

SECTION 305 NGEC Executive Board

MINUTES

OCTOBER 14, 2014 11:30 EASTERN

CONFERENCE CALL

FACILITATOR	<i>Eric Curtit, Chair, S305 NGEC Executive Board</i>
ATTENDEES	Board Members: <i>Eric Curtit, Ray Hessinger, Mario Bergeron, Nikki Rudnick for Darrell Smith, John Tunna for Paul Nissenbaum, John Oimoen, Paul Worley, Jason Biggs for Stan Hunter, Jeremy Jewkes for Ron Pate, Arun Rao, Tim Hoeffner, Michael Jenkins, Brian Beeler II</i> Support Staff: <i>Shayne Gill, Steve Hewitt, Larry Salci, Jeff Gordon, Sal DeAngelo, Nico Lindenau, Sara Sarkhill, Ashok Sundararajan, Dave Warner, Vincent Brotski, Tammy Krause, Michael Lestingi, Patrick Centolanzi,</i>
ABSENTEES	Board Members, <i>Paul Nissenbaum, Darrell Smith, Tammy Nicholson, John Rosacker, Stan Hunter,</i> Support: <i>Allan Paul, Kevin Kesler, Dale Engelhardt, Martin Schroeder</i>

DECISIONS MADE

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

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

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

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

Action Items Status

Mid-west States – Section 6 progress report: This remains as an ongoing agenda item. Progress is being made – they are finalizing the RFP for a Fleet Manager and the RFI for a Fleet Maintainer. They are continuing to finalize the schedule to ensure that they get all ARRA funds committed. A subgroup has been established to address the issue of ownership and will report back to the full group in October. **Agenda item #5**

514 Working Group updates: The Capital Equipment 5 Year Plan (CIP) memorandum and the CIP itself have been approved by the 514 Working Group and sent to Eric Curtit for Executive Board consideration.

Agenda item #8

NGEC Procurement updates: The 2 procurements – bi-level cars and the diesel-electric locomotives-will continue to be standing agenda items on the Executive Board calls. **Agenda items 6 and 7**

The NGEC Future Working Group: The group continues to meet bi-weekly following the Executive Board calls. The Working Group will meet face to face in Wilmington, DE on October 23rd to finalize its recommendations for presentation to the Executive Board on October 24th. **Update: Agenda item #9**

Face to face meetings in Wilmington, DE: **Agenda item # 10**

Host Railroad Blessing of NGEC equipment: Jeff Gordon is working with Jim Grady, AAR on a list of issues the freight railroads have and on what they need to learn about from their perspective. It has been agreed that they will include Mike Ivan, AAR, in the discussions as he initially raised this issue. Jeff will keep the Board apprised. **Jeff Gordon reported that Mike Ivan and Jim Grady met with the AAR Locomotive committee last week. A small subgroup is being formed among AAR members and Jeff Gordon to move this effort forward.**

Bi-Level Car Review: **The Bi-Level Review Panel will meet on October 16, 2014 to review and consider approval of the Revision C.2 report with recommendations.**

D-E Locomotive DCRs: Larry Salci expects to complete the draft report shortly – once complete - it will be sent to Locomotive Review Panel members for their review with a conference call to be scheduled. **Larry Salci reported that he expects to complete his review today or tomorrow (10-14 or 15) and will then send it to Steve Hewitt for distribution to the Locomotive Review Panel.**

4.

Approval of Minutes from the September 30, 2014 Executive Board conference calls – Eric Curtit:

On a motion by Ray Hessinger, NYSDOT, and a second by Paul Worley, NCDOT, the Minutes from the September 30, 2014 Executive Board conference call were approved without objection.

5.

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

John Oimoen reported on the progress of the Mid-West states Section 6 work:

The RFP for a Fleet Manager has been released.

Michigan is working on the RFI for a Fleet Maintainer.

The goal is to get the Fleet Manager in place by the time the RFI for the Maintainer is released so that he or she can be involved in that process.

6.

Status update: Diesel Electric Locomotive procurement –John Oimoen:

John Oimoen reported on the status of the Diesel-Electric Locomotive procurement:

They have approved 2 of the items for milestone 8.

Week 2 of the IDR starts next week in Chicago with the third week of IDR occurring November 10th.

John also reported that IDOT has hired a Section Chief for Rolling Stock. Jennifer Baston has a wealth of experience and will begin on October 29th. John feels she will be a great asset to the department.

7.

Status Update: Bi-Level car procurement:

In the absence of Stan Hunter, Larry Salci provided a brief “big picture” overview of progress being made on the bi-level car procurement:

Discussions continue with regard to the anticipated 45 car option assignment. As yet unresolved is the ability of Nippon Sharyo to accelerate its production schedule to accommodate the additional cars within the time period for use of ARRA funds. A revised schedule is expected tomorrow (10-15-14). The outcome, remains, at this time, undetermined. It is the “ramp up on production” that has been a struggle for the manufacturer.

On the weight issue, progress has been made and it appears that this issue “has been put to bed.” Both Cab and Café cars are slightly over-weight, but it was time to get this resolved and move forward.

Larry anticipates another round of DCRs will be forthcoming with regard to the weight issue.

Dave Warner asked Larry to “implore Mr. Hunter to make things so that they do not require specification changes...take a hard look to see if you really need to change the spec” to accommodate the weight issues.

Larry agreed that a hard look should be taken and noted that “we will see where it comes out...where things that do not need changes to the spec, we won’t change it.”

8.

Consideration of proposed motion for approval of the CIP – Eric Curtit:

Eric Curtit summarized the status of the CIP approval – noting that it was agreed on the last call that Ron Pate, WSDOT, and John Tunna, FRA, would each draft a specific motion regarding approval or acknowledgment of the CIP and identifying/clarifying what it means.

Draft motions were submitted to Steve Hewitt and distributed to the Executive Board members along with today's meeting agenda.

WSDOT proposed motion to accept the CIP:

*The Next Generation Equipment Committee (NGEC) **accepts** the Capital Investment Program (CIP) prepared by Amtrak, in cooperation with the Section 209 Equipment Capital Working Group, as a best practices document meeting the intent of the approved charge statement, and concurs with the 5-year investment plan contained therein. The board also recognizes that the CIP is a living document and there will be annual updates and continued efforts required to complete the next steps included in the document.*

FRA Motion: (same as above with addition the word "approves" replacing "accepts").

*The Next Generation Equipment Committee (NGEC) **approves** the Capital Investment Program (CIP) prepared by Amtrak, in cooperation with the Section 209 Equipment Capital Working Group, as a best practices document meeting the intent of the approved charge statement, and concurs with the 5-year investment plan contained therein. The board also recognizes that the CIP is a living document and there will be annual updates and continued efforts required to complete the next steps included in the document.*

After some discussion over a suggestion by Ray Hessinger to add the words "Section 209 policy" to the middle of the first sentence (see below), it was agreed that, if the word *accepts* were added back in rather than *approves* in sentence one, the additional Section 209 wording could be used.

The following motion was offered by Jeremy Jewkes, WSDOT, and seconded by Michael Jenkins, ODOT.

*The Next Generation Equipment Committee (NGEC) **accepts** the Capital Investment Program (CIP) prepared by Amtrak, in cooperation with the Section 209 Equipment Capital Working Group, as a best practices document meeting the intent of the **Section 209 policy** and the approved charge statement, and concurs with the 5-year investment plan contained therein. The board also recognizes that the CIP is a living document and there will be annual updates and continued efforts required to complete the next steps included in the document.*

Eric Curtit asked Steve Hewitt to poll the voting members of the Board.

All members voted in the affirmative and it was determined that consensus had been achieved and the motion has carried.

Eric Curtit thanked all of those involved in the development of the CIP for their hard work and called this a "great step forward".

John Tunna, FRA, agreed and expressed FRA's thanks to all of those who worked on the CIP, and he also called it a great step forward.

**9.
Status Update NGEC Future Working Group – Eric Curtit:**

Eric Curtit provided a brief overview of the activities of the NGEC Future Working Group:

The working group is meeting weekly in preparation for the upcoming meetings in Wilmington, DE.

The intent is to provide recommendations to the Board on a proposal for the short term with a budget for the essential functions going forward. A no-build scenario – ramifications if the NGEC stops and a look ahead at potential increase in functions and potential structural changes if funding options can be developed for the long term.

**10.
Preparing for the Fall NGEC meetings in Wilmington, DE: Steve Hewitt:**

The Executive Board will meet on 10-24-14 - continental breakfast begins at 7:30am.

A box lunch will be served to allow for a working lunch.

The NGEC Future Working Group will meet on 10-23-14 – continental breakfast begins at 8:00am

Both meetings will be held at the Double Tree Hotel Downtown – Wilmington, DE.

There will also be a tour of Amtrak facilities on the afternoon of the 23rd from 1:00pm – 4:30pm. Bus transportation to and from the Bear facilities will be provided.

On October 23rd a group dinner will take place at the Firestone Roasting House at 6:30pm.

Firestone Roasting House
110 S. West St.
Wilmington, DE. 19801

*Reservation is for 6:30 pm.

*The hotel can shuttle everyone to the restaurant.

All hotel registration information has been sent out to Board members and support staff repeatedly – the cutoff date for making room reservations was extended to 10-7-14. It appears, as of Friday, that we did comply with the contracted rooms required to fill the block. Andrea Ryan will confirm this with the hotel.

DRAFT agendas for both the Executive Board meeting and the NGEN Future Working Group meeting have been sent to the respective members and support staff. – Final DRAFT agenda will be going out this week.

All members are asked to inform Steve Hewitt of their intentions to attend the Board meeting (to ensure a quorum); the tour; and the dinner (for a head count).

Head count thus far:

October 23 Future Working Group: 12 confirmed

October 23 tour – 23 confirmed and 1 is driving himself (bus holds 24)

October 24 Exec Board – 23 confirmed – 1 Tentative - 2 via phone.

At this point a quorum has been confirmed for both meetings.

Presentations are due to Steve Hewitt by COB October 21, 2014.

Adjourn:

With no further business to come before the Board today, Chairman Curtit adjourned the call at approximately 12:10PM Eastern.

The next Meeting is: October 24, 2014 – Wilmington, DE

Decisions/Action Items

Mid-west States – Section 6 progress report: This remains as an ongoing agenda item. The RFP for a Fleet Manager has been released, and an RFI for a Fleet Maintainer is being prepared.

514 Working Group updates: The Capital Equipment 5 Year Plan (CIP) memorandum and the CIP itself have been

approved by the 514 Working Group and sent to Eric Curtit for Executive Board consideration.

On today's call the Executive Board approved the following motion to accept:

*The Next Generation Equipment Committee (NGEC) **accepts** the Capital Investment Program (CIP) prepared by Amtrak, in cooperation with the Section 209 Equipment Capital Working Group, as a best practices document meeting the intent of the **Section 209 policy** and the approved charge statement, and concurs with the 5-year investment plan contained therein. The board also recognizes that the CIP is a living document and there will be annual updates and continued efforts required to complete the next steps included in the document.*

NGEC Procurement updates: The 2 procurements – bi-level cars and the diesel-electric locomotives-will continue to be standing agenda items on the Executive Board calls.

The NGEC Future Working Group: The group is meeting weekly in preparation for the upcoming Board meeting (October 24) in Wilmington.

Face to face meetings in Wilmington, DE: The Executive Board will meet on 10-24-14 and the NGEC Future Working Group will meet on 10-23-14 at the DoubleTree Hotel Downtown – Wilmington, DE.

There will also be a tour of Amtrak facilities on the afternoon of the 23rd from 1:00pm – 4:30pm, and a group dinner at a local restaurant (see details above) that night beginning at 6:00pm.

Presentations are due to Steve Hewitt by COB on October 21, 2014.

Host Railroad Blessing of NGEC equipment: Jim Grady and Mike Ivan, AAR, me with the Locomotive Committee and are forming a subgroup to address this issue and will work with Jeff Gordon. Jeff will keep the Board apprised.

Bi-Level Car Review: The DRAFT Review Panel Report has been prepared by Larry Salci and distributed to the Review Panel members. The panel is scheduled to meet, via conference call, on October 16th to consider approval of the report and submittal to the Board for its consideration.

D-E Locomotive DCRs: The list of proposed DCRs for the D/E locomotive has been sent to Larry Salci (from Eric Curtit) (15) and he has noted that he will be able to complete this review within the timeframe of the contract (end of September).

Larry Salci expects to complete the draft report by October 15th – and, at that time it will be sent by Steve Hewitt to Locomotive Review Panel members for their review with a conference call to be scheduled.

Treasurer's report: Darrell Smith will provide a budget update and Treasurer's report on October 24th at the NGEC Board meeting.

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
October 14, 2014
11:30 AM – 12:30 PM Eastern
Call in number: 866 299 7945 passcode: 1601544#

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 September 30, 2014 conference call | Eric Curtit |
| 5. Progress Report: Mid-West States – Section 6 | Eric Curtit |
| 6. Status update: Diesel Electric Locomotive procurement | John Oimoen |
| 7. Status Update: Bi-Level Car procurement | Stan Hunter |
| 8. Board Consideration of proposed Motion for approval of the CIP | Eric Curtit |
| 9. Status Update: NGEC Future Working Group | Eric Curtit |
| 10. Preparing for the Fall NGEC Meetings – October 23-24 – Wilmington, DE | Steve Hewitt |
| 11. Other | |