

SECTION 305 NGEC Executive Board

MINUTES

AUGUST 19, 2014

11:30 EASTERN

CONFERENCE CALL

FACILITATOR	<i>Eric Curtit, Chair, S305 NGEC Executive Board</i>
ATTENDEES	Board Members: Eric Curtit, (Eric Curtit also as proxy for Tammy Nicholson) Mario Bergeron, Nikki Rudnick for Darrell Smith, Ray Hessinger, John Tunna for Paul Nissenbaum, Stan Hunter (Stan also as proxy for John Oimoen) Allan Paul for Paul Worley, Ron Pate, Michael Jenkins, Brian Beeler II, John Rosacker for Craig Moody Support Staff: Jeff Gordon, Shayne Gill, David Ewing, Sara Sarkhili, Steve Hewitt, Michael Lestingi, Dave Warner,
ABSENTEES	Board Members: Darrell Smith, Tammy Nicholson, Tim Hoeffner, Craig Moody, Paul Nissenbaum, Donna Brown-Martin, Paul Worley, Support: Jason Biggs, Arun Rao, Melissa Shurland, Nico lindenau, Strat Cavros, Andy House, Sal DeAngelo, Martin Schroeder, Patrick Centolanzi, Dale Engelhardt, Vincent Brotski, Larry Salci

DECISIONS MADE

1. Welcome – Eric Curtit, Chair, S305 NGEC Executive Board:
Chairman Curtit opened today’s meeting and, asked Steve Hewitt to take the roll.

2. Roll Call –Steve Hewitt, Manager, S305 NGEC Support Services:
Steve Hewitt called the roll and confirmed the presence of a quorum.

Eric Curtit welcomed a new member to the NGEC Board – John Rosacker, Oklahoma DOT. John will serve as Craig Moody’s (ODOT) designated representative on the Board. John brings a wealth of rail (and some legal) experience to the Board, and his willingness to participate in the work of the NGEC is greatly appreciated.

Decisions/Action Items – 8-5-14 Executive Board Conference Call

Mid-west States – Section 6 progress report: This remains as an ongoing agenda item. Progress is being made – governance is a key issue yet to be resolved. **Agenda item 5**

514 Working Group updates: The Capital Equipment 5 Year Plan is being finalized – the goal continues to be to have it before the NGEC Executive Board for approval in mid-September, 2014. **Agenda item 10**

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 8 & 9**

The ATF has approved an evaluation scoring sheet for determining whether or not a topic meets the criterion as an NGEC sponsored webinar.

Status: The revised version has been finalized, distributed to the ATF members, and is ready for use.

NGEC Future discussion: The working group members have received a DRAFT scope of work and have been asked to send their comments to Eric Curtit and Steve Hewitt by COB on August 8th.

Status: The FRA has commented on the DRAFT Scope of work – no other comments have been received. The FRA version has been sent to all Working Group members. A brief conference call to kick off the group’s efforts is scheduled for today immediately following this call. – Agenda item 6.

Steve Hewitt will continue to work with Andrea Ryan on logistics for the Wilmington, DE meeting of the NGEC Executive Board. Currently it is anticipated that the meeting will take place over two days during the week of October 20.

Status: Andrea Ryan and Mary Antonelli have been working with a number of hotel properties. As of this morning it appears that they have selected a hotel and hope to get the contract finalized this week. It continues to look like the meetings and tour will likely be towards the end of the week - October 23-24. As soon as logistics are confirmed by AASHTO – Steve Hewitt will provide all details for registering to the NGENC Board members and support.

Host Railroad Blessing of NGENC equipment: Jeff Gordon is working with Jim Grady, AAR on a list of issues the freight railroads have and on what they need to learn about with regard to the new passenger rail equipment.
Status: Jeff Gordon reported that he is meeting with Jim Grady later this week to get AAR's perspective and provide it to the Board as it considers establishing the proposed subcommittee.

Bi-Level Review timeline: Larry Salci will have a DRAFT report ready for distribution to Review Panel members on August 13. Steve Hewitt will set up a conference call for the Review Panel for 1:00PM Eastern on August 20th.

The Review Panel has received the DRAFT report with recommendations prepared by Larry Salci and was scheduled to meet, via conference call, on August 20, 2014 – 1:00pm Eastern.

Stan Hunter, Caltrans, reported that he is working on an additional 15 DCRs for consideration. Dave Warner suggested that rather than approve the current DCRs under consideration by the Review Panel now, and then take up the additional 15, it would make sense to wait and do them all together as a part of Revision C.2. Dave Warner's suggestion was accepted. Steve Hewitt will send a cancellation notice to calendars for tomorrow's Review Panel call; and Dave Warner will contact Larry Salci to let him know that additional DCRs are being prepared and will be forthcoming (by the end of the week is the goal). Larry will be asked to include these additional DCRs in his report with recommendations for Rev C.2. Once Larry has received the new items he will inform Steve Hewitt and the Board of his anticipated timeline for completion.

4.

Approval of Minutes from the August 5 2014 Executive Board conference calls – Eric Curtit:

On a motion by Allan Paul, NCDOT, and a second by Stan Hunter, Caltrans, the Minutes from the August 5, 2014 Executive Board conference call were approved without objection.

5.

Progress Report: Mid-West States – Section 6 - Eric Curtit:

Eric Curtit reported that the Mid-West Section 6 effort continues to make good progress. Today there is a meeting of the Mid-West states and FRA during which they "will plow into handling equipment and meeting Section 6 requirements."

6.

Update: NGENC Future Working Group – convening the first conference call – Eric Curtit:

Eric reported that there will be a "quick call" of the NGENC Future Working Group immediately following today's Board call. It is anticipated that the Working Group will meet bi-weekly following the Board calls from now until the face to face meeting in Wilmington, DE in late October. It is Eric's intent that the Working Group meet in Wilmington for a half a day on the 23rd of October to finalize recommendations to be presented to the Board at its meeting the next day.

Eric also reported that Ron Pate had agreed to serve as a member of the Working Group, and will replace Ray Hessinger who has time commitment constraints.

NGENC Future Working Group members

Eric Curtit, Missouri DOT
Ron Pate, Washington State DOT
Tim Hoeffner, Michigan DOT
Michael Lestingi, FRA
Mario Bergeron, Amtrak
Darrell Smith, Amtrak
Steve Hewitt, NGENC Support Services Manager
Nico Lindenau, FRA Support
Shayne Gill, AASHTO

7.

Status: Specification Reviews – Eric Curtit:

- a. D/E Locomotive DCRs – Reconvening the Locomotive Review Panel

Eric Curtit reported that he had received the list of D/E Locomotive DCRs from Dave Warner and will now transmit them to consultant Larry Salci who will prepare a report with recommendations for the D/E Locomotive Review Panel to consider and ultimately submit to the Executive Board.

Steve Hewitt confirmed that the next steps are for Eric to transmit the DCRs to Mr. Salci and ask him to present a timeline for completion to the Board. Additionally, Eric should give notice to the Review Panel members that they are to be convened to review the report with recommendations. Steve emphasized that the D/E Locomotive Review Panel is not to be confused with the Bi-Level Car Review Panel. They are two different groups comprised of some of the same members, but not all.

Steve Hewitt announce that the members of the D/E Locomotive Review Panel are:

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
Dave Warner, Amtrak – technical support
Steve Hewitt – NGEC support

8.

Status update: Diesel Electric Locomotive procurement – Stan Hunter for John Oimoen:

Stan Hunter, on behalf of John Oimoen, read the following report into the minutes of today's call:

- "A) *Follow-up action items for Preliminary Design Review (PDR) are closed.*
- B) *Milestone A CDRLs are nearly all closed, with only a few action items remaining for Siemens to re-submit.*
- C) *We anticipate first invoice for PDR in August (Milestone B – for PDR). Caltrans has expressed concern that FRA may need more back-up to close and approve milestone payments.*
- D) *Mock-up reviews for locomotive cab and trucks are scheduled for Week of September 8th at Siemens factory.*
- E) *Intermediate design review (IDR) is scheduled for weeks of September 29 – October 3, October 20 and November 10 in Chicago at PB's large meeting room at 30 LaSalle St.*
- F) *The list of proposed specification revisions (DCRs - 15 items at this time) has been submitted to Dave Warner at NGEC on 8/6.*
- G) *The EMD law suit was dismissed earlier this month."*

9.

Status Update: Bi-Level car procurement – Stan Hunter:

Stan Hunter reported that the Bi-Level Car procurement is progressing very well.

They are currently undergoing a routine project management audit by FRA.

The FRA and the states continue discussions to get grant agreement amendments in place to allow for options for additional orders.

Once approved, the additional orders will increase the number of cars from 130 – 175. This would mean that California would go from 42 -53 cars and the Mid-West states order would increase from 88-122 cars.

There are weekly calls going on with the FRA on the amendments.

Nippon Sharyo is transitioning into the first article inspection phase.

March 15, 2015 is the anticipated date for the first car shell to be produced.

Truck assembly is scheduled for May of 2015 and on into production.

A three party agreement (Caltrans, Mid-West states, Amtrak) is being worked on for OBIS – Amtrak is awaiting the award of its contract with NOMAD on OBIS first and then the 3 party agreement will, hopefully be settled.

Stan described the overall effort as “all kinds of good stuff going on – very exciting!”

10.

Status Update: 514 Working Group –Ron Pate:

Ron Pate reported that the working group is currently reviewing the DRAFT CIP. Jeremy Jewkes (WSDOT) is Ron’s lead on the CIP.

The anticipated schedule is to have a final DRAFT by August 25, 2014; obtain working group approval on August 27, 2015 and then submit it for NGECE Executive Board approval. The Board approval timeline will be established by Eric Curtit and Steve Hewitt.

The CIP will be a living document which should help the states and Amtrak keep the program moving forward for maintaining the equipment.

Eric Curtit complimented Ron and his team, as well as Amtrak for a job well done. He noted that there were “Lots of good ideas which are reflective of what has come out of this process.”

11.

Adjourn:

With no further business to come before the Board today, Chairman Curtit adjourned the call at approximately 12:10 PM Eastern.

The next call is: September 2, 2014, 11:30am Eastern

Mid-west States – Section 6 progress report: This remains as an ongoing agenda item . Progress is being made – governance is a key issue yet to be resolved – a meeting between FRA and the states is taking place today – 8-19-14.

514 Working Group updates: The Capital Equipment 5 Year Plan is currently under review by members of the Working Group. A final draft should be ready by August 25th for consideration of Working Group approval on August 27th. From there it will go to the NGENC Board for its consideration.

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.

The NGENC Future Working Group will hold a brief kick-off meeting today following the Board call. The Working Group expects to meet following the regular Board bi-weekly calls from today through to the October meetings in Wilmington, DE.

Steve Hewitt will continue to work with Andrea Ryan on logistics for the Wilmington, DE meeting of the NGENC Executive Board. Currently it is anticipated that the meeting will take place over two days – October 23 and 24. The intent is to have a meeting of the NGENC Future Working Group in the morning of October 23rd, with a facility tour in the afternoon for the full Board and a face to face full day meeting of the Board on October 24. Final meeting room and hotel logistics are being negotiated by AASHTO. It is anticipated that this should be finalized by the end of this week. (8-22-14)

Host Railroad Blessing of NGENC equipment: Jeff Gordon is working with Jim Grady, AAR on a list of issues the freight railroads have and on what they need to learn about from their perspective. A meeting between Jeff and Jim is expected to take place this week. Jeff will keep the Board apprised.

Bi-Level Car Review: Stan Hunter, Caltrans, reported that he is working on an additional 15 DCRs for consideration. Dave Warner suggested that rather than approve the current DCRs under consideration by the Review Panel now, and then take up the additional 15, it would make sense to wait and do them all together as a part of Revision C.2. Dave Warner’s suggestion was accepted. Steve Hewitt will send a cancellation notice to calendars for tomorrow’s Review Panel call; and Dave Warner will contact Larry Salci to let him know that additional DCRs are being prepared and will be forthcoming (by the end of the week is the goal). Larry will be asked to include these additional DCRs in his report with recommendations for Rev C.2. Once Larry has received the new items he will inform Steve Hewitt and the Board of his anticipated timeline for completion.

D-E Locomotive DCRs: Eric Curtit reported that he had received the list of D/E Locomotive DCRs from Dave Warner and will now transmit them to consultant Larry Salci who will prepare a report with recommendations for the D/E Locomotive Review Panel to consider and ultimately submit to the Executive Board.

In anticipation of the D/E Locomotive DCRs review, Eric Curtit announced that he is re-convening the NGENC D/E Locomotive Review Panel. (A list of members can be found in the minutes – above)

ATTACHMENTS



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

**S305 NGEC Executive Board Conference Call
August 19, 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 August 5, 2014 conference call | Eric Curtit |
| 5. Progress Report: Mid-West States – Section 6 | Eric Curtit |
| 6. Update: NGEC Future Working Group – convening the first conference call | Eric Curtit |
| 7. Status: Specification Reviews | Eric Curtit/Steve Hewitt |
| a. D/E Locomotive DCRs – Reconvening the Locomotive Review Panel | |
| 8. Status update: Diesel Electric Locomotive procurement | San Hunter for John Oimoen |
| 9. Status Update: Bi-Level Car procurement | Stan Hunter |
| 10. Status Update: 514 Working Group | Ron Pate |
| 11. Other | All |

Next Call: September 2, 2014