The Board
The Good the Bad and the Ugly

About Us
Gail Sonnenberg is the Vice President and Karen Cunningham is the President of MTRA.
The Board or the Executive Director

The answer: it depends on whether the board is acting as a body, or whether board members are acting as individuals. The key is remembering that the board is different from board members.
Board members are the fiduciaries who steer the organization towards a sustainable future by adopting sound, ethical, and legal governance and financial management policies, as well as by making sure the nonprofit has adequate resources to advance its mission.

Just as for any corporation, the board of directors of a nonprofit has three primary legal duties known as the -
- Duty of care
- Duty of loyalty
- Duty of obedience
1. **Duty of Care**: Take care of the nonprofit by ensuring prudent use of all assets, including facility, people, and good will;

2. **Duty of Loyalty**: Ensure that the nonprofit's activities and transactions are, first and foremost, advancing its mission; recognize and disclose conflicts of interest; make decisions that are in the best interest of the nonprofit corporation; not in the best interest of the individual board member (or any other individual or for-profit entity).

3. **Duty of Obedience**: Ensure that the nonprofit obeys applicable laws and regulations; follows its own bylaws; and that the nonprofit adheres to its stated corporate purposes/mission.

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**Board Roles and Responsibilities**

- What is the job description of a board chair?
- What is the job description of a board vice chair?
- What is the job description of a board secretary?
- What is the job description of a board treasurer?

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**8 BEST PRACTICES OF NON-PROFIT BOARDS**
8 Best Practices

1. Board member job descriptions and agreements
2. Clear financial giving expectations
3. Orientation
4. Equipping board members to be valued ambassadors
5. Tools for fund development
6. Board self-assessment
7. External counsel
8. Strong agendas and meeting facilitation

CAST YOUR VOTE FOR THE IDEAL BOARD CHAIR

Cast Your Vote

Superman  Spider-man  Kermit the Frog
What do a Doctor, a Lawyer and a Volunteer have in common?

10 THINGS EVERY BOARD MEMBER SHOULD KNOW AND UNDERSTAND

1) Board service is a job.
2) Your voice is as valuable at your first meeting as it is at your last.
3) You deserve a very good orientation.
4) The board is NOT an appendage to the organization.
5) You do NOT need to know rich people to be successful.
6) Your passion for the organization must be greater than your fear of asking.

7) If you miss two board meetings in a row, call your board chair.

8) You have power over staff – use it wisely and never abuse it.

9) You need to give a gift that is one of the top 3 charitable gifts you make.

10) PLEASE share rewarding stories of board service to folks “on the bench”.

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### 10 Fundraising Responsibilities of Every Board Member

1. Make a proud, personal annual gift.
2. Understand your organization’s fundraising program and strategies.
3. Help thank donors.
4. Communicate with donors and tell them about your organization’s great work.
5. Help identify prospective donors and open the door with introductions.
7. When appropriate, ask for contributions.
8. Support and encourage all fundraising activities and the fundraising team.
9. Ensure that fundraising has adequate resources and support.
10. Attend public events and bring prospects and friends.
Conflict of Interest

Statement of Ethical Standards

ITS TIME TO PLAY......WHO'S JOB IS IT!

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR ?
BOARD CHAIR ?
BOTH ?
“Of course you’re tired. Changing the world is an exhausting business.”

Resources

- [https://www.gailperry.com/fundraising/responsibilities-every-board-member/](https://www.gailperry.com/fundraising/responsibilities-every-board-member/)
- [https://www.councilofnonprofits.org/tools/resources/conflicts-of-interest](https://www.councilofnonprofits.org/tools/resources/conflicts-of-interest)