

# SECTION 305 NGENC Executive Board

MINUTES

DECEMBER 9, 2014 11:30 EASTERN

CONFERENCE CALL

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

## DECISIONS MADE

1.

**Welcome – Eric Curtit, Chair, S305 NGENC Executive Board:**

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

2.

**Roll Call –Steve Hewitt, Manager, S305 NGENC Support Services:**

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

3.

### Action Items Status

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

**Agenda item 5**

**514 Subcommittee update:** The subcommittee is working on the FMCS implementation comments. States who still wish to submit comments should send them to Jeremy Jewkes at [jewkesJ@wsdot.wa.gov](mailto:jewkesJ@wsdot.wa.gov).

**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.**

**Host Railroad Blessing of NGENC equipment:** Criteria for new equipment has been developed by the locomotive committee. The committee will brief Jim Grady, AAR on the criteria. Following this – a subgroup will be formed to work with the NGENC after the beginning of the new year. (ongoing)

**D-E Locomotive Specification Revision A.1:** The Locomotive Review Panel will meet on November 21, 2014, via conference call, to review the DRAFT report and recommendations in anticipation of considering its approval and subsequent submittal to the Executive Board.

**Status: The Review Panel met on 11-21-14 and approved the D/E Locomotive Specification Revision A.1 report and recommendations as prepared by Larry Salci. The report with a recommendation for adoption by the Board was sent to all Board members on 12-3-14. Today (12-9-14) Mr. Salci will provide a summary of the report and, it is anticipated that Chairman Curtit will call for consideration of adoption of Revision A.1.**

**Agenda items 8 and 9**

**NGEC Future:** The FASC has several assignments which are to be the first steps taken towards establishing the NGENC future – short term and long term.

**The Finance and Administrative subcommittee action items:**

Will organize itself and set its agenda. (the first call is currently scheduled for November 19, 2014)

The Finance and Administrative subcommittee will begin its review of the by-laws to revise where necessary to reflect the changes approved today. (Chairman Smith will contact Ray Hessinger to discuss beginning a by-law review with the assistance of Steve Hewitt)

The Finance and Administrative subcommittee will begin to develop a revised Statement of Work and budget for a no-cost extension of the current grant agreement through September 30, 2017.

The Finance and Administrative subcommittee will begin developing a proposal for potential funding options to present to the Board for its consideration by October, 2015.

**Status: The FASC held its first meeting on 11-19-14 – an update on that meeting and the resulting actions will be provided under agenda item 11.**

NGEC Annual Meeting – 2015: The meeting will take place in Washington, DC on February 20, 2015. Logistical information will be forthcoming over the next week or so.

**Status: Logistics information was sent to all Board members and support staff on November 26<sup>th</sup>. As follows:**

**2015 SCORT & NGENC Washington meeting**

**February 17<sup>th</sup> – S4PRC meeting (by invitation only)**

**February 18<sup>th</sup> – 19<sup>th</sup> SCORT meeting**

**February 20<sup>th</sup> – NGENC Technical Annual meeting**

**HOTEL INFORMATION:**

A block of rooms have been set aside at the **Hyatt Regency Washington on Capitol Hill** for the **SCORT Washington meeting & NGENC Technical Annual meeting.**

**HYATT REGENCY WASHINGTON ON CAPITOL HILL**  
**400 New Jersey Avenue, NW, Washington, DC 20001, USA**  
Tel: +1 202 737 1234

Registrants must make their own room reservations  
Following is the link to the hotel reservations website: <https://resweb.passkey.com/go/AASHTOSCORTFEB2015>

Room rate: \$177.00 (single/double occupancy)

Room reservation cut-off date: **Tuesday, January 20<sup>th</sup> 2015**  
**Reservations received after this date will be on a space and rate available basis only.**

State and local taxes: 14.5% (or prevailing at time of meeting)

Check-in Time: 3:00 PM  
Check-out Time: 12 Noon

**Eric Curtit and Steve Hewitt will begin to prepare a draft agenda in anticipation of state travel approval processes.**

**Letter to the FRA:** the NGENC will formally ask the FRA for a FY2016 budget request for funding for the development and maintenance of specification standards. Eric Curtit and Steve Hewitt will draft a proposed letter, for Board review, to be submitted to the FRA. This is not meant to be the funding options solution for sustaining the NGENC in the long term, but is seen as one potential future resource which would mirror funding provided to some of the other transportation modal administrations.

**Eric Curtit has completed a first draft of the letter for Board consideration and will send it to Steve Hewitt for distribution to Board members today or tomorrow (12-9 or 10).**

**4. Approval of Minutes from the November 18, 2014 conference call - Eric Curtit:**

On a motion by Paul Worley, NCDOT, and a second by Ray Hessinger, NYSDOT, the minutes from the November 18, 2014 conference call meeting of the Executive Board were approved without objection.

**5. Progress Report: Mid-West States – Section 6 - Tim Hoeffner:**

In the absence of Tim Hoeffner, there was no update report provided.

**6. Status update: Diesel Electric Locomotive procurement – Arun Rao for John Oimoen:**

In the absence of John Oimoen, Arun Rao provided the following report for inclusion in the minutes:

- “A) *CDRL 11 has been closed & CDRL 10 has 2 action items to close. JPEs are expecting the Contractor’s invoice for Milestone A by month-end.*
- B) *Follow-up action items for IDR for the locomotive are being progressed.*
- C) *Engine Room Mock-up Review is confirmed for Siemens 3D Reality Lab in Munich Germany, week of 12/8/2014. While there during the week of 12/14, a visit to visit Hitzinger’s engineering office in Austria is also planned to review details for the traction alternator, as well as review technology transfer details for US manufacturing.*
- D) *Weekly JPE conference calls continue.*
- E) *Siemens continues weekly engineering and project management conference calls w/ JPEs.*
- F) *FRA continues participation in conference call meetings*
- G) *The locomotive schedule is slightly ahead of schedule (maybe 1 or 2 months), for the engineering phase.”*

**7. Status Update: Bi-Level Car procurement - Stan Hunter:**

In Stan Hunter’s absence there was no update report provided today.

**8. D/E Locomotive Specification Revision A.1 -Larry Salci:**

Mr. Salci provided a summary overview of the Review Panel Report and its recommendations and provided an overview of the DCRs contained in Revision A.1.

Steve Hewitt asked that the report be corrected to accurately list the current members and support staff for the D/E Locomotive Review Panel. Mr. Salci will make the changes in the final adopted version.

**Diesel-Electric Locomotive Review Panel:**

Eric Curtit, Missouri DOT – Chairman  
Arun Rao, Wisconsin DOT  
Tammy Nicholson, Iowa DOT  
Ray Hessinger, NYSDOT  
Jason Biggs, Washington State DOT  
John Tunna, FRA  
Larry Salci, Consultant to the Panel  
Tammy Krause, Amtrak will provide technical support  
Steve Hewitt – support

**9.**

**Consideration of approval: D/E Locomotive Specification Rev A.1 - Eric Curtit:**

With no further discussion Chairman Curtit called for a motion to accept the Review Panel Report and recommendations and to adopt Revision A.1.

A motion to adopt was offered by Ray Hessinger, NYSDOT, and seconded by Paul Worley, NCDOT.

Chairman Curtit asked Steve Hewitt to poll the voting members of the Board:

Eric Curtit, Missouri DOT – aye  
Mario Bergeron, Amtrak – aye  
Ray Hessinger, NYSDOT – aye  
Darrell Smith, Amtrak – aye  
Michael Lestingi, FRA – aye  
Arun Rao, Wisconsin DOT – aye  
Arun Rao as proxy for John Oimoen, Illinois DOT – aye  
Paul Worley, NCDOT – aye  
Paul Worley as proxy for Stan Hunter, Caltrans – aye  
John Rosacker, Oklahoma DOT – aye  
Jason Biggs, Washington State DOT – aye  
Brian Beeler II, Maine DOT – aye

With a quorum having been established and all votes cast in favor – Chairman Curtit determined that consensus was achieved and the motion is approved.

**10.**

**Status Update: 514 subcommittee – Jason Biggs for Ron Pate:**

Jason Biggs provided a brief update report on the activities of the 514 subcommittee.

With the approval of the CIP, the subcommittee has begun working on next steps.

Specific next steps were identified in the CIP and additional next steps have been identified by the FCMS.

These will be the first tier of items to be discussed. The themes are: cost allocation and the implementation of miscellaneous items.

Amtrak provided a presentation on its year end reconciliation. I was consistent with the CIP, and Jason expressed appreciation to Amtrak for its work and the presentation.

The next call will be states only – at 1:00pm Eastern on 12-10-14.

The next full subcommittee call will take place on 12-22-14 at 4:00pm Eastern.

The 2016-2020 equipment use forecast is due to Amtrak by 12-15-14.

**11.**

**Discussion: NGEN Future – updates - Eric Curtit:**

- a. Update from the Finance and Administrative subcommittee Darrell Smith
  - 1. Organizing the Finance and Administrative subcommittee  
The first meeting of the FASC was held on 11-19-14 – officers of the subcommittee are:  
Darrell Smith, Amtrak, Chair  
Ray Hessinger, NYSDOT, Vice Chair  
Brent Thompson, Washington State DOT, Vice Chair  
The subcommittee will meet every four weeks (Wednesday) at 3:00PM Eastern
  - 2. By-Laws Review  
The Chair appointed a working group to review the by-laws and make recommendations for revisions. The group is chaired by Ray Hessinger. Steve Hewitt provided an initial draft of proposed changes in the by-laws. The working group will report back to the full subcommittee on its next call

(12-17-14).

3. Development of a SOW for no-cost extension through 9-30-17  
Darrell Smith is developing a revised SOW for a grant extension through 9-30-17 and will present a draft for subcommittee review on the next call. The intent is to have a final "clean" version to the Board for its consideration at least by the February 20, 2015 NGEC Annual Meeting.

**Adjourn:**

With no further business to come before the Board today, Chairman Curtit adjourned the call at approximately 12:01PM Eastern.

**The next call is: December 23, 2014 at 11:30AM Eastern**

**Decisions/Action Items**

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

514 Subcommittee update: The subcommittee is working on the FMCS implementation comments. States who still wish to submit comments should send them to Jeremy Jewkes at [jewkesJ@wsdot.wa.gov](mailto:jewkesJ@wsdot.wa.gov).

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.

Host Railroad Blessing of NGEC equipment: Criteria for new equipment has been developed by the locomotive committee. The committee will brief Jim Grady, AAR on the criteria. Following this – a subgroup will be formed to work with the NGEC after the beginning of the new year. (ongoing)

D-E Locomotive Specification Revision A.1: The Executive Board adopted Revision A.1 on today's call (12-9-14). The final adopted version will be distributed to all members and posted on the web site.

NGEC Annual Meeting – 2015: The meeting will take place in Washington, DC on February 20, 2015. Logistical information has been provided (see above under action items update) Steve Hewitt and Eric Curtit will begin developing a draft agenda.

NGEC Future: The FASC has several assignments which are to be the first steps taken towards establishing the NGEC future – short term and long term. Darrell Smith provided an update on the activities of the Finance subcommittee.

On behalf of the Finance and Administrative subcommittee, Darrell Smith has begun to develop a revised Statement of Work and budget for a no-cost extension of the current grant agreement through September 30, 2017. The intent is to present a draft to the subcommittee on the next call 12-17-14 and have a final version to the Board for its consideration by the Annual Meeting.

A working group was established to review and revise the NGEC by-laws, as needed. An update will be presented to the full subcommittee on the 12-17-14 call.

The Finance and Administrative subcommittee will begin developing a proposal for potential funding options to present to the Board for its consideration by October, 2015.

Determining the NGEN Future will remain as a standing agenda item on all future Executive Board calls.

Letter to the FRA: the NGEN will formally ask the FRA for a FY2016 budget request for funding for the development and maintenance of specification standards. This is not meant to be the funding options solution for sustaining the NGEN in the long term, but is seen as one potential future resource which would mirror funding provided to some of the other transportation modal administrations. Eric Curtit has completed a first draft of the letter for Board consideration and will send it to Steve Hewitt for distribution to Board members today or tomorrow (12-9 or 10).

**ATTACHMENTS**

Next Generation  
Equipment Committee



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

**S305 NGEN Executive Board Conference Call**

**December 9, 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 November 18, 2014 conference call | Eric Curtit              |
| 5. Progress Report: Mid-West States – Section 6                   | Tim Hoeffner             |
| 6. Status update: Diesel Electric Locomotive procurement          | Arun Rao for John Oimoen |
| 7. Status Update: Bi-Level Car procurement                        | John Oimoen              |

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- 8. D/E Locomotive Specification Revision A.1 Larry Salci
  - 9. Consideration of approval: D/E Locomotive Specification Rev A.1 Eric Curtit
  - 10. Status Update: 514 subcommittee Jason Biggs for Ron Pate
  - 11. Discussion: NGEN Future – updates Eric Curtit
    - b. Update from the Finance and Administrative subcommittee Darrell Smith
      - 4. Organizing the Finance and Administrative subcommittee
      - 5. By-Laws Review
      - 6. Development of a SOW for no-cost extension through 9-30-17
  - 12. Other All

DRAFT