

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

Date: October 8, 2024

Time: 21:00 UTC

Place: By online videoconference

Directors present:

Lars Bergstrom

Jakob Degen

Eric Garcia

Peixin Hou

Ryan Levick

Seth Markle

Scott McMurray

Santiago Pastorino

Alexandru Radovici

Mark Rousskov

Nell Shamrell-Harrington

Others present:

Rebecca Rumbul (Executive Director)

Paul Lenz (Director of Finance & Funding)

Abi Broom (Director of Operations)

Joel Marcey (Director of Technology)

Apologies:

Gracie Gregory (Director of Communications and Marketing)

A quorum was present.

1. Opening Remarks

Mr. Bergstrom opened the meeting with opening remarks and a check for a quorum. He welcomed the quorum to the October 2024 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 September 10th 2024, which were circulated to the Board (the "September 10th Minutes").

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the September 10th Minutes are hereby approved.

3. Executive Director & Management Team update

Management

Ms. Rumbul updated the Board on progress with the DARPA and AWS contests since the last meeting. Mr. Levick said that the Project Directors had discussed this separately and wanted to put on record that they were concerned about the potential reputational risks associated, in particular around the AI ‘hype machine’. Separately, the Foundation had already produced a draft outline of its approach to AI, which the Board was invited to review and feedback on.

The new trademark policy draft had been shared with the all@rust-lang.org mailing list, with a feedback deadline of the 10th of the month. Useful comments had been received and the next step was to refine the draft before a final public consultation period. Ms. Rumbul said that Foundation staff would provide a briefing note for board members on how they can respond to common questions that may come up. Mr. Markle and Mr. Bergstrom both felt that the new policy should be supported by the Project. The Project Directors indicated that, as had been the case for the all@ circulation, Project leadership would discuss providing a statement of support.

Ms. Rumbul had been invited to pen the new foreword for the Rust Book 2024 Edition on behalf of the Rust Foundation, and the Foundation had been invited to support the OpenSourcePledge (a campaign to get organizations who rely on open source to commit to putting money into open source). The Board was happy to agree to both.

Technology/Infrastructure

Mr. Marcey gave the update. During a discussion between Foundation security initiative members and some members of the Rust Project at RustConf, it had been agreed in principle that implementing The Update Framework (TUF) for Rust was the best way to move forward with crate signing and mirroring. The Rust Infrastructure Threat Model had identified the lack of out-of-band backups for critical data assets of the Rust project as a major threat, and the technology team was working on mirroring all Rust releases and crates into a separate infrastructure on Google Cloud Platform (GCP). Also based on the threat models, investigations were beginning as to the best way to enforce Multi-factor Authentication (MFA) on critical Rust infrastructure.

The initial meeting of the Safety Critical Rust Consortium in Montreal had been a success. Infrastructure to support its work was being set up, and as a result of discussion about the safety critical industry’s need for an official Rust Specification that can be used in certification, validation and qualification efforts, the specification team would be revisiting the Ferrocene specification with the potential of bringing it into the Rust Project.

Finance & Grants

Mr. Lenz gave the update. Funding bids had been submitted to Alpha-Omega and the Sovereign Tech Fund. The final surplus for RustConf was expected to be around \$30k, compared to previous years when the conference had been a net cost to the Foundation. This surplus may not be repeated every year, since other host cities may prove to be more expensive than Montreal. However, the Foundation was comfortable with this, as it does not run conferences as a profit-making exercise.

2024 Fellows had now been onboarded and the public announcement would be issued as soon as all Fellows had provided their biographical details etc to go into it.

Mr. Lenz updated the Board on the Foundation's application for 501(c)(6) trade association status. The Foundation was seeking the advice of counsel on next steps and would keep the Board updated.

Communications & Events

Ms. Rumbul gave a brief update in Ms. Gregory's absence. She noted that the Foundation had run a post-event survey for RustConf which had received a high response rate, with attendees rating the event 4 out of 5. The survey had also asked about location preferences for future years. There was a brief discussion around this. Several board members were keen to hold "RustConf" / Foundation-organized events around the world, and Ms. Rumbul said that the Rust Global brand had been created with that in mind, and that planning had begun to run more non US/EU events of these kinds in 2025.

4. Q3 Performance Review and Q4 Goals

Ms. Rumbul gave an update on the Q3 goals set for the Foundation, all of which had been completed except for the Project Director board elections, the timeline for which had slipped by a month.

She outlined the following goals for Q4:

- Announce 2024 Fellows
- Confirm RustConf 2025 venue & plan 2025 smaller Rust Global events
- Conduct all annual reviews for staff
- Prepare 2025 budget and priorities
- New website go-live
- TM Policy approval
- Progress DARPA & AWS contests
- New PDs (if any) onboarded
- Attend OSS Member Summit, QCon

Ms. Rumbul noted that Foundation membership growth had slowed recently, and asked board members to assist with making new contacts.

5. Project Directors update

Mr. Rousskov gave the update:

- The 6-monthly [Leadership Council representative selections](#) had been completed
- Project Director elections were in progress, and newly elected PDs were expected to join the November meeting

6. Sub-committee updates

The **Technology sub-committee** was about to have a meeting to discuss the Rust/C++ interop strategy, which the Foundation expects to make public later in October.

7. Associate Membership Application

The Board considered an application for Associate Membership from OpenSource Science, which was approved.

8. AOB

There was no other business.

9. Adjournment

There being no further business to come before the Board at this time, the meeting adjourned at approximately 22:04 UTC.