
SECTION 305 NGEC Executive Board

MINUTES

JANUARY 3, 2017

11:30 EASTERN

CONFERENCE CALL

FACILITATOR	<i>Eric Curtit, Chair, S305 NGEC Executive Board</i>
ATTENDEES	Board Members: <i>Eric Curtit, Dale Engelhardt for Mario Bergeron, Ray Hessinger, Darrell Smith, Jeff Gordon for Michael Lestingi, John Oimoen, John Oimoen also as proxy for Arun Rao, 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, Beth Nachreiner</i>
ABSENTEES	Board Members: <i>Mario Bergeron, Michael Lestingi, Paul Worley, Arun Rao, Amanda Martin, Ron Pate, John Rosacker,</i> Support: <i>Beth Nachreiner, Lynn Everett, Vincent Brotski, Nico Lindenau, Tammy Krause, Patrick Centolanzi</i>

DECISIONS MADE

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

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

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

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

3. Review of Action Items – Steve Hewitt:

Steve Hewitt reported that most open action items will be covered under today's agenda, and he highlighted the status of those that were not.

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

Two page educational/outreach document: As of the last call, the order was in with AASHTO Publications and was expected to be printed soon, and distributed per Steve Hewitt's previous direction.

Task Complete – Printing is complete. The initial distribution has been made to the NGEC Board members. Printed copies are now available to all NGEC members by request (through Steve Hewitt) and will also be made available at the Annual Meeting on 2-24-17.

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

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

Annual Meeting agenda items:

Steve Hewitt will revise the DRAFT agenda in accord with today's discussion and will send it on to Board members so that they can begin the process of obtaining travel approval. Steve will also provide AASHTO with the DRAFT agenda and ask that it be posted to the website. Additionally, Steve will distribute the DRAFT to industry and other NGENC members so they too can begin the process of obtaining travel approvals.

Members who may have additional topics to add to the agenda are asked to send those suggestions to Eric Curtit and Steve Hewitt.

Mario Bergeron will check with Amtrak Government Affairs for the name of a presenter from that office for the Annual Meeting, and will provide the name and contact information to Steve Hewitt. **(Joe McHugh has agreed to present for Amtrak Govt Affairs)**

Agenda item 9 – review/discussion of latest DRAFT Agenda

New Grant - related actions: (ongoing)

a. Milestones:

The FASC has received a list of suggested Milestones from Eric Curtit 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.

b. Review of NGENC By-Laws:

Ray Hessinger, Co-Vice Chair of the FASC, and Steve Hewitt are in the process of doing the annual review of the NGENC 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 NGENC procedures.

Review is in process and will be discussed on the FASC call on 1-11-17.

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 immediate action needed as all current contracts run through 9-30-17.

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

4.

Approval of the Minutes from the 12-6-16 conference call meeting – Eric Curtit:

On a motion made by Allan Paul, NCDOT, and seconded by Darrell Smith, Amtrak, the minutes from the 12-6-16 conference call meeting were approved without exception.

5.

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

John Oimoen provided a brief update on the status of the Mid-West Section 6 activities:

The group continues to meet on a variety of issues including receiving the locomotives and integrating them into the fleet.

They are working on issues related to reliability and ownership.

Many of these items are well on the way to completion.

The states are working well together. They meet monthly.

The fleet manager is now under contract and has shown to be a benefit already – staying on top of things and getting items closed expeditiously.

6.

Status Update: Diesel-Electric Locomotive Procurement – John Oimoen:

John Oimoen provided the following update on the diesel-electric locomotive procurement:

The locomotive procurement is moving forward.

There have been and continue to be many challenges related to a variety of issues including testing, storage agreements etc. It is a tough process with three states, Amtrak and Siemens working together. There are more issues than initially expected and more agreements necessary than initially expected. John described the process as challenging with a lot of lessons learned.

The JPEs meet twice a week with Siemens and Amtrak. An action log has been developed on all actions and agreements.

There are some concerns with the schedule, but the parties are working hard to make sure that “we meet the ARRA deadline”.

Overall, it is a time-consuming process, but the effort has been collaborative with all parties getting along well together throughout.

Locomotive 4604 which has been at MARC – testing has been a success and it is due in Chicago possibly as soon as today.

500 mile tests on 8 locomotives are continuing and going well at TTCI.

One locomotive has been sent to WSDOT (thank you to Ron Pate and Jason Biggs, WSDOT, for their help on is) to do 238 111B testing on the Cascades.

Work is progressing on 238 111A test plans.

JPEs are working with the Siemens electrical application as required by Amtrak.

All Document Change Requests (DCR) have been distributed to the locomotive sub-team leaders for review, and reviews are nearing completion with no apparent issues.

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.

7.

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

Steve Keck, Caltrans, Acting Chief of Rail and Mass Transit Division, introduced himself to the NGEC Board. He reported that his predecessor, Bruce Roberts, has moved into a policy position at the California State Transportation Agency, and he (Steve) will serve as the NGEC representative at least until a permanent replacement has been named.

Steve reported that there is no update available today on the Bi-Level Car procurement.

He also reported that he anticipates attending the NGEC Annual Meeting, but if he cannot he will provide his proxy to another Board member.

8.

Status Update: 514 Subcommittee – Brian Beeler II:

Brian Beeler II reported that the 514 subcommittee is continuing to decide how to progress the CIP major update.

Brian had previously produced a survey for states to fill out (due today or tomorrow).

States should already have provided Amtrak with their equipment needs to assist with the forecasting.

The next meeting will take place on 1-9-17.

9.

Setting a schedule for monthly subcommittee updates – Steve Hewitt:

Steve Hewitt reported that he has 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).

10.

Preparing for the NGENC 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 NGENC 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.

Speakers are asked to confirm their presence and to provide their presentation to Steve by 2-21-17.

Attached along with today's DRAFT minutes will be the PowerPoint Template for the presentations; and the NGENC Expense Reimbursement form for State members to use. It has been revised with the inclusion of the new Federal personal mileage allowance of 53.5 cents per mile. All else remains the same.

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, NGENC Chair
8:35 - 8:45 am	Self introductions
8:45 – 8:50 am	Confirm the presence of a quorum: Steve Hewitt, Manager, NGENC 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 Government Affairs – Joe McHugh, Senior Vice President, Chief, Government Affairs

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
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

Steve also reported that on 12-21-16, he met (via conference call) with Kamasha Hendrickson, AASHTO Meeting Planner. During the call Kamasha provided the room block information and advised that Steve send it out immediately (reprinted below) to all NGEC participants. The cut-off date is January 31, 2017. Steve and Kamasha agreed on timelines for getting meeting materials to her for printing and inserting in the meeting packets, and for getting the list of meeting registrants to her for printing tent cards and name badges. All room setup arrangements were discussed and agreed to. The set-up will be the same as in the past. Steve and Kamasha will touch base again in mid-January to see where things stand.

Below, provided by Kamasha Hendrickson, AASHTO, is the link for the hotel room block for the NGEC 2017 Annual Meeting to be held at the Hyatt Regency Capitol Hill, Washington, DC on February 24, 2017. The cutoff date for the room block rate is January 30, 2017. Please make your reservations asap to be sure to get a room.

Attached is the latest DRAFT agenda for the meeting to assist you in making your travel plans.

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.

11. Other Issues:

Allan Paul, NCDOT, raised the following issue for discussion among the Board members:

NCDOT has been in discussions with Siemens "to tag onto the Diesel-Electric Locomotive order, but recently were informed that Siemens has signed a contract with Iran to build 30 locomotives. NCDOT has previously enacted

legislation – the Iran Divestment Act – that prohibits the state from doing business with a company that has a contract with Iran.

Allan asked if other states have similar legislation, and if so, is there a way forward?

Ray Hessinger reported that NYSDOT has similar legislation, but, although the state intends to procure Dual Mode (DC 3rd Rail) Locomotives along with Metro North, they have not encountered this issue yet as they are too early in the process.

Steve Keck commented that California has similar legislation – but the issue of Siemens having a contract with Iran is “new to me”.

Jason Biggs said that he is not aware of Washington State having such a provision in law, but will look into it.

John Oimoen, IDOT, echoed what Jason stated and added that he, too, will look into it.

Eric Curtit stated that Missouri has made several attempts to pass similar legislation, but it has not happened yet.

Allan Paul suggested that “someone from the NGEN contact Siemens for confirmation that they have signed a contract with Iran.” Allan said he has learned about the contract from the North Carolina Auditors office and would like to get further confirmation.

Eric Curtit stated that he and Steve Hewitt will reach out to Siemens.

Allan will provide Steve and Eric with a scanned copy of the information he received internally at NCDOT.

Steve Hewitt will send all Board members a copy of the NC legislation.

**12.
Adjourn:**

With no other business forthcoming for today, Chairman Curtit adjourned the call at Noon Eastern.

The next conference call is January 17, 2017

Decisions/Action Items

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”.

Next update: 1-17-17

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

Next Updates – 1-17-17

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.

Next Update: 1-17-17

Annual Meeting:

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 NGECE template.

Steve will provide state members with the NGECE 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 NGECE members on 12-21-16 and has reprinted it within these minutes.

New Grant - related actions: (ongoing)

e. 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.

f. Review of NGECE By-Laws:

Ray Hessinger, Co-Vice Chair of the FASC, and Steve Hewitt are in the process of doing the annual review of the NGECE 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 NGECE procedures.

g. 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.

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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 entered into 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.

Steve Hewitt will send all Board members a copy of the NC legislation – The Iran Divestment Act.

ATTACHMENTS



**S305 NGEC Executive Board Conference Call
January 3, 2017
11:30 AM – 12:30 PM Eastern**

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 12-6-16 conference call | Eric Curtit |
| 5. Progress Report: Mid-West States – Section 6 | Tim Hoeffner |
| 6. Status Update: Diesel-Electric Locomotive Procurement | John Oimoen |
| 7. Status: Bi-Level Car Procurement | Steven Keck |
| 8. Status Update: 514 Subcommittee | Brian Beeler II |
| 9. Setting a schedule for monthly subcommittee updates | Steve Hewitt |
| 10. Preparing for the 2017 NGEC Annual Meeting 2017 | Steve Hewitt |
| a. Review of Revised DRAFT Agenda | Steve Hewitt |
| 11. Other | All |

Next Meeting -January 17, 2017 – 11:30AM Eastern
