



NOVAworks Workforce Board
January 25, 2023 Meeting Minutes

PRESENT: C. Berdiansky, G. Biggs, D. Bini, R. Brunson, R. Foust, P. Guevara, N. Leonor, J. Lind, B. Murphy, M. Nemits, S. Porter, A. Switky, K. Vartan, M. Vittal, N. Williams, and T. Woo

ABSENT: T. Baity, J. Cohen, C. Galy, H. Goodkind, S. Levy, A. Manwani, J. Miner, and J. Morrill

ALSO PRESENT: M. Sessions, G. Pham, L. Anders, J. Cheyer, L. Jackson, and E. Stanly of NOVAworks staff and guest Vicky Brannock of Biocom California Institute

Meeting was held remotely via videoconference call.

1. CALL TO ORDER

Co-Chairperson A. Switky called the meeting to order at 12:03 p.m.

2. PUBLIC ANNOUNCEMENTS

California Labor & Workforce Development Agency Secretary Stewart Knox has expressed a commitment to help those workers impacted by the recent incident in Half Moon Bay. NOVAworks is planning to offer support to the local community with employment assistance.

3. CONSENT AGENDA

It was moved by R. Foust, seconded by S. Porter, and carried by voice vote to approve the consent agenda as submitted. For this meeting, these agenda items included the meeting agenda, Nov. 30, 2022, meeting minutes, and updated NOVAworks policies and procedures for individual training accounts and on-the-job training.

4. REPORT FROM THE CHAIR

4A. Welcome New Board Member: New Board member Christine Berdiansky of Santa Clara Adult Education was welcomed to the Board.

4B. Customer Success: A NOVAworks customer presented on their job search experience and NOVAworks contributions to their success.

4C. Presentation from Board member Michelle Nemits of Biocom California: M. Nemits and guest Vicky Brannock presented on Biocom California and Biocom California Institute, respectively. To view the slide presentation, click on the following link, https://novaworks.org/documents/Ongoing/20230125_NOVAworks_BiocomCalifornia_Final.pdf. A link to the 2022 Biocom California's Life Science Economic Impact Report was also provided as part of this presentation, <https://www.biocom.org/news/eir/>.

5. PUBLIC HEARING

5A. GENERAL BUSINESS:

5A1. Approval of WIOA Local and Regional Plan Modifications: Every four years, the State requires local workforce boards to submit four-year local and regional strategic plans. Two years after its release, local boards must modify the plans to reflect changing economic conditions. The PY 2021-24 Local and

Regional Plan Modifications for NOVAworks and the Bay-Peninsula Regional Planning Unit, respectively, incorporate strategies for responding to the dichotomous economy of a high median household income and a large percentage of residents living below the self-sufficiency standard. In addition, the plans include approaches for serving disadvantaged individuals with barriers to employment and communities of color. It was moved by J. Lind, seconded by P. Guevara, and carried by voice vote to approve the WIOA Local and Regional Modifications documents.

5A2. Report from December 2022 Executive Committee Retreat: At the Dec. 14, 2022, Executive Committee retreat, the discussion's focus was on two topics: 1) The future workforce and the young adult program; and 2) access, equity, and inclusion. The need more intensive services for youth can be addressed by expanding youth programming in both scale and scope. This may entail investing in both in-school and out-of-school youth and reaching out to a variety of community partners. It may also involve a re-procurement of youth services. Access to services and equity for everyone may be accomplished through connection sites or mini job centers at libraries, community colleges, and community-based organizations, among other locations throughout the region.

5A3. Presentation on Regional Layoffs and Rapid Response Activities: NOVAworks Business Services Manager Lelan Anders presented on the status of regional layoffs and NOVAworks rapid response activities. To view the slide presentation, click on the following link, https://novaworks.org/documents/Ongoing/20230125RapidResponsePresentation_NOVAworksBoard.pdf.

6. REPORT FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Highlights of the report from Executive Director Marléna Sessions included:

- Locally, Mr. Stewart Knox has been named the new California Labor & Workforce Development Agency Secretary. The Whole Person Pilot in San Mateo County is coming to a very successful conclusion at the end of February. The Santa Clara County pilot has just launched with positive results.
- Nationally, Senator Bernie Sanders has been named chairperson of the Senate Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions Committee. Representative Dr. Virginia Foxx has been named chairperson of the House Education & The Workforce Committee. There is concern that the House may propose a 70% set aside of WIOA funding for training. The recently passed Omnibus Bill contains a 2% increase in WIOA funding that includes increases for apprenticeships and justice-involved individuals. NOVAworks is developing partnerships with industry for federal CHIPS funding.

7. ADJOURNMENT

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