

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

Thursday, September 24, 2020
Via Zoom

ATTENDANCE:

Members: Andrea Badger, Zachary Brooks, Maria Fisher, Lynn Freid, Phil Rouin, Todd Sloane,
Staff: Jennifer May, Karen Springmeier, Michael Woloson

I. Career Center COVID-19 Update

Mr. Woloson stated that all career centers, except for Geneva, are open to the public by appointment and staff are also connecting with customers remotely.

Mr. Sloane reported that FLCC's healthcare programs are up and running and 75% of all programs are hybrid. The manufacturing programs have been paused for the foreseeable future.

Mr. Brooks stated that all G.W. Lisk staff have been back since June and a lot of orders have been put on hold. In the last week, orders have been coming back. Mr. Brooks expects that G.W. Lisk will be back in full swing by December, and he also mentioned that the Advanced Manufacturing Machinist program has been paused due to visitors not being allowed to the building.

Ms. Fisher stated that most workers in her union are deemed essential and the union has assisted healthcare workers find the appropriate PPE.

Ms. Freid shared that WDI is experiencing a cash flow crunch and most programs have been paused.

Mr. Rouin stated that Yates County staff have been meeting with veterans and families throughout this crisis. The VA has been assisting veterans through telehealth, as there is a 12% capacity limit to in-person visits.

II. New Ideas for Servicing More Veterans

The committee discussed using technological means to connect with veterans, similar to the virtual workshops that the WIB has offered. A business panel zoom event was also discussed and Mr. Woloson will send out dates for a November National Veterans and Military Families Month event once details are solidified.

ACTION ITEM: Mr. Woloson to keep committee apprised of business panel details.

III. Fort Drum Outreach/Upcoming Job Fair

Fort Drum has not held job fairs since the beginning of the COVID-19 crisis, but hopes to host virtual events in the near future – possibly February.

IV. Other Business/Round Table

Mr. Rouin suggested the WIB host a LinkedIn event, similar to "Talk About it Tuesday", which is hosted by the VA. The virtual event allows for discussion with veterans about their workforce needs.

Mr. Rouin also shared that Ontario County will be adding more support staff to their Veterans Crisis Hotline.

The next meeting will be held on Thursday, December 17, 2020 at 3:00 p.m.

This meeting was unanimously adjourned at 3:40 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,
Jennifer May
Executive Assistant