



NOVAworks Workforce Board
March 22, 2023 Meeting Minutes

PRESENT: C. Berdiansky, G. Biggs, J. Cohen, R. Foust, N. Leonor, J. Lind, J. Morrill, B. Murphy, M. Nemits, S. Levy, A. Manwani, K. Vartan, and N. Williams

ABSENT: T. Baity, D. Bini, R. Brunson, C. Galy, P. Guevara, J. Miner, S. Porter, A. Switky, M. Vittal, and T. Woo

ALSO PRESENT: M. Sessions, G. Pham, L. Anders, J. Cheyer, L. Jackson, W. Renwick, and E. Stanly of NOVAworks staff and guest T. Brimacombe of EDD

Meeting was held remotely via videoconference call.

1. CALL TO ORDER

Co-Chairperson J. Morrill called the meeting to order at 12:02 p.m.

2. PUBLIC ANNOUNCEMENTS

There were no public announcements.

3. CONSENT AGENDA

It was moved by R. Foust, seconded by N. Leonor, and carried by voice vote to approve the consent agenda as submitted. For this meeting, these agenda items included the meeting agenda, January 25, 2023, meeting minutes, and updated NOVAworks policies and procedures for priority of service for the WIOA adult program and for veterans and eligible spouses.

4. REPORT FROM THE CHAIR

4A. Customer Success: NOVAworks customer from the San Mateo County Whole Person Pilot Project presented on their job search experience. NOVAworks was thanked for its contributions to their success.

4B. Introductions from Board Members: Board members introduced themselves to new members.

4C. Presentation from Board member Brian Murphy of Pipe Trades Training Center: Board Member B. Murphy presented on his organization, Pipe Trades Training Center, and programs/certifications available through this center. To view the slide presentation, click on the following link, https://novaworks.org/documents/Ongoing/March22BoardMeeting_PipeTradesTrainingCenter.pdf.

5. PUBLIC HEARING

5A. GENERAL BUSINESS:

5A1. Approval of Roadtrip Nation Project for Youth Services: Phase II: Phase I, previously approved by the Board, is getting underway. It is part of NOVAworks' overall strategy to expand the young adult program and provide different tools to support employment success. Phase I includes access to a digital community hub, stories about young people and leaders who have overcome barriers to achieve success, mentors to guide career exploration, and a wide range of resources. Phase II entails a road trip where select participants will travel throughout the Bay Area and personally interview inspiring leaders in their fields of interest. These interviews will be videotaped for distribution to public television. The

implementation of Phase II is being moved up to launch concurrently with Phase I to expedite this invaluable experience without delay and to utilize funding that is available now for this venture. This effort will also further support the WIOA training expenditure goal. Phase II will require an additional investment of up to \$360,000 in WIOA Title I youth funding. It was moved by A. Manwani, seconded by R. Foust, and carried by voice vote to approve Phase II of this project.

5A2. Approval of NOVAworks Partnership with Biocom California Institute for Life Science Industry Workforce Services: NOVAworks is partnering with Biocom California Institute to respond to labor market changes in real-time, where some life science companies are laying off workers while others are hiring. The project entails working with NOVAworks Business Liaisons on Rapid Response presentations; identifying companies experiencing layoffs or seeking to expand; educating job seekers on skill requirements/credentialing and connecting them to employment opportunities; and career exploration fellowships. The investment is up to \$247,000 for the one-year project. It was moved by J. Lind, seconded by N. Williams, and carried by voice vote to approve the project, with one abstention from M. Nemits.

5A3. Employee Ownership and Worker Cooperatives Update: NOVAworks Business Liaison W. Renwick and Board member K. Vartan presented updates on the employee ownership and worker cooperative activities in the community. To view the slide presentation, click on the following link, https://novaworks.org/documents/Ongoing/March22BoardMeeting_AdvancingEmployeeOwnership.pdf.

5B. GENERAL INFORMATION:

5B1. Quarterly Update: Performance of WIOA Title I Adult, Dislocated Worker, and Youth Services: The report was included in the meeting packet.

5B2. Quarterly Grant Status/ Status of Funds: The report was included in the meeting packet.

5B3. Fiscal Year 2021-22 Final Monitoring Report: The report was included in the meeting packet. There were no findings.

6. **REPORT FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**

Highlights of Executive Director Marléna Sessions' report included:

- NOVAworks has moved to the beautiful new City Hall at 456 West Olive Avenue in Sunnyvale, which is located around the corner from the previous offices.
- The Board retreat has been scheduled for Wednesday, September 28. It will be in person for a half-day, 9:00 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. More details will follow.
- The U.S. Department of Labor has launched a *Yes WIOA Can* campaign to showcase best practices in workforce development. The director was featured in a video interview for this campaign, <https://ywc.workforcegps.org/>.
- The director will be attending the annual National Association of Workforce Boards (NAWB) Forum in Washington, D.C., March 25 through March 28. The director is a member of the NAWB Board. This is an opportunity to connect with leaders on Capitol Hill and hear more about workforce development innovations.

7. **ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 1:30 p.m.