

**OFA XWG Meeting  
October 5, 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 / Bill Lee** for Gilad Shainer

NetApp / David Dale

Oak Ridge / Scott Atchley

Oracle / David Brean

**Sandia / Mike Aguilar**

Unisys / Lilia Weber

Also present:

**LANL/Jesse Martinez**

**OFA/Jim Ryan**

Intel/Paul Bowden

LANL/Parks Fields

2. Approve XWG minutes from 9/28

A motion to approve the minutes was made by Paul Grun (Cray). The motion was seconded by Bill Lee (Mellanox). The minutes were unanimously approved.

3. OFA-owned meeting service – status

The OpenFabrics Alliance would like to have its own online meeting capability. Having an online meeting capability will allow the OpenFabrics Alliance to more efficiently set online meetings up.

Jim Ryan (OFA) shared information on online meeting support capability from Blue Jeans, ZOOM, and WebEx. Price and technology are the delimiters being used to evaluate each of the meeting services. Jim has been using ZOOM with a personal \$15.00 plan, just to test its meeting service. The OpenFabrics Alliance is planning on doing further testing of the ZOOM software and will discuss the test results at the next XWG meeting.

The OFA Board would like to have an actionable budget item to vote for at the next Board meeting for a possible meeting service expenditure.

4. Privacy Statement – status

There were some comments and modifications to the Privacy Statement. Jim will hand off the Privacy Statement to our legal representative, John Mitchell. If there is an approval at the next Board meeting, we will place the Privacy statement on the OpenFabrics Alliance website.

5. NVMe

It was noted by Jim Ryan (OFA) that Broadcom had placed onto a website a demonstration video from the Flash Memory Summit to showcase NVMe with *Fibre Channel* and *TCP/IP*. Though Christian Lameter (Jump Trading) have a talk at the Flash Memory Summit to explore the potential of using InfiniBand to access NVMe, no mention was made of using fabrics, outside of the Flash Memory Summit.

It was agreed that the Media Working Group (MWG) will be used to try to approach Flash Memory Summit support members about using OpenFabrics iWARP, RoCE, and InfiniBand to access NVMe. It is felt that the MWG will be able to ‘showcase’ the benefits of using fabrics to access NVMe using the new Verbs APIs.

6. Linux Foundation Statement of Work

The Linux Foundation is responsible for collecting the OFA dues and paying the OFA bills. We have an agreement under a Statement of Work, not a signed contract, that states the service responsibilities of the Linux Foundation, on behalf of, the OpenFabrics Alliance. The previous agreement, drafted in 2016, was handed around to XWG members, at that time.

The current Statement of Work was drafted for the Linux Foundation in 2016. The OpenFabrics Alliance is reviewing the 2016 Statement of Work for updates for 2018.

The Linux Foundation is currently losing money performing their service work under the agreement. The Linux Foundation is looking to provide services and to collaborate with the OpenFabrics Alliance. As such, the previous agreement was drafted as a “loss leader” agreement. We want to check into other services that the Linux Foundation provides. It is possible that the service price for the Linux Foundation work may go up if we don’t find additional work for the Linux Foundation to perform.

7. Budget / Reserves / Surplus

The OpenFabrics Alliance would like to hire personnel to perform new functions in support of its members. Money for the new hires would temporarily come out of

reserve money residing in the OFA bank account. Paul Grun (Cray) stated that Cray is not in favor of covering expenses with surplus reserve money unless the OpenFabrics Alliance agrees to a 1 year experiment to increase expenses for extra paid staff. Susan Coulter (LANL) stated that it was a general OFA Board view that if things work out for the 2018 test with the additional staff, then the OFA Board can work to increase revenue by increasing membership dues starting the 2019 budgetary year.

To determine how much of a 'funds reserve' must be maintained in the OFA bank account, Jim Ryan (OFA) has redone the income and expenses using Generally Accepted Accounting Principles (GAAP). The new budgetary layout is done with a 'lights on' and other expense set of categories. We decided on a recommended contingency bank balance of \$140,000.

To determine the expenditure amount for the new staff, Susan Coulter (LANL) will put a proposal plan together for a Maintainer and an Executive Director for 2018 for the Board.

8. Draft Mission Statement:

Provide a neutral environment for community assets and infrastructure in support of the development and enhancement of highly performant networking software, and the integration of that software with new and emerging technologies.