

POLICY TYPE: GOVERNANCE PROCESS
POLICY TITLE: G5 - BOARD COMMITTEE PRINCIPLES
ADOPTED: 4-08
LAST REVISED:

Board committees, when used, will be assigned so as to reinforce the wholeness of the Board's job and so as never to interfere with delegation from Board to General Manager.

Accordingly:

- G5.1 Board committees are to help the Board do its job, not to help or advise staff. Their work is limited to those tasks specifically delegated to them by the Board.
- G5.2 Board committees ordinarily assist the Board by preparing policy alternatives and implications for Board deliberation. In keeping with the Board's focus on governance, Board committees normally do not deal with operations.
- G5.3 Board committees may be either standing committees, which persist, or *ad hoc* committees formed for a particular purpose and later dissolved. Policies under G5 apply to both standing committees and ad hoc committees formed for a particular purpose.
- G5.4 Board committee responsibilities (product and authority) are established in a written committee charter created and controlled by the Board. Expectations and authority will be carefully stated so as not to conflict with authority delegated to the General Manager.
- G5.5 Board committees report solely to the Board as specified by the Board in the committee charter.
- G5.6 Board committees may not speak or act for the Board except when formally given such authority for specific and time-limited purposes.
- G5.7 Board committees cannot exercise authority over staff. Because the General Manager works for the full Board, he or she will not be required to obtain approval of a Board committee before an executive action.
- G5.8 Non-board members may serve on Board committees at the Board's discretion. All committee members are expected to adhere to the Board Members' Code of Conduct (G4). Board committees must be chaired by Board members.