

# SECTION 305 NGEC Executive Board

MINUTES

AUGUST 4, 2015

11:30 EASTERN

CONFERENCE CALL

<b>FACILITATOR</b>	<i>Eric Curtit, Chair, S305 NGEC Executive Board</i>
<b>ATTENDEES</b>	<b>Board Members:</b> <i>Eric Curtit, Mario Bergeron, Michael Lestingi, Arun Rao, Arun Rao also as proxy for John Oimoen, Allan Paul for Paul Worley, Brent Thompson for Ron Pate, Momoko Tamaoki, Michael Jenkins, Brian Beeler</i> <b>Support Staff:</b> <i>Shayne Gill, Bryan Hong, Steve Hewitt, Larry Salci, Jeff Gordon, Jeremy Jewkes, Sal DeAngelo, Patrick Centolanzi, Tammy Krause</i>
<b>ABSENTEES</b>	<b>Board Members,</b> <i>Paul Worley, John Rosacker, John Oimoen, Tammy Nicholson, Tim Hoeffner, Ron Pate</i> <b>Support:</b> <i>Jason Biggs, Strat Cavros, Martin Schroeder, Dale Engelhardt, Nico Lindenau, Beth Nachreiner, Vincent Brotski, Dave "Emeritus" Warner</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 noted that all open action items are covered on today's agenda.

The current status of open action items are listed below.

### Action Items Status

**Mid-west States – Section 6 progress report:** Progress is being made on the issue of governance and ownership – a draft ownership document is under review by the states' general counsels. The RFP for a Fleet manager should be released shortly – final steps are being taken by IDOT to make that happen.

**Agenda item 5**

**514 Subcommittee update:** ongoing

**Agenda item 10**

**Urgent DCR Bi-Level Car Weight Change – Review Panel Memo:** On the last call, the NGEC Executive Board approved Bi-Level Car Technical Specification Revision C.3.

It has been posted to the web site – but remains in need of the signature page.

**4. Approval of the Minutes from the 7-21-15 conference call meeting – Eric Curtit:**

On a motion by Michael Jenkins, Oregon, and a second by Brian Beeler, NNEPRA (Maine), the minutes from the 7-21-15 Executive Board conference call were approved without exception.

**5. Progress Report: Mid-West States – Section 6 – Eric Curtit for Tim Hoeffner, Michigan DOT:**

---

In the absence of Tim Hoeffner, Eric Curtit and Arun Rao provided a brief update on the activities of the Mid-West Section 6 efforts.

The group continues to work on reviewing and finalizing the draft governance document.

They are also continuing to work on developing the RFP for the Fleet Maintainer, and hope to get the RFP for the Fleet Manager out soon.

**6. Progress Report: Activities of the Finance and Administrative Subcommittee – Steve Hewitt for Darrell Smith:**

Steve Hewitt reported on the activities of the Finance and Administrative subcommittee (FASC):

FASC continues making progress towards developing recommendations to the Board by the end of October 2015 with regard to future funding options and structure for the NGECC.

The subcommittee has established several temporary task forces.

One – the Funding Options Task Force (chaired by Brent Thompson) has completed its work and provided recommendations to the full subcommittee.

A new task force is in the process of being organized. It is the Legislative Outreach task force. It is to be chaired by Eric Curtit and is charged with developing the message and a strategy to educate the Hill on the NGECC – its activities, accomplishments, and future.

**7. Progress Report: Activities of the Technical Subcommittee – Mario Bergeron:**

Mario Bergeron reported on the activities of the Technical subcommittee – in particular – the upcoming face to face Dual Mode (DC 3<sup>rd</sup> Rail) Locomotive specification approval meeting:

The meeting will be held in Albany, NY at NYSDOT on August 19<sup>th</sup>. During the meeting the Technical subcommittee will consider approval of the Dual Mode (DC 3<sup>rd</sup> Rail) Locomotive specification as developed by the Locomotive Working Group. Once approved, this will be the 6<sup>th</sup> PRIIA NGECC Vehicle Technical Specification.

The subcommittee is currently receiving comments to the most recent draft of the specification.

On August 20<sup>th</sup> Amtrak will host a tour of the Rensselaer maintenance facility for members of the technical subcommittee. It is at this facility where Amtrak's 18 Dual Mode Locomotives are maintained.

Mario expressed his appreciation to the members of the Locomotive Working Group, and the subcommittee, overall, for their efforts in the development of this specification.

**8. Status Update: Bi-Level Car Procurement – Momoko Tamaoki:**

Momoko Tamaoki provide a brief update on the bi-level car procurement:

Last week 2 FAI's took place – 2 were successful with only a few minor open items yet to be closed out.

Design Review: there are 13 open hot item issues remaining.

Schedule information (additional detail) has been provided by the manufacturer and will be discussed in a meeting in Rochelle, Illinois on August 19, 2015. Caltrans, IDOT, FRA and Nippon Sharyo will attend.

9 RFCs remain open.

On August 20-12-2015 there will be a compression test of the car shell.

A meeting including Nippon Sharyo and FRA's Office of Safety on safety issues was held and it was reported to be successful.

Sal DeAngelo, FRA, commented that he had attended the meeting and "I was very happy with it." The meeting was "very productive and a lot was accomplished in a short time."

**9. Diesel-Electric Locomotive Procurement – Arun Rao for John Oimoen:**

On behalf of John Oimoen, Arun Rao provided the following update:

FDR follow-up action items are being processed for closure. Less than 20 items remain open and are expected to be closed out within the next two weeks.

Three First Article Inspections (FAI) took place last week – with only a few minor open items to close out.

Manufacturing for the first locomotive carbody has begun.

No further RFCs are anticipated.

Fourteen draft (DCRs) are being prepared and Rich Stegner has contacted Tammy Krause, to coordinate processing and will send a list in the next two weeks.

Follow up teams are working on an on-going basis for the action items from the AAR Standard vehicle qualification testing and acceptance.

The last meeting of the Diesel Exhaust Fluid (DEF) review and application team was held on 7-13-15 and the team is working with Amtrak to identify storage locations and storage needs. The next meeting is tentatively scheduled for August 31<sup>st</sup>.

The locomotive weight is 271,000 lbs (+/-) and the calculated P2 force is still within specified limits. Weight is being closely monitored."

**10. Status Update: 514 Subcommittee – Jeremy Jewkes for Ron Pate:**

On behalf of Ron Pate, Jeremy Jewkes provided a brief update on the activities of the 514 subcommittee:

The end of the fiscal year is approaching. Revised Minor update, based on comments/input provided by the states, will be issued this Friday.

The next subcommittee meeting is scheduled for 8-17-15.

Jeremy noted "we are coming near the end of the process" – if there is anything any member wants to be considered, please contact Ron Pate or Jeremy Jewkes.

Ron Pate had sent a letter/survey to the states in regard to high level issues. Responses have come in and Ron is beginning follow ups with the states on their responses.

**11. Other/Adjourn:**

With no further business to come before the Board today, Chairman Curtit adjourned the meeting at 11:55 AM Eastern.

**The next call is September 1, 2015**

**Decisions/Action Items**

**Mid-west States – Section 6 progress report:** Progress is being made on the issue of governance and ownership – a draft ownership document is under review by the states' general counsels. The RFP for a Fleet manager should be released shortly – final steps are being taken by IDOT to make that happen.

**514 Subcommittee update:** The end of the fiscal year is approaching. Revised Minor update, based on comments/input provided by the states, will be issued this Friday. The next subcommittee meeting is scheduled for 8-17-15. (ongoing)

(ongoing)

**The Finance and Administrative subcommittee continues to look at potential funding options and strategies for the future of the NGEN:** (ongoing)

Eric Curtit will chair the Legislative Outreach Task Force and is reaching out to potential members.

**Dual Mode Locomotive (DC 3<sup>rd</sup> Rail) specification development:** The Technical subcommittee will meet face to face in Albany, NY on August 19<sup>th</sup> to consider approval of the Dual Mode (DC 3<sup>rd</sup> Rail) Locomotive specification.

**The August 18<sup>th</sup> Executive Board conference call is canceled in deference to the Technical subcommittee specification approval meeting taking place on the 19<sup>th</sup>, and members being unavailable due to travel to Albany, NY.**

The next conference call meeting of the Executive Board will take place as previously scheduled on September 1, 2015.

#### ATTACHMENTS



**S305 NGEN Executive Board Conference Call  
August 4, 2015  
11:30 AM – 12:30 PM Eastern  
Call in number: 888 585-9008 conference access: 559-120-127**

#### Agenda

- |   |                          |
|---|--------------------------|
| 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 July 21, 2015 Call                        | Eric Curtit              |
| 5. Progress Report: Mid-West States – Section 6                           | Tim Hoeffner             |
| 6. Progress Report: Activities of Finance and Administrative subcommittee | Darrell Smith            |
| 7. Progress Report: Activities of the Technical subcommittee              | Mario Bergeron           |
| 8. Status Update: Bi-Level Car Procurement                                | Momoko Tamaoki           |
| 9. Status Update: Diesel-Electric Locomotive Procurement                  | Arun Rao for John Oimoen |
| 10. Status Update: 514 subcommittee                                       | Ron Pate                 |

---

11. Other

All

**NEXT MEETING: September 1, 2015**