

# SECTION 305/209 – NGENC – 514 Subcommittee

MINUTES      DECEMBER 14, 2015    4:00PM EASTERN      CONFERENCE CALL

<b>FACILITATOR</b>	<i>Jeremy Jewkes, WSDOT</i>
<b>ATTENDEES</b>	<i>AASHTO: Bryan Hong; Amtrak: Darrell Smith, Mario Bergeron, Tom Butler; CTDOT: Marci Petterson; FRA: Ashok Sundararajan; MDOT: Al Johnson, Jeff Martin; NCDOT: Allan Paul; NNEPRA: Brian Beeler; NYSDOT: John Bell; ODOT: Mike Jenkins; TXDOT: Steve Brock; WSDOT: Jason Biggs, Brent Thompson; WisDOT: Arun Rao</i>
<b>ABSENTEES</b>	<i>CCJPA: David Kutrosky; Caltrans: John Pagano</i>

## DISCUSSION/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 11-30-15 – Jeremy Jewkes/All:**

On a motion by John Bell, and a second from Allan Paul, the minutes from the November 30, 2015 meeting were approved as amended and without exception.

**4. Action Item Status Review – Bryan Hong:**

*Action Items from 11/30*

1. In the future, organizers will try to not schedule back-to-back calls that have a national audience, in order to prevent a drop-off in attendance for meetings regarding items such as Amtrak user groups.  
  
No action needed by the Subcommittee.
2. Amtrak will consider sending out materials in advance of upcoming user group meetings so states have more time to formulate thoughts and questions.  
  
No action needed by the Subcommittee.
3. WSDOT will continue working on drafts of both the memo to SAIPRC and the 514 Subcommittee Formal Procedures. Both will go to Amtrak for review.
4. The 514 Subcommittee will work with the NGENC Finance and Administrative Subcommittee (FASC) on eventual coordination of webpages through AASHTO.  
  
Darrell Smith reported that this action item is on the FASC's to-do list for its meeting on Wednesday, December 16<sup>th</sup>. It will consider the work done to the 514 website and whether/how to apply it across the entire website.
5. Starting in December 2015, the 514 Subcommittee will begin meeting once a month on the second Monday at the same time (4 p.m. Eastern).

An updated Outlook calendar invitation was sent to members by AASHTO reflecting this change.

**5. Formal Procedures Update – Jeremy Jewkes/All:**

Jeremy opened the discussion by asking for any comments or questions on the current draft. John thought the

procedures were thorough and mentioned an upcoming EPT work group as it connects with the 514 Subcommittee's work on equipment capital. The scope is still evolving but it will include discussing the interactions between SAIPRC and other work groups, with the intent being to record and document EPT-related changes moving forward (e.g. code updates from Amtrak).

Jeremy then asked for a motion to move the document forward as-is to the FASC and recommend it for consideration and inclusion in the formal NGEC Bylaws. On a motion by John Bell, and a second from Brian Beeler, the proposed formal procedures were approved as amended and without exception for review by the FASC.

#### **6. Memo to SAIPRC Update – Jeremy Jewkes/All:**

Jeremy mentioned there was not much in terms of an update for the memo itself.

In the interest of gaining feedback to relay back to others, he asked how much interest the group had in placing policy in a different realm. Is there a recommendation the 514 Subcommittee can provide that keeps the scope, schedule, and budget of the equipment together? SAIPRC considers the policy split from the rest, meaning the issues looked at by the 514 Subcommittee will be transferred to it along with their descriptions. Jeremy has also heard on national calls that equipment capital cost should also be a policy issue, but he is interested to know what 514 members think of that proposal. In one view cost as it refers to the distribution among the states is a policy issue. However, cost being what it is and dependent on the work (which is what the 5-year Plan is about) means it is inseparable from the 514 Subcommittee. As part of the review function what role should SAIPRC have in reviewing the costs within the CIP? While there would be no formal approval from SAIPRC on the CIP, but if SAIPRC dictates policy, then the 514 Subcommittee has to follow that policy as applicable.

John Bell did not consider SAIPRC's role to be one where it decides costs. Ron Pate and Brian Beeler thought that policy decisions that might impact costs would be where other groups relating to policy enter the conversation, rather than cost itself being split.

#### **7. Approval of the FAST Act and Relevance to the 514 Subcommittee – Jeremy Jewkes/All:**

Congress recently passed the FAST Act, which includes the state-supported route committee authorized under federal statute. Members were asked to think about what this development means given that formal funding already exists for another group, and about the appropriateness of organizing under 514 as opposed to some of the other groups. Darrell Smith clarified that the funds are only authorized, not appropriated. Therefore there is still uncertainty as to how much funding actually will emerge of the stated maximum amount. There is a specific mention of 305 in the Act, which the FASC will be discussing during its regular call on Wednesday.

#### **8. Other Issues**

Darrell mentioned that members should have been or will be contacted soon by Amtrak's State Partnership Group regarding its updated Fleet and Service Plan worksheet assumptions, which inform overall forecasts on the capital and operating sides. Some changes were made after discussions with SAIPRC but they were minor. Amtrak is looking for this information by the end of the month.

#### **Adjourn –**

With no further business to come before the subcommittee today, Jeremy Jewkes adjourned the call at 4:33 PM Eastern.

**Next 514 conference call January 11, 2016– 4:00PM Eastern**

### **Decisions and Action Items**

1. The Subcommittee approved the draft Formal Procedures and will send it to the Finance and Administrative Subcommittee for consideration and inclusion in the NGEC Bylaws.
2. Jeremy Jewkes will send the SAIPRC Memo to Brian Beeler and Darrell Smith for their review before sending it on to the chairs of the respective committees by the end of the month.

### **Attachments**

There were no attachments distributed for this meeting.

Next Generation  
Equipment Committee



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

## SECTION 305/209 – 514 Subcommittee

Conference call  
December 14, 2015  
4:00pm, Eastern

### AGENDA

- |   |                   |
|---|-------------------|
| 1. Welcome/Open   | Jeremy Jewkes     |
| 2. Roll Call  | Bryan Hong        |
| 3. Approval of the Minutes from 11-16-15                          | Jeremy Jewkes/All |
| 4. Action Item Status Review                                      | Bryan Hong        |
| 5. Formal Procedures Update                                       | Amtrak/All        |
| 6. Memo to SAIPRC Update  | Jeremy Jewkes/All |
| 7. Approval of the FAST Act and Relevance to the 514 Subcommittee | Jeremy Jewkes/All |
| 8. Other Issues   | All               |
| 9. Adjourn  | Jeremy Jewkes     |

Next conference call  
January 11, 2016