Back at the dawn of time (~2013), DPDK project was entirely consensus-driven.

This led to slower decision making, and slower development:

- Patches failed to get in due to lack of interest
- Patches were blocked by a single objector
- Arguments raged as to whether something was good, bad or just plain ugly!

So a technical board was created to allow trusted contributors to the project to make technical decisions on behalf of the whole community.
This tech-board was then codified in the DPDK Project Charter, which provides for two boards for project governance:

- Governing Board
- Technical Board

"Governance for DPDK will be provided by two boards:

- A Governing Board which deals with budget, marketing, lab resources, administrative, legal and licensing issues.
- A Technical Board which deals with technical issues including approval of new sub-projects, deprecating old sub-projects, and resolution of technical disputes.

These two boards are peers and work together to oversee the DPDK project."
In practical terms, this means that the technical board deals with:

- Approving the inclusion of new functionality, libraries or device classes, into DPDK
- Approving any new sub-trees or staging trees for DPDK project work
- Approving the appointment of committers/maintainers for those trees
- Approving any subprojects on DPDK
  - Once created – subprojects get their own technical board
- Providing technical input on contributions when requested
- *Making technical decisions when consensus cannot be reached on-list*
Who are we?

The 9 current members of techboard@dpdk.org are:

- Bruce Richardson
- Hemant Agrawal
- Jan Blunck
- Jerin Jacob
- Konstantin Ananyev
- Olivier Matz
- Stephen Hemminger
- Thomas Monjalon
- Yuanhan Liu
Meetings, meetings, meetings

- Initially, technical board only met “when necessary”
- In practice, it never really met, only when some major issue arose
- Since move to Linux Foundation, tech-board has been more active
- Now meets regularly, generally every two weeks
  - No one chair-person, role of meeting leader is rotated
  - Meeting agenda published to the dev list in advance
  - Anyone can request agenda addition by posting to dev list – tech-board may accept/reject request
  - Meetings held on IRC #dpdk-board on Freenode
  - Anyone can attend, and comment. Only members get to vote.
  - Meeting minutes published afterwards to the dev list
More information

- DPDK Charter: http://dpdk.org/about/charter
- Tech-board information page: http://dpdk.org/about/techboard
- Meeting minutes archive: http://dpdk.org/dev/techboard-minutes
Panel Discussion

SUGGESTED TOPICS

- Requirements for upstreaming a new API
- Managing PMD-specific functionality
- Ethdev API offloads
- CLI changes
- GitHub and draft trees
- Release planning/milestones
- Other topics....