Finger Lakes Workforce Investment Board, Inc. **VETERANS OUTREACH MEETING MINUTES**

Thursday, March 21, 2019
3:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.
Geneva Career Center (New York State Department of Labor)
70 Elizabeth Blackwell Street, Geneva, NY

ATTENDANCE:

Members: Andrea Badger, Chris Caughey, Michelle Coomber, Jennie Erdle, Mindy Laursen, Jeremy Marshall, Kathy Shay,

Susan Smith

Staff: Michael Woloson, Jennifer May

I. <u>Introductions/Approval of the Minutes from October 11, 2018</u>

A motion to approve the minutes was made by Ms. Badger and seconded by Mr. Caughey. All in favor, motion approved.

II. Numbers:

Goal number four of the FLWIB Strategic Plan calls for a twenty percent increase in veterans served and the goal has been exceeded by four percent. In the eighteenth month period from July 1, 2017 to December 31, 2018, one hundred and seventy-nine veterans were provided services.

III. New Ideas

Group discussed new ideas for attracting veterans to career centers, since job fairs and dedication of veteran events through November have yielded poor results in the past. The new ideas discussed included focusing on veterans who are entrepreneurs and producing a pod-cast focused on services for veterans and success stories. This discussion will be a standing agenda item for the next meeting.

IV. Work Opportunity Tax Credit- for qualifying Veterans

The Work Opportunity Tax Credit (WOTC) is designed to promote the hiring of individuals who qualify as a member of a target group; individuals with barriers to employment: Eligibility for veterans include: A Veteran who is a member of a family receiving assistance under the SNAP Food Stamp Program for at least a 3- month period during the 15-month period ending on the hiring date, or Entitled to compensation for a service-connected disability and hired within one year of discharge or release from active duty. For more information see: https://www.labor.ny.gov/businessservices/edsu/edsu%20wotc.shtm

V. Fort Drum Outreach/Upcoming Job Fair

May 2, 2019 from 9:00am-1:00pm at the Commons (4350 Euphrates River Valley Road). Open to all Active Duty, Retirees, Veterans and Family members.

Respectfully Submitted, Jennifer May Executive Assistant