

**OFA XWG Meeting Minutes**  
**June 30, 2016**

1. Roll Call:

Board Members:

- Broadcom / Eddie Wai
- Cray/Paul Grun
- IBM / Bernard Metzler
- Intel / Jim Pappas
- Jump Trading / Christoph Lameter
- LANL / Susan Coulter
- NetApp / David Dale
- Oracle / David Brean
- Sandia / Chris Beggio
- Mellanox / Bill Lee

Also present:

- Jim Ryan / Independent (OFA)

2. Approval of minutes from last week

- 2.1. Corrections to minutes sent out. Susan will send with agenda. Request for correction to minutes, Minutes approved from last week.

3. Mailing lists – please insure we have all the interested/appropriate parties. The OpenFabrics server will ultimately host these lists when we agree they are correct and/or Ken has time.

- 3.1. Susan Coulter sent out mailing list. Susan Coulter created list “**ofaboard**” based on board members. The “**ofaplus**” list was created using the Promoters List as it currently stands on the OpenFabrics web site. There are more than just Promoter members on that list. Susan Coulter will use two lists for communication and invitation to XWG call regarding XWG moving forward. The list will be maintained on OFA listserv. Susan Coulter made request to attendees to add interested parties to list.

- 3.2. [ofaboard@lanl.gov](mailto:ofaboard@lanl.gov) is just the 15 voting members, created for convenience

[skc@lanl.gov](mailto:skc@lanl.gov)

[eddie.wai@broadcom.com](mailto:eddie.wai@broadcom.com)

[grun@cray.com](mailto:grun@cray.com)

[zarka.cvetanovic@hpe.com](mailto:zarka.cvetanovic@hpe.com)

[weifeng.shen@huawei.com](mailto:weifeng.shen@huawei.com)

[bmt@zurich.ibm.com](mailto:bmt@zurich.ibm.com)

[jim.pappas@intel.com](mailto:jim.pappas@intel.com)

[christoph@lameter.com](mailto:christoph@lameter.com)

[shainer@mellanox.com](mailto:shainer@mellanox.com)

[david.dale@netapp.com](mailto:david.dale@netapp.com)  
[hanleyja@ornl.gov](mailto:hanleyja@ornl.gov)  
[david.brean@oracle.com](mailto:david.brean@oracle.com)  
[cabeggi@sandia.gov](mailto:cabeggi@sandia.gov)  
[william.weber@unisys.com](mailto:william.weber@unisys.com)  
[leininger4@llnl.gov](mailto:leininger4@llnl.gov)  
3.3. [ofaplus@lanl.gov](mailto:ofaplus@lanl.gov) contains all other interested parties  
[parks@lanl.gov](mailto:parks@lanl.gov)  
[jimdryan@gmail.com](mailto:jimdryan@gmail.com)  
[bboas@systemfabricworks.com](mailto:bboas@systemfabricworks.com)  
[bill.magro@intel.com](mailto:bill.magro@intel.com)  
[bill@mellanox.com](mailto:bill@mellanox.com)  
[david.l.fair@intel.com](mailto:david.l.fair@intel.com)  
[diego@mellanox.com](mailto:diego@mellanox.com)  
[gdror@mellanox.com](mailto:gdror@mellanox.com)  
[michael@mellanox.com](mailto:michael@mellanox.com)  
[robert.j.woodruff@intel.com](mailto:robert.j.woodruff@intel.com)  
[stan.smith@intel.com](mailto:stan.smith@intel.com)  
[sumanta.chatterjee@oracle.com](mailto:sumanta.chatterjee@oracle.com)  
[swpoole@gmail.com](mailto:swpoole@gmail.com)  
[tziporet@mellanox.com](mailto:tziporet@mellanox.com)  
[sean.hefty@intel.com](mailto:sean.hefty@intel.com)  
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[fngw.zhang@huawei.com](mailto:fngw.zhang@huawei.com)  
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[paul.bowden@intel.com](mailto:paul.bowden@intel.com)  
[ira.weiny@intel.com](mailto:ira.weiny@intel.com)

4. Old Business:

4.1. Executive Director position – Review and approve the description and offer letter

4.1.1. Susan Coulter – We (board) have iterated via email on description of position plus offer letter. Susan Coulter has made a request for input on description. The description lists projects for ED performance and responsibility to board. Requested example descriptions for other non-profits' comparable ED position. Does not want this position to include recruitment. Does any one have objections to current version of the ED position description? Jim Ryan is in limbo, but can attend calls but has no official influence. Suggested vote to description. Does ED call into each WG, or interact asynchronously with chair? Would like to receive ED synopsis of activity with WGs. Moves to accept current ED position. Jim Pappas seconds motion.

4.1.2. Paul Grun – Added some edits to Bill L's document; shared that version in the meeting. W.r.t. recruiting, expects the ED to field membership requests, answer simple inquiries, and direct them to the appropriate place, mainly the MWG. Delete the 1st paragraph, which is not relevant to the job description. Don't want to dwell on the ED job description at this point; objective is to

get Jim on board and functional ASAP. The current doc leaves plenty of room to modify his tasks. Expects the ED to keep tabs (“monitor”) on the working groups – Jim has historically done this by dialing into OFI meetings. A side benefit is that he has been able to connect dots to other industry efforts that would otherwise have been missed.

- 4.1.3. Jim Pappas – Requested comparison to SNIA description of ED. Will try to get most recent version. Marketing, recruitment. We should look for comprehensive example, but not mirror those organizations. Agrees to move ahead with ED as currently described.
- 4.1.4. Bill Lee – Do we want to see relation of ED to all working groups?
- 4.1.5. Jim Ryan - Loss of momentum in the emerging interactions between the OFA (primarily via OFI) and SNIA. On-going viability of OFVWG as the host for discussions among open source RDMA subsystem developers.

Vote:

- Broadcom / Eddie Wai - yes
- Cray/Paul Grun - yes
- IBM / Bernard Metzler - yes
- Intel / Jim Pappas - yes
- Jump Trading / Christoph Lameter - yes
- LANL / Susan Coulter - yes
- NetApp / David Dale - yes
- Oracle / David Brean - yes
- Sandia / Chris Beggio- yes
- Mellanox / Bill Lee - yes

Also present:

- Jim Ryan – Independent (OFA)

Motion to accept ED job description as presented and amended during the meeting.

Nays – none

Abstentions – none

Motion adopted

4.2 Offer letter – Susan Coulter. Cray moves that we forward offer letter. Offer is for six month period with two options for renewal?

4.2.1 Bill Lee – Finances – ED expenses are an additional expenditure. Minutes should reflect at-will status.

4.2.2 Jim Pappas – Keep ED as at will employment at discretion of board. Contract presents possibility of paying out remainder of contract, if a term is applied to the position. This is not an issue if the position is kept as “at-will.”

4.2.3 Paul Grun – Reaffirms that at-will status is appropriate and covered.

### **Added additional agenda item of funding for ED position**

Funding for ED. Suggested by Jim Pappas/Intel

Paul Grun moves to accept Intel offer for 18 mos. Susan Coulter seconds. Can start funding July 1. Concerns about Intel being sole funding source, other organizations are welcome to contribute. Susan Coulter concerned about appearance of partial funding. Jim Pappas is willing to fund entire ED position. We also need to have budget discussion, but we need to move forward.

Bill Lee – Actions include creating an OFA budget to get a handle on receipts and expenses. We (board) need to understand OFA ledger.

Susan Coulter – We can proceed with ED given current financial situation. The financial discussion will be first order of business for July 7, 2016 meeting. Tables motion for moving to accept funding.

Motion to accept extend offer letter Jim Ryan.

At the discretion of the chair, unanimous consent it sought. A call for nays and abstentions is made.

Nays – none

Abstentions – none

Motion adopted

#### 4.2 Dual License status

4.3.1 There are now several source code files that are GPL only that have been merged into the kernel tree. The submitting organization dictates their code to be GPL only.

4.3.1.1 Susan Coulter – Open to floor. Suggests to Christoph Lameter to contact HGST. What is worst case scenario for GPL only code? If HGST is making changes to kernel subsystem, what is the total impact? There must be other groups affected by this issues, such as OMPI. Who should we ask? Who should we contact and which working group should this be moved to. Jim Pappas has contact with HGST. Suggest going back to smaller working group with Jim Ryan. ARs for this issue will be taken offline with ED to take directly to smaller working group.

4.3.1.2 Christoph Lameter – NO communication to HGST claimed. Does not want to push due to relationship with open source community. Code could be GPL only if not resolved. Code has been GPL only since 2010. GPL infection occurred due to support of NVMe.

4.3.1.3 Jim Ryan – Ask HGST for corporate assistance. No results from outreach. XWG should contact executive board from HGST to ask for dual license. Suggests reaching out to NVMe consortium.

4.3.1.4 David Brean – More difficult for OFA members to contribute and consume if GPL only.

4.3.1.5 Paul Grun – Would like to hear from David Dale or David Brean. If alliance members use this code, what are they exposed to? If kernel community makes code unusable, should OFA members use upstream kernel code. Alliance members require dual-license code, so what is the path forward? We are put into difficult position by

Open Source community. XWG to HGST executive outreach is not effective. This issue will come back to the board due to impact on OFA.

4.3.1.6 David Dale – Does not know anyone in HGST.

4.3.1.7 Jim Pappas – Who should we direct HGSP contact to in OFA?

4.3.1.8 David Brean – We cannot go back to old model. Stated goals of OFA to support linux, but linux community is GPL. Kernel specifically is GPL. NVMe example, due to agreement among consortium to use GPL due to RDMA. Issue is a working group issue, rather than a XWG issue.

4.3.2 Status of attempts to reach HGST

4.3.2.1 See 4.3.1 above.

4.4 Bylaws – this is of primary importance, but a very involved item.

4.4.1 Not addressed during call.

## 5 New Business

5.3 Approve Chair announcement

5.3.1 This was not addressed

5.4 RedHat / SUSE – Both these organizations would like to be more involved in OpenFabrics

5.4.1 This was not addressed.

5.5 Recording of WebEx. I need to confirm. Jim Pappas says NO to webex recording due to legal advice. Transcript discoverable.

5.5.1 This was not addressed.

## 5.6 TAC

5.6.1 Frank Berry, a co-chair, has retired

5.6.2 Purpose and goals for this Working Group

5.6.2.1 This was not addressed.