



Updated September 20, 2017

Board of Directors

The Board of Directors of [Grounded Solutions Network](#) bears responsibility for governing the organization, with an estimated annual budget of over \$4 million and a staff of 20 (as of late 2017). Our mission is to cultivate communities — equitable, inclusive and rich in opportunity — by advancing affordable housing solutions that last for generations. This is a national organization, and the make-up of the Board is designed to reflect that geographic span.

Responsibilities of the Board

- The Board supports the work of the organization and provides mission-based leadership and strategic governance.
- The Board is responsible for determining the organization’s strategic priorities and direction, helping to establish policies, working alongside executive staff to raise funds necessary to complete the organization’s work, representing the organization to the community at-large, and insuring sound financial management.
- Board members are expected to embrace and support the purpose of the organization to promote inclusive and equitable communities and the preservation of individual and community assets for low- and moderate-income households.

Board Composition, Election, and Terms

- The Board shall consist at all times of 9-15 Directors. Currently, there are 15 Directors.
- The Board of Directors shall strive to include Directors to meet the following priorities:
 - achieving diversity as to gender, race, and ethnicity of Directors; geography, size, and type of organization represented; and type of community served (e.g., urban vs. rural);
 - ensuring that an appropriate range of skills and experience is present in the Board; and
 - ensuring that the Board is effective in pursuing the mission of the organization and achieving goals identified by its leaders.
- Community of Practice representatives shall total no less than 40% of the composition of the Board. The current “Communities of Practice” are Community Land Trusts, Inclusionary Housing Programs, and Shared Equity Homeownership Programs.
- Remaining Directors will be at-large Directors, who bring key skills sets, relationships, and access to resources.
- The Community of Practice representatives are elected by Members, and other Directors are elected by the Board. Directors are elected to three-year terms and limited to no more than two consecutive terms or six consecutive years on the Board.

Board Committees

- The Board has an Executive Committee made up of the President, Vice-President, Secretary and Treasurer.
- In addition to the Executive Committee, standing committees of the Board include a Finance Committee, Audit Committee, and Nominations Committee.
- The Board may also establish additional committees or create task forces from time to time. Some committees established by the Board may include non-Board members.

Requirements and Expectations of Board Service

- The Board will meet a minimum of four times per year, but in startup year(s) may meet as often as monthly.
- The majority of Board and committee meetings are, by necessity, done by teleconference; however, the Board will hold in-person meetings at least annually. In startup year(s), the Board is expected to meet at least twice in person, with one of those meetings being at the national conference.
- Travel expenses are reimbursed by the organization; however, long distance phone charges are not reimbursable.
- Directors must be willing to attend the national conference or another national or regional event in which the organization plays an important role.
- Directors should plan to spend a minimum of five to six hours per month, with additional time for those serving on the Executive Committee or as committee chairs.