

SECTION 305 TECH SUB COMM

MINUTES

MARCH 5, 2020

3:00PM EASTERN

CONFERENCE CALL

FACILITATOR	<i>George Hull, Vice Chair, NGENC Technical Subcommittee</i>
ATTENDEES	Core Team Members: <i>Charlie King, George Hull, Jeff Gordon, Momo Tamaoki, Ray Hessinger, Curtis McDowell for Matthew Simmons, Jennifer Bastian, Phil Meraz, Troy Hughes, Tarek Omar, Melissa Shurland, Mike Murray, Michael Burshtin, Michael Kraft, Larry Salci, Dave "Emeritus" Warner, Hamid Sharif-Kashani, Steve Hewitt</i> Industry Members: <i>Richard Curtis, Kevin Myles, Richard Stegner, Kirk Klug, Bill Saddler, James Michel, Paul Arnone, Laurence Bertolini, Adam Saplin, Rich Bowie, Paul Jamieson, Josh Coran, Ed Golitko</i>
ABSENTEES	<i>Marci Petterson, Charlie Poltenson, Matthew Simmons, Jason Biggs, Mike Jenkins, Brian Marquis, Byron Comati, Art Peterson, Tammy Krause, David Brabb</i>

DISCUSSION/DECISIONS MADE

1.

Chairman King, Amtrak, was on the call, but in transit, and asked Vice Chairman George Hull to run the meeting. George called today's meeting to order and asked Steve Hewitt to call the roll.

After calling the roll, Steve Hewitt confirmed the presence of a quorum.

As always, industry participants are asked to email a notification of their attendance to Steve Hewitt at shewitt109@aol.com.

2.

Review of Action Items that are not on the agenda – Steve Hewitt:

Status of action items that were not to be specifically covered on the agenda:

Maintaining Industry Participation List: Currently, there are 199 registered industry participants.

Requesting Backgrounder educational document:

As reported previously, the two-pager has been updated and is available in hard copy and/or pdf versions.

Contact Steve Hewitt at shewitt109@aol.com to request the handout – hard copy or PDF. If hard copies, let Steve know where to send them and how many.

AAR TAG Committee on LED Headlights – Phase 3:

On 10-31-19, on behalf of Dr. Tarek Omar, FRA – Eric Sherrock, Ensco, provided the following update – (read into the record by Steve Hewitt):

The test plan has been developed in cooperation with FRA and the AAR Locomotive Committee LED Standard Development TAG. Phase III testing, which will focus on the performance of selected light fixtures on moving locomotives, will be started during the week of November 11 at the Transportation Technology Center. We will offer additional updates as information is available.

If you need any additional information, please contact Sean Woods (woods.sean@ensco.com).

On 3-5-20 Tarek Omar reported that they are still finalizing phase 4 and would keep the subcommittee apprised as it progresses.

Next Update: as appropriate

Update: Amtrak Equipment Procurement:

As of 2-6-20:

On the Acela replacement:

Trainset 1 is being made ready to go to TTCI as have the California cars.

On the Locomotives:

The FAIs for the locomotives are being put together.

On the Trainset (Amfleet replacement):

They continue to be in the bid review phase by the Amtrak technical and finance committees.

Update: Metro-North Dual Mode Locomotive Procurement as of 2-6-20:

Ray Hessinger, NYSDOT, reported on 2-6-20 that Metro-North continues to review proposals received.

Next update 3-19-20

4. Approval of the Minutes from 2-6-20 – George Hull, Amtrak:

On a motion offered by Jeff Gordon, FRA, and seconded by Momo Tamaoki, Caltrans, the minutes from the last call (2-6-20) were approved as presented.

5. Summary overview - the 10th NGEC Annual Meeting – Steve Hewitt:

Steve Hewitt provided a summary overview of the 10th Annual Meeting of the NGEC which he called a great success with around 80 in attendance. This is an increase of about 10 over attendance at the 2019 Annual Meeting.

The presentations were very well received. Feedback was extremely positive from state, Amtrak and industry members.

A new Executive Board was elected to two-year terms:

Executive Board Members:

Ron Pate, WSDOT
Kyle Gradinger, Caltrans
Jason Orthner, NCDOT
Mike Jenkins, Oregon DOT
Brian Beeler II, NNEPRA for Maine DOT
Ray Hessinger, NYSDOT
Troy Hughes, MODOT
Amanda Martin, IOWA DOT
Arun Rao, Wisconsin DOT
John Oimoen, IDOT
Michigan DOT
(Note: Michigan DOT has agreed to continuing to serve on the Board and will name its representative as soon as they have named the replacement for their Rail Division Director Tim Hoeffner who retired in January 2020.)
Tim Ziethen, Amtrak
Charlie King, Amtrak
Michael Lestingi, FRA

The new Board elected its officers:

Chairman – Ray Hessinger, NYSDOT
Vice Chair – Charlie King, Amtrak
Secretary – John Oimoen, IDOT
Treasurer – Tim Ziethen, Amtrak

All presentations have been provided to AASHTO for posting to the website. The DRAFT meeting minutes were also sent to AASHTO for posting.

New Chairman Ray Hessinger provided a look ahead and highlighted several areas in which he intends to focus:

- Technical subcommittee review of the Access Board Proposed Rulemaking regarding accessibility guidelines for Rail vehicles:

Whereas the Access Board has issued an Advance Notice of Proposed Rulemaking regarding an update to the accessibility guidelines for rail vehicles subject to the Americans with Disabilities Act and comments are due May 14th, Ray Hessinger charged the Technical Subcommittee with the task of comparing the proposed rules against NGEC specifications and document any discrepancies.

- Executive Board review of NGEC documents to ensure there are no holes in the NGEC portfolio of specifications and other documents.

Chairman Hessinger noted that the Acquisition and Ownership report will be the first completely new document prepared by the NGEC in several years. This year, he will ask the Executive Board to consider whether there are any holes in our portfolio of specifications and other documents and if so, to begin the development of any such specification, guidance document or report.

- Ensuring the execution of the NGEC 36-month no-cost grant agreement extension – (10-1-2020 thru 9-30-2023):

The current grant with the FRA expires at the end of September 2020 and a no-cost time extension request has been submitted to the FRA for approval. Timely approval of this no-cost grant agreement extension is critical to a seamless continuation of NGEC operations for an additional 3 years. Chairman Hessinger tasked the FASC with continuing its efforts to shepherd this through the bureaucracy.

- Also, during the Annual Meeting, Chairman Hessinger made appointments to fill vacancies in various subcommittees and other NGEC panels/working groups:

As Chair – Ray Hessinger is an ex-officio member of the NGEC subcommittees. He is also Chair of the NGEC Review Panels and of the NGEC Equipment Acquisition and Ownership Best Practices and Lessons Learned working group. Steve Hewitt has added him to those groups accordingly.

John Oimoen, IDOT – Secretary of the NGEC Executive Board is appointed as second Vice-Chair of the Finance and Administrative subcommittee (FASC)

Troy Hughes, MoDOT is appointed to the NGEC Technical subcommittee and the NGEC FASC.

Jennifer Bastian, IDOT (pending confirmation of availability) is appointed to the NGEC Locomotive Review Panel

Phil Meraz, Iowa DOT is appointed to the NGEC Trainset Review panel

Phil Meraz, Iowa DOT is appointed to the NGEC Single Level Car Review Panel

Brian Beeler II, For Maine DOT is appointed to the NGEC DMU Review Panel

Momo Tamaoki, Caltrans is appointed to the NGEC DMU Review Panel

Charlie King added that he wanted to express his thanks to Eric Curtit, past Chairman of the NGEC who was not able to make it to the Annual meeting for what Charlie called a "proper send-off".

Incoming NGEC Chairman Ray Hessinger echoed Charlie's comments and added a thank you to Charlie King, who chaired the meeting in Eric's absence.

Ray added that he thought the presentations were well received and all presenters did a great job. Ray also noted that Steve Hewitt had summarized the meeting and captured the action items accurately.

6.

New Action: Tech SC Review of the Access Board Advance NPRM re: an update to the accessibility guidelines for rail vehicles subject to the Americans with Disabilities Act – comments are due to the Access Board by 5-14-20 – Ray Hessinger:

Ray Hessinger noted that he has asked the technical subcommittee to look at the NPRM in comparison with the NGEC specifications to determine compliance with the new guidelines.

Once the Rule is in place, the NGEC would be expected to update its specs where necessary to ensure compliance.

Charlie King reported that Amtrak has submitted its comments to FRA and once he has heard back, he will share those comments with the NGEC members. At the appropriate time, as necessary, the Technical subcommittee will review any proposed changes to its specs and ultimately submit them to the executive Board.

Momo Tamaoki asked if the states should submit comments or should coordinate with the NGENC.

Dave Warner suggested that in view of the Technical subcommittee not being able to submit its own comments because of potential conflict of interest with the FRA membership, individual states or industry entities should submit any comments they have to the Docket.

Jeff Gordon, FRA, concurred that FRA is "looking for comments" to be submitted to the Docket.

Ray Hessinger clarified that his intent was not for the NGENC to submit its own set of comments. (this would present a conflict since FRA is a Board member of the NGENC). The intent is for the Technical subcommittee to review the NPRM to see where changes may be needed to the NGENC specifications in order to remain in compliance once the Rule is final.

7.

Update: Multi-State Railcar Procurement as of 2-6-20 - Momo Tamaoki, Caltrans:

Momo Tamaoki, Caltrans, provided the following update on 3-5-20:

- *FDR for the standard coach is complete. Cab Car structure FDR took place on February 27. IDOT Galley FDR documents are in review.*
- *The Complete Coach FAI occurred on November 13-14 in Sacramento and open items are near closure. Vehicle track Interaction testing is scheduled to begin on the NEC in the next week, pending car shipment from Ottawa. CEM crush box testing for the Caltrans Cab Car is scheduled for 3/18 and 3/19 in Germany. TTCl testing is complete, including Amtrak PTC and brake performance tests.*
- *47 cars total are in production or have been produced at Siemens Sacramento Facility. System-level FAIs for standard coach are nearly complete with remaining action items under final review, including open items for the complete car. Two Caltrans cars have arrived at the ACE facility in Stockton.*

8.

Document Control Update – Tammy Krause, NGENC DCM:

Tammy Krause was unavailable for today's call (3-5-20) and informed Steve Hewitt that she did not have an update. This item is tabled until the next call.

9.

Update: Electronics on Trains Working Group – David Brabb

David Brabb was not available for the call today (3-5-20) but provided the following update for inclusion in the minutes. Steve Hewitt read them into the record:

We had a web-conference this past Tuesday, March 3rd. Our next web-conference is planned for Tuesday, March 24th.

Due to our latest rounds of comments on the PRIIA 305-919 DTL hardware Revision 2020A, we have decided that we must get confirmation on the intended topology of the DTL system. We are asking our group to help us determine between a "ring" type and a "linear" (for a lack of a better term) type of system topology. We are also reaching out to some folks outside the Electronics subcommittee for comments as well. Once that decision is made, we will specify jumpers and any peripherals and include in 919. Finally, we will insert a WiDTL section, that has gone through preliminary review, into 919 and send that Revision 2020B out to the group for final review. The WiDTL section specifies redundancy for back office and passenger entertainment purposes only, not any operational communications or controls, due to safety and security risks.

10.

Update: University of Nebraska High Speed Wireless Study – Hamid-Sharif Kashani:

Hamid Sharif-Kashani reported that they have completed the field testing and have concluded that most results matched their lab and simulations. There is "tons of data" and Hamid would be happy to share the link to the data with the NGENC members and would welcome input /feedback.

Steve Hewitt suggested that Hamid provide him with the link, and he will send it out to all NGENC members.

11.

Other Issues:

Steve Hewitt reported to the Chair that he is unavailable for the next scheduled subcommittee call (3-19-20) and asked if the call should be canceled or held on schedule. Charlie King and Steve will discuss off-line as Charlie would prefer to have the next call as planned if Amtrak has received input back from its comments to the Docket on the Access Board NPRM.

Following today's call, Melissa Shurland asked Steve Hewitt to remind members that there will be a public hearing on the RVACC NPRM on March 10th 2-4pm Eastern.

Melissa also confirmed that comments should be provided to the Access Board – to the Docket.

With no further business forthcoming for today's call, George Hull adjourned the meeting at 3:33PM Eastern.

Next Call: 3-19-20– 3:00pm Eastern

Decisions and Action Items

Updating ECP Standards This is an ongoing item which the Technical subcommittee is tracking:

"ECP Project:

The test committee met on May 29, 2019 with some minor edits requested to the final FRA report. The report will be submitted by APTA under docket no. FRA-2015-0078. The report will be made available to the NGECC after APTA submittal. The revenue service demonstration resulted in 1,039,74 ECP fleet miles and 2,126,747 Emulation (BP operation) fleet miles. The total mileage for ECP and emulation was 3,166,541 fleet miles. A total of five incidents were reported the revenue service demonstration. Two incidents were related to electronic hardware, there were no software incidents and three incidents related to training which occurred early in the ECP revenue service demonstration. The hardware incidents have been properly investigated and resolved. The APTA PRESS standards for the emulation 26C configuration and ECP configuration were approved and will be available on the APTA standard website. The equipment provided by New York Air Brake (Knorr) and Wabtec were approved under this project. Draft regulatory language has been prepared and provided to the FRA.

Amtrak will continue the revenue service demonstration.

In addition to developing the Passenger ECP system, an electronic valve replacement for the 26C service portion was developed.

The test committee and APTA PRESS Mechanical technical working group appreciates the support provided by the NGECC. This project would not have been possible without the dedication of Amtrak, APTA, NYAB and Wabtec personnel, and the support of FRA observers. "

On 7-11-19, Paul Jamieson reported that all reviews are done, and the report is in the hands of APTA to package the report. Paul has requested that APTA let him know the anticipated date of completion. Once the report is made available, Paul will provide it to Steve Hewitt for distribution to the NGECC members.

Nothing new to report on 3-5-20

Requesting Backgrounder educational document:

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Maintaining Industry Participation List: Status: There are currently 199 industry participation members.

AAR TAG Committee on LED Headlights Phase 3:

On 3-5-20 Tarek Omar reported that they are still finalizing phase 4 and would keep the subcommittee apprised as it progresses.

Next update as appropriate

PRIIA Multi-State Procurement Update:

Multi-State Car Procurement - Caltrans (Lead State): Progress reports from the lead state will be provided on each subcommittee call.

See agenda item 7 for 3-5-20 update.

Document Control Update as of 3-5-20:

This item was tabled today – next update 3-19-20.

Electronics on Trains Working Group activities as of 3-5-20:

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Next update: as appropriate

DEF-UREA Update:

On 11-15-18, Art Peterson provided the following brief update on DEF-UREA implementation:

The DEF update is very straight-forward – there have been no issues in the supply of DEF at any of the locations on the Midwest "Hub" network. It is all working very smoothly.

Next update – as appropriate.

University of Nebraska High Speed wireless study:

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Metro North Dual Mode Locomotive Procurement:

Metro-North continues to review proposals received.

Next update – 4-2-20

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Next update: 4-2-20

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Next call: 3-19-20

Call in number is:

888 585-9008 access #: 559-120-127

ATTACHMENTS



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

PRIIA Section 305 Tech Sub Committee Meeting

March 5, 2020

The agenda for the meeting is below:

- | | |
|---|----------------------|
| 1. Roll Call | Steve Hewitt |
| 2. Review Meeting Agenda | Charlie King |
| 3. Review Action Items | Steve Hewitt |
| 4. Approve Minutes from 2-6-20 | Charlie King |
| 5. Summary Overview – 10 th NGEN Annual Meeting | Charlie/Steve |
| 6. New Action: Tech SC Review of the Access Board Advance NPRM re: an update to the accessibility guidelines for rail vehicles subject to the Americans with Disabilities Act – comments are due May 14 th | Charlie King |
| 7. Update: Multi-State Rail Car Procurement | Momo Tamaoki |
| 8. Update: Document Control Management | Tammy Krause |
| 9. Update: Electronics on Trains Working Group | David Brabb |
| 10. Update: University of Nebraska High Speed wireless study | Hamid Sharif-Kashani |
| 11. Other issues | All |
| 12. Review this meeting: | Steve Hewitt |
| a) Decisions | |
| b) New Action Items | |

Technical Sub Committee Conference Call Meeting:
Thursday 3-5-20 / 3:00pm Eastern / 1-888 585-9008 / passcode 559-120-127#
Please call in a few minutes early so all is in attendance for Roll Call.
Thank you
Next Call –4-2-20 at 3:00pm Eastern