

## CCMBC General Operating Bylaws – Proposed Amendment Commentary

The Covid-19 pandemic has dramatically transformed our world and how we must function. Following the recommendations provided by the Federal government for “[Annual meetings of federal corporations during the COVID-19 outbreak](#)”, the CCMBC Executive Board is proposing amendments to three articles in the General Operating Bylaws that will allow church delegates to attend the Convention online and to vote digitally. Here are the three amendments:

### **Article 22 Effective Date**

This Bylaw shall come into force ~~when enacted by the Conference at its Convention, July, 2016~~ on 23 April 2020 as enacted by a resolution passed by the Executive Board and as confirmed by the Conference at its Convention in June 2020.

First, the bylaw amendments must be enacted by the Executive Board. By enacting the bylaws in April, the bylaw changes can take effect immediately. Delegates are now allowed to register as “digital delegates” so that an online Convention can be hosted in June. The first order of business will be to conduct the bylaw amendment vote which is required to confirm the very changes that allow the vote. This is simply the necessary and legal order of operations to host an online Convention when the bylaws did not already include this provision. In June, if the delegates vote against these bylaw amendments, the AGM must be stopped. The old bylaws take effect. The convention must be postponed until people are permitted to travel and attend the Convention in person as usual.

### **Article 6 Conventions of the Conference**

#### **Section 5 Voting**

Each delegate to a Convention shall have one vote, which must be cast by the registered delegate, either in person or according to the Digital Voting Policy for Conventions of the Conference. Proxy voting shall not be permitted.

#### **Section 6 Quorum at Convention**

A quorum for any Convention shall consist of not less than one hundred (100) delegates registered at commencement thereof, in the absence of which no binding decisions can be made. Thereafter the delegates present in person and present digitally shall be deemed to constitute a quorum. The quorum shall be reduced to thirty (30) if the agenda is limited to the appointment of an auditor, approval of annual budget, and the receiving and approving of the financial statements.

Second, two sections of Article 16 must be amended so that people may register as “digital delegates” to attend the Convention online. Notice, this is an addition and not a replacement. Delegates can continue to attend the Convention in person should social distancing rules and travel restrictions be relaxed by June. The amendment makes reference to an Executive Board approved document, “Digital Voting Policy for Conventions of the Conference”. This document describes how digital voting is to be conducted. A policy document is being used to simplify the bylaws amendments while being clear and transparent about the procedures that will be used at Convention. This policy document is being provided to all churches along with the motion to amend the bylaws.

### **Article 16 Amending the General Operating Bylaw**

#### **Section 3**

Notice of motion to amend the Bylaw must be presented to all Member Churches ~~three months~~ six weeks before the Convention at which it is to be voted on. The notice of motion will disclose the movers of the motion.

Third, Article 16 is being amended to allow the AGM to be conducted on June 5,6 as originally planned. Without this amendment, the Convention must be postponed until July or August to allow 3 months notice. This delay could adversely impact some of the organizations which are electing board members.