

SECTION 305 NGENC Executive Board

MINUTES

JUNE 19, 2018

11:30 EASTERN

CONFERENCE CALL

| | |
|--------------------|--|
| FACILITATOR | <i>Eric Curtit, Chair, S305 NGENC Executive Board</i> |
| ATTENDEES | Board Members: <i>Eric Curtit, Charlie King, Ray Hessinger, Tim Ziethen, Michael Lestingi, Amanda Martin, Amanda Martin, Arun Rao, John Oimoen, Kyle Gradinger, Allan Paul, Mike Jenkins, Brian Beeler II, Jason Biggs for Ron Pate</i> Support Staff: <i>Steve Hewitt, Larry Salci, Shayne Gill, Tammy Krause</i> |
| ABSENTEES | Board Members: <i>Ron Pate, John Rosacker, Tim Hoeffner</i> Support: <i>Jeff Gordon, Beth Nachreiner, Chris Witt, Sal DeAngelo, Strat Cavros, Patrick Centolanzi, Jon Dees, Momo Tamaoki, Michael Burshtin</i> |

DECISIONS MADE

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

Chairman Curtit, Missouri DOT, convened today’s meeting and asked Steve Hewitt to call the roll.

2. Roll Call –Steve Hewitt, NGENC Program Manager:

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

During the Roll Call, Allan Paul, NCDOT reported that the department has appointed a new Rail Division Director – Jason Orthner – 18 years with NCDOT. Jason has delegated Allan Paul and Jon Dees to continue to serve in their current capacity representing NCDOT on the NGENC.

Steve Hewitt noted his appreciation for the update from Allan, sent congratulations to Jason Orthner, and expressed appreciation that Allan Paul and Jon Dees will remain involved in the NGENC.

3. Action items Review – Steve Hewitt:

Steve Hewitt reviewed several action items that were not included in today’s agenda and provided a status update.

Most of the open action items are covered under today’s agenda except for four standing items are scheduled for monthly updates (or every other call), and will be covered on the next call – 7-3-18. Those items – include a Technical subcommittee monthly update; a FASC monthly update; an update on the Amtrak Locomotive Procurement; and a monthly report on the activities of the Equipment Acquisition and Ownership Best Practices Working Group.

The status of **all** open action items as of 6-5-18 can be found below:

Status Update – Multi-state Car Procurement (Caltrans - Lead State) 6-5-18:

- *The production of the first Carshell of the single-level railcars began on April 6, 2018. Caltrans/IDOT attended the QA kick-off meeting at Siemens Sacramento facility on May 16 & 17, 2018. We also attended calibration inspection at Siemens Sacramento Facility on May 25. The inspection went well, and Caltrans QA manager is working with Siemens to close minor open issues. All minor open issues have already been corrected.*
- *Caltrans is working on the Document Change Requests (DCRs) for the cab cars to submit to the NGENC. We are hoping to submit three DCRs next month. We’ve received some good feedback from SMEs, so the final versions will include those comments.*
- *Caltrans is working closely with Amtrak Public Health and the Food and Drug Administration to finalize the design concept of our café cars. The meeting with the NGENC’s Interior Working Group to discuss design and requirement details was held on May 22, 2018 and received great feedback from the members of the work group. Those comments were shared with Siemens and Amtrak Public health team.*
- *Caltrans will be attending the capital spare parts workshop with our JPAs, Siemens, and SCOA on June 7*

at Siemens' Sacramento facility.

- The next design review meetings are scheduled in the week of June 18. The discussion topics include: the final design review of double sliding step, Seats, Trap doors, lighting system, and communication system.
- Kyle and Momo will be at APTA Rail conference from June 10 to 13. Momo will discuss procurement and Kyle will discuss California's overall rail program.

Agenda item 6

The Charger - Diesel-Electric Locomotive and Mid-West Section 6 Plan Update 5-8-18:

Of the 33 units IDOT locomotive order, all 33 have been conditionally and finally accepted with Siemens.

238.111a testing still needs to be completed on two Michigan corridors pending resolution of equipment and testing issues. The locomotives for the MI corridors are still being held in Pueblo until this testing is completed.

Twenty-Three Chargers are currently in the Midwest.

The locomotives stored at TTCI will ship to Chicago as soon as storage space becomes available. Storage space in Chicago is being freed-up with the re-deployment of P42 locomotives by Amtrak, though the PTC installation schedule is delaying this re-deployment.

WSDOT units are operating in revenue service

Caltrans locomotives are operating revenue service

The Failure Review Board is established and running, with all JPE's, Amtrak, Siemens and Brightline as participants.

A recurring bi-weekly warranty meeting is being held by Siemens and includes all JPE's, Amtrak, Siemens, MARC and Brightline.

6-5-18 – nothing new to report.

Agenda item 7

Mid-West Section 6 Update 6-5-18 – nothing new to report

Agenda item 7

Metro North Dual Mode Locomotive Procurement 6-5-18:

On 5-31-18, Ray Hessinger reported to the Technical subcommittee that Metro North completed its final draft of its specification about a week and a half ago but missed the timing for getting on the agenda for the MTA Board in June, therefore they are not on the Board's agenda for the June meeting, and the procurement is slipping a bit – month by month. Even so, Metro North continues to meet with Amtrak on the technical specification to try to maximize the size of the order.

Agenda item 8

Treasurer's Report/FASC Update as of 6-5-18:

- a. NGENC spend rate – balance – and a look ahead to future funding strategies

On 5-8-18, Tim Ziethen reported that the amount spent to date is \$190, 231.84. The spend rate is well under the planned amount contained in the SOW and budget. The total grant amount was \$1,250,000.

The FASC is looking at strategies to obtain future funding. The focus is on obtaining future federal grants going forward, but, potentially, requesting a 12 month no-cost extension of the current grant agreement since this appears to be something that would be allowed if no additional funds are requested, may be the way to go as a stop gap measure.

Maximizing the use of the two-page educational document which highlights the NGENC Results to date

and its Goals going forward is critical piece of the educational effort. On the last FASC call, it was discussed/suggested that States provide the two-page fact sheet to their Governmental Affairs staff to add to their packets when meeting with Hill staff. At least two organizations (SPRC and CSG-ERC) have included a request for continuing NGEC funding in their Outside Witness Testimony submitted to the Senate THUD subcommittee for FY 2019. Thus far, 165 hard copies and over 300 electronic versions of the most recent two-pager (2-23-18) have been distributed to congressional staff, states and industry stakeholders.

Status: As of 5-31-18, the FASC is beginning to investigate the steps required for applying for a 12 month no-cost extension to run through 9-30-20. Treasurer Tim Ziethen will be working with Amtrak and FRA grants to determine the eligibility for a no-cost extension and what the steps are.

Next Update: 7-3-18

Status Update – FRA Grant 6-5-18:

- a. FRA approval/execution of the revised NGEC SOW and the update on SAIPRC SOW revisions

Questions for clarification have been sent to Amtrak Grants by FRA. No issues are anticipated, but the FRA is waiting for the clarifications to be provided by Amtrak, and then expects to execute the SOW. Steve Hewitt noted that as of 5-30-18, Tim Ziethen had reported to the FASC that he thought he had the answers/clarifications and was expecting to confirm with Amtrak grants and get them to FRA. Charlie King will check with Tim to see where things stand.

- b. Status – unreimbursed payment to Amtrak of AASHTO invoice – awaiting FRA response

Eric Curtit and Michael Lestingi will connect this week to see what can be done to make Amtrak whole.

Agenda item 5

Technical subcommittee update 5-8-18:

Recent Critical Decisions/Action Items:

1. Disposition of the Summary of Changes for the Single Level Car Specification Revision B:

On 5-3-18, the Technical subcommittee approved the Summary of Changes for the Single Level Car Specification Revision B. The Summary of Changes was put together by Michael Burshtin following the disposition of DCRS submitted to the appropriate Technical Working Groups. All the recommendations contained in the Summary of Changes were approved by the Technical subcommittee by roll call vote - with all members present voting in the affirmative. The Summary of Changes for Revision B has been sent to Chairman Curtit and he has, through Steve Hewitt, provided it to the appropriate Review Panel members for their review. Per the NGEC procedures, the Review Panel consultant, Larry Salci, will compare the approved changes against the Requirements Document to ensure compliance, and will prepare a Review Panel Report with recommendations for the panel members to consider. Following that, the Panel will meet to consider the Review Panel Report and its recommendations. Once it is approved by the Panel, it will be sent to Executive Board members for consideration of the report, its recommendations, and the adoption of the changes to the Single Level Car Specification that will be incorporated into Revision B.

Status: As of 5-22-18, the Review Panel for the Single Level Specification Revision B is scheduled to meet on 5-24-18 to review/discuss/consider the Review Panel DRAFT Report with recommendations which has been prepared by Consultant Larry Salci and was distributed to Review Panel members and support staff this morning (5-22-18). Steve Hewitt asked that any member unable to attend the call, please assign your proxy and provide any comments you may have.

Status: On 5-24-18, the Review Panel approved the report with recommendations as prepared by Larry Salci, and it was distributed to the NGEC Executive Board for its review and consideration on today's (6-5-18) call. If the report and recommendations are accepted, a vote will take place (today) to formally adopt Single Level Car Specification 305-003 Revision B.1.

2. Directing the Interiors Working Group to develop a strategy for establishing a range of seat track locations:

While all recommendations contained in the Summary of Changes were approved by the Technical subcommittee, one DCR - 160A created a lot of discussion. It had been initially rejected as DCR 160 but was amended and resubmitted to the Interiors working group for consideration. It was accepted as amended as DCR 160A, and in that form, it was approved by the full Technical subcommittee on 5-3-18. However, the discussion on the 5-3-18

call, and before that call, demonstrated that, while the current DCR which will change the seat track location as identified in the current spec, it was agreed that to better achieve standardization going forward and to improve the specification, a strategy for creating a drawing that identifies a range of locations should be developed. The Interiors working group has been asked to take on the task of developing that strategy and will keep the Technical subcommittee apprised as to their progress.

Ongoing

Document Control Update – 6-5-18:

On 5-22-18 the following update was provided:

Since the Single Level specification is a living document with ongoing changes, there have been 3 DCRs approved by the Technical working groups, and they will go into the next revision of the spec. The Locomotive specification has a new approved DCR and there are currently 3 electric group DCRs for the Locomotive specification that have been reviewed. PRIIA Spec 305-912 Rev C, Operating and Environmental Conditions, has been issued. The requirements document Revision B for the Diesel-electric Locomotive reflecting the changes approved in the specification last year has also been issued.

6-5-18 – no update report was provided as Tamm Krause was on vacation.

Agenda item 9

Acquisition and Ownership Best Practices Working Group:

Status 6-5-18:

The Equipment Acquisition and Ownership Best Practices Working Group met on 5-31-18:

Team Leaders were assigned, and the Topic categories were established.

Team Leaders are asked to reach out to members – all members are welcome to participate in any of the topic areas.

Each Team leader will be asked to provide a status update on their progress on the next call which was scheduled for – 6-28-18.

Next Update: 7-3-18

Amtrak Locomotive Procurement:

On 6-5-18, Charlie King reported that the Amtrak Locomotive RFP hit the street on 6-1-18 and was posted to the Amtrak Procurement website. Charlie has agreed to provide a monthly update on Executive Board calls, and on Technical subcommittee calls as well. Steve Hewitt will add this as a standing item to both agendas, on opposite weeks.

Next Update: 7-3-18

4.

Approval of the Minutes from the 6-5-18 Conference Call Meeting – Eric Curtit:

On a motion by Allan Paul, NCDOT, and a second by Arun Rao, Wisconsin DOT, the minutes from the 6-5-18 Executive Board Conference Call Meeting were approved without exception.

5.

Status Update – FRA Grant – Michael Lestingi, FRA:

- a. FRA approval/execution of the revised NGEC SOW

Michael Lestingi, FRA, reported that FRA is waiting on action by Amtrak on the final execution of the grant agreement. No issues are anticipated, and FRA is ready to go.

Tim Ziethen, Amtrak, reported that he has a meeting today with Amtrak Grants today, to finalize and expects to get it out the door after that meeting.

Michael Lestingi noted he will have the FRA team ready and waiting.

- b. Status – unreimbursed payment to Amtrak of AASHTO invoice:

Michael Lestingi reported that he is willing to hear from Eric on possible ways to remedy the Amtrak reimbursement, but that it can not be done under the old grant. Michael is happy to chat with Eric and discuss any ideas he may have.

Eric responded, "I have a couple of ideas to run by you". Michael responded "ok". Eric agreed to give Michael a call noting that it will not be today (6-19-18).

6.

Update – Multi-State Rail Car Procurement – Kyle Grading, Caltrans:

- *Caltrans is working on the Document Change Requests (DCR) for the cab cars to submit to the NGEN. We are hoping to submit three DCRs soon pending outcomes of upcoming concept meeting with Siemens. Target to submit those DCRs is July.*
- *Caltrans/IDOT have conducted Buy America Audit on Siemens (Final Assembly) on May 23 and Televic (communication components) on June 7. No issues were found during the visits, and our SMEs are reviewing the documents that were submitted by the vendors. We are planning to conduct one more audit at Bode (door supplier) in South Carolina on July 31.*
- *We received the initial drawing tree from Siemens. Our SMEs are going through the list right now to make sure that all drawings they need to see are included.*
- *Testing and Commissioning workshop is scheduled for July 10 in Chicago. Caltrans and IDOT will be meeting with Amtrak, SCOA and Siemens to clearly and define roles and responsibilities regarding the testing. (i.e. insurance, indemnification, etc.)*
- *The next design review meetings are scheduled this week. The discussion topics include: the final design review of double sliding step, seats, lighting system, and communication analog system. We will also talk about testing and PRIIA compliance.*
- *Our PRIIA Compliance Plan was approved by FRA on June 15. This document will be used to support the grant amendment request to FRA for both Caltrans and IDOT.*
- *Caltrans would like to thank Amtrak for adding Momo to the RFI Task Force. Caltrans is looking forward to working with Amtrak on this.*

7.

Locomotive Update – Mid-West Section 6 Activities:

John Oimoen reported that the Charger Locomotives are all in service and working out some of the bumps and issues but doing well overall.

On Section 6 – John reported that they are finalizing the deliverable (Plan) and are down to the final comments provided by the FRA. Once complete it will be sent back to FRA and should be approved shortly.

8.

Update: Metro-North Dual Mode Locomotive Procurement: Steve Hewitt for Ray Hessinger:

Ray Hessinger reported that Metro North and Amtrak have reviewed their respective specs side-by-side and have identified several differences, but "no show stoppers". Amtrak will try to include what they can from the Metro North specification into the specification in their RFP, but not in the initial amendment of their spec.

They are working to come up with a specification that would work for both parties even if not under the same procurement. The intent is to get a spec that they can both work off of. Ray noted that Amtrak, time-wise is ahead of Metro North's schedule.

9.

Update: Document Control – Tammy Krause:

- *The Single Level Specification Revision B.1 is now in the process of being compiled.*
- *There are currently four DCRs that have been submitted for the Single Level Specification that aren't included in Revision B.1. Three of these were submitted after the Revision B.1 was approved by the Technical Subcommittee and one was not resolved prior to the submittal. All four of these DCRs are now completed, two were Accepted and two were Accepted as Amended. These will be the first DCRs in the list for the next revision.*
- *Four DCRs have been submitted for the Diesel Electric Locomotive Specification.*

These have all been completed. One was Accepted as Amended, three were rejected.

- *An updated Technical Documentation List has been created and is up on the NGEN website.*

**10.
Other:**

Brian Beeler II, NNEPRA, for Maine DOT, reported that SAIPRC held its quarterly meeting last week, and the Equipment Working Group received an excellent presentation from Amtrak on its equipment procurement. He noted that he was pleased that the RFI committee for Amtrak's passenger car procurement now includes Momo Tamaoki, Caltrans, John Oimoen, IDOT, Ray Hessinger, NYSDOT, and Chris Witt from FRA – thank you Amtrak for including these members to provide a state perspective.

Brian raised a concern that the SAIPRC Equipment Working Group deals with the financial side, and he is concerned that the technical side should be addressed by the NGEN and hopes that it is happening or will happen.

Steve Hewitt noted that the Executive Board has established a standing agenda item for a report from Technical subcommittee chair on the Amtrak procurement for once a month. The Technical subcommittee is also a part of the discussion and has this as a standing agenda item for each month in advance of the executive Board call.

Charlie King confirmed what Steve Hewitt stated, and offered to talk off line to Brian Beeler if he has any concerns or questions further to this discussion. He added that he is trying to capture the technical side of the procurement and work it through the NGEN Technical subcommittee with regular updates to the NGEN Executive Board.

Charlie then provided a brief status update:

The RFP on power has been issued. The RFI for passenger cars is close.

Steve Hewitt has been kind enough to send out information from Amtrak to all NGEN members several times to let them know how to get a hold of the RFP and accompanying documents for educational purposes or of further interest. "We will dig deeper into it in my Technical subcommittee" and will report to the Executive Board.

Charlie added that they have been receiving questions from builders (clarifications) on the RFP.

Adjourn:

With no other business forthcoming, Chairman Curtit adjourned today's call at 11:45am Eastern.

The next conference call is 7-3-18

Decisions/Action Items

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Ongoing.

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Next update – 7-3-18

**S305 NGEC Executive Board Conference Call
June 19, 2018
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 6-5-18 | Eric Curtit |
| 5. Status Update: FRA Grant | Michael Lestingi |
| a. FRA approval/execution of the revised NGEC SOW | |
| b. Status – unreimbursed payment to Amtrak of AASHTO invoice – awaiting FRA instructions | |
| 6. Update: Multi-State Car Procurement | Kyle Gradinger |
| 7. Update: Charger Locomotives and Mid-West Section 6 Activities | John Oimoen |
| 8. Update: Metro-North Dual Mode Locomotive Procurement | Ray Hessinger |
| 9. Update: Document Control | Tammy Krause |
| 10. Other | All |

Next Call -7-3-18