

Meeting: LLC Board

Date: November 20, 2024

Attendees

LLC Board:

Roman Danyliw
Jason Livingood
Mirjam Kühne
Sean Turner
Shauna Turner

Staff/Secretariat:

Sean Croghan
Jay Daley
Sandy Ginoza
Stephanie McCammon
Cindy Morgan
Laura Nugent
Debbie Sasser
Robert Sparks
Lisa Winkler
Greg Wood

Observers/Guests:

Andrew Campling

Scribe:

Liz Flynn

Conflicts of Interest Declared:

None.

Part I: Open to the Public

1. Record e-vote results

Six e-votes have been completed since the previous Board meeting.

a. The October 9, 2024 LLC Board Meeting minutes were approved with the board e-voting as follows:

Roman Danyliw: YES
Mirjam Kühne: YES
Jason Livingood: YES
Sean Turner: YES
Shauna Turner: YES

b. The August 2024 Financial Statements were approved with the board e-voting as follows:

Roman Danyliw: YES
Mirjam Kühne: YES
Jason Livingood: YES
Sean Turner: YES
Shauna Turner: YES

c. The revised Conflict of Interest form was approved with the board e-voting as follows:

Roman Danyliw: YES
Mirjam Kühne: YES
Jason Livingood: YES
Sean Turner: YES
Shauna Turner: YES

d. The 2023 Meeting Recap reports were approved with the board e-voting as follows:

Roman Danyliw: YES
Mirjam Kühne: YES
Jason Livingood: YES
Sean Turner: YES
Shauna Turner: ABSTAIN

e. The Strategy for Private Assets for 2025 was approved with the board e-voting as follows:

Roman Danyliw: YES
Mirjam Kühne: YES
Jason Livingood: YES
Sean Turner: YES
Shauna Turner: YES

f. The September 2024 Financial Statements were approved with the board e-voting as follows:

Roman Danyliw: YES
Mirjam Kühne: YES
Jason Livingood: YES
Sean Turner: YES
Shauna Turner: YES

2. Review & approve prior month's financial statement

Debbie Sasser reported that the October statements should be circulated for board review within a day or two.

3. Update on the IETF's technical work

Roman Danyliw reported on the big success of IETF 121. There were four productive BOFs, which will take different paths forward. The IESG has a decision to make about the alldispatch experiment, which is an attempt to be a newcomer friendly way to onboard new work. The IESG is collecting community feedback on next steps. The online fee waiver program continues to be a success so that participants from all over can participate with no financial barriers.

4. Executive Director Report - Public

Public Executive Director Report

For the IETF Administration LLC Board meeting on 20 November 2024

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. There is no separate confidential report.

1. Strategic Matters

WSIS+20

I remain concerned that the IETF does not have a planned response to threats of government takeover that I believe are likely to emerge from the WSIS+20 process. Several meetings at both IETF 121 Dublin and ICANN 81 Istanbul have highlighted that the

technical community as a whole is slow to prepare for this, but many other parts seem much further ahead than the IETF.

2. Policies

Antitrust I-D and Venue Requirements I-D

RFC 9680 "Antitrust Guidelines for IETF Participants" has now been [published](#). The Venue Requirements I-D is due to proceed to AUTH48 soon.

3. Finance

Budget 2025

A verbal update was provided at the meeting.

4. RFPs and contracts

Nothing to report.

5. Meetings

IETF 121 Dublin

IETF Dublin went very well with a total of 999 participants onsite and 593 remote, for a total of 1592. Some notable points raised in the operational wrap-up include:

- There was a major Datatracker outage affecting some sessions. A [full report](#) was sent to all participants.
- 51% of all traffic was IPv6. It is likely that the NOC will change the main SSID "ietf" to be IPv6 only with nat64 for future meetings.
- Meetecho are investigating using the local Raspberry Pi for the onsite slide clicker, rather than tying up a WG Chair laptop.
- Dublin has surprisingly good coffee.

IETF 125, possibly in China

Despite extensive support from CNNIC and Huawei, we are still a long way from contracting for IETF 125. Unfortunately, the proposed venue is not taking us seriously and has been asking for a fee for the meeting space that is unacceptably high. A further verbal update will be provided in the Board + Senior Staff section.

Multiple meetings open in the registration system

As previewed, we were able to open registrations for IETF 122 Bangkok before IETF 121 Dublin started, in order to support those who have to apply for visas several months in advance, or obtain internal sign-off, or who wish to book far in advance. We hope to make this the normal practice, but it may not be possible for venues where there is a long process to register for local VAT/GST.

IETF 121 Dublin Global Hosts meeting

We met with our Global Hosts at IETF 121 Dublin for a very productive meeting. Some key points in the feedback were:

- Limited negative impact from the recent dearth of social events and several positives from a host perspective.
- Support for more meetings in conference centres with multiple local hotels, if that allows for us to visit cities we could not otherwise meet in.
- Strong requirement for an annual report for sponsors to share internally.
- Still much more difficult for some to justify a sponsorship agreement compared to a membership as offered by other SDOs.

6. Tools/RPC/RSWG/RSCE

AI in third party IT systems

Almost every business app that we use (Zoom, Slack, Trello, etc) now includes some form of AI assistant. Following an informal consultation with the IESG and IAB a couple of months ago, we routinely opt-out or turn these off, in order to prevent our confidential discussions and data from being used to train a LLM.

Mail migration

The existing contractor, shocked and humbled by their failures to date, have proposed to continue working for us, free of charge to complete the migration. As we remain

concerned about their ability to deliver, we are discussing with them a first stage of moving the mail system, as is, into the cloud and thereby removing our reliance on AMS infrastructure.

Separately, we continue to search for an alternative contractor, but finding people with deep knowledge of email is proving difficult.

Errata system evolution

The RPC convened a stream managers meeting at IETF 121 to discuss the discussion document on the evolution of the errata system, which resulted in a detailed discussion. The discussion document considered a comprehensive approach to responding to questions/queries from consumers of RFCs, some of which might end up as errata.

However, this exposed a significant tension between two competing requirements that is still to be resolved. The first of these comes from the stream managers: that any discussions around errata must avoid fragmenting the work of that WG/RG and therefore should be on the WG/RG list. The second comes from the RPC, RSCE and LLC: that we should treat consumers of RFCs as a distinct group, separate from IETF participants (and much larger), and therefore not force them into 'drinking from the firehose' of IETF participation.

To get around this, it was agreed that the RPC would concentrate solely on errata and not the broader issue of assisting consumers of RFCs.

RPC and Tools retreats

We have pencilled in 7-8 April 2025 for an RPC retreat and 10-11 April 2025 for a Tool retreat. All staff have been asked to reserve their applicable dates.

7. IESG/IAB/IRTF/Trust

IESG/IAB support

IETF meetings provide a good opportunity for meeting with the IESG and IAB and also means the LLC comes away with various tasks, which will be reported on in due course.

8. Communications/Outreach

DNS industry briefing

We have a new [page](#) on our website targeting the Domain Name industry. We still need to do much more work to expand this (e.g. provide details of who from that industry is already participating, and provide much more detail about the work and successes) and sharpen its focus on those who already understand the importance of the DNS.

9. Fundraising

ICANN 81 Istanbul

Together with Roman as IETF Chair and Stephanie as AMS Director, Meeting Operation and Sponsorship, I attended most of ICANN 81 in Istanbul. We were able to meet with several of our sponsors to discuss our future support, all of whom were positive. We also met, quite by accident, with the CEO of NIXI (the .in registry) and a government official, regarding sponsorship and support of a meeting in India.

10. Miscellaneous

Nothing to report.

5. AOB & Questions from Observers

Andrew Campling: Since you mentioned DNS specifically; you'll be familiar that ICANN ran an annual DNS symposium in Colombia this year. I'm told there's a chance next year it will be in either Africa or the Middle East. If you were looking to maintain linkage with DNS people, that could be useful for you.

Jay: The DNS symposium is generally technically focused which doesn't have COs and policy people, so that's why we don't focus there.

Andrew: Second question; There used to be a head of fundraising. Given the importance of fundraising, any plans to have a professional fundraiser on the team?

Jay: It is part of Stephanie's role to do fundraising which she's been doing for 20 years, so I think that counts. It's only a part time part of her role. No, we're not currently looking at further

resources in that area; if we were, it would be more around the admin support work of researching and identifying prospects, setting up meetings, etc.

Part II: Board + Senior Staff

1. Network & Tools Discussion

The Board asked questions about the stability of the tools platforms, mainly the Datatracker, following the outages at the last IETF meeting. The Board discussed whether additional resources would help, or reprioritization of current work items, or other steps. Jay indicated no incremental resources were needed and he is working on a SOW now with a company to assist. Board members reiterated that Datatracker outages significantly impact the standards process and are not acceptable and the Board was here to help.

The IETF meeting network was also discussed. Jason noted that he posted a wish list of items on the mailing list about data from the network. Jay explained the history of the NOC team, including the contractors supporting the meeting network. The Board discussed ways to address this in the future.

2. Stephanie: Fundraising Update

A new supporter will come on in 2025 and a Global Host has agreed to host 122; waiting for agreement to be signed before announcing. Global Host agreement renewals for Nokia & Ericsson are still in process. Stephanie also mentioned that Global Hosts have asked for an annual IETF report for sponsors. Global Hosts felt this will be helpful in making sure those relationships stay strong - they can circulate the report internally to show the business value of the IETF's work.

3. March meeting

The Board discussed a new meeting date for March 2024. This discussion will be moved to Slack.

Part III: Board + ED Only

The Board discussed the timing for finalization of the 2025 budget, including:

- Release of budget and budget narrative [imminent]
- Updated presentation of long-term financial trends to community [assigned to Q1]
- Plan for fee increases for 2025 [going to an e-vote]

The Board also discussed the need to prioritize modernization of the RPC's tools in 2025. The objective is to modernize - existing tools are over 20 years old - and in the process make the RPC's job easier and improve the speed of creating RFCs.

The Board also continued discussion of the meeting network and NOC team and agreed to have a more in depth discussion in December or January.

Part IV: Board Only

The Board discussed the timing of the annual review for the ED.

Jason also covered his plan for finishing the 2nd IASA2 review before EOY.

Roman provided a read-out of his participation in the recent ICANN meeting.

Shauna provided a brief NomCom update. One topic discussed was the mismatch between NomCom member experiences and understanding IETF LLC and IETF Trust job descriptions and candidate experiences. This is a topic that has come up annually since the LLC was created and was mentioned in the first IASA2 review. Jason said he can include it again in the second IASA2 review.