

**OFA XWG Meeting  
August 10, 2017  
11am Mountain**

1. Roll Call:

Board Members:

**At-Large / Jason Gunthorpe**

At-Large / Bob Noseworthy

Broadcom / Eddie Wai

**Cray/Paul Grun**

HPE / Andy Riebs

Huawei / Daqi Ren

IBM / Bernard Metzler

Intel / Jim Pappas

**Jump Trading / Christoph Lameter**

**LANL / Susan Coulter**

LLNL / Matt Leininger

Mellanox / Gilad Shainer

**NetApp / David Dale**

Oak Ridge / Scott Atchley

Oracle / David Brean

Sandia / Mike Aguilar

Unisys / Lilia Weber

Also present:

**OFA/Jim Ryan**

**Intel / Divya Kolar**

**LLNL/Parks**

2. Approve XWG minutes from 3 August 2017

Jim Pappas and Divya Kolar proposed a change me made in the minutes in Section 4.

The minutes originally read:

Original statement in minutes: Intel provided the bridge funding with the stipulation that funding would be to support Jim Ryan (OFA) who has a background with the Open Fabrics Alliance and that the funding would run out on 31 December 2017.

Instead of a change in the previous line, approval by the group had the following line added:

Divya's proposed change: "Intel provided the bridge funding with the stipulation that funding would support smooth OFA operations. This funding would run out on 31 December 2017"

A motion was made by Susan Coulter (LANL)

A second was made by Divya Kolar (Intel) on behalf of Jim Pappas

3. "It was mentioned that Jason's slot at the Plumber's Conference will be during the RDMA track, instead of the main session - as the main session slots were full. This will change the subject matter somewhat - in particular, convincing the larger kernel community that the RDMA 'sub-system' needs to be seen as a functioning sub-system with overlap with and effect on the other parts of the kernel"
4. Executive Director job description was discussed. Currently, the Executive Director job description reads:

#### OpenFabrics Alliance Executive Director Job Description

"The role of the Executive Director (ED) of the OpenFabrics Alliance (OFA) is to implement the strategic plans of the OFA in a cost-effective and time-efficient manner. This requires the ED to assist in complex and long-running projects, providing insight and leadership to achieve successful completion. The ED will be expected to lead the effort to both retain existing OFA members and encourage new membership in the OFA.

Other responsibilities include playing a strong role in both the logistics and technical content planning for the annual workshop, as well as participating in the identification of other organizations and conferences with whom the OFA could build synergistic relationships. The ED may be expected to fill in as Secretary or Treasurer in the absence of those officers. In the case of hiring staff, the ED will play a role in the work required to define, advertise and fill these positions. The ED reports to the Board of Directors and the Board of Directors grants the ED the authority to perform tasks. The ED is accountable to the Chair of the Board of Directors and will be required to provide status reports on a regular basis."

5. Budget discussion
  - We have \$48,362 in projected surplus for this budget year and an \$11,402 projected surplus in the budget for next year.
  - Susan Coulter (LANL) made a proposal to dip into the account showing around \$300,000 (account balance after the legal expenses was projected to be around \$341,878 on 31 May 2017) savings to pay for a Kernel Maintainer and Executive Director. The idea was to get us started with employees in both positions and to fund them for 6 months to 1 year.
    - Christoph Lameter (Jump Trading) liked the proposal by Susan because it would allow us to move forward and work out the details on how both of these positions would work as we move ahead. The mission statement was brought up by Paul as far as I can recall. Christoph thinks that these new positions will work within the context of the mission statement but he does not think that the mission statement could be defined in an iterative process. The actual functioning of those positions have to be worked out which is independent of the missions. I think it is important to spend

money towards the future of an OFA. An OFA that is relevant and contributes towards its missions which is the enhancement of RDMA software. That the OFA contributes in a significant way to RDMA technology is often questioned by open source developers.

- Paul Grun (Cray) had misgivings about the Open Fabrics Alliance hiring an Executive Director and Kernel Maintainer out of our account savings.
  - Paul made note that a current account balance is not savings.
  - Paul requested that if we wish to hire a Kernel Maintainer and an Executive Director, that a proper budget and accounting take care of the payroll for the employees.
    - Paul stated that he felt that OFA has a fiduciary responsibility to add recurring expenses, such as employees into the budget. ‘Spending without knowing how to raise money later just because you have money in the bank is bad policy. Budget first, and if needed then raise dues to members.’
- Jason Gunthorpe (At-Large) wanted to note that the Open Fabrics Alliance is ‘sitting on’ over \$300,000 in surplus money. He asked when and how we ever expected to spend that money?
- Susan Coulter (LANL) proposed that we start a conversation about what proper salaries would be for an Executive Director and a Kernel Maintainer. Then, we would be able to advertise and possibly make hires to fill those positions. Also, we would begin to know what salaries to place into the budget would be.