

Report to Kansas Legislature - Joint Committee on Information Technology
Kansas Virtual Statehouse Project
by Alan Weis, Legislative Chief Information Technology Officer
December 16, 2020

Update:

This report is an update from the last report to the committee on 11/12/2020. Below are the items in progress or completed.

Project Execution:

1. The Project Procurement Negotiating Committee (PNC) recommended World Wide Technology (WWT) as the vendor to implement the Kansas Virtual Statehouse systems. WWT will implement the systems using the Cisco Webex system. Below are the main decision points in selecting WWT:
 - a. WWT can meet the deadline to implement the committee room systems by start of the 2021 Legislative session.
 - b. The Cisco Webex system is integrated solution of hardware, software, and service.
 - c. WWT has provided good service to the Legislature in the past.
 - d. WWT has a working relationship with Mission Electronics, Inc. which will facilitate the integration of room audio systems.
 - e. Accessibility is a very important requirement of this project per the December 2019 directive of the LCC. The automated voice-to-text of the Webex system is accessibility compliant.
 - f. Cisco has an on-site mesh server option that will reduce network traffic to the internet.
 - g. WWT provided a good training service option.
 - h. The Webex system has been in service since 1995 and Cisco is continuing to innovate on the service. Cisco has announced new features for Legislatures.
2. During the LCC meeting on 11/19/2020, Tom Day, Director of Legislative Administrative Services, requested LCC approval for:
 - a. Expanding the project to implement systems in 10 Statehouse conference rooms and in the Statehouse Visitor Center auditorium and training room. The request was approved unanimously.
 - b. To grant the LCC chair the authority to approve the contract with WWT. The request was approved unanimously.
 - c. The WWT contract was signed by Speaker Ryckman on 11/19/2020.
 - d. The total cost of the WWT contract is \$2,724,076.77.
3. WWT placed the orders for equipment on 11/20/2020.
4. Most of the equipment of the WWT contract has been received and is on site. The only items not received are additional cameras for the for the committee rooms, those are expected to be received the week of 12/21/2020.
5. WWT started installing video displays on 11/24/2020. Most of the displays in the committee rooms have been installed as of this date. WWT has worked on the weekends to complete this work.
6. OITS staff started installing additional wiring on the committee rooms and data jacks in wiring closets on 12/9/2020. The additional wiring should be completed the week of 12/14/2020.
7. The additional equipment cabinet has been installed in the 548A-S wiring closet.
8. Additional WWT and Coltrane staff were on site the week of 12/7/2020 to prepare for installation of the video equipment in the wiring closets and the cameras in the rooms.
9. Camera shelves are being installed or relocated the week of 12/14/2020 by OFPM staff.
10. Staff training will start the week of 12/14/2020.

Project Risks realized, now Issues:

- Audio upgrades – The delivery of the equipment needed for the audio upgrades was delayed. This has delayed the audio upgrades by a week. Equipment installation will begin the week of 12/21/2020.

Statehouse Infrastructure Update:

1. Network Switch Upgrades: The project is 97% complete and is expected to be completed by 12/15/2020.
2. Legislative Firewall Upgrade: The Legislative firewall upgrade was scheduled the week of 12/7/2020 has been delayed to the week of 12/14/2020 due to the availability of the Cisco technician. This upgrade will provide 10GB bandwidth through the firewalls.
3. Audio System Upgrades: The audio system updates were scheduled to be completed by 12/20/2020. This work has been delayed due to equipment delivery and is now scheduled to start on 12/21/2020. WWT is working with Mission Electronics to integrate the audio systems with the video conference systems.

Critical Items to be completed:

- Complete Committee Room and Chamber systems.
- Complete Infrastructure updates.
- Test video conference systems.