

# Technology Committee Meeting Minutes

Thursday, April 23, 2020  
Conducted through Email

## Call to Order

The meeting of the Technology Committee was called to order through email on Thursday, April 23, 2020 by Joshua Babel (Ariz.), chair.

## Attendance

The following members of the committee were sent the email: Joshua Babel (Ariz.), chair; Sarah Curry (Ore.), vice chair; Scott Kaiser (Ill.), vice chair; Melissa Bybee-Fields (Ky.), Andrew Carpenter (Colo.), Lee Cassis (W.Va.) Bernard Dean (Wash.), Nancy Ellison (Utah), Erin Gillitzer (Wis.), Jay Jacobs (Ky.), Mary Ann Krol (Ky.), Daniel Loyd (Ark.), Roberto Lusanta (Nev.), Lacy Ramirez (Ore.), Rebecca Silbernagel (Vt.), Jeff Takacs (Fla.), Steven Tilley (La.), Zach Twilla (Calif.), Jessica Upadhye (Calif.), Francisca Zabala (Calif.), Jefferey Beighley (Wis.), Paula Consigli (Mass.), Jacquelyn Delight (Calif.), Joy Engelby (Mo.), Misty Green (N.C.), John Hollman (Ill.), Crystaline Jones (Alaska), Tim Kehoe (Conn.), Anne Landgrebe (W.Va.), Amy Leach (Calif.), Melanie Newby (Va.), and Jeff Renk (Wis.).

## Approval of Minutes

Minutes from the PDS in Seattle will be approved at the next in-person meeting.

## Old Business

At the time of the committee meeting, the annual Fall Professional Development Seminar was still proceeding forward, and the Technology committee was asked to sponsor a concurrent session. Joshua Babel, Chair, asked for feedback from the committee on the Technology Committee-led concurrent session that was to be held in the fall with this message:

“It seems with the current affect this pandemic has had on all of our states and legislatures, we have had to do many things that have never been done before. Many states have enacted ‘remote voting’ and some, even full-on ‘remote legislatures’ to continue to conduct legislative business. With that in mind, we see this as an amazing opportunity to have a concurrent session that talks about this very thing. The topic would be ‘The Remote Legislature.’ With the purpose of focusing in on how states accomplished this and what it looked like for them (what worked and didn’t). This maybe a little too broad and we can narrow it, but I think the discussion is so beneficial as many states will probably be looking to be prepared if something like this happens again.”

Jay Jacobs responded with support of the idea and relayed to the committee that Kentucky used remote proxy voting to end their session. Steven Tilley proposed opening up the upcoming concurrent session to be both “in-person” and “remote” as some states may not be able to attend but would find the information helpful. Jeff Beighley (Wis.) responded with support of the idea and that the broadness of the idea is necessary as different states will have different questions. He also suggested that states could submit their solutions to the “remote” issue so a handout could be created and possibly inserted in the attendee book as well as have states show these

solutions at the Expo. Roberto Lusanta suggested that the topic could be split into two parts: one for committee remote solutions and the other for remote voting and participation for chamber work. Jeff Takacs cautioned the committee that the idea may shy some attendees away from the concurrent session on this topic if their state, like Florida, forbids the remote voting practice. He suggested it also include information on how the public can participate through technological means to help draw those states in as well.

**New Business**

No new business.

**Adjournment**

The meeting conducted through email was open until Thursday, April 30, 2020 and then was so adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Joshua Babel (Ariz.), chair