

FOSSGIS e.V.

German Local Chapter of the OpenStreetMap Foundation

English activity and financial report for the OSMF, as per the local chapter agreement signed between our organisations, comprising:

1. a translation of the yearly report we prepared for our members
2. a report about the activities of the subgroup OpenStreetMap Deutschland at FOSSGIS we presented our members at 2019 AGM
3. a translation of the financial report we prepared for our members
4. abbreviated English minutes of the 2019 AGM on 14 March 2019

Prepared on 20 March, 2019.

1. FOSSGIS e.V. Yearly Report

Reporting period: 03/2018 – 03/2019

Prepared by: Dominik Helle, chairman of the board of directors

Translation: Frederik Ramm

Dear members, contributors, and supporters,

the past year has shown once again that running the conference binds many of those active in our association. While this does have a positive side, it also carries with it the danger that our association is being reduced to the conference only – also with respect to public perception.

The new board should therefore use the next year to improve and further professionalise our structure. This will ensure that we can serve as a compass and are not just the organiser of a successful conference.

But this is not meant to sour our review of last year's activities – just as an additional motivation for the future. Therefore we, as the board of directors, wish to expressly thank the members that keep the association alive and full of ideas.

Board matters

The board meets about once a month in a Mumble call. Sessions are usually chaired by the chairman. The date of the next meeting is agreed at the end of each meeting and made public on the members mailing list.

The option to participate in board meetings as a guest has been taken up regularly. The board expressly welcomes this active participation and will try to publish meeting dates with a longer lead time in the future.

The topics discussed are minuted and published on our Wiki. The secretary is responsible for creating the minutes.

Association matters

In this reporting year, we again gained a few new members. We currently have 239 members, of which 211 are natural persons and 28 legal entities.

GDPR

The first half of 2018 was mostly taken up by the new GDPR. We have intensively discussed the topic and done our best to make all necessary adjustments.

FOSSGIS conference

The FOSSGIS conference was held in Bonn in 2018. We had a large number of participants and participants wholly described the conference as a success. Organising the conference went smoothly. This year we are holding the conference in Dresden.

OpenStreetMap

The association is the official point of contact for OpenStreetMap in Germany, and local chapter of the OSMF. This allows the organisation to send a representative to the respective bodies of OSMF. The organisation meanwhile runs seven servers dedicated to OSM at Hetzner, also replacing an ending server donation from Strato.

Community

In 2018 we held two hack weekends at the Linuxhotel in Essen. Both were well attended and were welcomed by the membership. The board suggests to continue this successful format. The next hacking event is already planned for 14-16 June.

Grants

In the reporting period we accepted 4 grant proposals for the following projects:

- JOSM server
- German umap instance
- server for OSM data exports
- server for historic.place 2018 (with conditions attached)

Further details can be found on the respective wiki pages. The board wishes to stress that you do not have to be a member to submit a grant proposal, and asks all members to publicise the FOSSGIS grant programme.

Public relations

In the past year, the association once again ran the OSGeo park at the Intergeo trade fair in Frankfurt/Main. From 16 to 18 October 2018 we had a schedule of talks and the opportunity to test-drive the OSGeoLive DVD, introducing guests to free software and open geodata.

In general, FOSGISS' public relations work leaves much to be desired. Especially our press relations have been insufficient for many years.

Signed by the outgoing board of directors:

Dominik Helle (chairman)

Till Adams (vice chairman)

Arne Schubert (secretary)

Frederik Ramm (treasurer)

2. Report about the activity of the sub-group "OSM Deutschland"

Prepared by Michael Reichert

A working group for OpenStreetMap related matters had existed within FOSSGIS years ago when leading members of the German OSM community decided to join FOSSGIS and use it as their de-facto local chapter. However, the working group had fallen asleep for the last few years.

In September 2018, OSM Deutschland protested against the EU Copyright Directive by replacing every 7th map tile delivered by our own tile server tile.openstreetmap.de with a black tile bearing a political message.

In autumn 2018, FOSSGIS e.V. got full access permission to the Facebook page "OpenStreetMap Deutschland" after sending two friendly letters by mail to the operators because the Facebook page bears the impression to be an official one. Up to now, we still lack access to the Twitter page and will come back to the Foundation's Licensing Working Group for legal support.

3. Financial report for the 2018 business year

Prepared and translated by Frederik Ramm

TL;DR The 2018 conference in Bonn was once again very successful, and has brought us a surplus of almost EUR 38,000. Income from donations and membership fees, as well as various expenses, are as usual. In all, we had a surplus of about EUR 40,000 in 2018.

Numbers in Comparison to 2017

	2017	2018
Own capital at start of year	€ 112.350	€ 114.350
(thereof, reserves)	€ 35.000	€ 35.000
Income		
Membership fees	€ 6.600	€ 7.700
Donations	€ 14.900	€ 14.300
Conference and sponsoring	€ 43.500	€ 88.400
	€ 65.000	€ 110.400
Expense		
Conference	-€ 35.800	-€ 50.700
Community Projects	-€ 10.600	-€ 4.600
Board	-€ 100	€ 0
Public relations	-€ 1.700	-€ 800
IT infrastructure	-€ 12.300	-€ 13.900
Tax consultancy	-€ 1.600	€ 0
Tax	-€ 600	€ 0
other	-€ 300	-€ 500
	-€ 63.000	-€ 70.500
Year result	€ 2.000	€ 39.900
Own capital at end of year	€ 114.350	€ 154.250

Explanations

In our accounting, membership fees are not assigned to the years they are for. Theoretically we should have around EUR 8,300 in membership income, but since we only reminded people to pay in December 2018, some only did so in January 2019.

Of roughly EUR 14,300 EUR in donations, 8,200 EUR were earmarked by donors for OpenStreetMap; this means a slight increase of OSM-earmarked donations while the total volume of donations was about the same.

The FOSSGIS conference in Bonn has made almost EUR 38,000 of surplus, which is an above-average result, especially compared to the conferences in Passau and Salzburg in the years before.

Expenditure for community projects is much less than last year; firstly we only had one weekend at the Linux Hotel, and secondly we also supported a large QGIS event in 2017. But...

The cost of our IT infrastructure consists of EUR 8,400 for servers, EUR 200 for domains, and EUR 5,300 for paid admin work. Of the server cost, EUR 6,750 is for OpenStreetMap, EUR 550 for deegree, and the rest is for various association servers. Therefore we have every right to say that we have invested not just EUR 4,600 in community projects, but rather EUR 11,900.

There are three weaknesses not visible from the numbers but which have to be mentioned:

- The special FOSS4G account was closed in 2018 and we expect around EUR 10,000 of surplus from that conference but the finances have not yet properly been resolved.

- We have not submitted our tax returns for 2016 and 2017. We do not expect to pay any tax for these years but this become urgent now.
- There are two unpaid invoices to conference sponsors from 2017 with a total amount of EUR 2,000 which the treasurer still needs to hunt down.

4. Draft Minutes of the 2019 AGM

Minutes prepared by Arne Schubert (secretary)

Full German version: https://www.fossgis.de/wiki/Protokoll_Mitgliederversammlung/2019

Abbreviated translation by Frederik Ramm

The 2019 AGM was held during the FOSSGIS conference in Dresden, on Thursday 14 March 2019. There were 51 members in attendance. The AGM started at 18:17h.

The members accept the agenda and the minutes from the last AGM.

The board presents their yearly report.

The actions of the board for the 2017 business year are formally approved in secret ballot with 36 yes votes, 7 no votes, three invalid votes, and 5 abstentions.

The following persons are elected to be the new board:

- Dominik Helle (chairman)
- Michael Reichert (vice chairman)
- Arne Schubert (secretary)
- Jochen Topf (treasurer)

The following persons are elected to be independent auditors:

- Volker Grescho (independent auditor)
- Hartmut Holzgräfe (vice independent auditor)

Resolutions of the AGM:

- The AGM asks the board to prepare a concept paper on professionalising the organisation, particularly public relations.
- The AGM asks the board to create a working group to explore ways to get younger and more diverse people to join the organisation and attend the conference.
- The AGM decides that the office of the representative for OSM issues and the office of the delegate to the OSMF advisory board shall be subject to yearly election. The following people are elected:
 - Michael Reichert (representative for OSM issues)
 - Christoph Hormann (delegate to the OSMF advisory board)

The AGM ends at 20:14. The chairman of the meeting thanks the members for their participation.