

SECTION 305 NGEN

Executive Board Conference Call Meeting

MINUTES

MAY 29, 2012

11:30 AM
EASTERN

CONFERENCE CALL

FACILITATOR	<i>Bill Bronte, Chair, S305 NGEN Executive Board</i>
ATTENDEES	Executive Board Members: <i>Bill Bronte, Mario Bergeron, DJ Stadtler, Alan Ware, Paul Nissenbaum, Eric Curtit, Tammy Nicholson, Ray Hessinger, John Sibold, Ron Adams (Ron also had Joe Kyle's voting proxy), Paul Morris, George Weber, Kevin Lawson, Support Staff: Leo Penne, Shayne Gill, Steve Hewitt, Ryan Swick, Nico Lindenau, Ken Uznanski, Gordon Hutchinson, Kevin Kesler, Chad Edison, Jeffrey Gordon, Dale Engelhardt, Nancy Greene, Dave Warner, David Ewing</i>
ABSENTEES	Board Members: <i>Joe Kyle, (voting proxy went to Ron Adams) Support Staff: Larry Salci, John Tunna, Whitney Phend, Melissa Shurland,</i>

WELCOME/ROLL CALL/MINUTES

Opening – Bill Bronte-chair:

Bill Bronte opened the conference call meeting, and asked Steve Hewitt to call the roll.

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

Steve Hewitt took a roll of Executive Board members, and it was determined that the presence of a quorum was confirmed with all 14 of the Board members present or represented by proxy (as noted above).

Approval of the Minutes from the May 15, 2012 Executive Board conference call – Bill Bronte:

On a motion by, Paul Nissenbaum, FRA, and a second by Ron Adams, Wisconsin DOT, the minutes of the May 15, 2012 conference call meeting of the Executive Board were approved without objection.

Agenda Items

Consider: SOW for Review Efforts for DMU Specification and Locomotive Revision A – Al Ware/Bill Bronte:

Al Ware, chair of the Administrative task force reported that the SOW for Review efforts for the DMU Specification and Locomotive Rev A has been going through the process of an electronic vote for the past week. He reported that all voting members of the task force had participated, and that all had voted in favor of the proposed SOW with minor revisions suggested by Amtrak legal and by FRA. Al declared consensus had been achieved and that the task force recommends that the Executive Board vote today for approval.

Steve Hewitt confirmed that the SOW with the noted revisions had been sent to the Executive Board last week simultaneously with the members of the task force so as to give the Board ample time for review.

Bill Bronte called for a motion to adopt the SOW as revised.

Al Ware, Georgia DOT, offered the motion to adopt and, Paul Morris, NCDOT, seconded the motion.

Ron Adams, Wisconsin, asked if the proposal "fits with the grant agreement?" Ken Uznanski, Amtrak – NGEN Project Manager, responded in the affirmative.

With no more discussion forthcoming, Bill Bronte asked Steve Hewitt to call the roll of voting members.

Bill Bronte, Caltrans – aye

Mario Bergeron, Amtrak – aye

Al Ware, Georgia DOT – aye

DJ Stadtler, Amtrak – aye

Paul Nissenbaum, FRA – aye

Eric Curtit, Missouri DOT – aye

Kevin Lawson, Louisiana DOT – aye

Tammy Nicholson, Iowa DOT - aye

George Weber, Illinois DOT – aye

Ray Hessinger, New York State DOT – aye

Paul Morris, North Carolina DOT – aye

Ron Adams, Wisconsin DOT – aye

Ron Adams as proxy for Joe Kyle, Oklahoma DOT – aye

John Sibold, Washington State DOT – aye

With all members voting in favor, Bill Bronte determined that consensus has been achieved and the SOW has been adopted. It will now be turned over to AASHTO, as the contracting agent, to finalize and execute the contract.

Status Update: amendment to the NGEC Grant Agreement – Ken Uznanski/Chad Edison:

Ken Uznanski, Amtrak, reported that the last he had heard was it was in final review at FRA after they had made some modifications to the agreement, and once complete, it would be sent to Amtrak grants people for execution. To Ken's knowledge Amtrak has not yet received the modified grant amendment.

Chad Edison, FRA reported that he understands it is to be sent to Amtrak within the next two days.

Leo Penne, AASHTO, stressed "the importance to AASHTO that this gets done quickly".

Paul Nissenbaum, FRA, responded that he understood the urgency, and stated that it will be done quickly. He also noted that it should not take Amtrak long to get it executed once it has been sent over.

DJ Stadtler, Amtrak, asked Ken Uznanski what was the status and – what was the nature of the modifications. Ken responded that the modifications had to do with language – mostly pertaining to the NGEC fiscal year, and that of the federal fiscal year.

DJ asked if there was anything he (at Amtrak) needed to do at this point, or had not done. Ken responded no – they are just waiting for the final version to come over from FRA.

Bill Bronte emphasized that "I agree with Leo Penne. This needs to be done as soon as possible".

Update: Structure and Finance task Force – Eric Curtit:

a. Status: Section 6/Deployment RFP

Eric Curtit, chair of the SFTF, provided a status update of the RFP for Section 6/Deployment. He explained that "we are within our timeline". The process for finalizing the contract is being "wrapped

up” and the next step is to send it to AASHTO to finalize. He noted that he is trying to meet the anticipated deadline of June 4, 2012, for the full SFTF to agree on the recommendation of the SFTF selection committee. If it is not ready for consideration with ample review time by the June 4, 2012 call, it will be held over until the next one -June 18, 2012. Following approval by the SFTF, it will go to the Executive Board for its review and consideration.

Update: Bi-Level car RFP – Bill Bronte:

Bill Bronte reported that the Notice of Intent to Bid deadline was May 20, 2012. Seven manufacturers have filed the notice of intent. Caltrans Procurement counsel has advised Bill that he cannot name the companies, but, he added, “the majors are in”. He sees it as a positive sign that “we have a large number of potential bidders.” He admitted that with competition comes a lot of “pencil sharpening” and “change orders”, but “we are looking forward to it.” He added that so far there have been “fewer glitches than I thought”.

He will continue to provide “general updates to the Board as we go forward.”

Update: Joint Procurement Task Force – Bill Bronte:

Bill Bronte reported that the full JPTF had met via conference call last week. On that call they were provided with an update on the RFP and on the locomotive procurement that will be following shortly. It was agreed that the full JPTF will hold regular conference calls over the next 6 months every 4 weeks. The Minutes (which are confidential and only distributed to those who have signed conflict of interest (COI) forms) have been distributed, as appropriate, by Steve Hewitt. Bill expressed thanks to all who have gotten involved in the JPTF, and added that he believes it is beneficial for those who will have a future procurement to have had exposure to the process.

Locomotive Procurement – Bill Bronte:

Bill Bronte reported that Caltrans (which will be the lead for the locomotive procurement) has just begun (internally) to look at the locomotive procurement. They have asked their engineering consultant to identify areas that will need to be changed from the previous document as “we move from cars to locomotives”. He also noted that the core JPTF will now involve an additional state – Washington DOT.

The intent is to have a video conference with FRA and the key states soon to establish timelines and identify “who does what when”.

Paul Nissenbaum, FRA, stated that Bill had given a good summary. He also emphasized that “like everything else we do, there is urgency here”. He added that FRA will help to facilitate the video conference, and get the RFI moving along with task assignments. He emphasized that FRA will provide resources to Caltrans, and the other procuring states, in order to help the effort. Paul emphasized that FRA is aware that there is a shortage of resources in the states.

Bill thanked Paul for the help, and added that Caltrans still has PB under contract, and will be asking for their assistance as well.

Mario Bergeron, Amtrak, asked about the timeline for the locomotives.

Bill responded that the intent is to release the RFI in early July, 2012. He noted that he realizes this is a tight schedule, but it’s important to get it moving as quickly as possible. He also noted that “we will be leaning heavily on FRA to develop questions” for the RFI. The NGEC Board committed to the industry that they would use the RFI to determine the industry’s ability to manufacture at 125 and Tier IV.

Mario Bergeron asked what the anticipated timeline was for the RFP.

Bill responded that the intent was to have an RFP in September, 2012; a Notice of Intent to Bid in October, 2012; draft proposals in November, 2012; final proposals in January, 2013; and contract award around March, 2013.

The next Executive Board Conference call is June 12, 2012 11:30 am Eastern

Decisions/Action Items

Ken Uznanski will continue to keep the Board posted on the progress being made in regards to the grant agreement amendment. FRA expects to have the final amendment sent to Amtrak within the next two days (by May 31, 2012)

It is anticipated that the SFTF will take action on the selection of a contractor for the Section 6/deployment procurement on June 4 or June 18, 2012. Once approved, it will be put forward to the Board for its consideration.

Bill Bronte will continue to keep the Board "generally" apprised of the progress of the bi-level railcar procurement and of the progress of the locomotive procurement.

All members are to make an effort to identify potential new state members for the NGEC subcommittees and task forces. Names of potential "recruits" are to be sent to Bill Bronte (cc to Steve Hewitt)

With the SOW approved today, AASHTO will begin to process the contract for the Review panel efforts.

ATTACHMENTS



S305 NGEC Executive Board Conference Call
May 29, 2012
11:30 AM – 1:00PM Eastern
Call in number: 866 299 7945 passcode: 1601544#
Agenda

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| 1. Open the Meeting | Bill Bronte |
| 2. Roll Call | Steve Hewitt |
| 3. Approval of Minutes from May 15, 2012 conference call | Bill Bronte |
| 4. Status Update: amendment to the NGEN Grant Agreement | Ken Uznanski/Chad Edison |
| 5. Update: Structure and Finance Task Force <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Section 6/Deployment RFP status | Eric Curtit |
| 6. Update: Bi-Level car RFP | Bill Bronte |
| 7. Update: Joint Procurement Task Force | Bill Bronte |
| 8. Locomotive procurement | Bill Bronte |
| 9. Consider: SOW for Review Efforts for DMU Spec and Locomotive Rev A | Al Ware/Bill Bronte |
| 10. Recognition of Importance of 305 | Leo Penne |
| 11. Other: | All |

Next call: June 12, 2012 at 11:30am Eastern

Decisions/Action Items from May 29, 2012
Ken Uznanski will continue to keep the Board posted on the progress being made in regards to the grant agreement amendment. Status: On the last call it was reported that the FRA had made minor modifications and that the amendment would be sent to Amtrak in a day or two for execution - On this agenda for an update
It is anticipated that the SFTF will take action on the selection of a contractor for the Section 6/deployment procurement on June 4, 2012. Once approved, it will be put forward to the Board for its consideration. Status: An update is an agenda item for this call
Bill Bronte will continue to keep the Board apprised of the progress of the bi-level railcar procurement. Status: Standing agenda item
The locomotive procurement effort will begin shortly – the next call of the full JPTF will take place on May 23, 2012, and a meeting of the JPTF to discuss “lessons learned” is being planned for June 5-6 in Sacramento, CA. Status: The May 23 JPTF call was held. An update is an agenda item for this call.
All members are to make an effort to identify potential new state members for the NGEN subcommittees and task forces. Names of potential “recruits” are to be sent to Bill Bronte (cc to Steve Hewitt) Status: No suggestions were received.