Execution Accountability Playbook

The Execution Accountability Playbook closes the gap between a passed proposal and a verified outcome. Governance systems that vote reliably but execute unreliably produce the same result as governance systems that do not vote at all: decisions without consequences. This playbook defines the step-by-step procedure for converting a passed proposal into authorized action, recording that action in the provenance store via the C11 contract, tracking milestone delivery, reporting outcomes to the full DAO, and retiring governance processes that have stopped delivering value. It is the C11 producer: every executed governance decision emits a provenance record to s3-provenance-metadata-schema with decision_origin: governance-vote. The meta-governance rule is stated here for enforcement clarity: a passed contract-change proposal is the only authorized mechanism for amending any substrate file or interface contract at a MAJOR version — no other action, role, or circumstance authorizes a MAJOR amendment, and tooling will not emit a compliant C11 record for a MAJOR amendment that lacks a corresponding passed contract-change proposal.

1. Phase 1 — Post-Pass Authorization

When a proposal's voting window closes and the outcome is passed:

1. Tally verification. The Steward responsible for vote administration publishes the final tally within 4 hours of window close. Tally includes: total eligible weight, votes cast, abstentions, yes/no breakdown, quorum met/failed, approval ratio, and outcome. The tally is signed by the administering Steward and stored as evidence.

2. Veto window opens. The Executor is notified of the passed outcome. The Vetoer (if any, per c9-decision-rights-matrix) is formally notified that the veto window is running. The Executor must not act until the veto window closes without exercise.

3. Veto exercise (if applicable). If the Vetoer exercises the veto within the window, the Vetoer submits a written rationale. The outcome changes to vetoed. A C11 record is emitted with outcome: vetoed. The proposal may be revised and resubmitted; the revision clock restarts.

4. Execution authorization. When the veto window closes without exercise (or if the decision class has no Veto right), the Executor is authorized to proceed. The Executor must emit the C11 provenance record before beginning irreversible actions. Pre-emission is mandatory for financial disbursements, contract commitments, and on-chain transactions.

2. Provenance Emission (C11)

This section implements the C11 contract. Every executed governance decision emits exactly one C11 record to s3-provenance-metadata-schema.

2a. C11 Payload Schema

Field	Type	Allowed Values	Notes			
proposal_id	string	kebab-case	Must resolve to a c9-proposal-design-template instance in the proposal registry			
decision_class	string	per c9-decision-rights-matrix	E.g., treasury-allocation, contract-change, retroactive-reward			
outcome	enum	passed \	rejected \	vetoed \	quorum-failed	As determined by c9-governance-mechanisms-spec tally rules
decision_rights_ref	string	pointer to decision-rights matrix row	E.g., c9-decision-rights-matrix#treasury-allocation			
evidence_pointer	string	URI resolving to vote tally and proposal evidence pack	Must resolve at write time; dangling pointer fails the eval gate			
decision_origin	enum	governance-vote	Locked; no other value is valid for governance decisions			

Emission rule: Every governance outcome — pass, reject, veto, quorum-fail — produces exactly one C11 record. A governance event with no C11 record is a provenance violation and triggers an evidence-drift alert in s3-provenance-metadata-schema.

Heavy-payload handling: The vote tally, proposal body, and evidence pack are stored in full in the s2-audit-trail-schema audit record. The C11 record holds a {ref, hash, field} pointer into that audit record per the C3 split-storage model — it does not inline the tally or evidence body.

2b. C11 Emission Procedure

```
c11_record:
  record_id: <UUID v7, generated at emission time>
  audit_record_ref:
    ref: <s2-audit-trail-schema record_id for this governance run>
    hash: <sha256 of the audit record at emission time>
  proposal_id: <kebab-case matching the submitted proposal>
  decision_class: <class from c9-decision-rights-matrix>
  outcome: <passed | rejected | vetoed | quorum-failed>
  decision_rights_ref: <canonical reference to the matrix row>
  evidence_pointer: <URI to vote-tally.json and proposal evidence pack>
  decision_origin: governance-vote
  timestamp: <ISO 8601 with timezone, ms precision>
  owner: <Accountable role from c9-decision-rights-matrix>
  retention_class: <from s3-governance-retention-policy>
```

Sign-offs are recorded in s2-audit-trail-schema via the decision_trace[] mechanism:

```
{
```

```
  "event_id": "<UUID v7>",
  "timestamp": "<ISO 8601>",
  "agent_id": "<executor-role or steward-id>",
  "decision_origin": "governance-vote",
  "evidence_pointer": "<URI to signed tally>",
  "rationale": "<one sentence: proposal_id passed/rejected with N% approval, quorum Z%>"
}
```

2c. Meta-Governance Rule

A decision_class: contract-change proposal with outcome: passed is the only mechanism authorized to amend a C1–C12 contract or a substrate file (glossary.md, interface-contracts.md, or any s1-/s2-/s3- artifact) at a MAJOR version. This rule is enforced in two ways:

1. Procedurally: The Executor of a contract-change proposal must emit the C11 record before committing the amendment. Any amendment committed without a C11 record is a governance violation. The Accountable Steward must reverse the amendment or submit a retroactive contract-change proposal.

2. By lineage check: The s3-provenance-metadata-schema lineage chain for any MAJOR-version artifact must contain a decision_trace[] entry with decision_origin: governance-vote and a resolvable evidence_pointer pointing to a passed contract-change C11 record. A MAJOR-version artifact whose lineage chain lacks this entry fails the integration gate in builders-evaluation-gate.

No role, no emergency power, and no unilateral steward decision authorizes a MAJOR contract or substrate amendment outside this path.

3. Phase 2 — Execution Tracking

After the C11 record is emitted and execution begins:

1. Milestone tracking. For milestone-gated proposals, the Executor maintains a milestone log. Each milestone is updated as the deliverable is completed and the milestone reviewer signs off. The reviewer's sign-off is recorded as a decision_trace[] entry in the s2-audit-trail-schema record for that milestone tranche.

2. Disbursement sequencing. The Treasurer releases each tranche only after the milestone reviewer's sign-off is logged. The Treasurer does not disburse on verbal confirmation alone; the written sign-off and its timestamp in the audit trail are the authorization.

3. Deadline monitoring. The governance operations working group (or equivalent role) monitors active milestone deadlines weekly. Milestones at risk of missing their deadline are flagged at the monthly proposal pipeline review per c9-governance-mechanisms-spec §7.

4. Budget reconciliation. After each disbursement, the Treasurer reconciles the treasury balance and reports the updated reserve ratio. Any disbursement that would push the reserve below the floor defined in c9-resource-allocation-framework §1 is blocked and escalated to the Steward Council.

4. Phase 3 — Outcome Reporting

Execution accountability is not complete at disbursement; it is complete when the outcome is verified and reported.

4a. Outcome Evidence Requirements

When execution is complete (all milestones delivered or the proposal's execution deadline reached), the Accountable role submits an outcome report including:

- Completion status: delivered-in-full, partial-delivery, not-delivered
- Evidence of delivery for each milestone: links to the same evidence types required at proposal time
- Actual spend vs. proposed spend, with variance explanation
- Impacts observed vs. impacts claimed in the proposal summary

The outcome report is attached to the C11 provenance record as an additional evidence_pointer (appended, not replacing the original pointer).

4b. Outcome Reporting Cadence

Proposal Scale	Reporting Cadence	Report Format
Single disbursement, ≤ 30 days	One outcome report within 30 days of execution	Brief (≤ 1 page)
Milestone-gated, 31–90 days	One report per milestone + final outcome report	Milestone log + summary
Milestone-gated, > 90 days	Monthly progress report + milestone reports + final	Dashboard update + log

Progress reports are shared with the full DAO at the monthly governance review defined in c9-governance-mechanisms-spec §7.

5. Phase 4 — Process Retirement

Governance processes that consistently fail to deliver are more expensive than their value. This phase identifies and retires them.

5a. Retirement Triggers

A governance process (recurring working group, standing policy, or proposal template) is flagged for retirement review when any of the following conditions hold for two consecutive governance-review periods:

- Quorum-fail rate on proposals in this class exceeds 40%
- Outcome "not-delivered" or "partial-delivery" rate for executed proposals in this class exceeds 30%
- The working group operating under the process has not reported at its stated cadence for two consecutive periods
- The decision class produces no proposals in two consecutive periods (dormancy)

5b. Retirement Process

1. The Steward Council flags the process at the governance-review meeting and publishes the trigger condition with supporting data.

2. A 30-day remediation window opens. The process owners may submit a remediation plan addressing the trigger condition.

3. If no remediation plan is submitted, or the plan is rejected by the Steward Council, a working-group-charter dissolution proposal is submitted (or the decision class is deprecated via contract-change).

4. On dissolution: all in-progress proposals under the class complete their current cycle. No new proposals of that class are accepted after the dissolution date. Unspent funds revert to unallocated.

6. Worked Example — PP DAO Infrastructure Proposal Full Execution Cycle

Proposal: pp-dao-prop-2026-003 — AI inference hardware refresh (illustrative)

Pass → C11 Emission → M1 Execution

After the voting window closes on 2026-02-15 at 23:59 UTC (illustrative) with the tally showing quorum met and 77% approval, the Steward publishes the tally within 4 hours. The 48-hour veto window opens at 2026-02-16 00:00 UTC.

At 2026-02-18 00:01 UTC, the veto window closes with no veto exercised. The Executor (Treasurer) emits the C11 record:


```
{
  "record_id": "0191bc4a-9d3e-7f22-ae11-5c41d9e0b823",
  "audit_record_ref": {
    "ref": "0191bc4a-8c2d-7a11-9f00-4b30c8d0a712",
    "hash": "sha256:4f8a1c..."
  },
  "proposal_id": "pp-dao-prop-2026-003",
  "decision_class": "treasury-allocation",
  "outcome": "passed",
  "decision_rights_ref": "c9-decision-rights-matrix#treasury-allocation",
  "evidence_pointer": "s3://pp-dao/prov/prop-2026-003/vote-tally.json",
  "decision_origin": "governance-vote",
  "timestamp": "2026-02-18T00:15:32.000-06:00",
  "owner": "Treasurer",
  "retention_class": "dao-5yr"
}
```

After the C11 record is confirmed written (hash verified against s3-provenance-metadata-schema), the Treasurer initiates the M1 hardware order.

M1 Sign-Off → M2

On 2026-03-20, the hardware is delivered. The Site Manager inspects, logs the delivery receipt and asset tag, and signs off:


```
{
  "event_id": "0191cc5b-0e4f-7a33-bf22-6d52eaf1c934",
  "timestamp": "2026-03-20T14:42:00.000-05:00",
  "agent_id": "site-manager",
  "decision_origin": "governance-vote",
  "evidence_pointer": "s3://pp-dao/prov/prop-2026-003/m1-delivery-receipt.pdf",
  "rationale": "M1 delivered: hardware at 725 J D Miller Rd, asset tag PP-INF-2026-01"
}
```


The Treasurer disburses M1 tranche ($18,000 (illustrative)) only after this event is written to s2-audit-trail-schema.

Outcome Report

On 2026-08-16, the Technical Lead submits the M3 completion report: uptime 99.7% over the 90-day window. Cloud costs dropped to $7,800/yr (illustrative) vs. the projected $8,000. The outcome report is attached to the C11 record as an additional evidence_pointer. The Accountable (Treasurer) marks the proposal delivered-in-full in the governance dashboard.

7. Execution Accountability Failure Modes

Failure Mode	Signal	Correct Behavior
Execution before C11 emission	No C11 record exists for an executed action	Halt execution; emit C11 retroactively if reversible; accountability review for Executor
MAJOR amendment without contract-change pass	Lineage chain lacks governance-vote / contract-change entry	Reverse amendment; require contract-change proposal; Accountable Steward liable
Disbursement before milestone sign-off	Tranche released without reviewer log entry	Recover funds if possible; governance-violation record; accountability review
Outcome report not submitted	Proposal status remains "executing" past deadline	Steward Council flags; Accountable role notified; process-retirement trigger starts
Evidence pointer does not resolve	evidence_pointer in C11 record returns 404	Block the C11 record from passing eval gate; Executor must supply a resolving pointer before execution proceeds

8. Cross-Reference Summary

Artifact	Relationship
c9-decision-rights-matrix	Executor, Accountable, and Vetoer columns drive this playbook's role assignments
c9-resource-allocation-framework	Reserve floor check and milestone rules are enforced at disbursement time
c9-proposal-design-template	proposal_id in C11 record resolves to a proposal instance from this template
c9-governance-mechanisms-spec	Quorum and tally rules determine the outcome value in the C11 record
s2-audit-trail-schema	Sign-offs, milestone log entries, and tally records are written here
s3-provenance-metadata-schema	C11 records are written here; MAJOR-amendment lineage checks run here

Usage Notes

The single most common accountability failure is executing before emitting the C11 record. Build the tooling to enforce pre-emission: the disbursement step in your treasury tool should require a C11 record ID before it will execute a transfer. If your tooling cannot enforce this, make the Treasurer's checklist explicit: "C11 emitted: YES/NO" is the first item before any disbursement action. Review the retirement triggers annually; a dormant governance class left in place produces confusion and governance-theater overhead.