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

Date: September 10, 2024
Time: 21:00 UTC
Place: Montreal, Canada; and 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)
Gracie Gregory (Director of Communications and Marketing)
Abi Broom (Director of Operations)
Joel Marcey (Director of Technology)

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 September 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 August 13th 2024, which were circulated to the Board (the "August 13th Minutes").*

> *NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the August 13th Minutes are hereby approved.*

3. Guest Speakers: Daniel Wallach, DARPA; Celina Val, AWS

Ms. Val's colleagues Felipe Monteiro and Rahul Kumar also joined online for this part of the meeting.

Mr. Wallach introduced DARPA's "Translating All C To Rust" (TRACTOR) program.

Ms. Val introduced AWS's tool, Kani, for verification of the safety of Rust code. AWS is interested in verifying Rust's standard library and has funds available.

There was a discussion on why the Rust Foundation is considered the right entity to host partnership activities such as these. Both speakers referred to the Foundation as the 'obvious choice' – a prominent organization with good contacts in the Rust community, a strong interest in building that community, and vendor-neutral (so, the ability to potentially attract additional funding from other organizations with an interest in the outcomes).

Ms. Rumbul asked if there were any objections in principle to the Foundation getting involved in either or both of these initiatives, and the board was content to proceed with the discussions. Mr. Pastorino asked for clarification on the process of formal sign-off. Ms. Rumbul replied that a proposal would be brought to the board before the Foundation enters into any contract with either DARPA or AWS.

4. Executive Team Update

Management

Ms. Rumbul noted that the DARPA and AWS programs, if they go ahead, will include sufficient funds to hire an additional member of staff to manage this work. Mr. Bergstrom asked for clarification on what this role would look like – a project/program manager, potentially with spare capacity to invest outside of running these programs as well.

Feedback from the board and Rust Project leadership on the new trademark policy was complete. After these points had been addressed, the policy draft would next be shared with the all@rust-lang.org mailing list including a covering message co-signed by the Leadership Council and Project Directors.

Technology/Infrastructure

Mr. Marcey gave the update. The first meeting of the safety critical consortium had been completed earlier that day – a positive discussion was held. Progress was also being made on the specification, using the Rust Reference as a base, and on the C++/Rust interop draft problem statement and strategy. Early access to the latter would be offered to Foundation member companies

Additionally:
- Crate provenance tracking running across the entirety of the crates.io corpus
- Crate deletion RFC approved and merged
- Crate publish notifications now live
- Full historic download statistics now publicly available
- Updating and securing infrastructure
- Working with Google to provide additional GCP credits for Crater
- Build.rs security exploration

Finance & Grants

Mr. Lenz presented the financial report. He noted that the Foundation's dedicated restricted funding for the Security Initiative was on the point of running out, but any deficit, should it arise, would be met from the Foundation's general surplus until additional funding for this stream of work was secured. A year 3 funding bid to Alpha-Omega and an application to the German Sovereign Tech Fund were to be submitted, with decisions due before the end of the year. As well as wanting to continue to support the Foundation's work to date, Alpha-Omega were interested in how it might be reusable in other ecosystems.

All Fellowship applications had been reviewed, decisions been made, and applicants informed of the outcome. In total, 19 Fellowships were awarded for 2024. Paperwork and onboarding were in process, after which a public announcement would be made.

Communications & Events

Ms. Gregory gave the update, which focused largely on RustConf. Consequently, other marketing and communications activities were on pause until after the event. She thanked Ms. Shamrell-Harrington for serving as emcee, and all of the member companies who had sponsored the event. Attendance projections had been exceeded by a large margin, workshops had sold out, as had exhibiting sponsorship packages. The conference was projected to make a surplus. This was a contrast with previous years, where with sponsorship and paying for event costs RustConf had typically <u>cost</u> the Foundation $40k annually, so it was pleasing to be able to put these extra funds back into the Rust community.

5. Project Director Update

Mr. Pastorino gave the update:
- Leadership Council representative selections were due, with a target date of September 27th
- Project Director elections were in progress, with both Mr. Rousskov and Mr. Levick standing for the role again
- An all-hands meeting was being planned alongside RustNL in Utrecht in May 2025
- Rust 1.81 had been released, which stabilizes some things in core and fixes a vulnerability
- A [blog post](#) about `impl Trait` changes had been published

6. Subcommittee Updates

The People Committee had met twice to begin planning for this year's evaluation of the Executive Director's performance. Feedback would be sought from board members in due course, along with feedback from the Foundation's membership and staff, the Rust Project, and other important stakeholders.

The DEI Committee had met to discuss and refine the Foundation's approach towards interactions between the Foundation and Project, and outreach to the broader community.

7. AOB

There was no other business.

8. Adjournment

There being no further business to come before the Board at this time, the meeting adjourned at approximately 22:41 UTC.