

Cloud Native Computing Foundation

Minutes of a meeting of the Governing Board

March 21, 2024

A meeting of the Governing Board of the Cloud Native Computing Foundation (“CNCF”), which is part of The Linux Foundation, was held on March 21, 2024, from 11:10 AM - 12:39 PM CET time in person in Paris, France and via Zoom LFX.

The following members of the Governing Board, constituting a quorum under the CNCF Charter, were present:

Li (Mark) Yi	Alibaba Cloud
Alena Prokhachyk	Apple
Jenn Skeivik	Boeing
Vijoy Pandey	Cisco
Mohammad Zebetian	Charter
Jeremy Garcia	Datadog
Justin Dustzadeh	Equinix
Takao Indoh	Fujitsu
Anne Bertucio	Google
Tom Wilkie	Grafana
Alan Flower	HCL
Bill Ren Xudong	Huawei
Arun Gupta	Intel, Chairperson
Liz Rice	Isovalent
Stephen Chin	JFrog
Lachlan Evenson	Microsoft
Sudha Raghavan	Oracle
Erin Boyd	Red Hat / IBM
Vasu Chandrasekhara	SAP
Clint Kitson	VMware / Broadcom
Craig Box	Developer Seat
Christoph Blecker	Developer Seat
Alolita Sharma	TAB Chair
Emily Fox	TOC Chair

Also in attendance were:

Huxing Zhang	Alibaba Cloud (alternate)
Bryan Che	Huawei (alternate)
Jatinder Singh Purba	Infosys (alternate)

Yoav Landman	JFrog (alternate)
Bridget Khomhout	Microsoft (alternate)
Brad Topol	Redhat / IBM (alternate)
Alan Clark	SUSE (alternate)
Sergiu Petean	TAB
Chad Beaudin	TAB
Mike Bowen	TAB
Amr Abdelhalem	TAB
Mario Constanti	TAB
Aparna Subramanian	TAB
Joseph Sandoval	TAB
Katie Gamanji	TAB/ TOC
Ricardo Rocha	TAB/ TOC
Cathy Zhang	TOC
Nikhita Raghunath	TOC
Duffie Cooley	TOC
Lin Sun	TOC
Davanum	TOC
Kevin Wang	TOC
Priyanka Sharma	CNCF
Chris Aniszczyk	CNCF
Joanna Lee	CNCF
Melissa Smolensky	CNCF
Taylor Waggoner	CNCF
Paige O'Connor	CNCF
Taylor Dolezal	CNCF
Daniel Krook	CNCF
Jeffery Sica	CNCF
Jim Zemlin	The Linux Foundation
Angela Brown	The Linux Foundation
Casey Robinson	The Linux Foundation
Todd Moore	The Linux Foundation
Nirav Patel	The Linux Foundation
Stephanie Wagle	The Linux Foundation

Ms. Sharma called the meeting to order at 11:10 AM CET. She welcomed the board members to the call and thanked everyone for attending. Ms. Sharma then reviewed the Linux Foundation Antitrust Policy Notice, confirmed that quorum was present, and reviewed the meeting agenda.

Ms. Sharma welcomed the new Governing Board CNCF members and alternates.

Voting Matters

Ms. Sharma gave an overview of the five resolutions that will be voted on during the meeting.

Resolution #1 - Minutes

Ms. Sharma presented the resolution to adopt the minutes of the December 14, 2023, Governing Board Meeting.

- Mr. Blecker motioned
- Mr. Gupta seconded
- Mr. Box abstained
- All in favor, none opposed

RESOLVED: The minutes of December 14, 2023, meeting of the Governing Board, in the form attached hereto as [Exhibit A](#), are hereby confirmed, approved, and adopted.

Budget Update

Ms. Sharma reviewed the 2023 actuals.

Ms. Sharma also reviewed the 2024 financials and budget, including a comparison to 2023 actuals. The key takeaways included increased event production costs, removed CI costs and implemented IT Infra savings, and the timing of some training work shifted to 2024.

Regarding revenue projection for 2024, Ms. Sharma noted that membership renewals were challenging across all tiers, but that CNCF has added a Business Development lead and also increased Sales Support. In terms of Training, there is an anticipated rebound for 2024, following challenges across the LF and industry-wide. She noted that we increased KubeCon EU sponsorship pricing to match KubeCon NA and that sponsorship sales remain strong.

Responding to community members' requests regarding political issues and causes

This section was skipped due to time constraints and will be discussed at the next board meeting.

License Exceptions and Amendments to the Allowlist License Policy

Ms. Lee presented the four resolutions related to license exceptions and CNCF Allowlist License Policy.

Resolution #2 - License exception for Terraform Provider SDK

Ms. Lee presented the following resolution:

In response to a license exception [request](#), the Legal Committee has recommended approval of a license exception to allow CNCF projects to use the following dependencies, which are licensed under MPL-2.0, so long as they are used in unmodified form by linking to the dependency at build time:

github.com/hashicorp/terraform-plugin-docs

github.com/hashicorp/terraform-plugin-framework

github.com/hashicorp/terraform-plugin-framework-timeouts

github.com/hashicorp/terraform-plugin-framework-validators

github.com/hashicorp/terraform-plugin-go

github.com/hashicorp/terraform-plugin-log
github.com/hashicorp/terraform-plugin-sdk
github.com/hashicorp/terraform-plugin-testing

RESOLVED: That the exception described above is hereby approved.

- All in favor, none opposed

Resolution #3 - License exception for Packer for image-builder

Ms. Lee presented the resolution below. Discussion ensued regarding the strategy and process for this license exception. Ms. Lee noted that she would be happy to schedule a joint legal committee and GB optional working session to discuss.

WHEREAS, the Legal Committee has recommended rejection of a requested license exception (<https://github.com/cncf/foundation/issues/625>) to allow use of a Hashicorp tool called Packer, which was changed from MPL-2.0 to BUSL-1.1, which is not an open source license.

RESOLVED: That the license exception request described above is hereby rejected.

- All in favor, none opposed

Resolution #4 - Allowlist License Policy for storing in designated 3rd party folder

Ms. Lee presented the following resolution:

WHEREAS, the Legal Committee has recommended the following amendment to the [CNCF Allowlist License Policy](#):

“A third-party component under a non-Apache 2.0 license is deemed automatically approved by the Governing Board for inclusion in a CNCF codebase as an exception to the CNCF Intellectual Property Policy, if all of the following apply:

...

2. It is either (A) stored unmodified in a designated third-party folder, or (B) not stored in the CNCF project repository and instead retrieved at installation or build time from the upstream third party repository or package repository; AND ...”

RESOLVED: That the amendment to the CNCF Allowlist License Policy described above is hereby approved and adopted.

- All in favor, none opposed

Resolution #5 - Update Python-2.0 license on the CNCF Allowlist

Ms. Lee presented the following resolution:

WHEREAS, the Legal Committee has recommended adding Python-2.0.1 and PSF-2.0 to the Approved Licenses for Allowlist in the CNCF Allowlist License Policy, and retaining Python-2.0 in the Approved Licenses for Allowlist as well.

RESOLVED: That the CNCF Allowlist License Policy is hereby amended to add Python-2.0.1 and PSF-2.0 to the Approved Licenses for Allowlist.

- All in favor, none opposed

Proposed Changes to License Exception Handling Process

Ms. Lee gave an update on the proposed changes to streamline license exception handling processes within the Legal Committee and the Governing Board. Two optional GB working sessions for GB members to discuss, ask questions, and provide feedback have been scheduled. After GB feedback is incorporated and if there appears to be consensus on updated drafts, the proposed final documents will be submitted to the GB for a vote.

Joint Meeting of the Governing Board, Technical Oversight Committee (TOC), and End User Technical Advisory Board (TAB)

The CNCF TOC and TAB joined the meeting at 12:07 PM for a joint session of the Governing Board, TOC, and End User TAB

Training and Certification Update

Mr. Aniszczyk reviewed the eight new initiatives launched so far in 2024, including four new courses and 4 new certifications. He noted that there are four additional certifications expected to launch this year, as well as seven new courses. Mr. Aniszczyk noted these courses take time to create.

Mr. Aniszczyk announced the Kubestronaut program, CNCF's first T&C recognition program. A Kubestronaut is a person who has successfully passed all 5 Kubernetes-related CNCF certifications (CKA/CKAD/CKS/KCNA/KCSA). He noted that only about 100 people have passed all 5 of them so far.

He reviewed the T&C revenue from LF, including the anticipated revenue for 2024. He reminded the board that the T&C program buffers the organization and helps to educate the world.

Mr. Aniszczyk noted the new CNCF endorsed content on Udemy, which was announced during KubeCon Paris. This is a benefit for KTPs, Ambassadors, and Maintainers.

He also reviewed the Intro to Kubernetes MOOC registrations as well as current KCSP and KTP partners.

Ms. Boyd asked about the process for how new courses and certifications are determined. Mr. Aniszczyk noted that staff looks at the velocity reports as well as other sources to see where the community interest is. He noted that we look to our ambassadors and maintainers to develop the courses and certs.

Project Updates

Mr. Aniszczyk noted that CNCF currently has 184 projects. He reviewed recent project maturity level updates. He also reviewed the growth of CNCF's various mentorship programs, noting that CNCF would like to reach 200+ mentorships this year. Ms. Rice asked if having so many CNCF projects, particularly in the Sandbox, is helpful or confusing for end users. Ms. Fox noted that the TOC is working on cleaning up the projects that have stagnated in 2024-2025, also mentioning that the TOC will be working with the TAB on this.

Kubecon + CloudNativeCon Updates & CNCF Event Updates

Ms. Brown reviewed the current registration numbers for KubeCon Paris, as well as thanked the sponsors of the event. She noted that this is the highest attendance across KubeCon and the highest number of All Access passes.

She reviewed upcoming events, including KubeCon + CloudNativeCon + Open Source Summit + AI_dev in Hong Kong in August and KubeCon + CloudNativeCon North America 2024 in Salt Lake City in November. She noted that LF is working with the venue in SLC and that KubeCon will not be affected by recent legislation in Utah.

KubeCon + CloudNativeCon India will be held in Delhi in December. She reviewed the calendar for smaller events in 2024 as well, including KubeDay events.

End User Ecosystem

Mr. Dolezal discussed the "Rise of the AI Engineer" and discussed the different CNCF projects that enable generative AI.

He announced that CERN won the Top End User award in Paris.

He reviewed the Zero to Merge program and announced that the next cohort begins in April 2024. He also reviewed recent end user case studies. He asked the board to send end users his way for case studies and journey reports.

Mr. Dolezal reviewed end user contributions by company and project in 2024, as well as average contributions by end user membership tier.

Marketing Updates

Ms. Smolensky mentioned that the Industry Analyst Report 2023 is available and noted some highlights. She noted to the board members that this is a great resource for their marketing teams.

TOC Chair Updates

Ms. Fox noted that there is a new vice chair for the TOC, Ms. Nikhita Raghunath. She mentioned new structure in the TOC repo as well as changes to the process of projects moving levels. The TOC is streamlining the due diligence process, which is more issue-oriented.

Ms. Fox noted that the TOC held an offsite in February which helped to onboard new members.

She mentioned that the TOC is working with the TAGs to refresh their charters and introduce more consistency and structure.

Ms. Fox noted that the TOC will be engaging with the End User TAB in 2024.

The formal board meeting ended at 12:38 PM CET.