



Tim Rainey,  
Executive Director

**CALIFORNIA WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT BOARD  
MEETING NOTICE**

Gavin Newsom,  
Governor

Angelo Farooq,  
Chair

**Wednesday, June 21, 2023  
10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.**

Meetings of the California Workforce Development Board (CWDB) are open to the public except when specifically noticed otherwise in accordance with the Bagley-Keene Open Meeting Act. The board may take action regarding any item listed on the agenda unless listed as information only. Times are approximate and subject to change. Agenda items may be taken out of order to accommodate speakers and to maintain a quorum. This meeting may be canceled without notice.

A full packet with additional details regarding the scheduled agenda items will be available at least 24 hours prior to the meeting at: <https://cwdb.ca.gov/meetings/>.

**Public Viewing and Comments**

There are two ways the public may participate in the meeting. The meeting will be live-streamed for public viewing on the CWDB YouTube channel at: <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC8j2IMLyol-6ifdLHGTXLiQ>.

Additionally, the public may attend the meeting in person. The meeting location is:

California Department of Rehabilitation  
721 Capitol Mall Dr., Suite 110  
Sacramento, CA 95814

**Room #242**

The public is welcome to comment on any agenda item. Therefore, consistent with [Executive Order N-29-20](#), public comments may be made by:

- Sending an email to [BoardPublicComment@cwdb.ca.gov](mailto:BoardPublicComment@cwdb.ca.gov). Emailed comments should be submitted by 8:00 a.m. on the meeting date. In the subject line, please identify the agenda item being addressed.
- Sharing in-person at the meeting.
- Posting on YouTube during the meeting. Posted comments should identify the agenda item being addressed and be submitted prior to or during the discussion of the agenda item.

Public comments timely received will be read aloud during the public comment period for the agenda item specified. Failure to submit a timely comment or identify the agenda item being addressed may prevent your comment from being read at the meeting.

Any and all written comments provided to CWDB, including all contents of emails, will be available to the public in compliance with the Bagley-Keene Open Meeting Act, Government Code section 11125.1.

**Accommodations**

Individuals who require accommodations for their disabilities (including interpreters, sign language translation, alternate document formats, or other auxiliary aids) are requested to contact the California Workforce Development Board staff at (916) 657-1440 at least five business days prior to the meeting in order to ensure the availability of the requested accommodation. Please visit the California Workforce Development Board website at <http://www.cwdb.ca.gov> for additional information.

**Contact Person**

If you have any questions concerning the agenda, you may contact:

California Workforce Development Board  
800 Capitol Mall, Suite 1022  
Sacramento CA 95814  
T: 916-657-1440  
[BoardPublicComment@cwdb.ca.gov](mailto:BoardPublicComment@cwdb.ca.gov)

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**CALIFORNIA WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT BOARD  
MEETING AGENDA**

**Wednesday, June 21, 2023  
10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.**

**1. Welcome and Opening Remarks**

**2. Action Items**

- a. Approve March 22, 2023 meeting summary

PUBLIC COMMENT

**3. Updates and Discussion**

- a. Labor Agency Update

PUBLIC COMMENT

**4. Initiative Updates**

- a. High Road Field Team
- b. Program Implementation Team
- c. Policy, Legislation & Research Team

PUBLIC COMMENT

**5. Local Workforce Board Update**

**6. Other Business**

**7. General Public Comments**

**Adjourn**

## CALIFORNIA WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT BOARD

### FULL BOARD MEETING SUMMARY

(March 22, 2023)

The entire meeting is available to view on the CWDB YouTube Channel.

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=D7ZBM\\_ZStY0](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=D7ZBM_ZStY0)

#### Members Present:

- Dr. Angelo Farooq, Chair
- Joe Xavier
- Gloria Young
- Rebecca Miller
- Laurence Frank
- Robert Redlo
- Jamil Dada
- Bruce Stenslie
- Mark Arabo
- Annette Smith
- Avin Sharma
- Pila Schiavo
- John Brauer
- Hilary Lentini
- Bob Beitcher
- Stephen Monteros
- Joseph Williams
- Fabrizio Sasso
- Jason Haider
- Dean Fealk
- Javier Romero
- Kamyar Amiri-Davani
- Chuck Riojas
- Laura Long
- Sandra Sanchez
- Steve Levy

#### 1. Welcome and Introductions

Chairman Farooq called the meeting to order at 10:01 a.m. and explained how the Zoom meeting worked. To confirm the quorum, a roll call was held.

Only Board Members, guests, and staff were present at the meeting, either in person or by Zoom. The public can view the live stream via YouTube or in person. Public comment is open at

Boardpubliccomment@cwdb.ca.gov or by being recognized by the chairperson. All emails will be read aloud and included in the meeting minutes.

## **Public Comment**

**NONE**

## 2. Action Items

- a. Approve November 16, 2022, Meeting Summary.

Gloria Young motioned to approve, seconded by Joe Xavier. Three members abstained. The meeting summary was approved.

## **PUBLIC COMMENT**

- A one-page document was submitted to the public comment email inbox that focused on: parity for people with disabilities in the labor market, ensuring that California's High Roads Workforce programs are inclusive to people with disabilities and employment training services.

## 3. Updates and Discussion

- a. Three new members have been added to the board: Assemblywoman Pilar Schiavo, Assemblymember Damon Connolly, and Senator Dave Cortese.
- b. Curtis Notsinneh and Chairman Angelo Farooq visited Washington D.C. for the National Governor's Association (NGA) conference that convened on workforce. It was an opportunity to share best practices with partners throughout the country. Notsinneh and Farooq showcased information about High Road Training Partnerships (HRTPs). Since Julie Su (the Acting Secretary of Labor) has been nominated for the permanent position of US Secretary of Labor, this created an opportunity for Notsinneh and Farooq to share experiences with her leadership and what it will mean federally. Although North Dakota was ultimately selected, California was considered to host the NGA meeting this summer.

No labor agency updates for this meeting.

**NO PUBLIC COMMENT**

## 4. Initiative Updates

### **i. High Road Field Team**

Sandra Hamameh reported for the High Road Field Team. The field team has added two new team members: Amanda Hanna and Monique Anderson will work on project visibility and act as liaisons to strengthen coordination with technical system partners. They are also working on various initiatives, such as HRTP and High Road Construction Careers (HRCC), and supporting systems alignment to deepen relationships with community colleges.

The field team will be working to onboard the new projects that were recently awarded (almost 40 HRTPs) and brand-new grantees to the High Road portfolio. The Resilient Workforce Fund includes funding to support a Low Carbon Economy and address vital healthcare shortages. Other funded projects include arts, media, entertainment, agriculture, oil well capping, food supply chain, lithium supply extraction, etc.

Two new regions have been added for HRCC, with additional funding from HRCC. The total number of regions in HRCC is now 14. The new regions include partnerships in Humboldt County and Del Norte counties led by Cal Poly, Humboldt State College, and a partnership in San Francisco County led by the San Francisco Labor Council.

Field Team Specialists continue to meet with current grantees. They are participating in conversations around project accomplishments and challenges.

They are also talking to grantees and community stakeholders to continue to build out the High Road Field practice.

### **ii. Program Implementation Team**

Joelle Ball reported for the Program Implementation Team. The High Road Training Partnership fund has awarded approximately \$116 million currently. The April, June, and October groups have been awarded and

are in the contracting phase. The January group is being reviewed for awards now. The fund reopens on April 3, 2023, for the next round of applications.

For the HRCC fund, \$45 million has been awarded and is in the contracting phase. The programs using the Greenhouse Gas Reduction money will end at the end of March; the team is currently working on closeouts for the programs.

The Federal Department of Education grant that funds five projects for HRTP and one HRCC project has been extended until the end of September 2023.

Regional Plan Implementation, Regional Equity Recovery Program, the second round of Prison to Employment, and Accelerator 11 have been awarded and are in contracting or subgrant execution phases.

The new reentry grant for Community-Based Organizations (CBOs) has been named "H.I.R.E.," or Helping Justice-Involved Reenter Employment, and will be released on April 24. To help smaller CBOs have equitable access to the fund, workshops, and application support will be offered.

The Breaking Barriers fund has all been awarded, and the program has started. There are 23 pass-throughs from the 2022-2023 budget in contracting. The team is also preparing to start the data capture modules in Salesforce.

### **iii. Policy, Legislation, & Research**

Pradeep Kotmraju reported for the Policy, Legislation, & Research Teams. CALSkills is moving from a fixed, non-internet-based system to an internet-based system on the cloud. The anticipated completion date is June 30, 2023. The team has always been working with partners to retrieve updated data and data specifications that go beyond questions about wage and employment. The team realized that previous data in CalSKLs 1.0 was not expansive enough. The team is now trying to expand and standardize the data specifications across the eight agencies they work with. The CalSKLs team has also supported the setup of a secure portal for state grantees to enter data for an interim solution while transitioning to the Salesforce system with the help of the California Department of Technology. This portal enables CWDB to analyze and

evaluate the data. The Information Technology Manager of the CalSKLs team, Munny Chitneni, has left the team, and CWDB is in the hiring process for this position.

### **iii. State Partnership Teams**

The team has been working with different state agencies to continue developing relationships, particularly in developing a joint effort with climate-related agencies. The team has also been focused on creating a “best practices” guidebook with the Department of Child Support Services to foster greater collaboration. The team is also working with the California Interagency Counsel on homelessness to prepare a presentation for this spring. Training has also been developed to inform state agencies and departments on the tools and practices to effectively integrate job quality measures into their policies, contracts, or procurements. This helps ensure that state investments in climate change or mitigations result in high-quality jobs and greater access to better jobs for disadvantaged workers and communities.

Research and Evaluation: The team has completed four evaluations that are on the CWDB website:

- First: The impact of the America’s Job Centers of California in delivering training services to Local Workforce Development Boards (Local Boards)
- Second: Evaluation regarding the parallel partnership development that has progressed between LWDBs and Community-Based Organizations (CBOs) because of the previous support and training services provided to underrepresented target populations
- Third: Development of indicators to determine the extent to which workforce development planning occurs at regional levels
- Fourth: CalSKLs study – both the dashboard report and impact analysis done by the California Policy Lab

There are five studies currently. The first is a process evaluation for the High Road Training Partnerships and High Road Construction Careers. The second is looking at the Breaking Barriers initiative, which is a continuation of the AB1111 report completed previously. The third is an assessment for the Prison to Employment program, an impact evaluation; 1.0 and 2.0, and will be completed in collaboration with UC Riverside. The fourth is working on a process and outcome evaluation focused on the



Regional Equity and Recovery Partnership (RERP). The last study is development evaluations that continue the work on reasonable planning units and CBOs as they explore ways to produce regional indicators focusing on administrative efficiency and participant outcomes.

The Policy and Legislation Unit continues to work on bill analyses as the legislative session wraps up.

## **NO PUBLIC COMMENT**

### **5. Local Workforce Board Update**

No report for this meeting.

### **6. Other Business**

The next Board Meeting will be on June 21, 2023.

No YouTube comments.

Jamil Dada motioned to adjourn; Joe Xavier seconded.

The meeting adjourned at 10:40 a.m.

### **7. Public Comments**

To: Members and Staff, California Workforce Development Board

From: Staff, Board, and Apprentices of RespectAbility

Re: Public Comments for March 22, 2023 Meeting

Dear Chair Farooq and Committee Members:

Thank you for the opportunity to offer our comments for California

Workforce Development Board's March 2023 meeting. RespectAbility is

a nonpartisan, nonprofit disability inclusion organization dedicated to fighting stigmas and advancing opportunities for the more than 60 million Americans with disabilities. This is America's largest minority group and one that anyone could join due to aging, illness, or accident. In 2020 in California, there was an estimated 6,734,666 people with disabilities.

Respectability makes the following policy recommendations based on our expertise in recruiting and employing people with disabilities, for California to improve outcomes for workers with disabilities:

Parity for people with disabilities in the labor market

- Focus on closing the gap in labor force participation rates between Californians with and without disabilities: In 2020, California's employment rate for all working-age people with disabilities were 38.2 percent, compared to 76.4 percent of people without disabilities. An increase in labor force participation amongst people with disabilities would be a significant benefit to employers struggling with labor shortages. It is a civil right imperative to close this gap.

- Ensure that California's "High Road" workforce programs are inclusive to people with disabilities: There are more than Sixty million people nationwide with some disability, including both hidden and apparent disabilities. California employers will benefit

tremendously from building a recruitment and workforce culture that empowers this key demographic. Establishing this culture and leading with best practices ensure people with disabilities remain in the workforce.

- Employment Transition Services

The National Longitudinal Transition Study-2 (NLTS2) found that among youth with disabilities who had been out of high school 1 to 4 years, 58 percent worked full-time at their current or most recent job (Newman et al., 2009). In contrast, almost 80 percent of the transition-aged youth without a disability and not enrolled in high school were employed (U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, 2017). RespectAbility supports robust investment in Vocational Rehabilitation (VR) programs since data demonstrates that it is cost-effective and successful.

The U.S. Department of Education found that among persons who achieved an employment outcome because of VR services, 76 percent were still working three years after exit compared to 37 percent of people who were eligible for VR services but did not receive them (Hayward & Schmidt-Davis, 2003).

If you have any questions or would like to follow up on our recommendations, please contact

Manager of State Policy Jimmy Fremgen, (202-517-6272).

## **Zoom Chat**

10:08:24 From Pradeep Kotamraju to Everyone:

Pradeep Kotamraju CWDB

10:08:27 From Mark Arabo to Everyone:

Mark Arabo

10:08:27 From Gloria Young to Everyone:

Gloria Young

10:08:28 From Kamyar Amiri-Davani to Everyone:

Kamyar Amiri-Davani

10:08:30 From Bob Redlo, (he,him) to Everyone:

Bob Redlo Is here

10:08:37 From Chuck Riojas to Everyone:

Chuck Riojas

10:08:41 From Floyd Trammell to Everyone:

Floyd Trammell

10:08:41 From Clemente Vizcarra to Everyone:

Clemente Vizcarra CWDB

10:08:42 From Linda - CWDB - Business Services to Everyone:

Linda Salimi CWDB

10:08:44 From Assemblywoman Pila Schiavo - AD40 to Everyone:

Pilar Schiavo - I also abstain

10:08:48 From Bruce Stenslie | Economic Dev Collaborative to Everyone:

Bruce Stenslie, hello all.

10:08:52 From Ravi's iPhone to Everyone:

Ravi Kahlon for Asm Schiavo

10:09:25 From Laura Long- KP (She/Her/Ella) to Everyone:

Laura Long is here, good morning.

10:12:15 From Anette Smith (she/her) to Everyone:

Anette Smith is here. Good morning!

10:19:49 From CWDB to Everyone:

For those board members who have joined late, please enter your name in the chat to document your attendance for roll call. Thank you

10:20:37 From Sandra Sanchez to CWDB(Direct Message):

I was not late but I forgot to list my name. Sandra Sanchez, CCCCCO.

10:21:30 From John Brauer, CA Labor Federation to Everyone:

Can someone let Fabrizio Sasso into the meeting

10:22:19 From CWDB to Everyone:

Helping Justice-Involved Reenter Employment (HIRE):  
<https://cwdb.ca.gov/partnerships/workforce-corrections-partnership/hire/>

10:27:38 From Hilary Lentini - Lentini Design & Marketing, Inc. to Everyone:

welcome!

10:27:52 From Mark Arabo to Everyone:

Welcome to the Board!

10:40:21 From Anette Smith (she/her) to Everyone:

Thanks everyone!