
SECTION 305 NGENC Executive Board

MINUTES

JANUARY 17, 2017

11:30 EASTERN

CONFERENCE CALL

FACILITATOR	<i>Darrell Smith, Treasurer, S305 NGENC Executive Board</i>
ATTENDEES	Board Members: <i>Darrell Smith, Dale Engelhardt for Mario Bergeron, Jeff Gordon for Michael Lestingi, Arun Rao, Arun Rao also as proxy for John Oimoen, Allan Paul for Paul Worley, Tim Hoeffner, Jason Biggs for Ron Pate, Steven Keck, Michael Jenkins, Brian Beeler II</i> Support Staff: <i>Shayne Gill, Bryan Hong, Steve Hewitt, Sal DeAngelo, Tammy Krause</i>
ABSENTEES	Board Members: <i>Eric Curtit, Mario Bergeron, Ray Hessinger, Michael Lestingi, Paul Worley, Ron Pate, John Rosacker,</i> Support: <i>Beth Nachreiner, Lynn Everett, Nico Lindenau, Patrick Centolanzi, Larry Salci</i>

DECISIONS MADE

1.

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

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

Welcome –Darrell Smith, Treasurer, S305 NGENC Executive Board:

In the absence of NGENC Chairman Eric Curtit, Darrell Smith, Amtrak – NGENC Treasurer, convened today's meeting.

3.

Review of Action Items – Steve Hewitt:

Steve Hewitt reported that all open action items will be covered under today's agenda.

Below is a status of all action items as of 1-3-17:

514 Subcommittee update: The subcommittee continues to work with Amtrak on the quarterly reconciliation. Next week, the subcommittee will meet (via conference call) and "get their teeth into the next CIP document".

Agenda item 8 c

Mid-West States – Section 6 progress report:

The states are in the process of "setting up" a Mid-West Equipment Board.

The Fleet Manager is on board.

They continue to work on a lease of the equipment to Amtrak.

Agenda item 5

PRIIA 305 equipment Procurement updates: Ongoing

Agenda items 6 and 7

Annual Meeting agenda items:

Steve Hewitt will provide all members with a revised DRAFT agenda following this call.

Members are asked to register their plans to attend with Steve Hewitt to ensure that a quorum will be present.

Speakers are asked to confirm their attendance and provide their presentation to Steve Hewitt by 2-21-17 using the

NGEC template.

Steve will provide state members with the NGEC Expense Reimbursement form following today's call.

Members intending to attend should make their hotel reservations asap to be sure to get in on the room block. Steve sent the room block info to all NGEC members on 12-21-16 and has reprinted it within these minutes.

Agenda item 9 – review/discussion of latest DRAFT Agenda and logistics

New Grant - related actions: (ongoing)

a. Milestones:

The FASC has received a list of suggested Milestones from Eric Curtit (see above) for possible inclusion in the new Grant Quarterly report. Members are asked to review the list and send additional suggestions to Darrell Smith and Steve Hewitt. Darrell emphasized that there are several areas where he will need Technical subcommittee input.

Steve Hewitt has incorporated the milestones into the last monthly activities report for the quarter ending 12-31-16. The intent is for this to be the basis for the Amtrak quarterly report to FRA.

Agenda item 8 b

b. Review of NGEC By-Laws:

Ray Hessinger, Co-Vice Chair of the FASC, and Steve Hewitt are in the process of doing the annual review of the NGEC By-Laws. The review last year was very comprehensive and it is not anticipated that there will be many (if any) changes recommended following this review. Ray and Steve will review the new Grant Agreement SOW against the By-Laws to ensure consistency. Any changes that may be needed will be recommended to the Board for its consideration consistent with NGEC procedures.

Agenda item 8 b

c. Syncing contracts with the new grant:

Darrell reported that because the current Amtrak/AASHTO contract (and AASHTO's contract with its sub-contractors) is in effect through 9-30-17, there is no need for action now. Once the 9-30-17 date draws near there will be an extension consistent with the new grant period and grant amount between Amtrak and AASHTO and AASHTO and its subcontractors as called for in the SOW and budget.

No action needed now.

d. John Oimoen, IDOT, will work on getting jobs numbers from the manufacturers for inclusion as a milestone in the reports. (ongoing)

Subcommittee monthly updates: Steve Hewitt reported that he plans to have the Executive Board agendas reflect subcommittee reports once a month. He will try to set the schedule for the updates so that it follows the most recent meeting of each subcommittee.

On the next Executive Board conference call, all three subcommittees (the Technical, Finance and Administrative, and 514) will be on the agenda (1-17-17) since they are all meeting next week. (Technical subcommittee meets on the 12th; the FASC meets on the 11th and the 514 meets on the 9th).

Agenda item 8 a., b., c.

Determining impacts of Iran Divestment Legislation and confirming contractual status with Iran and Siemens:

Eric Curtit stated that he and Steve Hewitt will reach out to Siemens to confirm whether they have a contract with Iran to build 30 locomotives.

Allan Paul will provide Steve Hewitt and Eric Curtit with a scanned copy of the information he received internally at NCDOT. **Task complete information received.**

Steve Hewitt will send all Board members a copy of the NC legislation – **The Iran Divestment Act. Task complete – legislation was distributed following the 1-3-17 call.**

Agenda item 10

4.

Approval of the Minutes from the 1-3-17 conference call meeting – Darrell Smith for Eric Curtit:

On a motion made by Brian Beeler II, NNEPRA, for Maine DOT, and seconded by Mike Jenkins, Oregon DOT, the minutes from the 1-3-17 conference call meeting were approved without exception.

5.

Progress Report: Mid-West States – Section 6 –Tim Hoeffner, Michigan DOT:

Tim Hoeffner reported that the group continues to work on contract related needs for Receiving of the new equipment.

Work on associated agreements with Amtrak is ongoing.

The Charger (4604) has arrived in Chicago.

The next call will take place tomorrow (1-18-17)

6.

Status Update: Diesel-Electric Locomotive Procurement – Arun Rao:

Arun Rao gave the following progress report on the diesel-electric locomotive procurement as provided by IDOT:

- *JPEs continue to receive Siemens' weekly revised schedule and conduct weekly conference calls. The main basis for revised weekly schedules reflects on-going locomotive delivery and testing up-dates.*

- *Locomotive 4604 that was s tested on the North-East Corridor was delivered to Chicago, prior to the holiday break.*

- *As of now, successful 500-mile conditional acceptance tests have been completed on: 4601, 4602, 4604, 4605, 4606, 4608, 4609 & 4610. Locomotives 4603 & 4607 are at TTCI and were tested last week.*

- *After 500-mile testing is complete, all locomotives will next ship to Chicago, when IDOT and Amtrak are ready.*

IDOT and Amtrak are close to having signed agreements for test, storage and operation for the locomotives.

- *IDOT will send locomotive 4611 to WSDOT for 238.111(b) testing on the Cascades route. WSDOT will conduct the 238.111(b) test. Other JPEs are working with Amtrak for 238.111(a) test plans.*

- *JPEs are working with Siemens for Wi-Tronix application, as required by Amtrak.*

- *All Document Change Requests (DCR) have been reviewed and approved by the with no issues. Rich Stegner will contact Tammy Krause for next steps for revising the specification.*

- *As-Built weights have been reported at a bit less than 267, 000 lbs. (+/-). This is a little bit better than previously estimated. The calculated P2 force is within specified limits. As other locomotives are weighed, we will report.*

7.

Status Update: Bi-Level Car Procurement –Steven Keck, Caltrans:

Steve Keck provided the following update:

Essentially, things are in the same position as the last update – the contract is behind schedule and the parties are involved in negotiations – providing any further information would be inappropriate now.

Steve added that he hopes to have an in-depth report at the Annual Meeting in February.

**8.
NGEC Standing Subcommittee monthly updates:**

- a. Technical subcommittee Mario Bergeron

In the Absence of Technical Subcommittee Chair, Mario Bergeron, this report was table until the next Executive Board call – 1-31-17.

- b. Finance and Administrative subcommittee Darrell Smith

Darrelle Smith reported:

The Finance and Administrative Subcommittee (FASC) met last week (1-11-17)

Ray Hessinger, NYSDOT, and NGEC Manager Steve Hewitt had completed their review of the By-Laws, and other than minor spelling/typo kinds of corrections there were no revisions recommended for the By-Laws at this time. The FASC agreed to hold the minor corrections as a starting point at a time when more significant revisions are needed.

The first quarterly grant report is due from Amtrak to FRA at the end of January. In the December, monthly NGEC activities report produced by Steve Hewitt, he added a section that addressed milestone achievements or progress during the first quarter of the new grant. This section of the report will make up the bulk of the Quarterly report to FRA to be submitted by Amtrak.

Darrell has begun preparation of the NGEC Annual Treasurer's report which will be presented first to the FASC on its next call – 2-8-17 – and then will be presented at the Annual Meeting for the Board's consideration of acceptance.

- c. 514 subcommittee Brian Beeler II

Brian Beeler reported that the 514 Subcommittee last met on 1-9-17.

During the call the subcommittee went through the results of a survey that had been conducted regarding issues for the CIP major update.

The biggest topics identified by the survey were; Reconciliation and transparency.

Discussion took place about whether there is a need for a major update to the CIP, or if there could simply be minor tweaks.

It was agreed that the subcommittee will review its original charge statement to ascertain "how are we meeting it?" States are asked to revisit the CIP and how it is utilized. "What is it doing? How is it best used? Where can it be improved?"

Brian also noted that the review of the NGEC By-Laws by the FASC had pointed out the fact that the 514 Subcommittee needs to address the provision that calls for Amtrak to have a leadership role within each NGEC Standing Subcommittee. Brian said that this provision will be addressed to ensure compliance with the NGEC By-Laws.

**9.
Preparing for the NGEC Annual Meeting 2017 – Eric Curtit/Steve Hewitt:**

Review of DRAFT Agenda - Steve Hewitt:

Steve Hewitt provide an overview of the current DRAFT agenda for the 2017 NGEC Annual Meeting:

In conducting the overview -Steve reminded Board members to confirm their attendance so that it can be established that a quorum will be present. Currently 7 states and Amtrak (as well as several support staff) have confirmed attendance at the meeting. FRA confirmation is needed as well as several more states to confirm a quorum will be present. To date, there are about 35 who have registered including 16 from the industry.

Speakers are asked to confirm their presence asap, and to provide their presentations to Steve Hewitt by 2-21-17.

Steve asked for confirmation from those who are scheduled to speak that they will be at the meeting and will participate as indicated on the agenda.

Jeff Gordon, FRA confirmed he will attend and give a presentation on the AAR committee.

Steven Keck, Caltrans commented that he or a proxy will be present to provide the B-Level Update as appropriate.

Darrell Smith will confirm Joe McHugh's availability especially now that he (Joe) has assumed a new role in Amtrak as the Vice President, State Supported Services – Business Development.

Michael Lestingi, FRA, was not on the call today, but he will be asked to confirm whether he is giving the FRA update or if someone else will make that presentation.

The other speaker slots all seem to be confirmed.

Steve also mentioned that he had a request from Craig McKeen, EMD, to have some time on the agenda to discuss EMD's experience with the PRIIA Locomotive specification. He recently gave a presentation (as did Tammy Krause for the NGEC, and Siemens) at TRB (January 10th) and would like to follow that up at the NGEC Annual Meeting. Steve told Craig that the NGEC Board has had a policy to not promote an individual company, but he would raise it with the Executive Board on today's call (1-17-17).

After some discussion, the consensus was that the policy should be adhered to. The Annual Meeting is not the place to hear from individual companies. It was agreed that the Technical subcommittee would be an appropriate venue for a presentation by EMD like that of the Brightline project as given by Siemens.

Steve Hewitt will follow-up with Craig McKeen.

Steve also reminded all Board members that the hotel room block is filling up rapidly. If you have not yet reserved your room at the Hyatt – Please do so asap. The cut-off date is January 30, 2017. The link for reserving a room under the block is reprinted (again) below, and was sent out to all NGEC members (again) on 1-16-17 as a reminder.

Link to make hotel reservations -

<https://aws.passkey.com/event/15560266/owner/12345/landing?qtid=eaef575eb7cb9b2b6194d817282009c1>

The rate is the current per diem of \$182 per night plus 14.5% tax.

PRIIA Section 305 Next Generation Corridor Equipment Pool Committee (NGEC)

Room - TBD

7th Annual Meeting

February 24, 2017

8:30am – 3:00 pm EST

Hyatt Regency Hotel on Capitol Hill, Washington DC

DRAFT/Agenda

8:00 – 8:25 am	Registration (Hyatt Meeting Room)
8:25 – 8:30 am	Hotel Safety Briefing – Hyatt Regency Hotel Representative
8:30 – 8:35 am	Convene Annual Meeting: Eric Curtit, Missouri DOT, NGEC Chair
8:35 - 8:45 am	Self introductions
8:45 – 8:50 am	Confirm the presence of a quorum: Steve Hewitt, Manager, NGEC Support Services

8:50 – 9:00 am	Review Meeting Agenda: Eric Curtit Review Meeting Packets: Steve Hewitt
9:00 – 9:05 am	Approval of the Minutes from the February 14, 2016 Executive Board conference call
9:05 – 9:25 am	NGEC Chairman’s Report: Eric Curtit
9:25 – 9:40 am	Update from The Federal Railroad Administration- Michael Lestingi, FRA
9:40 – 9:55 am	Update from Amtrak: Joe McHugh, VP, State Supported Services – Business Development
9:55 – 10:10 am	Break
10:10 – 10:40 am	Treasurer’s Report & Finance and Administrative Subcommittee Update – Darrell Smith, Amtrak
10:40 – 10:45 am	Consideration of Acceptance of the Treasurer’s Report – Eric Curtit
10:45 – 11:15 am	Progress Report: Technical Subcommittee: Mario Bergeron, Amtrak
11:15 - 11:25am	Electronics on new rolling stock – Dale Engelhardt, Amtrak (tentative)
11:25 – 11:40 am	Overview: Accessibility Report – Melissa Shurland, FRA
11:40 – 11:55 am	Overview/status report: AAR Committee – Jeff Gordon, FRA
11:55 – 12:10 pm	514 Subcommittee Update – Brian Beeler II, NNEPRA for Maine DOT
12:10pm – 1:15 pm	Lunch (on your own)
1:15 pm	Reconvene the meeting – Eric Curtit
1:15 – 1:30 pm	Mid-West States – Section 6 – Tim Hoeffner, Michigan DOT
1:30 – 2:00 pm	Status Update: NGEC Multi-State Equipment Procurements <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Diesel-Electric Locomotives: John Oimoen, IDOT b. Bi-level Cars: Steven Keck, Caltrans
2:00 - 2:30 pm	Questions/Comments/Other Issues: All Attendees
2:30 – 2:40 pm	Meeting Summary/Action Items Review: Steve Hewitt
2:40 – 3:00 pm	Next Steps/Closing Comments: Eric Curtit
3:00 pm	Adjourn

10. Confirming contractual status with Iran and Siemens - Allan Paul/Steve Hewitt:

Allan Paul reported NCDOT has submitted a formal request to Siemens asking for confirmation that it has a contract with Iran for 30 locomotives. Informally, Allan has received confirmation that there is such a contract, but the formal response has yet to be provided. Thus far, Siemens has acknowledged receipt of the request, but no formal response yet.

Steve Hewitt reported that he had called his contact at Siemens, and was told that it is complicated, and he has not gotten confirmation of the contract with Iran.

11. Adjourn:

With no other business forthcoming for today, Darrell Smith adjourned the call at 12:08pm Eastern.

The next conference call is January 31, 2017

Decisions/Action Items

514 Subcommittee update:

Survey results: the biggest topics identified by the survey were; Reconciliation and transparency.

Discussion took place about whether there is a need for a major update to the CIP, or if there should simply be minor tweaks made to it. The subcommittee will review its original charge statement to ascertain "how are we meeting it?" States are asked to revisit the CIP and how it is utilized. "What is it doing? How is it best used? Where can it be improved?"

The Subcommittee needs to address the provision in the NGEC By-Laws that calls for Amtrak to have a leadership role within each Standing Subcommittee.

Next update: Annual Meeting 2-24-17

Procurement Updates: Ongoing – see status updates within the minutes of this meeting.

Next Updates – 1-31-17

Mid-West States – Section 6 progress report:

the group continues to work on contract related needs for Receiving of the new equipment.

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Next Update: 1-31-17

Annual Meeting:

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Michael Lestingi, FRA, was not on the call today, but he will be asked to confirm whether he is giving the FRA update or if someone else will make that presentation.

Craig McKeen, EMD, has requested some time on the agenda to discuss its experience with the PRIIA Locomotive specification. He recently gave a presentation (as did Tammy Krause for the NGEC, and Siemens) at TRB (January 10th) and would like to follow that up at the NGEC Annual Meeting. Steve Hewitt told Craig that the NGEC Board has had a policy to not promote an individual company, but he would raise it with the Executive Board on today's call (1-17-17).

Today (1-17-17) the Board upheld its policy to not have individual company presentations at the Annual Meeting. The appropriate venue for such a presentation is the Technical subcommittee. Steve Hewitt will follow-up with Mr. McKeen.

Members intending to attend should make their hotel reservations asap to be sure to get in on the room block. Steve initially sent the room block info to all NGEC members on 12-21-16, and has sent them several times since. He has also

reprinted it within these minutes.

Hotel Room Block cut-off is: 1-30-17.

New Grant - related actions: (ongoing)

Milestones:

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Review of NGEN By-Laws:

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Syncing contracts with the new grant:

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No action needed now.

- e. John Oimoen, IDOT, will work on getting jobs numbers from the manufacturers for inclusion as a milestone in the reports. (ongoing)

Subcommittee monthly updates: Today, updates were provided by the FASC and the 514 subcommittee. Their next updates will take place on 2-24-17 – at the Annual Meeting. The Technical subcommittee report did not take place on today's call and has been tabled until 1-31-17.

Determining impacts of Iran Divestment Legislation and confirming contractual status with Iran and Siemens: Allan Paul reported that NCDOT has submitted a formal request to Siemens asking for confirmation that it has a contract with Iran for 30 locomotives. Informally, Allan has received confirmation that there is such a contract, but the formal response has yet to be provided. Thus far, Siemens has acknowledged receipt of the request, but no formal response yet.

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
January 17, 2017
11:30 AM – 12:30 PM Eastern

Agenda

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|--|-------------------------|
| 1. Welcome and Open the Meeting | Darrell Smith |
| 2. Roll Call | Steve Hewitt |
| 3. Action Items Status Review | Steve Hewitt |
| 4. Approval of Minutes from 1-3-16 conference call | Darrell Smith |
| 5. Progress Report: Mid-West States – Section 6 | Tim Hoeffner |
| 6. Status Update: Diesel-Electric Locomotive Procurement | Arun Rao |
| 7. Status: Bi-Level Car Procurement | Steve Keck |
| 8. NGEN Standing Subcommittee monthly updates: | |
| d. Technical subcommittee | Mario Bergeron |
| e. Finance and Administrative subcommittee | Darrell Smith |
| f. 514 subcommittee | Brian Beeler II |
| 9. Preparing for the 2017 NGEN Annual Meeting 2017 | Steve Hewitt |
| a. Review of Revised DRAFT Agenda | Steve Hewitt |
| 10. Confirming contractual status with Iran and Siemens: | Allan Paul/Steve Hewitt |
| 11. Other | All |

Next Meeting -January 31, 2017 – 11:30AM Eastern
