The Productive Board -
STEPS TO TAKE AND PITFALLS TO AVOID

BE A DELIBERATE DECISION MAKING TEAM - you have no choice. It takes a majority to get things done. Deliberately decide together that you will fulfill your leadership responsibilities by working as a team.

- Commit yourself to the Mission
- Be respectful and respectable
- Put ego aside; be real leaders
- Really listen to each other and consider another viewpoint
- Create a meeting environment that allows and tolerates open dialogue
- Adopt the term “PROFESSIONAL LEVEL” for your Board

CLARIFY THE COLLECTIVE FUTURE – as leaders you are expected to do just that- LEAD. Your Board should be able to articulate where your agency is going and how it’ll get there. Then, integrate that direction into how the agency performs.

- Plan together, asking, "What would you like to say about the agency in 5 or 10 years?"
- Make policy that outlives you
- Hire, keep and properly manage a great executive

AVOID LETTING THE SMALL STUFF DE-RAIL YOUR PLAN – much of what we talk about is small stuff. Establish filters and even processes that preclude small stuff from taking over.

- Small stuff micromanagement
- Small stuff reports and information items
- When together in a public meeting, use the time to it’s highest and best use – planning – policy – principles – protocols – specific collective direction