

Meeting: LLC Board

Date: April 12, 2023

Attendees

LLC Board:

Maja Andjelkovic
Lars Eggert
Mirjam Kühne
Jason Livingood
Sean Turner

Staff/Secretariat:

Sean Croghan
Jay Daley
Stephanie McCammon
Laura Nugent
Robert Sparks
Lisa Winkler

Observers/Guests:

None

Scribe:

Michelle Cotton

Conflicts of Interest Declared:

None

Part I: Open to the Public

1. Record e-vote results

One e-vote has been completed since the previous Board meeting.

a. The March 8, 2023 LLC Board Meeting minutes were approved with the board e-voting as follows:

Maja Andjelkovic: YES

Lars Eggert: YES

Mirjam Kuehne: YES

Jason Livingood: YES

Sean Turner: YES

2. Review & approve prior month's financial statement

The January and February 2023 financial statements are under review and will be circulated to the board by email.

3. Update on the IETF's technical work

One outcome from the IETF 116 was the eBPF BoF went well and it looks like that working group will charter. The working group wants to work on documentation that originated with the linux kernel and it's under GPL and BSD dual licenses. IETF legal is currently looking into the copyright/license aspects to make sure it is compatible with how the IETF works. We are waiting on the final analysis on this unusual situation. This may allow the IETF to do other things with open source communities.

4. Executive Director Report - Public

Public Executive Director Report

For the IETF Administration LLC Board meeting on 12 April 2023

This report is provided by the IETF Executive Director and is read through at the meeting as it is not available to observers. This report is public and there is no separate confidential report.

1. Strategic Matters

Nothing to report.

2. Policies

Antitrust

A complaint was raised that the antitrust I-D dispatching contradicted the result of the 2013 BoF and so the I-D was brought back to gendispatch at IETF 116 to provide a chance for that complaint to be discussed. No objection to the process was raised there and so it continues as AD sponsored.

There has been significant discussion about the I-D, with repeated concerns about it being used to prevent legitimate discussion. The authors continue to receive and respond to feedback.

3. Finance

Audit

The audit has started. So far we have no feedback on progress.

Director of Finance

We are now at the final interview stage for this role.

2023 Financial Statements

I have received the January and February statements but due to IETF 116 and my subsequent PTO I have not been able to check them prior to seeking board approval. I aim to do this later this week.

4. RFPs and contracts

Nothing to report

5. Meetings

Fee Review

[Consultation](#) on this has now closed though there has been extensive discussion since the closing date. Much of the feedback has been supportive and uncontentious and so the recommendations for those parts are as follows:

1. Go ahead with the proposed increases for the onsite and remote early bird and standard fees for IETF 117. Almost all of the feedback has been strongly supportive.
2. Go ahead with the proposed increase for the remote late fee for IETF 117. While there remain a couple of community members who want all remote fees dropped, this view does not appear to have community support.
3. Either go ahead with the planned 20% increase in the onsite late fee for IETF 117 (from \$1000 to \$1200) or increase the late fee even further. Feedback has been towards the latter, though no analysis has been undertaken of the potential impact.

The main area of contention is around introducing a fee for the Hackathon. This is a complex area of discussion: the Hackathon has grown organically, it is seen by some as quite different from the rest of the IETF meeting, we have a lack of data to inform the discussion (though we can work to produce it), and the concerns raised such as reducing participation and supporting new participants, cut across more than just the hackathon.

While I do not agree with any of the reasoning for not introducing a fee, and I am comfortable that the safeguards we proposed will protect participation, there is definitely a gap here in terms of what principles we use to make such a decision. So, rather than recommend that we go ahead with the changes for the Hackathon, I propose to write up a set of meeting fee principles and then set those out as the basis for introducing a hackathon fee.

The Secretariat advises us that the proposed changes to the Hackathon fee cannot be implemented in time for IETF 117 (this is unsurprising given the complexity involved), and so this approach does not introduce a delay.

[The board then discussed where there was consensus for change and Jason agreed to write up a vote motion that will be sent after the meeting.]

Meeting Venue Review

This was discussed at gendispatch at IETF 116 and dispatched as follows:

Create a separate mailing list for these discussions with an active moderator. Jay to distill out the 4 initial proposals into concrete topics and bring them to the community, and get "enough" feedback. Collect the feedback from the community by mailing list and present back to the gendispatch list or group as needed. Depending on this feedback process, decide again where to go in future; it will either be stable enough for AD-sponsorship or unstable enough to need a WG.

Work will begin on this shortly with us identifying the parts that can be implemented immediately (e.g. dropping the Terminal Room) and coalescing the remaining elements into a simpler set of discussion points.

Remote Fee I-D

No progress to report.

6. Tools/RPC/RSWG/RSCE

Database migration

The planned database migration was unable to complete during the allotted window and so we will be imposing an extra downtime period at short notice to complete this. This migration is one of the many steps we are taking to repay significant accumulated technical debt with the explicit aim of ensuring that we do not need such downtime windows in the future.

New team member

We have a new senior developer starting shortly, Jennifer Richards, who has been working for us for some time through our development partner Painless Security. The switch to becoming an employee was entirely amicable and Painless Security will continue as a key partner.

7. IESG/IAB/IRTF/Trust

Nothing to report.

8. Communications/Outreach

Nothing to report.

9. Fundraising

Networking Event at IETF 116 Yokohama

This event and the subsequent follow ups went very well. We expect this to be a good template for future events. Many thanks to the board members who supported this event.

10. Miscellaneous

Nothing to report.

5. AOB & Questions from Observers

None

Part II: Board + Staff

1. COVID cases for IETF 116

The number of COVID cases at IETF 116 were discussed. Comments for the consultation on removing IETF-specific COVID management rules for IETF 117 San Francisco and beyond will be accepted before 17 April 2023.

2. Venue status for IETF 119

Laura Nugent provided an update on the venue contracting for IETF 119.

Part III: Board + ED Only

1. Director of Finance search update

Jay updated the board on the search for a director of finance.

2. Antitrust I-D discussion

Jay and the board discussed the current state of the community discussion on this topic.

3. Discussion of new Asia venues and the need for community assessments and site visits

Jay and the board discussed some potential countries in which future meetings may be held and some alternatives to these if negotiations, technical issues, or political issues become factors. In particular, there is interest in returning to China or territories nearby or associated with China. Factors in venue consideration will certainly include unfiltered internet access as well as other venue requirements. There were some uncertain concerns pertaining to venue visits and it may be advisable to have Jay attend any such venue visits.

4. Discuss fundraising coordination with ISOC & goals for future agreement

There was a brief discussion on how to better coordinate with ISOC on fundraising, especially if both organizations are targeting the same companies.

5. Further discussion of IETF 119 contract negotiations

Jay provided an update on venue negotiations for IETF 119 and explained the alternative venue option in case this one falls through. The board urged Jay to push aggressively to close negotiations ASAP given this meeting is less than a year away.

Part IV: Board Only

No topics were discussed