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

Date: May 14, 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)
Gracie Gregory (Director of Communications and Marketing)
Joel Marcey (Director of Technology)
Abi Broom (Director of Operations)

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 May 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 April 9th 2024, which were circulated to the Board (the “April 9th Minutes”).

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the April 9th Minutes are hereby approved.
3. Executive Team Update

Management

Ms. Rumbul gave the update. The Foundation had been working with Project leadership on allocating funding to their priorities, and a fund to support maintainers’ travel to events had been approved and was now issuing its first grants. Collaboration was also in progress with leadership on a new draft of the trademark policy.

In the policy and research arena the Foundation was working with other OSS foundations (Eclipse, Apache, Python) on EU CRA Standards, with OpenSSF on DARPA’s AIxCC Challenge, providing information to CISA on a piece of research on open source infrastructure costs, and discussing some potential library work with a consortium including ISRG. These discussions are at an early stage and the details will be clarified after further meetings should progression be considered.

Rust was awarded nine projects in the Google Summer of Code, significantly above expectations and the 2-3 that a first-time organization normally achieves.

Events this month at which the Foundation will be represented: RSA, SOSS EU Policy Summit, RustNL.

Technology/Infrastructure

Mr. Marcey gave an update on recent technology team achievements: Painter now categorizes RustSec CVEs and helps to find which types are most prevalent; crates.io database performance has been improved, and testing now uses async/await. An application had been made to AWS for continued support via credits in 2025, at the same level as the current year.

The Foundation was exploring the possibility of convening a Safety Critical Consortium. The first step in this would be to document its vision and scope. Mr. Radovici noted that there was a lot of interest among the Silver membership in this, and industry pressure to make progress.

The specification work had been moving slowly due to the difficulties of building consensus, and at a recent reflection point the working group had decided that Mr. Marcey should take on decision making powers. The first output of this was a decision to use the Rust Reference as the starting point for the spec.

Job offers had been made to candidates for Rust/C++ Interop Software Engineer Lead and Infrastructure Engineer roles.

Finance & Grants

Mr. Lenz presented the financial report, noting that the Foundation was now starting to receive interest income from certificates of deposit. A rebudget would be carried out for the next
meeting. 2023’s Form 990 had been completed and was expected to be submitted to the IRS by the May deadline, with no extension necessary.

The 2024 Fellowship program was not yet launched as the Foundation was still exploring ways to ensure it most effectively supported the goals of the Rust Project. There is significant new work in progress being undertaken on those.

Since the last board meeting the staff had researched options for the incorporation of a “Rust Foundation Europe”, and circulated a paper detailing how this might be achieved in Belgium. Advice from local professional experts would be needed to develop a more detailed proposal. Mr. Lenz asked the board for approval to spend a few thousand dollars on progressing this, which was granted.

Communications & Events

Ms. Gregory outlined a summary of recent communications output, and plans for ramping up activity in various areas (case studies of Rust success, progress on the new Foundation website, more public reports on the technology team’s work) now that the new Marketing Program Manager was in post. There was a brief discussion of ways to expand and increase communications with member companies / the Rust Project.

RustConf speaker selections had been made from the CFP submissions and announcements were beginning. Ms. Gregory noted that sponsor interest had been good to date, and reiterated that RF member companies will receive a 10% discount on sponsorships.

4. Project Director Update

Mr. Rousskov gave the update:
  - Rust 1.78 was released, featuring expanded UB checks in debug mode.
  - Started participating in an open source promotion plan with potential help from the Foundation.

5. Sub-Committee Updates

No committees had met since the last meeting, but following the appointment of Scott McMurray as Treasurer, the Finance Committee would be scheduling more regular meetings.

6. AOB

There was no other business.

7. Adjournment

There being no further business to come before the Board at this time, the meeting adjourned at approximately 21:58 UTC.