/2017, but that was suspended on 9/1, due to a forward-facing camera download problem with Wabtec LDRS-V. This is the data storage for the video recorder. Wabtec, Siemens and Amtrak are addressing. Units continue to operate in trailing position.*
 - f) *IDOT locomotives 4616 - 4627 have completed burn-in testing at TTCI. Locomotives 4628 & 4629 are being burn-in tested this week at TTCI. The locomotives stored at TTCI will be shipped to Chicago, as soon as storage space becomes available. Storage space in Chicago is limited, until the P-42 locomotives are re-deployed by Amtrak.*
 - g) *The Wi-tronix system has been installed on 11 of the 12 units in Chicago. The necessary software has also been installed which allows the remaining units to be placed in Lead Position for revenue service. The software has also been installed on all Caltrans and WSDOT units.*
 - h) *All WSDOT Locomotives have been delivered and have completed pre-revenue testing and are being readied for revenue service.*
 - i) *WSDOT is finalizing their lease with Amtrak*
 - j) *Siemens warranty service locations are now established at all JPE locations.*
-

k) *The Failure Review Board has been established, with two meetings taking place so far with all JPE's included and Siemens. The next meeting is scheduled for Sept 13th. The meeting for October is planned to be held in Wilmington Del and include a visit to Siemen's customer service facility. Amtrak representatives have been added and will participate in the meetings.*

7.

Status Update – Multi-state Car Procurement (Caltrans - Lead State) – Steve Hewitt for Momo Tamaoki:

In the absence of Momo Tamaoki, Caltrans, Steve Hewitt read into the record the statement that Caltrans provide last week (9-7-17) to the Technical subcommittee:

"Contract Negotiations are still underway to determine if proposed substitute subcontractor is able to fulfill SCOA's contractual obligations."

8.

Status: Amtrak/AASHTO Contract extensions – AASHTO/consultant extensions-timeline to complete – Steve Hewitt for Darrell Smith:

Darrell Smith was unavailable for today's call, but provided the following update, as of 9-11-17, for inclusion in today's minutes:

The Update is: All the internal Amtrak sign-offs are complete, and the actual extension document is being prepared by Amtrak Purchasing to send to AASHTO this week.

Eric Curtit will follow up with Amtrak and AASHTO prior to the next Board call – 9-26-17 – to see where things stand, and to make sure the timeline will be met and the contracts (AASHTO/Amtrak contract and that of AASHTO and the subcontractors) will be extended through 9-30-19 as previously agreed by the Executive Board and as included in the Grant Agreement SOW. The current contracts expire on 9-30-17.

9.

514 Subcommittee Progress Report – Brian Beeler II, NNEPRA/Maine DOT:

CIP Progress:

Brian Beeler II reported that on the last 514 meeting – held 9-8-17 – the subcommittee reviewed the comments received on the DRAFT CIP. Comments were received by NNEPRA, WSDOT and FRA. Darrell Smith, Amtrak, has incorporated some, but not all the changes/comments into the document. Brian will be going back to Darrell to see if some of those can be added into the document. Brian also expects a few more comments will be forthcoming, before the document is finalized. While he expected it may be closer to complete by now, the effort "is not static" and is moving ahead, but it is agreed within the subcommittee that "we need to grow the scope of the CIP". The deliverables approved in 2014 need to be re-evaluated, as is the development of a new concept for the CIP. Once the process is complete, it will be sent to the "full committee" for review – hopefully, within a month. Brian added that the subcommittee will record and document all comments and they will be included going forward.

Issue – 514 – Where does it belong?

Brian raised the issue of 514's status – asking where do we belong. 514 is currently a subcommittee of the Section 305 NGENC as well as a working group within SAIPRC. 514 was established, first as a working group, and later as a standing subcommittee of the NGENC before there was SAIPRC. As SAIPRC, "our 209 arm", is getting established and figuring out what it is – the future of 514 is a part of that discussion. Brian added that, originally, it made sense to put 514 in 305 because of the structure and governance model already established and functioning within 305 - and it was a vehicle through which the 209 effort could progress, but more fully determining "where it structurally fits now, will help us (SAIPRC) in developing our mission statement...it seems that SAIPRC is the more pertinent place for us now, as it has become more robust." Brian believes that now is the time to begin having those discussions and figuring out the best way forward. Brian emphasized that he was not looking for an answer right now, but felt that the time is right to raise the issue and to begin thinking about it.

Eric Curtit, commented that it is a complex issue, and more discussion and thought would need to go into it. Steve Hewitt reminded members that 514 is currently in the NGENC Grant Agreement SOW, and is established as standing subcommittee in the NGENC's By-Laws, so there are several discussions that would need to take place and several steps to be considered. Eric agreed, "there are some ripples".

Ultimately, it was agreed that NGENC members should think about this, and should provide thoughts/suggestions/comments to Eric Curtit, Steve Hewitt and Brian Beeler over the next few weeks, for further discussion, potentially, on the next Executive Board call – 9-26-17. Eric also agreed to "kick something up to Board

members to get folks to weigh in on this.”

10.

Acquisition and Ownership Best Practices Working Group - Eric Curtit:

Eric Curtit reported that he will be finishing a draft scope of work for the new group later today (9-12-17). He plans to send it out for a first look to Steve Hewitt and Mario Bergeron. Following that, the Board members will have an opportunity to review it and provide input as well. The intent remains to have the working group’s efforts complete by the NGEC Annual Meeting in February 2018. Eric believes that the objectives of the working group “are right in the wheelhouse of our mission”.

11.

Other

Adjourn:

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

The next conference call is September 26, 2017

Decisions/Action Items

Procurement Updates: (Ongoing)

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

As of 9-7-17: *“Contract Negotiations are still underway to determine if proposed substitute subcontractor is able to fulfill SCOA’s contractual obligations.”*

Diesel-Electric Locomotive Procurement update – see agenda item 6 for update.

Mid-West States – Section 6 progress report:

Section Six requirement activities continue to move forward – the next meeting will take place in a few weeks.

Finance and Administrative Subcommittee – Contracts Extension status:

Status as of 9-12-17:

All the internal Amtrak sign-offs are complete, and the actual extension document is being prepared by Amtrak Purchasing to send to AASHTO this week.

Action:

Eric Curtit will follow up with Amtrak and AASHTO prior to the next Board call – 9-26-17 – to see where things stand, and to make sure the timeline will be met and the contracts (AASHTO/Amtrak contract and that of AASHTO and the subcontractors) will be extended through 9-30-19 as previously agreed by the Executive Board and as included in the Grant Agreement SOW. The current contracts expire on 9-30-17.

Next full Finance and Administrative subcommittee progress report – 10-10-17

514 Subcommittee Progress Report: (ongoing)

See agenda item 9 for complete report.

Actions:

Issue: 514 – Where does it belong? - It was agreed on 9-12-17, that NGEN members should provide thoughts/suggestions/comments to Eric Curtit, Steve Hewitt and Brian Beeler over the next few weeks, for further discussion, potentially, on the next Executive Board call – 9-26-17.

Eric Curtit will “kick something up to Board members to get folks to weigh in on this.”

Next 514 Progress Report – 10-10-17**Standing Subcommittee monthly update schedule:**

Technical subcommittee – next update – 9-26-17
514 subcommittee – next update – 10-10-17
Finance and Administrative subcommittee – 10-10-17

Formation of the Acquisition and Ownership Best Practices Working Group: Eric Curtit reported on 9-12-17, that he will be finishing a draft scope of work for the new group later today (9-12-17). He plans to send it out for a first look to Steve Hewitt and Mario Bergeron. Following that, the Board members will have an opportunity to review it and provide input as well. The intent remains to have the working group’s efforts complete by the NGEN Annual Meeting in February 2018. Eric believes that the objectives of the working group “are right in the wheelhouse of our mission”.

Equipment Acquisition and Ownership Best Practices Working Group Members:

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.J.jenkins@odot.state.or.us

John Oimeon - Illinois DOT- john.oimeon@illinois.gov

Jennifer Bastian – Illinois DOT – Designated Alternate – Jennifer.bastian@illinois.gov

Ron Pate – Washington State DOT - pater@wsdot.wa.gov

Jason Biggs – Washington State DOT – Designated Alternate – biggsjr@wsdot.wa.gov

Momo Tamaoki, Caltrans – momoko.tamaoki@dot.ca.gov

Paul Jamieson – Industry Member – SNC-Lavalin - Paul.Jamieson@snclavalin.com

Dick Bruss – Industry Member – NARP - rjembruss@gmail.com

Steve Hewitt - NGEN Support: Steve Hewitt - Shewitt109@aol.com

Larry Salci – Consultant - larry@salciconsult.com

ATTACHMENTS



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

**S305 NGEC Executive Board Conference Call
September 12, 2017
11:30 AM – 12:30 PM Eastern**

Agenda

- | | |
|--|-----------------|
| 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 8-15-17 conference call meetings | Eric Curtit |
| 5. Progress Report: Mid-West States – Section 6 | Tim Hoeffner |
| 6. Status Update: Diesel-Electric Locomotive Procurement | John Oimoen |
| 7. Status Update – Multi-state Car Procurement (Caltrans - Lead State) | Momo Tamaoki |
| 8. Status: Amtrak/AASHTO Contract extensions – AASHTO/consultant extensions-timeline to complete | Steve Hewitt |
| 9. 514 Subcommittee Progress Report | Brian Beeler II |
| 10. Acquisition and Ownership Best Practices Working Group | Eric Curtit |
| 11. Other | All |

Next Meeting -September 26, 2017
