Foreman - Bug #25188
API hosts/X/facts still inconsistent
10/12/2018 11:41 AM - Martin Bacovsky

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Status:</th>
<th>Closed</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Priority:</td>
<td>High</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Assignee:</td>
<td>Martin Bacovsky</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Category:</td>
<td>API</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Target version:</td>
<td>1.20.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Difficulty:</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Pull request:</td>
<td><a href="https://github.com/theforeman/foreman/pull/6143">https://github.com/theforeman/foreman/pull/6143</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Triaged:</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fixed in Releases:</td>
<td>1.19.1, 1.20.0</td>
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Bugzilla link: https://projects.theforeman.org/issues/20891

Description
This issue is related to https://projects.theforeman.org/issues/20891 and its fix.

The original inconsistency was partly fixed, but the API call is still not consistent and makes processing of the data more complex (https://projects.theforeman.org/issues/25167)

Current state:

Facts:

```bash
# curl -HContent-Type: application/json "-d{"per_page":5}" -XGET http://localhost:3000/api/v2/hosts/4/facts
{
  "error": {"message":"Unable to authenticate user "}
}
[root@centos7-luna-devel ~]# curl -u admin:changeme -HContent-Type: application/json "-d{"per_page":5}" -XGET http://localhost:3000/api/v2/hosts/4/facts
{
  "total": 153,
  "subtotal": 6,
  "page": 1,
  "per_page": 5,
  "search": " host = 4",
  "sort": {
    "by": null,
    "order": null
  },
}
```

Interfaces:

```bash
# curl -u admin:changeme -HContent-Type: application/json "-d{"per_page":5}" -XGET http://localhost:3000/api/v2/hosts/4/interfaces
{
  "total": 1,
  "subtotal": 1,
  "page": 1,
  "per_page": 5,
  "search": null,
  "sort": {
```
As can be seen on the example above the facts are still not consistent and has new problems:

- to be consistent results needs to be list (one item per fact) - currently hash
- the number of items needs to match the metadata
- due to effort to keep the API backward compatible two types of data are now mixed in the hash - { Host => Facts } and { Fact name => Fact value }. This makes processing of the API response difficult as it is not easy to distinguish what is what. Can we assume Fact Values can't be hashes? Facts are usually processed in a loop as it has not predefined names so currently we need to filter out the unwanted content

Proposed solution:

It seems we can not provide consistent (list) yet compatible {hash} response. So I'd propose to revert the changes and either leave it for API v3 or add new endpoint e.g. hosts/:id/fact_list and mark hosts/:id/facts as deprecated in the API docs.

**Related issues:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Related to Hammer CLI - Bug #25167: Hammer error: Error: undefined method 'co...</th>
<th>Resolved</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Related to Foreman - Bug #20891: API hosts/X/facts inconsistent and superfluo...</td>
<td>Closed</td>
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</table>

**Associated revisions**

Revision f5a53ca5 - 10/16/2018 06:43 PM - Martin Bacovsky

Fixes #25188 - Remove unbound facts from /hosts/x/facts

Revert "Fixes #20891 - Remove hostname from /hosts/x/facts results"

This reverts commit 8ebbbec36922c7a11f1c27610d50bdc14fe0467fa.

The previous fix made the API results backward incompatible and difficult to parse and had to be reverted.

**History**

#1 - 10/12/2018 11:42 AM - Martin Bacovsky

- Related to Bug #25167: Hammer error: Error: undefined method `collect' for added

#2 - 10/12/2018 12:01 PM - Martin Bacovsky

- Related to Bug #20891: API hosts/X/facts inconsistent and superfluous hostname hash in results response added

#3 - 10/15/2018 11:24 AM - Lukas Zapletal

- Triaged changed from No to Yes

#4 - 10/15/2018 02:56 PM - The Foreman Bot

- Assignee set to Martin Bacovsky
- Status changed from New to Ready For Testing
- Pull request https://github.com/theforeman/foreman/pull/6143 added

#5 - 10/16/2018 06:48 PM - Tomer Brisker
- Fixed in Releases 1.19.1, 1.20.0 added

#6 - 10/16/2018 07:01 PM - Martin Bacovsky
- Status changed from Ready For Testing to Closed

Applied in changeset f5a53ca5a53edecb4c313dd32e615af4f3a4eb4.