



February 7, 2022

MEMORANDUM FOR RETIREES

Minutes of the February 2022 Bi-monthly membership meeting of the Misawa Military Retirees' Association (MMRA)

1. The meeting was held on Tuesday, February 1st at 1700 In the Gray Room of the Consolidated Open Mess, presiding officers: President-Paul Sayles; Secretary-Joseph Roginski; Treasurer-Dave Barton, and 15 general members. Vice-President Gary Grishaver was not able to attend.
2. Mark Bissell, commissary manager, visited to provide an update on the current shortage situation and to answer any questions. He announced some new products to the commissary. Mark also announced that there is a commissary newsletter if you go to misawaabcommissaries@deca.mil you can be added to the mailing list for the newsletter, or go to the Facebook and look for the group Misawa Grocer, which is a private group but we post pictures and information about the commissary, and contact information for comments or inquiries.
3. Joe Roginski read the minutes of the December 2021 meeting, which were accepted and approved.
4. OLD Business:
 - a. COVID-19 – Paul Sayles gave an update on the booster program. The Pfizer shot is now only for active duty personnel, and if you had an appointment for that, you will have to make a new reservation for the Moderna shot. Everyone else will only get the Moderna shot. Joe Roginski added that the Johnson & Johnson booster is only given with approval of a doctor. Ray Eberhardt added that you don't need an appointment for the Moderna shot. This item will remain open until the pandemic crisis is declared over. (Open)
5. New Business from the previous meeting
 - a. Toby Fanelli – Paul Sayles announced that the Rogo Shimoda long-term care facility has temporarily halted visiting until the current Covid situation improves. (Open)
 - b. Bill Tuttle – In handling affairs of a deceased spouse, some surviving spouses have trouble getting into DFAS for 1099s and other forms because they have no password access, so please consider using the package that Bill sent out via e-mail recently. Dave Barton added that there is software that can aggregate passwords into a secure package that then can be accessed with one simple password, making the process even easier and more secure. (Closed)
6. New Business
 - a. Paul Sayles – Red Feather – We collected 9,000 yen at the last meeting but have not yet been able to turn it over to the Red Feather POC due to COVID restrictions. (Closed)

- b. Bill Tuttle – Bill recommends Angie Barber if anyone needs tax assistance, now that there is no tax preparation office in Misawa. He said she was here in Misawa and does a good business of tax preparation services at very reasonable prices. Her e-mail is: chica84056@yahoo.com.(Closed)
 - c. Afterthought: I intended to bring this up at the meeting but completely forgot. In recent discussion with our boss, Col Murphy (35FW/CV), about how the base's Covid situation has affected the community, he would like to know if anyone has encountered difficulties with off-base hospitals concerning availability of medical appointments, tests, treatments, etc. that might have been affected by the current Covid surge on base. If anyone thinks they had a problem in this area, please let us know at the RAO, specifically, Paul Sayles, or myself, Joe Roginski. (Open)
7. Financial Report – Dave Barton read the financial report. From last meeting in December: Beginning balance of \$8,917.17. MMRA dues income \$160.00. We received deposit from AFSA Profession of Arms plaque which we both sponsor and our half was \$159.25. Account dividends \$0.16 for total income of \$319.41. The club bill for December was \$193.02 plus the entire payment for the Profession of Arms plaque was \$318.50, of which we only paid \$159.25. Total expenses of \$511.52. Widow's fund balance was \$5,024.62, General Fund \$3,700.44 for ending balance \$8,725.06. Dave also added that we are a veterans' organizations and contributions are tax-free if you want to contribute and use it as a tax deduction. A motion passed to accept the report. (Closed)
8. A motion to adjourn passed and the meeting closed at 1745. The next bi-monthly meeting will be at 1700 on 5 April 2022 in the Club Tohoku Gray Room.

(signed)

JOSEPH ROGINSKI
Secretary, MMRA