



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

SECTION 305 NGEC Executive Board

MINUTES

APRIL 7, 2020

11:30 EASTERN

CONFERENCE CALL

FACILITATOR	<i>Ray Hessinger Chair, S305 NGEC Executive Board</i>
ATTENDEES	Board Members: <i>Ray Hessinger, Charlie King, Tim Ziethen, Michael Lestingi, Amanda Martin, Momo Tamaoki for Kyle Gradinger, John Oimoen, John Oimoen also as proxy for Arun Rao, Troy Hughes, Jason Orthner, Mike Jenkins, Brian Beeler II</i> Support Staff and Colleagues: <i>Jeff Gordon, Michael Burshtin, Larry Salci, Tammy Krause, Steve Hewitt, Dave "Emeritus" Warner, Shayne Gill, Oscar Bermudez, Patrick Centolanzi,</i>
ABSENTEES	Board Members: <i>Ron Pate, also - Michigan State DOT – which has yet to name its representative to the Board, Arun Rao, Kyle Gradinger</i> Support: <i>Strat Cavros, Byron Comati, George Hull, Jon Dees, Mike Murray</i>

DECISIONS MADE

1.

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

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

2. Roll Call – Steve Hewitt, NGEC Program Manager:

Steve Hewitt called the roll and confirmed the presence of a quorum.

3.

Action items Review – Steve Hewitt:

Steve Hewitt reported that open action items not covered under the agenda this week will be included on the next call agenda, and the current status of each is included in today's minutes (4-7-20).

METRA Equipment Procurement Effort as of 4-9-19:

As of the last update – 4-9-19 - an RFP was on the street for 200-400 bi-level cars. They were going through the process. Interested parties were to respond by August 2019.

METRA has the NGEC specification, but John Oimoen did not know if the plan was to use it or if they would be in contact with the NGEC or not.

Status: On 4-7-20 Steve Hewitt asked John Oimoen, IDOT, if he would be able to provide a status update on this item on the next call (4-21-20). John agreed to do so. Steve will include it on the agenda for 4-21-20.

Next update: 4-21-20

Update: States and Amtrak – Charger Locomotive Experience:

In-depth updates were provided during the Annual Meeting and were included in the minutes (2-21-20). Presentations were distributed and posted to the website.

Next Update: as appropriate

NGEC Two-pager Educational Document 2020:

Steve Hewitt reported that the updated NGEC two-pager remains available in hard copy and PDF. To date over 150 hard copies and 250 electronic copies have been distributed.

Copies are available in either version by request from Steve Hewitt at shewitt109@aol.com

VIA Rail Equipment Procurement as of 2-21-20:

In-depth updates were provided during the Annual Meeting and were included in the minutes (2-21-20). Presentations were distributed and posted to the website.

Next update: as appropriate

Update – Metro-North Dual Mode Locomotive Procurement:

Ray Hessinger reported that Metro-North continues to evaluate RFP responses it has received.

Next Update – 4-21-20

Update: Amtrak Equipment Procurement as of 3-24-20:

Charlie King reported that Hornell (for the Acela) is closed for 30 days due to the Coronavirus crisis as are other relevant plants. Delays will need to be factored into the procurement process. Amtrak is in line as well at Sacramento, and, like Caltrans, is uncertain as to schedule impacts.

Charlie summarized that “a lot of stuff is on hold” due to the Coronavirus crisis.

He added that Amtrak has material on board, and the back shops are open, and employees are working. Amtrak has not directed any furloughs at this time. There are no Acela Trainsets on the NEC now, so they are in the maintenance process for deep cleaning and preparing for their ultimate return at some point.

Ray Hessinger commented that it is good to know that Amtrak is in the process of getting the equipment in the best condition possible and that people are still working.

Next Update – 4-21-20

Technical subcommittee review of the Access Board Advance Notice of Proposed Rulemaking regarding accessibility guidelines for Rail vehicles:

The intent of this effort is for states to submit their comments to the Access Board Docket on the Accessibility Requirement Guidelines Advance Notice of Proposed Rulemaking. Amtrak has submitted its comments already and will share them with the Executive Board. Once the comments have come back and there is a Final Rule, the Technical subcommittee (through its technical working groups) will compare them with the NGEC specifications to ensure compliance and make any necessary changes by utilizing the NGEC DCR process.

Next Update – as appropriate

4. Approval of the Minutes from the 3-24-20 conference call meeting – Ray Hessinger, NYSDOT:

On a motion by John Oimoen, IDOT, and a second by Troy Hughes, MODOT, the minutes from the 3-24-20 conference call meeting were approved as presented.

5. Developing a template – TSSSA - Ray Hessinger/Charlie King:

On 4-7-20, Ray Hessinger asked Charlie King for a status update on this activity.

Charlie reported that he has had several meetings on this looking at what we (Amtrak) can do and what we can provide. He noted that they have pulled out some models to get some ideas for a primer to be made available. He noted that he intends to go to the OEMs to sanitize some of the information before releasing it.

Charlie’s intent is to have something ready in two weeks for the Technical subcommittee to review and then it will be

sent on to the Executive Board.

He also reported that NGEC Document Control Manager, Tammy Krause, will create a separate file/document within her archive of documents which will ultimately be available via the usual NGEC process.

Ray Hessinger expressed his appreciation to Charlie for his efforts and for the fact that he is taking the time to sanitize the information to ensure that nothing proprietary is released.

6.

Treasurer's Report – 4-7-20 – Tim Ziethen, Amtrak:

Status: Grant Agreement extension request – Tim Ziethen, Amtrak:

Tim Ziethen reported that he spoke to the Grants office today (4-7-20). The plan, as he understands it, is for FRA to review the request in May – as they have a few others in the queue ahead of this one. Tim anticipates that there is no reason to think it will not be approved – it is pretty much straight forward.

Balance-Spend Rate:

Tim Ziethen reported:

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

Amount Spent: \$557,227.12

Balance remaining: \$ 692,772.88

Spend Rate per month: approximately \$13,590.91

Estimated balance remaining at the end of the current grant period (9-30-20) - \$577,636.54

Average Monthly expenditure estimated for the extension period is: \$15,000.00

Amount utilized if the Grant is extended for 36 months at estimated spend rate \$540,000.00

Projected total remaining at the end of the 36-month extension: \$37,636.54

7.

Update – Multi-State Rail Car Procurement as of 4-7-20 – Momo Tamaoki, Caltrans:

Momo Tamaoki provided the following update:

FDR for the standard coach is complete. The Cab Car structure FDR took place on February 27 and updated documents are in review. IDOT galley FDR reviews and releases are ongoing.

The Complete Coach FAI occurred on November 13-14 in Sacramento and open items are near closure. Non-domestic testing has been postponed due to travel restrictions. Video and photos are being provided for tests that SMEs are unable to witness in person. TTCI testing is complete, including Amtrak PTC, brake performance tests and static tests. Car #3 is being instrumented at Ivy City for 213 testing on the NEC. This testing is now scheduled to begin April 8th pending arrival of additional equipment.

49 cars total are in production or have been produced at Siemens Sacramento Facility. The production facility remains open under an Essential Business clause. System-level FAIs for standard coach are nearly complete with remaining action items under final review, including open items for the complete car. Four additional Caltrans cars were scheduled to ship to Stockton on April 3rd – but this has changed due to coronavirus situation. (Momo will keep the NGEC Board apprised of the new schedule once it has been set.) The first IDOT car shipment is currently projected for May 1st, but that may change as well due to the Coronavirus situation.

The project teams are monitoring potential production and schedule impacts due to the coronavirus and are receiving daily updates from SCOA and Siemens.

8.

Update: Document Control – Tammy Krause:

Tammy Krause provided the following update for inclusion in the minutes of today's call (4-7-20):

I have reached out to the Technical Writer about the Equipment Acquisition Best Practices Document and the Single Level Revision B, but I have not heard from her. I will continue to reach out.

I have reached out to Rich Stegner about the DMU specification and I now have almost all the DCRs created. I hope to

send them for initial review this week.

I have received 4 of the Technical Subcommittee Working Group updated member lists.

**9.
Other:**

With no other business forthcoming, Chairman Hessinger adjourned today's meeting (4-7-20) at 11:47am Eastern.

The next conference call will be 4-21-20

Decisions/Action Items

Update – Multi-State Rail Car Procurement as of 4-7-20:

Momo Tamaoki was unavailable for this call but provided the following update on 4-7-20:

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Metro North Dual Mode Locomotive Procurement – Update as of 3-24-20:

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Next update – 4-21-20.

Document Control Update – 3-24-20:

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Amtrak Equipment Procurement Update – 3-24-20:

Charlie King reported on 3-24-20, that Hornell (for the Acela) is closed for 30 days due to the Coronavirus crisis as are other relevant plants. Delays will need to be factored into the procurement process. Amtrak is in line, as well, at Sacramento, and, like Caltrans, is uncertain as to schedule impacts.

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Next Update – 4-21-20

VIA Rail Equipment Procurements – 2-21-20

At the Annual Meeting, 2-21-20, Mario Bergeron, Bob Becker and Joe Diliello provided an update on the ongoing VIA Rail equipment procurement and on overview of VIA Rail as a company.

The complete presentation was provided as a PDF file and was not re-printed in the Minutes but is available on the website and was distributed along with other NGECC presentations.

Next Update as appropriate

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Next update: 4-21-20

FASC update and Treasurer’s Report – as of 4-7-20:

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Updates: States and Amtrak – Charger Locomotive Experience:

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**S305 NGENC Executive Board Conference Call
4-7-20
11:30 AM – 12:30 PM Eastern
Call in number: 888 585-9008 conference access: 559-120-127**

Agenda

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| 1. Welcome and Open the Meeting | Ray Hessinger |
| 2. Roll Call | Steve Hewitt |
| 3. Action Items Status Review | Steve Hewitt |
| 4. Approval of Minutes from 3-24-20 conference call meeting | Ray Hessinger |
| 5. Developing a Template – TSSSA | Ray Hessinger/Charlie King |
| 6. Status: 36-month No-Cost Grant Extension Request | Tim Ziethen |
| 7. Update: Multi-State Car Procurement | Momo Tamaoki |
| 8. Update: Document Control | Tammy Krause |
| - Status: Compiling Single Level Trainset Specification 305-007 – Revision B | |
| - Status: Next Specification Update – DMUs | |
| - Status: Equipment Acquisition Best Practices Reference Document | |
| - Status: Updating list of Technical working group members | |
| 9. Other | All |

Next Meeting – 4-21-20