

Minutes of the 5th Meeting of the seL4 Board

21:00 on 2021-06-09 UTC

By Zoom

Members present

- Gernot Heiser (GH) – Chair
- June Andronick (JA)
- David Hardin (DH)
- Sascha Kegreiß (SK)
- Gerwin Klein (GK)

The meeting commenced at 21:00 on 2021-06-09 UTC.

1. Confirmation of minutes of previous meeting

RESOLVED: The minutes of the 4th meeting, of 2021-04-13 UTC, are confirmed.

2. Matters arising from minutes of previous meetings

- 210413: **see Agenda item 6:** Develop endorsement scheme

3. Update from the Chair

Members noted the chair's update, including:

- \$30k donation from Ghost Locomotion
- CSIRO's decision to abandon the Trustworthy Systems Group:
 - strong community reaction and support
 - resulting in significant new membership applications, incl 2 Premium
 - potential for significant R&D funding beyond that, on-going negotiations, automotive focus
 - UNSW offer to keep team funded to the end of the year is a critical enabler
 - discussions on transfer of seL4 projects contracted to Data61
- JA appointed as CEO, as approved at previous meeting
- UNSW services agreement still under negotiation with LF
- No news on TM applications
- New member: Kry10
- Generally much increased community engagement

4. Update from the TSC Chair and matters arising

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GK briefed the Board on:

- next seL4 release to happen within days
 - some delay due to high community activity, many recent contribution
 - also CI infrastructure in transition from CSIRO to UNSW, resulting in reduced ability to test changes prior to committing
 - Kent McLeod (Kry10) and Axel Heider (HENSOLDT Cyber) standing out in commenting on and approving many pull requests
- 2 new Committers appointed:
 - Axel Heider (HENSOLDT Cyber)
 - Yanyan Shen (Cog Systems)
- CI infrastructure to move completely to UNSW, requires Foundation funding, will further open access to infrastructure
- Maintaining access to the LF crowdfunding platform requires achieving LF's Best Practices Badge
 - most requirements in place already, except vulnerability reporting and running static analysis on each release

SK suggested encrypted email channel for vulnerability reporting, as required by German authorities. SK also offered HENSOLDT Cyber's help with setting up static analysis.

5. Budget

The proposed budget for FY21 was discussed, see **attachment**. The budget approved by the previous Board Meeting needs revision for two reasons:

- Aligning the Foundation's financial year with the calendar year, as requested by LF; this meaning that this year's budget only covers the 9 months April-December.
- Membership growth seems much stronger than anticipated. This increases the available budget as well as the membership's expectation on support.

The budget contains highlighted items for approval conditional on additional revenue becoming available through the membership applications currently in the sign-off stage.

Declarations of interest:

- GH declared a conflict of interest in items marked with note (1).
- JA declared an interest in items marked with note (2) and (3).
- GK declared an interest in items marked with note (3).

RESOLVED: The FY2021 budget is approved as proposed, with approval of highlighted expenses subject to extra revenue materialising. GH will notify the board once this happens.

Members discussed strategic use of as-yet unbudgeted revenue (to be approved by a future meeting of the Board). Items raised were:

- Admin support;
- Approachable documentation, explaining not only the how but also the why and overall philosophy. The Rust book is a good example.

6. Endorsement of services and products

Interim endorsements were done by TS staff. In order to scale to a proper endorsement scheme, community participation is needed. Members discussed ways to incentivise as

well as the process. An unbiased, open process is essential.

RESOLVED: The TSC is to propose a model for endorsements.

7. Future meetings

Future meetings will be held on demand, most likely driven by the need to revise the budget if available funds increase. The meetings may be held by zoom or email.

8. AOB

Nothing raised under this item.

The meeting closed at 22:05 UTC.

ACTION SUMMARY

From	Item	Owner	Status	Action
21-04-13	9	CC	TBD	Develop endorsement scheme for services and products

Meeting Attendance

Current financial year, starting 2021-04-01:

Name	Eligible	Attended
Gernot Heiser	2	2
June Andronick	2	2
David Hardin	2	2
Sascha Kegreiß	2	2
Gerwin Klein	2	2

Acronyms

TS The Trustworthy Systems research group at CSIRO's Data61 and UNSW Sydney

LF The Linux® Foundation

TSC The Technical Steering Committee of the seL4 Foundation

CC The Compliance Committee of the seL4 Foundation

OC The Outreach Committee of the seL4 Foundation

MC The Marketing Committee of the seL4 Foundation

ATTACHMENTS: Budget on next page


Signed as a true record
2021-10-07

Budget					
<i>highlighted items are for conditional approval subject to revenue increase</i>					
Board Meeting dates					
Budget adjusted the period Apr-Dec 2021					
Income:					
Carry-over from previous year	\$	33,491			
Income to date this year	\$	40,950			
<i>Income forecast</i>	\$	187,460			
Total available now	\$	74,441			
Total available to end of year (forecast)	\$	261,901			
Expenses:	Approved budget	Spent	Proposed budget	Note	Comments
Legal (TM)	\$ 5,152	\$ 1,985	\$ 10,000		higher than anticipated
Mail hosting	\$ 100	\$ 45	\$ 540		reflecting actual payments
HW for native web server	\$ 2,000	\$ -	\$ 2,000		
Contingency	\$ 2,000	\$ -	\$ 2,000		
CI hardware	\$ 5,000	\$ -	\$ 5,000		
Infrastructure (hardware) setup (1pm senior staff)	\$ 16,000	\$ -	\$ 16,000	(1)	
Infrastructure support (0.1 senior FTE)	\$ 16,000	\$ -	\$ 10,000	(1)	FY adjustment
seL4 community support (0.2 junior FTE)	\$ 19,000	\$ -	\$ 13,000	(1)	FY adjustment
CEO part-time (6 months 0.2 FTE)	\$ 20,000	\$ -	\$ 20,000	(2)	
Infrastructure (software) (2 weeks senior staff)			\$ 10,000	(3)	new
<i>additional infrastructure support</i>			\$ 10,000	(1)	<i>increase from 0.1 to 0.2 FTE</i>
<i>additional community support</i>			\$ 20,000	(1)	<i>increase from 0.2 to 0.5 FTE</i>
<i>additional provision for legal (TM)</i>			\$ 5,000		<i>increase from \$10k to \$15k</i>
<i>additional provision for contingency</i>			\$ 3,000		<i>increase from \$2k to \$5k</i>
Total to be approved	\$ 85,252	\$ 2,030	\$ 75,540		
Total to be conditionally approved			\$ 123,540		
Notes					
(1) UNSW staff					
(2) June Andronick					
(3) Gerwin Klein					