SECTION 305/209 – NGEC – 514 Subcommittee

MINUTES SEPTEMBER 21, 2015
4:00PM EASTERN CONFERENCE CALL

FACILITATOR Jeremy Jewkes, Subcommittee Co-Chair

ATTENDEES
AASHTO: Bryan Hong; Amtrak: Darrell Smith, Mario Bergeron; FRA: Ashok Sundararajan, Beth Nachreiner; Caltrans: Brian Tsukamoto; CTDOT: Marci Petterson; NNEPRA: Brian Beeler; NCDOT: Allan Paul, Paul Worley; NYSDOT: John Bell; ODOT: Mike Jenkins; TXDOT: Quentin Huckaby; WSDOT: Jeremy Jewkes, Brent Thompson; WisDOT: Arun Rao

ABSENTEES CCJPA: David Kutrowsky

DISSCUSSION/ DECISIONS

1. Welcome and Open Meeting:
Jeremy Jewkes began the meeting.

2. Roll Call - Bryan Hong:
Bryan Hong called the roll.

3. Approval of the Minutes from 08-31-15 and 09-14-15 – Jeremy Jewkes/All:
On a motion by Paul Worley, and a second from John Bell, the minutes from the August 31st, 2015 and September 14th, 2015 subcommittee conference calls were approved as amended and without exception.

4. Action Item Status Review – Bryan Hong:

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5. Publication Schedule – Jeremy Jewkes:
The subcommittee was informed that at the end of the week Amtrak will be issuing the next draft, which it is hoping will be approved by next Monday. Not hearing from a state will be an assumed ‘yes’ vote. Darrell Smith reviewed the changes during the last meeting.

6. Discuss State Comments on Draft – All:
States and FRA were offered the chance to provide comments to Amtrak on the Draft CIP. Jeremy mentioned the potential confusion that can arise due to the various lines of communication (e.g. individual state corridors and contracts, 514 subcommittee, user group meetings) that exist for different purposes. Having definitions and a guide could help those who want to know whether they are going to the right person with their question(s). Mario also raised the 209 committee’s discussion about governance and bringing other functions together. He asked if it was feasible to work under their purview to define these things better, to which Jeremy replied that there are two lines of discussion: 1) the governance issue that is not well-defined at this point, and 2) the different process within 514 and how it currently stands within the organizational structure.

Darrell pointed to the roles and responsibilities section on page 6 of the draft and asked how this translates to the Draft CIP. Jeremy answered it is part of section 4 where the user groups and quarterly reconciliation meetings are described. After some discussion about the merits of sending a memo to the NGEC, it was determined that other issues related to 514 would be outlined in that method rather than included in the Draft CIP.
Brian Beeler mentioned his approval of the draft’s flow and layout. He wondered given that all the overhaul sections are saying the same thing or close to it, why not include them as one statement at the beginning to save both time and space. He also asked if other states and FRA felt that comments dealing with recurring issues of cost detail, scope specificity, and bringing equipment into a state of good repair were improved upon. Darrell replied that a couple changes were made specific to those items. First, a compendium was made available last year on a non-disclosure basis. Second, the new appendix section includes the details of each state’s contribution/charge per route. Some things in this year’s draft are compressed while others are expanded to meet FRA’s request. Ashok Sundararajan mentioned that as FRA continues to look at the draft, one thing it is looking into is how this CIP addresses the potential enhancements that it identified.

The subcommittee discussed the timeline for submitting comments to Amtrak and decided that states and FRA would have until Thursday, September 24th. Jeremy told the group to send them to Darrell Smith and Bryan Hong. Beth Nachreiner shared that equipment capital was not going to be part of the agenda at the upcoming SAIPRC meeting on the 30th and the 1st as Washington was not planning to attend, or unless something arises from this group. Darrell confirmed with Ashok that it would be ideal to keep larger policy issues out of the draft document. Jeremy agreed as those kinds of discussions are happening concurrently to the 514 subcommittee. He also pointed to the difference in the route maps as one aspect for members to keep in mind.

7. Other Issues

There were no additional issues raised by the subcommittee.

Next call - September 28, 2015 - 4:00PM Eastern

Adjourn -
With no further business to come before the subcommittee today, Jeremy Jewkes adjourned the call at 4:52 PM Eastern.

Next 514 conference call September 28, 2015

Decisions and Action Items

1. States and FRA will extend the previous timeline and further review the CIP draft, submitting comments to both Darrell Smith (darrell.smith@amtrak.com) and Bryan Hong (bhong@aashto.org) by Thursday, September 24th. These will be discussed during the meeting next Monday. October 5th is still targeted for approval.

2. The subcommittee will present the CIP draft for full NGEC review on Tuesday, October 13th during the committee’s regular meeting.

Attachments

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

SECTION 305/ 209 - 514 Subcommittee

Conference call
Call in number: 1 (888) 585-9008
Access code: 423-006-359
September 21, 2015
4:00pm, Eastern

AGENDA

1. Welcome/Open         Jeremy Jewkes
2. Roll Call          Bryan Hong
3. Approval of the Minutes from Previous Meeting     Jeremy Jewkes/All
4. Action Item Status Review        Bryan Hong
5. Publication Schedule        Jeremy Jewkes

Steps towards the Major Update (slightly adjusted schedule as of 9/16):
- Milestone: Approve 2016-2020 CIP out of 514 Subcommittee
  - Now through 9/14/2015 Draft Document from Amtrak (may have “Under Construction” sections)
  - 9/21/2015 States Comments Due
  - 9/24/2015 Draft-Final Document to 514 Subcommittee
  - 9/28/2015 514 Subcommittee Vote
- Milestone: Accept 2016-2020 CIP through the NGEC Executive Board
  - 10/30/2015 NGEC Executive Board Vote

6. Discuss State Comments on Draft        All
7. Other Issues        All

Decisions and Action Items 9/14

1. The subcommittee will approve the 08-31-15 and 09-14-15 minutes during the next call.

Next 514 Conference Call
September 28, 2015