



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

SECTION 305 NGEC Executive Board

MINUTES

DECEMBER 27, 2022

11:30 EASTERN

CONFERENCE CALL

FACILITATOR	<i>Ray Hessinger, Chair S305 NGEC Executive Board</i>
ATTENDEES	Board Members: Ray Hessinger, Jeff Gordon, Jason Biggs, Jason Biggs also as proxy for Amanda Martin, Troy Hughes, Mike Jenkins, Support Staff and Colleagues: Steve Hewitt, Dave "Mr. Emeritus/Cone" Warner, Tammy Krause, Larry Salci, Patrick Centolanzi
ABSENTEES	Board Members: George Hull, Tim Ziethen, John Oimoen, Kyle Gradinger, Jason Orthner, Amanda Martin, Richard Kedzior, Brian Beeler II, Support: Mike Murray, Shayne Gill, Rebecca Anger, Strat Cavros, Jon Dees, Joe Paul

DECISIONS MADE

1.

Welcome – Ray Hessinger, Chair, S305 NGEC Executive Board:

Chairman Ray Hessinger, NYSDOT, opened the meeting and asked Steve Hewitt to call the roll.

2.

Roll Call – Steve Hewitt, NGEC Program Manager:

Following the roll call, Steve Hewitt determined that a quorum was not present.

It was agreed that the meeting would be abbreviated, with no actions would be taken.

3.

Action items Review – Steve Hewitt:

The action items review was tabled for this meeting. These minutes provide the current status.

Industry Participation:

Industry involvement continues to be consistent at just over two hundred participants.

2022 NGEC two-pager Handout Flyer:

The 2022 version of the two-page educational flyer remains available in both electronic and hard copy.

To date 625 copies have been distributed.

VIA Rail Equipment Procurement:

On 2-25-22 – during the 12th NGEC Annual Meeting, VIA Rail provided a comprehensive update on its vehicle procurement.

The PowerPoint presentation was distributed and is posted to the website.

VIA Rail has accepted the invitation to give a virtual presentation during the 2023 NGEC Annual Meeting.

Next Update: 2-3-22 – NGEC Annual Meeting

Connecticut DOT Rail Car Procurement:

On 10-12-22, Marci Petterson reported that they have just finished answering the second round of questions and are now going into the third round. The request for proposals deadline has been extended until January 2023.

Next Update – as appropriate

4. Approval of the Minutes from the 12-13-22 NGEN Executive Board Meeting – Ray Hessinger, NYSDOT:

This action was tabled until the next call (1-10-23) due to the lack of a quorum.

5. Update: Multi-State Rail Car Procurement as of 12-27-22- Caltrans:

This item was tabled as Caltrans was not represented on the call and no advance update was provided.

6. Update: Document Control/timeline – Tammy Krause:

Tammy Krause was asked to forego the full update and provide a status of the Bi-Level Specification review and anticipated timeline.

Tammy reported that later today (12-27-22) she would provide Steve Hewitt with the Summary of Changes for distribution to the full Technical subcommittee.

On 1-5-23 during the technical subcommittee call Tammy will review the changes and take questions.

On 1-19-23, during the subcommittee call, the intention would be to consider approval of the summary of changes for submittal to the Executive Board,

On 1-24-23, During the Executive Board call, the Chair will formally reconvene the Bi-Level car specification Review Panel and authorize Larry Salci to prepare a Review Panel Report.

At the Annual Meeting of the NGEN (2-3-23), as a part of her progress report for the year, Tammy will give a status on this specification update with the plan being for the Board to consider its adoption later that month.

7. Website Refresh: Steve Hewitt:

The website refresh is complete and the new site ngen.org has been deployed. It will officially go live by the end of this week.

8. NGEN 2023 two-pager – Steve:

The requested changes – including content and photos were sent to Laura Seabaugh, MODOT graphic arts with a CC to Troy Hughes, MODOT on 12-23-22.

The content changes were as discussed previously – including several timeline updates and the website domain name. Four new photos were provided. They included photos from IDOT, Amtrak and WSDOT. All necessary credits were also included.

After the holidays Steve will follow up with MODOT.

9. NGEN 20230 Annual Meeting – Ray/Steve:

Finalize Agenda and confirm speakers and attendance:

Steve Hewitt walked through the agenda and called on Board members regarding their attendance and confirming who would be giving presentations.

Registration so far is low. Steve will send the latest list of attendees following this meeting.

Hotel reservation link:

Attendees can begin booking sleeping rooms here - <https://www.hyatt.com/en-US/group-booking/WASRW/G-RA1L>. Rooms must be booked by Monday, January 9th. Room Rate is \$188 per night plus 14.95% tax.

Questions on Hotel room reservations – contact:

Kamasha Hendrickson, CMP, CGMP

Senior Meeting Planner

American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials (AASHTO)

555 12th St, NW, Suite 1000 *NEW ADDRESS*

Washington, DC 20004

Tel: 202-624-5403

E-mail: khendrickson@aaashto.org

10.

FASC Update and Treasurer’s Report – Tim Ziethen:

This item was tabled until the next call (1-10-23).

11.

Other – all:

With no other business forthcoming, Ray Hessinger adjourned the meeting around Noon Eastern.

Next meeting – 1-10-23

Decisions/Action Items

Treasurer’s Report – 12-13-22:

Total Initial Grant Amount: \$1,250,000.

Expenses Incurred through October 2022: \$1,060,656.68

Balance remaining: \$189,343.32

Current Spend Rate per month (as info and used in calculating): \$14,529.54

Estimated Balance at the end of the Extension Period (Contingency): \$29,536.05

Note: New web site design is authorized, and the cost will be deducted from ending projection shown. The cost of the website will be \$12,000.00. It is a fixed price contract.

2022 NGECE Backgrounder educational document as of 12-27-22:

The 2022 version of the two-page educational flyer remains available in both electronic and hard copy.

To date 625 copies have been distributed.

On the 2023 version of the two-pager:

The proposed changes to the two-pager for the 2-23 version were sent to MODOT graphic arts on 12-23-22.

Steve Hewitt will follow-up.

NGECE Website Refresh as of 12-27-22:

The website has been deployed and will officially go live by the end of this week (week of 12-26-22).

Status – Multi-State Rail Car Procurement as of 12-13-22:

The remaining Cab Car FDRs are in the final review and closure stage and the Cab Car dynamic framing representative approach has been submitted to FRA for review. IDOT Café Car system level FDR reviews are nearly closed.

The Cab Car Collision and Corner Post Appendix F testing is complete, and the Rev B test report has been approved. The

Cab Car emergency egress demo occurred on Tuesday, October 25 with Amtrak, and FRA in attendance. The Cab Car Coupler FAI is tentative for December.

117 cars are in production or have been produced at Siemens Sacramento Facility. Revenue Service relevant FMIs are in progress and open items related to Conditional Acceptance are being addressed. IDOT coaches are currently in revenue service and Caltrans is planning revenue start once all necessary agreements are in place.

On 12-13-22, John Oimoen, IDOT, added that a Café car is on its way to the climate testing chamber in Canada.

Next Update – 1-10-22

Status: – Connecticut DOT Rail Car Procurement:

On 10-12-22, Marci Petterson reported that they have just finished answering the second round of questions and are now going into the third round. The request for proposals deadline has been extended until January 2023.

Next Update – as appropriate

Status - Metro-North Dual Mode Locomotive Equipment:

Metro-North and Siemens continue with FDR and anticipate vehicle production to begin in January 2023.

Next Update: 2-3-23

Status - Amtrak Vehicle Procurements:

As of 12-13-22:

On the new Acelas:

They continue to work on qualification and testing.

On the Charger Locomotives (ALC 42):

They are progressing well. Twenty units have been shipped and 16 units are in service.

On the Intercity Trains (ICT):

They continue to progress well and are continuing in the Final Design Review (FDR) Phase and are on-track.

On the G38 yard locomotives:

Two have shipped and two are on their way.

Next Update: 2-3-23

Status - Document Control Management as of 12-27-22:

On 12-27-22, Tammy Krause reported that she would provide Steve Hewitt with the Summary of Changes later in the day for distribution to the full Technical subcommittee.

On 1-5-23 during the technical subcommittee call Tammy will review the changes and take questions.

On 1-19-23, during the subcommittee call, the intention would be to consider approval of the summary of changes for submittal to the Executive Board,

On 1-24-23, During the Executive Board call, the Chair will formally reconvene the Bi-Level car specification Review Panel and authorize Larry Salci to prepare a Review Panel Report.

At the Annual Meeting of the NGEC (2-3-23), as a part of her progress report for the year, Tammy will give a status on this specification update with the plan being for the Board to consider its adoption later that month.

Next Update – 1-10-22

VIA Rail Equipment Procurement:

On 2-25-22 – during the 12th NGEC Annual Meeting, VIA Rail provided a comprehensive update on its vehicle procurement.

VIA Rail has accepted the invitation to provide an update presentation to the NGEN during its 2-3-23 Annual Meeting. VIA Rail will participate virtually.

Next Update: 2-3-23 NGEN Annual Meeting

Status CRISI Grant Application:

On 12-13-22, Tim Ziethen reported that the CRISI Grant for funding for the NGEN was submitted on time (early). He thanked the Board for its feedback – especially in light of the short turnaround time.

Tim has requested a count on the number of support letters received and included with the application package.

Tim added that the Amtrak grants office was impressed with the number of support letters and the enthusiasm for this application.

The grants office also noted that the application was a strong and well put together document.

Tim will confirm whether or not FRA and/or Amtrak is still accepting letters of support.

Updates: States and Amtrak – Charger Locomotive and Venture Cars Experience:

In-depth updates were provided during the Annual Meeting and were included in the minutes.

The presentations were distributed and posted to the website.

Next Update: 2-3-23 NGEN Annual Meeting

NGEN 2023 Annual Meeting:

On 12-27-22, Steve Hewitt reviewed the DRAFT NGEN Annual Meeting agenda.

Actions:

Mike Murray, FRA, will let Steve Hewitt know who will give the FRA update.

Tim Ziethen and George Hull will let Steve Hewitt know who will provide the Amtrak update.

Kyle Gradinger will reach out to Stadler Rail for a representative to give a presentation on Hydrogen Fuel Cell Multiple Unit Train.

The relevant states who will be presenting will let Steve know who will give the presentation and whether or not the manufacturer will be a part of the presentation.

Steve reminded all members to let him know if they are attending and, if so, in-person or virtual.

Hotel reservation link:

Attendees can begin booking sleeping rooms here - <https://www.hyatt.com/en-US/group-booking/WASRW/G-RA1L>. Rooms must be booked by Monday, January 9th. Room Rate is \$188 per night plus 14.95% tax.

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Next Update 12-13-22

Status of 2022 Priorities as of 12-27-22:

Priority Area: Review/Update the Bi-level specification currently in Revision C.4. With Amtrak looking at using some of the funding from the new IIJA for its western fleet, it makes sense for the NGEC to review and update the Bi-Level car specification.

Action as of 12-27-22: Bi-Level Car Specification Review/Update is still with the technical working groups. The technical subcommittee review is expected to take place on 1-5-23 and the intent to have the Revision D updates adopted and signed by the Chair during the Annual Meeting – 2-3-22.

Priority Area: Review the car body materials issue from a broader perspective for all NGEC equipment not only DMUs. Ray would like to take a look at developing a consistent approach for all of the NGEC vehicle specifications.

Action as of 12-27-22: The Carbody Materials Working Group has about completed its work and will submit its recommendations to the Technical subcommittee in January 2023.

Priority Area: Review “emerging technologies”: On the technical subcommittee call of 12-9-21 the topic of emerging technologies for propulsion was raised. Ray Hessinger believed that the technical subcommittee should conduct a scan of the industry regarding emerging technologies for propulsion and how they relate to the NGEC.

Action as of 12-27-22: A presentation during the NEC Annual Meeting by Stadler Rail on Hydrogen Fuel Cell Multiple Unit Trains will be requested. Kyle Gradinger, Caltrans will make the request.

Priority Area: Review and consider using the Metro-North Dual Mode Locomotive Specification organizational changes to determine if they should be adopted by the NGEC and applied across the board to all NGEC specifications. This would be an administrative change not impacting technical content of any of the specifications and could be resolved by the Executive Board.

Action as of 12-27-22 -This is included in the DCM action Plan and will follow the Bi-Level Car Specification update or may begin simultaneously with making updates to that specification. Tammy Krause and the Technical Writer, Camren Cordell, have gone through the Metro-North Dual Mode locomotive specification format and have compared it to the PRIIA format. They are in the process of incorporating the Metro-North Dual Mode Specification’s administrative/format changes into the Bi-Level Specification and will do the same for each of the PRIIA specifications as they are updated.

Priority Area: Review/update NGEC Reference and Drawings series 305-900 and 305-800.

Action as of 12-27-22: This item is on the DCM action plan for 2022 – no activity on reviewing the reference documents per se, but Tammy Krause, Document Control Manager will be working with Jeff Gordon to create a new reference specification to address the Volpe Center information on CEM.

Action: This activity will be carried over into 2023.

Next Meeting -1-10-23

NGEC Executive Board Meeting

12-27-22

11:30 AM – 12:30 Noon Eastern

By computer:

<https://stephenhewitthewittconsulting.my.webex.com/meet/shewitt109>

By phone:

1-415-655-0001

Access code:

126-073-1531

Agenda

1. Welcome and Open the Meeting Ray Hessinger
2. Roll call Steve Hewitt

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| 3. Action Items Status Review | Steve Hewitt |
| 4. Approval of Minutes from 12-13-22 Executive Board Minutes | Ray Hessinger |
| 5. Multi-State Passenger Rail Car Procurement | Kyle Gradinger |
| 6. Update: Document Control/timeline | Tammy Krause |
| 7. Status: Website Refresh | Ray Hessinger |
| 8. Status: NGEN Two-pager | Steve/Ray |
| 9. 2023 NGEN Annual Meeting | Steve |
| - Finalize Agenda | |
| - Confirm Speakers | |
| - Confirm attendance by Board members | |
| 10. FASC Update | Tim Ziethen |
| - Balance/Spend Rate | |
| - Annual Meeting AV costs | |
| 11. Other | All |
| 12. Adjourn | Ray Hessinger |

Next Meeting – 1-10-23