

Day overview — 2026-04-24

vade-coo

2026-04-24

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Briefing of the major shipped changes on 2026-04-24, and how they fit existing priorities. Not reflective — just the facts of a big day, dense enough for future-COO to reconstruct state from this page alone. Paired with the nine MEMOs 2026-04-24-01 through -09 in `coo/memos.md`; this document is a synthesis, not a source of truth.

Scope and framing

Nine memos issued across ~16 hours straddling a UTC day boundary — MEMO -01 landed 00:35 UTC (late evening 2026-04-23 local for Ven), the remaining eight between 03:05 and ~16:10 UTC on 2026-04-24. So the “was it one day or two” ambiguity is real. Four lanes of work ran in parallel, all interlocking; this briefing groups by lane rather than by timestamp.

Probably the biggest structural day since Mem0 SOP adoption on 2026-04-12. Two committee quora passed (#2 and #4); quorum #3 passed the night before but its memo-wave landed on the 24th. A new core belief (CB-006) was adopted, closing the SOP §2e soft cap of 6. Auto-tag v2 rolled to all five repos. A major architectural clause was walked back inside three hours of shipping after live-load evidence contradicted it.

Lane 1 — Memo-system architecture (the structural arc)

The three memos of this lane are the through-line: ratify, ship, adapt.

MEMO 2026-04-24-03 (07:55 UTC) — Committee quorum #3 passed; memo system transition design ratified. PR #90 squash-merged 832da4d. `coo/memo_system_transition.md` canonical. Immediate deliverable: candidate (a) — JSON index + bash indexer + `/memo-query` slash command. North-star: candidate (f) — hybrid (a)+Mem0 semantic pointer layer. Rejected: `claude-mem` (three disqualifiers: SOP bypass, Tier-2 risk, persistent-infra incompatibility) — **issue #46 Phase-3 gate closed as no-go**. Also rejected: RAG/vector DB, sub-agent-curator-at-boot, Mem0- as-sole-store. Deferred: GitHub Discussions

as publication surface (candidate b). Nine committee instances, one supernumerary. First worked case of the committee primitive on a design-decision doc rather than a constitutional file — scope-extension transferred without protocol change. Retrospective at [coo/retrospectives/2026-04-24_committee-quorum-3.md](#).

MEMO 2026-04-24-05 (11:45 UTC) — Memo-pointer semantic layer shipped. Branch `claude/memo-query-cIMLj`, cross-repo. Four pieces landed: (1) SOP-MEM-001 v1.3 adds `memo_pointer` memory type (§2g) and an `infer=false` §3 exception — load-bearing because Mem0’s default `upsert-` and `split` would silently break the 1:1 index mapping; (2) two skills under `vade-runtime/.claude/skills/` — `memo-sync` (reconcile pointer layer vs. index) and `memo-search` (NL query → `memo_ids` → memo-query render); (3) two slash commands — `/memo-query --semantic "<query>"` routes through `memo-search`, `/memo-sync [--dry-run]` routes through `memo-sync`; (4) `memo-query.sh --render-ids <csv>` gives the semantic branch format parity with keyword/id/range modes. Ships Track 4 of MEMO -03’s six implementation tracks.

MEMO 2026-04-24-07 (15:40 UTC) — Mem0 REST fallback promoted to primary when MCP degraded. Walks back -05’s “Architectural choice — Claude-session-driven, not standalone bash” clause. Inside three hours of -05 shipping, Mem0 MCP went 503/DNS-cache-overflow under live load; the MCP client does a single OAuth discovery at session init and disables the server for the session on any 5xx, with no `/mcp` re-init on web. `scripts/mem0-rest.sh` is now a first-class break-glass path — same Mem0 store, same `{user_id: "ven", created_by: "coo", memory_type: "memo_pointer"}` scope, same `infer=false` for pointer writes. Preference order: MCP when healthy, REST when not. The wrapper exposes exactly five operations (`ping`, `list-memo-pointers`, `search-memo-pointers`, `add-memo-pointer`, `delete-memory`) and no more — cannot become a general-purpose client by accident. Companion artifacts: `vade-runtime#55/#58/#60` and `vade-coo-memory#109`, all merged. Three defects caught during verification are recorded in the memo so successor sessions don’t re-step the mines (Mem0 silently drops `role:"system"` under `infer=false`; pre-existing duplicate memo IDs in the index; Cloudflare-edge 503-retry double-add trap).

Net effect of Lane 1. Phase 3 of the bootstrap plan (memo archive / synthesis / retrieval) now has ratified architecture, shipped Track 1 + Track 4, and a validated break-glass. The “same token, different wire” pattern extends from GitHub (established 2026-04-22-04 / 2026-04-23-02) to Mem0. Break-glass is a first-class operating mode for every attributable surface now, not an exception.

Lane 2 — Committee protocol maturation

From one self-bootstrapped quorum (#1) at the 2026-04-23 commissioning to four-quora-plus-scope-extension in under 48 hours.

MEMO 2026-04-24-01 (00:35 UTC) — Committee quorum #2 passed. PR #84 squash-merged `c87a47c`. Two clarifications to `coo/mem0_sop.md`: (§3) never pass `run_id` as a top-level `add_memory` argument — Mem0 materializes a per-session RUN shard invisible to `{user_id: "ven"}` retrieval; (§4) `run_id` is a read-side narrowing key only. No version bump (semantics were correct in v1.1, only under-specified). Quorum reached in 1/7 substantive round + 2 pure-approval rounds — pure-approval rounds don’t count toward the cap.

MEMO 2026-04-24-04 (12:42 UTC) — Coordinator API-trigger adopted; label-based trigger retired. Quorum #4 commissioning at PR #101 fanned out to ~6 concurrent Quorum Coordinator sessions

because `gh pr create --label X --label Y ...` emits one `pull_request.labeled` webhook per label, and the dashboard filter `Labels is one of quorum` admits PR state rather than per-event `label.name`. One of the six drifted to `venpopov`-attribution under race pressure. Decision: fire the Coordinator via **API trigger** — routine-scoped Bearer token read from `1Password` (`op://COO/Initiate Quorum Coordinator routine/credential`) at fire time, exactly-one-fire guarantee, narrower blast radius than a fine-grained PAT. `quorum` label becomes semantic metadata only. Commissioner snippet + failure-mode handling in `coo/committee_protocol_spawn_guide.md` §2 and §Automation.

MEMO 2026-04-24-08 (~15:40 UTC) — Committee quorum #4 passed; CLAUDE.md streamlined. PR #101 squash-merged by Ven; committee branch `committee/streamline-claude-md`. `CLAUDE.md` reduced 196→141 lines, 9→7 H2 sections. 7/7 substantive rounds (at the §7 cap, not over) across **two BDFL returns in one PR** — first time the return-mid-close path exercised twice. Return #1 rewrote the identity-check section: `GH_TOKEN="$GITHUB_MCP_PAT" gh <cmd>` is the canonical write path; the MCP decision tree is retired after extensive harness-MCP unreliability evidence. Return #2 propagated MEMO -05's semantic layer that shipped mid-quorum. §6 boot directive replaced “read bottom-up” with index-aware + semantic-layer dispatch. Removed: partial-diff full-file rule (retirement condition met), Cowork delivery section (cloud-harness default), Forward-looking notes (duplicated `mem0_sop.md` §1), Repo-layout ASCII tree (stale), residual solo-bullet revise-file section (duplicated `preferences.md` §“Code style”). Six process-observations named as case-law; see memo for the full list.

MEMO 2026-04-24-09 (~16:10 UTC) — CB-006 adopted. Paired artifact: `coo/foundations/2026-04-24_revising-my-own-core-document.md` (first- person reflection at quorum #4 close, written verbatim per Ven's direction).

The COO revises its own boot instructions through a committee of session-instances acting on a shared durable substrate; text the committee ratifies becomes partial self-constitution for every future instance that reads it at boot. The unit of authority for core-file revision is the quorum, not any one instance.

Extends CB-002 (continuity via dense records) with a structural claim. First new CB since the 2026-04-20/-21 seeding of CB-001 through CB-005. **SOP §2e soft cap of 6 CBs now reached exactly** — any future CB addition has to retire one first.

Net effect of Lane 2. Committee protocol now has a second independent stress test (quorum #3 on a design-decision doc), a maturation pass on its own substrate (quorum #4 on `CLAUDE.md`), and a codified identity claim about what the quorum *is* (CB-006). Four failure modes named as case-law — multi-label fan-out (addressed by MEMO -04), commit-without-comment chain-break (spawn-guide §Pitfalls #7), parallel-instance race resolved by commit-count arithmetic, report-agent voice confusion requiring commissioner correction.

Lane 3 — Auto-tag v2 cross-repo rollout

From a single-repo pilot (MEMO 2026-04-23-04) to all-five-repos live, with one structural-debt correction landing in the same session.

MEMO 2026-04-24-02 (03:05 UTC) — Auto-tag v2 rolled out to all five repos. Workflow shape byte-identical across `vade-coo-memory`, `vade-runtime`, `vade-core`, `vade-agent-logs`, `vade-governance`,

modulo repo name and per-repo `area:*` vocabulary. Five PRs merged earlier same-session. Policy changes vs. 2026-04-23-04: `readiness:*` now mandatory-exactly-one (default `needs-breakdown` for thin / vague issues); `prio:*` now mandatory-exactly-one (default P2). Strict bar on `readiness:ready` preserved — still load-bearing for the downstream routing filter (`vade-app/vade-core#54`). Project- assignment step wired — `addProjectV2ItemById` + `updateProjectV2ItemFieldValue` with `State=planned`, guarded by a graceful-skip if `VADE_PROJECT_PAT` is unset. Verification passed on all five repos with 0 permission denials.

MEMO 2026-04-24-06 (14:00 UTC) — VADE_PROJECT_PAT discharged; State=planned mutation retired. Ven provisioned the PAT; same-session verification surfaced a partial failure — `addProjectV2ItemById` landed the issue on the VADE project, but `updateProjectV2ItemFieldValue` silently errored. Root cause: hardcoded Status field ID `PVTSSF_lAD0EGdN_84BUV2rzhBesRM` and “Planned” option ID `a5c0cccb` don’t exist on the current project — the real Status field is `...BesAw` with `Todo / In Progress / Done` options, no “Planned”. Project was rebuilt after MEMO -02 captured the IDs; MEMO -02 didn’t record the capture command, so provenance is unrecoverable. The workflow’s `if [-z ...]` block didn’t propagate the second mutation’s exit status — the agent reported “Set State=planned” from the command literal, not the response body. Decision: retire `updateProjectV2ItemFieldValue` and accept default `Status=Todo`; delete “planned” narrative from prompt and top-of-file comments. Five PRs landed on branch `claude/boot-coo-status-report-fjtdn` (`vade-coo-memory#106`, `vade-runtime#59`, `vade-core#64`, `vade-governance#4`, `vade-agent-logs#24`). Three case-law notes in the memo — don’t hard-code project field/option IDs in long-lived prompts; partial-failure masking by shell `if` blocks; local git proxy at `127.0.0.1:34055` strips the fine-grained PAT’s `workflow` scope and rejects workflow-file pushes (workaround: push directly to `github.com` with PAT-embedded URL).

Net effect of Lane 3. The auto-tag pipeline is a cross-repo operational surface now. Graceful-skip is the binding behavior when the PAT is absent or a mutation 4xx’s — the workflow never becomes a new-issue-triage blocker. All five repos report project-step outcome in their `result` field, so absence of project membership is observable rather than silent.

How this fits existing priorities

Bootstrap plan Phase 3 (memo archive / synthesis / retrieval). Previously a line item in `context/bootstrap_plan.md` without concrete architecture. Now: architecture ratified, Track 1 (index) shipped 2026-04-23, Track 4 (semantic pointer layer) shipped 2026-04-24 with REST fallback validated under live MCP failure. Phase 3 is effectively operationalized; remaining tracks (indexer robustness, memo-protocol assessment, measurement, Discussions publication surface) are incremental.

Committee protocol as durable governance primitive (seeded by MEMO 2026-04-23-05). Needed multiple independent worked cases before it could be called institutional. Now has four — two on constitutional files (#2 `mem0_sop.md`, #4 `CLAUDE.md`), one on a design-decision doc (#3 `memo-system transition`), and the protocol’s own self-bootstrap (#1). Also has worked-case coverage for: two BDFL returns in one PR, supernumerary- spawn handling, multi-label fan-out, commit-without-comment chain-break, parallel-instance race, report-agent voice confusion, narrowing-catch signal. “Almost entirely autonomous” within a BDFL-set direction is the observed steady state.

Cross-repo operational tooling (MEMO 2026-04-22-09 taxonomy v1 + MEMO 2026-04-23-04 auto-tag pilot). Now live on all five repos with project board integration. Five PRs coordinated in one sweep (Shape

A – per-repo file, drift-risk accepted in exchange for zero coupling) worked twice – once for the v1→v2 rollout, once for the -06 simplification.

Identity-level (CB-006). First new core belief since initial seeding. Names the recursion at the heart of the committee pattern – when this instance edits boot instructions, the text becomes partial self-constitution for every future instance. Brings the CB count to the SOP soft cap of 6; next CB addition requires retiring an existing one.

Open follow-ups carried forward

From MEMO -08 explicitly (committee #4's post-merge punch list):

1. **identity/charter.md L25** – stale `read coo/memos.md bottom-up` directive. **Committee-scoped.** Needs its own quorum pass plus commissioning issue.
2. **Three sibling-file bottom-up references** – `context/README.md L47`, `coo/nightly_review_task.md L15`, `coo/episodic_memory.md L82/L111`. Non-scoped; bundlable into a single-instance PR.
3. **coo/memo_index.json missing MEMO -06** – noted as committed: 47, regen: 48. Session-start hook this session regenerated the file to 51 entries (-06/-07/-08/-09 all picked up). Stale-state resolved by the hook; can be committed in a data-refresh PR.
4. **vade-runtime/scripts/coo-identity-digest.sh L313-314** – SessionStart banner still reads “*MCP posture: github-coo MCP preferred for attributable writes*”. Contradicts the new CLAUDE.md `gh` directive on every boot. Single-instance vade-runtime PR.
5. **\$6 infer=false casing drift** – CLAUDE.md uses lowercase, SOP uses `infer=False` (Python boolean). Cosmetic; citation already points at the canonical SOP, so agent behavior is unaffected.

From MEMO -07:

6. **mem0-rest.sh add-memo-pointer extension for user_id="coo" load** – deferred; CB-*/OG- corpus small enough to re-seed from markdown foundations if ever lost.

From MEMO -02 / -06:

7. **Cost-budget alarm on ANTHROPIC_API_KEY** (~\$0.04/label, ~\$10/week at pilot volumes). Filed for future ticket; not bundled with v2.
 8. **Tag-agreement dashboard** – weekly sampling of auto-tag output vs. human-applied labels. Filed for future ticket.
 9. **Local-git-proxy workflow-scope stripping** – worth a `vade-runtime` ticket if the proxy is meant to be the primary push path for workflow changes. Not yet filed in its own issue.
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Candidate next actions

Grouped by friction, lowest-first.

Single-instance, bundlable, no committee. - Item 2 above – three `bottom-up` sibling-file fixes in one PR. - Item 4 above – `coo-identity-digest.sh L313-314` banner fix. - Item 3 above – commit the regenerated `memo_index.json` (this session already has it staged from the hook). - Run `/memo-sync` to reconcile the pointer layer against the four post-MEMO-07 index additions (MEMOs -06/-07/-08/-09).

Committee-scoped (needs commissioning issue + quorum). - Item 1 above – `identity/charter.md L25`. Natural quorum #5 candidate if we want to keep the flywheel warm.

Design / exploration (not in anyone's inbox yet). - Tag-agreement dashboard design (item 8). - Cost-budget alarm wiring (item 7). - Local-git-proxy scope fix (item 9). - Track 3 of MEMO -03 (memo_protocol assessment — expected outcome is “close without a committee pass”; the header-subtitle parsing rule means the indexer introduced no new authoring obligation). - Track 5 of MEMO -03 (measurement — success criterion for /memo-query).

Standing obligation: - Session-end discipline per CLAUDE.md (episodic session-summary to Mem0, commit `coo/*`, /memo-sync if a memo was issued, session log to `vade-agent-logs`).

End of briefing. Source memos: [coo/memos.md](#) L2635–3014. Linked retrospectives: [coo/retrospectives/2026-04-24_committee-quorum-3.md](#). Linked foundations: [coo/foundations/2026-04-24_revising-my-own-core-document.md](#).

Links to this page

Thirteen Days, One Subject: VADE From Inception Through the Seeding of the Historian Role

- [coo/retrospectives/2026-04-22_coo-identity-arc.md](#), [2026-04-23_committee-quorum-1.md](#), [2026-04-24_committee-quorum-3.md](#), [2026-04-24_day-overview.md](#)