



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
FIRST RESPONDER NETWORK AUTHORITY  
**GOVERNANCE AND PERSONNEL COMMITTEE RESOLUTION 11**  
**Recommendation on Governance and Personnel Committee Charter Revisions**

September 30, 2020

WHEREAS, the Middle Class Tax Relief and Job Creation Act of 2012 (Act) permits the First Responder Network Authority (FirstNet Authority), an independent authority within the Department of Commerce’s National Telecommunications and Information Administration, to “exercise, through the actions of its Board, all powers specifically granted by the provisions of this subtitle, and such incidental powers as shall be necessary;” and

WHEREAS, the Act also permits the FirstNet Authority to “take such other actions as the First Responder Network Authority (through the Board) may from time to time determine necessary, appropriate, or advisable to accomplish the purposes of this title;” and

WHEREAS, the Act requires the FirstNet Authority to govern itself in a transparent manner; and

WHEREAS, the FirstNet Authority desires to inform the public safety user community, state, regional, local, and tribal jurisdictions and the public as to how the FirstNet Authority is governed; and

WHEREAS, the FirstNet Authority Board has previously implemented a Charter for the Governance and Personnel Committee, which Charter requires annual review by the Governance and Finance Committee and the FirstNet Authority Board;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Governance and Personnel Committee hereby approves and recommends that the Board adopt the revised First Responder Network Authority Governance and Personnel Committee Charter as attached hereto as Exhibit A.

I, the undersigned, Board Secretary of the FirstNet Authority, do hereby certify that the above is a true and correct copy of a resolution adopted at the meeting of the Governance and Personnel Committee of the FirstNet Authority on September 30, 2020, at which a quorum was present and voted.

*Janell Smith*

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Janell Smith, Board Secretary

# **EXHIBIT A**



U.S DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
FIRST RESPONDER NETWORK AUTHORITY  
**GOVERNANCE AND PERSONNEL COMMITTEE CHARTER REVISIONS**

Revised: September 30, 2020

**Origin**

The First Responder Network Authority (FirstNet Authority) Board established the Governance and Personnel Committee to review and recommend actions (as described below) related to the FirstNet Board's roles, responsibilities, membership, and management; FirstNet's policies and procedures related to organizational governance; and Executive Director (ED) hiring and performance.

**Committee Membership**

The Governance and Personnel Committee shall consist of at least three Board members. Governance and Personnel Committee members shall be recommended by the Governance and Personnel Committee Chair and appointed by the Board Chair for such term or terms as the FirstNet Board may determine. Governance and Personnel Committee members shall serve at the pleasure of, and may be replaced at any time by, the FirstNet Authority Board Chair.

**Committee Structure and Operations**

The FirstNet Authority Board Chair shall designate one member as the Governance and Personnel Committee Chair. The Governance and Personnel Committee shall meet publicly in person or telephonically at least four times a year, with additional meetings to occur, or actions to be taken by unanimous written consent, when deemed desirable or appropriate by the Governance and Personnel Committee Chair or a majority of the Governance and Personnel Committee. The Governance and Personnel Committee Chair will determine the time and place for each meeting.

The Governance and Personnel Committee may, in its discretion, form and delegate authority to one or more subcommittees. The Governance and Personnel Committee Chair may invite such members of management to attend Governance and Personnel Committee meetings or portions thereof as the Governance and Personnel Committee Chair may deem desirable or appropriate. Any member of the FirstNet Authority Board may attend any Governance and Personnel Committee meeting and may participate as the Governance and Personnel Committee Chair deems appropriate.

## **Committee Duties and Responsibilities**

In addition to the principal duties and responsibilities described below, the Governance and Personnel Committee will undertake such other duties and responsibilities as the FirstNet Authority Board may delegate or direct and will report to the FirstNet Authority Board periodically and as may be deemed necessary by the Governance and Personnel Committee. The primary duties and responsibilities of the Governance and Personnel Committee are as follows:

1. Recommend policies and procedures that will assist the FirstNet Authority Board in making informed decisions;
2. Coordinate with management and other FirstNet Authority Board Committees to ensure that the FirstNet Authority Board briefings, FirstNet Authority Board meetings, FirstNet Authority Board Committee meetings, and all FirstNet communications adhere to established governance policies and procedures;
3. Review FirstNet's risk assessments and compliance program to ensure adherence to applicable laws and regulations;
4. Coordinate with the Assistant Secretary of the National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA) on the review of prospective candidates for the FirstNet Authority Board and recommendations to the Secretary of the Department of Commerce (DOC);
5. Coordinate with the Assistant Secretary of NTIA on the review of prospective candidates for the position of ED;
6. Provide guidance and input to the ED and Assistant Secretary of NTIA in the development of the ED's Annual Performance Plan; and
7. Provide regular feedback to the ED, and provide input to the Assistant Secretary for NTIA regarding the annual performance of the ED.

## **Annual Summary of Accomplishments and Charter Review**

The Governance and Personnel Committee shall review and reassess the adequacy of this Charter annually and recommend any proposed changes to the FirstNet Authority Board for approval. The Governance and Personnel Committee shall provide to the FirstNet Authority Board an annual summary of accomplishments. The FirstNet Authority Board shall compare the Committee's accomplishments with the requirements of this Charter. The summary to the FirstNet Authority Board may take the form of an oral report by the Governance and Personnel Committee Chair, or by any other member of the Governance and Personnel Committee. The Governance and Personnel Committee shall also facilitate an annual review of the FirstNet Authority Board accomplishments.

## **Resources and Authority**

In carrying out its responsibilities, the Governance and Personnel Committee shall have the necessary resources and authority, consistent with the Middle Class Tax Relief and Job Creation Act of 2012, to discharge its duties and responsibilities, including the authority to obtain advice or assistance from internal or external legal, human resources, accounting or other experts, advisors, or consultants, as appropriate, all in coordination with management and the FirstNet Authority Board.

Nothing contained in this Charter shall be construed as circumscribing the authority of the Inspector General under the Inspector General Act and applicable DOC Administrative Orders, and nothing in this Charter is intended to restrict the authority of the Inspector General to conduct, supervise, and coordinate audits, inspections, evaluations, investigations, and other reviews relating to the programs and any other operations of FirstNet.

Nothing contained in this Charter is intended, and it should be interpreted to exclude, any expansion of the responsibility of the FirstNet Authority Board or its members beyond, or violation of, applicable statutory or regulatory requirements and authorities.

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U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
FIRST RESPONDER NETWORK AUTHORITY  
**GOVERNANCE AND PERSONNEL COMMITTEE CHARTER**

Revised, \_\_\_\_\_

### Origin

The FirstNet Board established the Governance and Personnel Committee to review and recommend actions (as described below) related to the FirstNet Board's roles, responsibilities, membership, and management; FirstNet's policies and procedures related to organizational governance; and ~~Chief Executive Officer~~Executive Director (EDGEQ) hiring and performance.

### Committee Membership

~~The FirstNet Board Chair shall serve as the Governance and Personnel Committee Chair.~~The Governance and Personnel Committee shall consist of at least three Board members. Governance and Personnel Committee members shall be recommended by the Governance and Personnel Committee Chair and appointed by the Board Chair for such term or terms as the FirstNet Board may determine. Governance and Personnel Committee members shall serve at the pleasure of, and may be replaced at any time by the FirstNet Board Chair. ~~Only members of the FirstNet Board may serve as a member of the Governance and Personnel Committee.~~

### Committee Structure and Operations

The FirstNet Board Chair shall ~~designate one member as~~serve as the Governance and Personnel Committee Chair. The Governance and Personnel Committee shall meet publicly in person or telephonically at least four times a year, with additional meetings to occur, or actions to be taken by unanimous written consent, when deemed desirable or appropriate by the Governance and Personnel Committee Chair or a majority of the Governance and Personnel Committee. The Governance and Personnel Committee Chair will determine the time and place for each meeting.

The Governance and Personnel Committee may, in its discretion, form and delegate authority to one or more subcommittees. The Governance and Personnel Committee Chair may invite such members of management to attend Governance and Personnel Committee meetings or portions thereof as the Governance and Personnel Committee Chair may deem desirable or appropriate. Any member of the FirstNet Board may

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attend any Governance and Personnel Committee meeting and may participate as the Governance and Personnel Committee Chair deems appropriate.

### **Committee Duties and Responsibilities**

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1. Recommend policies and procedures that will assist the FirstNet Board in making informed decisions.
2. Coordinate with management and other FirstNet Board committees to ensure that the FirstNet Board briefings, FirstNet Board meetings, FirstNet Board committee meetings, and all FirstNet communications adhere to established governance policies and procedures.
3. Review FirstNet's risk assessments and compliance program to ensure adherence to applicable laws and regulations.
4. Coordinate with the Assistant Secretary of the National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA) on the review of prospective candidates for the FirstNet Board and recommendations to the Secretary of the Department of Commerce.
5. Coordinate with the Assistant Secretary of NTIA on the review of prospective candidates for the position of **EDGEQ**.
6. Provide guidance and input to the **EDGEQ** and Assistant Secretary of NTIA in the development of the **GEQED**'s annual Performance Plan.
7. Provide regular feedback to the **EDGEQ**, and provide input to the Assistant Secretary for NTIA regarding the annual performance of the **EDGEQ**.

### **Annual Summary of Accomplishments and Charter Review**

The Governance and Personnel Committee shall review and reassess the adequacy of this Charter annually and recommend any proposed changes to the FirstNet Board for approval. The Governance and Personnel Committee shall provide to the FirstNet Board an annual summary of accomplishments. The FirstNet Board shall compare the Committee's accomplishments with the requirements of this Charter. The summary to the FirstNet Board may take the form of an oral report by the Governance and Personnel Committee Chair, or by any other member of the Governance and Personnel Committee. The Governance and Personnel Committee shall also facilitate an annual review of FirstNet Board accomplishments.

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### **Resources and Authority**

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Nothing contained in this Charter shall be construed as circumscribing the authority of the Inspector General under the Inspector General Act and applicable Department of Commerce Administrative Orders, and nothing in this Charter is intended to restrict the authority of the Inspector General to conduct, supervise, and coordinate audits, inspections, evaluations, investigations, and other reviews relating to the programs and any other operations of FirstNet.

Nothing contained in this Charter is intended, and it should be interpreted to exclude, any expansion of the responsibility of the FirstNet Board or its members beyond, or violation of, applicable statutory or regulatory requirements and authorities.