Origin

The Technology and Planning Committee is established by the Board to review, oversee and recommend actions (as described below) related to FirstNet’s medium and long-term technology strategies, plans, and research and development activities.

Committee Membership

The Technology Committee shall consist of at least three members. Technology and Planning Committee members shall be appointed by the Chairman of the Board and serve at the pleasure of the Chairman of the Board for such term or terms as the Chairman of the Board may determine and may be replaced by the Chairman of the Board. Each of the members of the Technology and Planning Committee shall be a member of the Board or otherwise in accordance with the Bylaws.

Committee Structure and Operations

The Chairman of the Board shall designate one member as the Chairman of the Technology and Planning Committee. The Technology and Planning Committee shall meet in person or telephonically at least four times a year at a time and place determined by the Chairman of the Technology and Planning Committee, with additional meetings to occur, or actions to be taken by unanimous written consent, when deemed desirable or appropriate by the Chairman or a majority of the Technology and Planning Committee. The Technology and Planning Committee may, in its discretion, form and delegate authority to one or more subcommittees. The Chairman of the Technology and Planning Committee may invite such members of management to attend Technology and Planning Committee meetings or portions thereof as the Chairman of the Technology and Planning Committee may deem desirable or appropriate. Any member of the Board may attend any meeting of the Technology and Planning Committee and may participate as appropriate.

Committee Duties and Responsibilities

In addition to the principal duties and responsibilities described below, the Committee will undertake such other duties as the Board delegates to it, and will report periodically and as may be deemed necessary by the Committee, to the Board regarding the Committee’s activities:

1. Review material network and technology strategies and operations, including with regard to device and technology roadmaps, core and radio access network development, operation and maintenance, standards compliance, security, and network performance, and make recommendations to the Board.
2. Review the material network and technology aspects of the annual budget (e.g. network, partner, vendor, technology, operations, standards, research & development, and service/product development aspects of the plan) and make recommendations to the Finance Committee.

3. Review the network and technology aspects of material agreements that require review by the Finance Committee and/or the Board, including roaming, public-private partnerships, covered lease agreements, vendor and supplier agreements, and infrastructure leases, and make recommendations to the Finance Committee and/or Board, as appropriate.

4. Review the network and technology aspects of management’s material outreach plans that require review by the Outreach Committee and/or the Board, and make recommendations to the Outreach Committee and/or Board, as appropriate.

5. Review the network and technology aspects of management’s material network policies and compliance therewith, including those subject to Outreach Committee review, and make recommendations to the Outreach Committee and/or Board, as appropriate.

6. In collaboration with management and the Board, promote efforts to foster and recognize innovation and technical collaboration by and between first responders, public safety agencies, wireless operators and suppliers, colleges/universities, consultants, start-up companies and individuals.

Annual Performance Evaluation and Charter Review

The Technology and Planning Committee shall review and reassess the adequacy of this Charter annually and recommend any proposed changes to the Board for approval. The Technology and Planning Committee shall produce and provide to the FirstNet Board an annual performance evaluation of the Committee, which evaluation shall compare the Technology and Planning Committee’s performance with the requirements of this Charter. The report to the Board may take the form of an oral report by the Chairman of the Technology and Planning Committee, or by any other member of the Committee.

Resources and Authority

In carrying out its responsibilities, the Technology and Planning Committee shall have the resources and authority the Technology and Planning Committee may deem desirable or appropriate to discharge its duties and responsibilities, including the authority to obtain advice or assistance from internal or external public safety, wireless technology, engineering, deployment, operations, legal or other experts, advisors or consultants as it deems desirable or appropriate, all in coordination with management and the FirstNet Board.

Nothing contained in this charter shall be construed as circumscribing the authority of the Inspector General under the Inspector General Act or is intended to restrict the authority of the Inspector General to conduct, supervise, and coordinate audits and investigations relating to the programs and operations of FirstNet.
Nothing contained in this charter is intended, and it should be interpreted to exclude, any expansion of the responsibility of the Board or its members under, or violation of, applicable statutory or regulatory requirements.