PEERINGDB ANNUAL MEMBER MEETING
Tuesday, 12 April 2022 1600h UTC
Teleconference
(audio recording: https://docs.peeringdb.com/gov/legaldocs/2022-04-12_PeeringDB_Member_Meeting_Audio.mp3)

DRAFT MINUTES

<u>Attendees:</u>
(AC = Admin Committee, Ops = Operations Committee, OC = Outreach Committee, PC = Product Committee)

Jeff Bartig: Internet2
Chris Caputo: Altopia, SeattleIX, PeeringDB Secretary/Treasurer/Ops
Dale W. Carder: Energy Sciences Network
Michael Costello: Netflix
Darwin Da Costa: DE-CIX, PeeringDB AC Vice Chair
Ian Dickinson: Vitrifi
Steve Feldman: NANOG, Packet Clearing House, ViacomCBS, PeeringDB Board Election Observer
Patrick W. Gilmore: Meta, PeeringDB Director/AC Chair
Matt Griswold: 20C, United IX, Open-IX, PeeringDB PC Vice Chair/Ops
Greg Hankins: Nokia, PeeringDB OC/PC
Martin J Hannigan: Deep Edge Technologies, PeeringDB PC
Paul Hoogsteder: NovoServe, RIPE NCC, Subspace
Aaron Hughes: 6connect, Open-IX, UnitedLayer, PeeringDB President/Chair/Director/OC/PC
Sushil Kulkarni: Sushil Kulkarni Consultancy
Martin Levy
Julimar Lunguinho Mendes: NIC.br, PeeringDB AC
Christopher Malayter: CoreSite, PeeringDB Director
Steve McManus: Meta, PeeringDB PC Chair
Steve Meuse: Kentik Technologies
Erik Muller: Myriad360
Arnold Nipper: DE-CIX, Open-IX, PeeringDB AC/OC/PC
Tom Paseka: Cloudflare, New Zealand Internet Exchange
Ben Ryall: Meta, PeeringDB OC Chair
Bijal Sanghani: Euro-IX, PeeringDB Director/OC Vice Chair
Job Snijders: Fastly, PeeringDB Vice President/Director/AC/Ops Chair/PC
Łukasz Trąbiński: Orange Polska
Leo Vegoda: And Polus, Euro-IX, UKNOF, PeeringDB Product Manager

<u>Note Taker:</u>
Chris Caputo, Secretary/Treasurer

1. Chair Aaron Hughes called the meeting to order at 1602h UTC.

2. Welcome & Thanks - Aaron Hughes

   > Aaron welcomed and thanked everyone for attending and for their interest in the governance of the organization. Aaron thanked the stewards, volunteers, and users of the platform. Aaron also thanked sponsors for their financial support, without which the organization would not exist.

Transparency is at the heart of the organization. Our mission, strategy, operational objectives, financial information, committee information, organizational information, and meeting minutes are all at: https://gov.peeringdb.com/

3. Approval of Meeting Minutes

    It was moved by Patrick Gilmore, and seconded by Christopher Malayter that the minutes of the April 8th, 2021 Annual Member Meeting be adopted as written. The motion carried with no objections.

4. Financial Update - Chris Caputo

    Chris Caputo, as Secretary/Treasurer, provided an update:

    PeeringDB is on track for about $215,000 in annual sponsorships this year.

    The bank accounts are reconciled monthly and the annual tax-exempt return will be filed in May, as is normal. Previous filings are at the following location, along with financial reports:

    https://gov.peeringdb.com/

    In 2021, sponsors contributed about $211,000, up from about $197,000 in 2020.

    In 2021 PeeringDB spent almost $61,000 on Software Development and Maintenance, which was down from about $93,000 in 2020. Product Management was $36,000 in 2021 and is expected to be $48,000 in 2022. Cloud services for the hosting and database was about $27,000 in 2021. Chris' services as Secretary/Treasurer and election facilitator for the April Board election amounted to almost $20,000 in 2021.

    PeeringDB currently has about $239,000 in the bank.

    Profit & Loss and Balance Sheet reports for 2021 have been posted and shared with the pdb-gov governance mailing list:

    https://docs.peeringdb.com/gov/finances/2021-12-31_PeeringDB_Finances.pdf

    Chris was happy to report that most sponsors renew their annual sponsorship. That said, more sponsors are needed so PeeringDB can better serve the community. The Operations Committee, on which Chris is a volunteer, needs funding to pay for operational support to

improve service to the community while decreasing the burden on volunteers. Additional funding will also enable further PeeringDB development, faster bug fixes, promotion, and education.:

   https://docs.peeringdb.com/misc/PeeringDB_Sponsorship_Levels.pdf

Chris thanked the community for the opportunity to serve PeeringDB and its vital mission.

There were no questions.

5. Admin Committee Update - Patrick Gilmore

    Patrick Gilmore, as interim chair of the Admin Committee, provided an update:

    During calendar year 2021, the committee closed 11,594 tickets, with an average resolution time of about 7.5 hours, a slight increase over the previous year. Keep in mind that is time to closure, not initial response. Automation helped resolve about 40% of the tickets.

    During the past year, time was spent improving processes, some of which will hopefully be automated by the software team. The idea here is that the few times a human has to touch a ticket, the better it is for all. That said, a human is always available for when necessary.

    Patrick reminded attendees that members of the committee are all volunteers who give up their own time for the good of the community. They help the Internet's peering ecosystem. Speaking for himself and the wider community, Patrick gave thanks to committee members: Darwin da Costa (Vice Chair), Shaun Coffey, Stefan Funke, Chriztoffer Hansen, Peter Helmenstine, Julimar Lunguinho Mendes, and Arnold Nipper. Patrick also thanked Board liaison Job Snijders.

    Patrick encouraged PeeringDB users to provide as complete of information as able, when opening or interacting with a ticket, to aide the volunteer committee in performing its duties.

    There were no questions.

6. Operations Committee Update - Job Snijders

    Job Snijders, as chair of the Operations Committee, provided an update:

The Operations Committee focuses on the technical infrastructure involved with keeping PeeringDB up and available to the global community. This includes the web site and email aspects. Availability in the last year has been good.

Job shared that while last year it was mentioned that use of a Content Delivery Network (CDN) was being explored, at present this has not been enabled for production. This is due to PeeringDB web site content being somewhat challenging to properly cache in a way that does not take away from the user experience. Additionally, there are concerns about the added costs, in relation to the benefits.

HTTP compression has been enabled, resulting in faster downloads, while reducing bandwidth use and cost.

Throttling of unauthenticated API calls is being explored as a way to mitigate poorly written client software.

New in the last year is that separate instances are servicing web requests versus API requests, resulting in better responsiveness for interactive users.

Job thanked volunteer committee members Chris Caputo, Matt Griswold, and Matthew Walster.

Job made a call for additional volunteers, especially individuals with skills that include Python, Django, web services, load balancers, Ansible, etc. Reach out to job@peeringdb.com for details or to express interest.

Chris Caputo pointed out that API keys are available on a User and Organization basis, and that they are recommended for authentication over the user/password method.:

   https://docs.peeringdb.com/howto/api_keys/

Martin Levy asked a question about CDNs. Job responded that tight integration is needed and he encouraged those with CDN or other expertise to become involved.

7. Outreach Committee Update - Ben Ryall

   Ben Ryall, as chair of the Outreach Committee, provided an update:

   The committee is charged with the marketing efforts and running the organization's external engagement.

Ben thanked volunteer committee members Arnold Nipper, Bijal Sanghani (Vice Chair), Greg Hankins, Inga Turner, and Yana Glaub.

Given the reduction of in person events in the last year, there has been a focus on virtual events.

They have been exploring how to increase engagement in regions where there are less networks, facilities, and IXs listed. This has included running targeted advertisements on Facebook and LinkedIn.

During the remainder of 2022, the committee looks forward to in person events. An infographic reflecting 2021 will soon be published. New event swag and presentations are being developed and the committee looks forward to working with other committees to ensure updated content.

Ben made a call for additional volunteers. Reach out to ben@peeringdb.com for details or to express interest.

There were no questions.

8. Product Committee Update - Steve McManus

Steve McManus, as chair of the Product Committee, provided an update:

The committee is responsible for improvements to the core product of PeeringDB, whether it be a bug fix or typo fix or small enhancement or major feature. The committee coordinates with the people who actually do the coding.

In the last year there were 11 releases with 79 issues resolved. A release soon to happen has another 13 issues being resolved. A past goal of increasing release velocity is being met.

The committee is working to better serve the community by listening to the community in a more structured way via the use of an annual user survey. The user survey has inspired better search results, better support for IX-F JSON member import/export schema, improvements to the web interface, and API keys.

While most of the committee consists of volunteers, the committee normally engages paid software developers. Notable in the last year is the addition of contributions from volunteer software developers. This was a result of improvements made to open up the code to more

developers and partnering with hackathons notably including the NANOG Hackathon.

For advanced search, there is now a radius flag that can be part of the search around a specific location. Additional filtering options have been added, and exports of search results are now available in JSON and CSV.

Documentation has been another effort for the committee:

  https://docs.peeringdb.com/howtos/

The community has expressed desire for a new object, tentatively called a "carrier" object, to represent connections between facilities. A focus group is anticipated to help refine this.

As the collection of data grows, mechanisms to improve data quality through both automation and user feedback, are being explored.

Normalization of location naming is being worked on, to improve search results.

In regards to the web site, mixed feedback has been received. Some users like the simplicity of the current design while others want it changed to have a more modern look and feel. Tradeoffs are being considered. Refactoring is being considered to improve load times. UX expertise is welcome.

Steve expressed appreciation to all on the committee: Yan Berthier, Kayla Clifford, Matt Griswold (Vice Chair), Martin Hannigan, Peter Helmenstine, Arnold Nipper, Yolandi Robinson, Job Snijders, and Product Manager Leo Vegoda. Steve made special note of the fantastic job Leo has made in the last year to drive a lot of the product improvements while making Steve's life a lot easier.

There were no questions.

9. Items brought up by the members / Technical and Policy Q&A

Aaron mentioned an upcoming strategy session. He encouraged input from the community be sent to stewards@lists.peeringdb.com.

Michael Costello asked a question about what steps are taken to verify users and organizations, in the context of using OAuth to authenticate and authorize ISPs. Job Snijders responded with details about the process PeeringDB employs for initial users for an organization, and

how an organization subsequently approves/denies additional affiliated users. He also referred to a possible future mechanism that involves RPKI.

Steve McManus added that additional development needed by PeeringDB involves employees that have departed from an organization. Possible solutions involve email domain verification and/or periodic re-verification via email.

Patrick Gilmore made clear that PeeringDB does not track employment changes.

10. Board Election - Aaron Hughes

A call for candidates for the upcoming Board election was made:

  https://docs.peeringdb.com/gov/misc/2022-04-14_election.html

Christopher Malayter asked when a person needs to be subscribed to the pdb-gov mailing list:

  https://lists.peeringdb.com/cgi-bin/mailman/listinfo/pdb-gov

in order to vote. Chris Caputo responded that they can subscribe up until near the end of voting on April 29th, but that voters should subscribe early enough for Chris to register them to vote prior to the close of the election.

11. Adjournment

The Chair adjourned the meeting at 1636h UTC.