

**MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING OF
THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF
RUST FOUNDATION
(a Delaware non-profit corporation)**

Date: August 12, 2025

Time: 21:00 UTC

Place: By online videoconference

Directors present:

Travis Cross – representing the Rust Project, alternate for Santiago Pastorino

Jakob Degen

Eric Garcia

Eli Gild

Peixin Hou

Ryan Levick

Seth Markle

Scott McMurray

Carol Nichols

Alexandru Radovici

Nell Shamrell-Harrington

Others present:

Rebecca Rumbul (Executive Director)

Abi Broom (Director of Operations)

Gracie Gregory (Director of Communications and Marketing)

Paul Lenz (Director of Finance & Funding)

Lori Lorusso (Director of Outreach)

Joel Marcey (Director of Technology)

A quorum was present.

1. Opening Remarks

Ms. Shamrell-Harrington opened the meeting with opening remarks and a check for a quorum. She welcomed the quorum to the August 2025 Board meeting and handed the lead and logistics to Ms. Rumbul.

2. Approval of Minutes

A resolution was put forth to approve the minutes of the previous meeting, was briefly discussed, and approved by unanimous consent of the members of the Board present.

WHEREAS, the Board of Directors of the Foundation has reviewed the draft minutes of its regular meeting held on July 8th 2025, which were circulated to the Board (the “July 8th Minutes”).

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the July 8th Minutes are hereby approved.

3. Executive Director & Management Team update

Management

There was a discussion around recent job losses in the sector, the impact on key Rust maintainers, and how the Foundation could address this. Additional funding would be a requirement, and Ms. Rumbul asked the board to share their ideas on how this might be raised.

ARM had confirmed its commitment to increase membership to the Platinum level. A new proposal to Alpha Omega for funding in 2026 was being developed. Strategy development for 2026-2028 was in progress, alongside early planning for the October staff offsite in Edinburgh. The Foundation's new Director of Outreach, Lori Lorusso (replacing Paul Lenz), had started the previous week (and was present at the meeting).

Rust Foundation representatives would be attending and speaking at multiple events over the next couple of months, including RustConf, Open Source Summit Europe, RustChinaConf, Open Source Congress Brussels, and RustForgeNZ.

Technology/Infrastructure

Mr. Marcey gave the update. Trusted Publishing had been launched in production, with the publishing pipeline, user interface, and CI/CD integration already implemented. Consensus had been reached to adopt a TAP-16 Merkle Tree TUF implementation for crates.io, with a simplified top-level quorum under the Infrastructure team and KMS-based live signing. The Rust Project had also become a CVE Numbering Authority (CNA), hosted by Red Hat, enabling CVE assignment for its maintained assets. Work on Capslock, a capability analysis CLI, had been advanced through improved process tracing, bubblewrap-based scanning, and a multithread-safe libmagic wrapper. Conversations had been initiated with a potential engineer regarding funded vulnerability-surfacing work for crates.io.

On the C++ interoperability initiative the Foundation would be providing bridging funding to BorrowSanitizer, a dynamic analysis tool for detecting Rust-specific aliasing bugs in multi-language applications, through the end of 2025, with private sector commitment to funding it starting in 2026. The Foundation had joined SC22, the WG21 parent committee, in order to help drive interop friendly work, and a 2025H2 Rust Project Goal to map interop problem spaces was being championed.

Having got some key initiatives off the ground, Mr. Marcey was shifting his focus to the C++ initiative and other Foundation technical work. Leadership of the Safety-Critical Rust Consortium had been transitioned to someone embedded in the field to oversee its growing operations, and Niko Matsakis would be taking over as an interim lead for the specification team, with two 2025H2 goals (establishing processes and capabilities for keeping the FLS up-to-date,

and adding more missing content to the Reference to get even closer to a complete language reference) already in motion.

Mr. Marcey will give a keynote speech at a Lockheed Martin virtual conference since they are starting to look at and invest in Rust.

Finance & Grants

Mr. Lenz gave the update, noting an operating surplus in the month of \$95k, and that the Foundation's infrastructure team costs were largely now being covered by a Sovereign Tech Fund grant (invoiced in arrears).

The 2026 budgeting process was under way, with a number of different possible scenarios being modelled. Key next steps would be around firming up the Foundation's 2026-28 strategy in order to build a final version of the budget around those needs.

Mr. Lenz was in the process of handing over the grants program and other Rust Project funding to Ms. Lorusso and would support her in developing new plans for the remainder of 2025/2026.

Communications & Events

Ms. Gregory gave a recap of recent and upcoming communications output. She shared that the training program roadmap was now final and the creation of a steering committee for accreditation was in the works. The first chapter of the first course had been completed and reviewed by members of the Foundation's Technology team. For future course creation, assistance from the Rust Project in reviewing content would be valuable.

Ms. Gregory and Mr. Lenz shared details around ticket and sponsorship income for RustConf, noting the challenges of holding an event in the US in the current political climate and discussing some of the strategies the Foundation was considering to maximize sales.

4. Approval of Rustls as a hosted project

The Foundation had long held an interest in developing its ability to fiscally sponsor projects in the Rust ecosystem, and was intending to launch this soon under the banner of the "Rust Innovation Lab". The first project interested in becoming part of this initiative was [rustls](#), a production-ready TLS library already widely in use. Ms. Rumbul asked the Board to approve the acceptance of rustls into the Lab.

There was a discussion of the merits of rustls as a project, in which several board members spoke in highly positive terms about its value and utility in the ecosystem. The Board also discussed, for future projects, what a good application process and criteria for acceptance should look like, and asked the staff team to formalize this in public documentation.

The Board agreed that the Rust Foundation will act as fiscal sponsor for rustls under the banner of the Rust Innovation Lab.

5. Project Directors update

Ms. Nichols gave the update:

- Rust 1.89 had been released.
- LLVM 21 was now available in nightly, bringing compilation performance improvements.
- 2025H2 Project Goals were close to being finalized.
- The compiler-ops contract position had been renewed until December.
- The offer of free RustConf tickets for Project members was much appreciated.
- A new [Content team](#) was being chartered with the goal of creating and publishing more attractive content (e.g. blog posts, podcasts, videos, etc.)
- The Leadership Council had decided to commit to holding the 2026 all-hands meeting in the Netherlands again, run by RustNL.

6. Sub-committee updates

No sub-committees had met since the last meeting.

7. AOB

Ms. Rumbul reminded the board that there would be no meeting in September. The board expressed their thanks to Mr. Lenz and congratulations on his retirement.

8. Adjournment

There being no further business to come before the Board at this time, the meeting adjourned at approximately 22:46 UTC.