



February 8, 2021

## MEMORANDUM FOR RETIREES

Minutes of the February 2021 Bi-monthly membership meeting of the Misawa Military Retirees' Association (MMRA)

1. The meeting was held on Tuesday, February 2<sup>nd</sup> at 1700 In the Mayor Suzuki Room of the Consolidated Open Mess, presiding officers: President-Paul Sayles, Vice President-Toby Fanelli, Treasurer-Dave Barton, and Secretary-Joseph Roginski, and 12 general members.
2. Joe Roginski read the minutes of the December 2020 meeting, which were accepted and approved.

3. OLD Business:

a. COVID-19

Conditions and restrictions within and outside the prefecture remain so volatile that putting them in the minutes is meaningless. The best way to keep up with the situation, what and where the current restrictions are inside and outside the prefecture, and elsewhere in Japan, procedures for new arrivals, etc. is to go to the site for the Misawa Air Base COVID Cell. You can do that by going to the official Misawa Air Base website ([www.misawa.af.mil](http://www.misawa.af.mil)). Paul Sayles reported on Covid-19 vaccinations and said the second rounds might be on hold because of availability of the second dose, but second doses are now scheduled 9, 16 and 23 February. Paul said that hospital will notify individuals when it is available and in the appropriate priority. The RAO is also responsible to get you information as much as possible. Watch your e-mails carefully, and be pro-active by checking with the base hospital regularly. Joe Roginski said that health officials are warning individuals not to share personal health information on Facebook or other social media, as this is a violation of the law (HIPA). Paul Sayles announced that there are new travel requirements for testing in order to travel to/from the CONUS. Testing will be done in the "tunnel" by the UCC in the hospital 72 hrs prior to travel. Patriot Express passengers are tested on Sundays 0800-1100, leaves TDYs, M-F 0800-1100, 1300-1500, scheduled in advance (226-6555 COVID Hotline) and itinerary required, also in the tunnel. Schedules are subject to change so call the COVID Hotline for specifics if you are going to travel.

Joe Roginski reported that he may have had a reaction to the 1<sup>st</sup> Covid vaccination that gave him stroke-like symptoms and said that Dr. Edwards had entered that into the database of the Covid-19 reporting system. Bill Tuttle said he had researched and found a slightly higher incidence of Bell's Palsy among vaccine recipients, but that there are other causes for this type of symptom.

This item will remain open until the Covid-19 crisis is declared over. (Open)

- b. Ray Eberhardt had inquired as to why the club had so drastically raised their prices. Dave Barton said the club had to raise prices to because they were losing money (low attendance, etc.) and they had no choice. (Closed)
- c. Joe Roginski had announced that he intends to eventually retire from the RAO. Bill Tuttle, Mark Ringquist and Gary Grishaver asked to volunteer at the RAO. After meeting with the Vice Commander and on recommendation from Joe Roginski and Dave Barton, they were accepted as staff of the RAO. Bill Tuttle will work Mondays, with Joe Roginski, Gary Grishaver will work on Wednesday with Dave

Barton and Mark Ringquist will work Fridays with Dave Barton. They are currently processing their CAC card access. (Closed)

4. Financial Report - Dave Barton submitted the financial report for the period December 2020-January 2021. Beginning balance \$8,717.09, Dues \$160.00, widows donations \$220, dividends \$00.48, total income: \$380.48. December meeting expense \$130.59. Standings: Widows' fund \$4,565.61, General Fund \$4,461.37, Ending balance \$8,966.98. The report was approved and accepted by the membership present.
5. The meeting was closed at 1745. The next bi-monthly meeting will be at 1700 on 6 April 2021 in the Club Tohoku Gray Room.

*(signed)*

JOSEPH ROGINSKI  
Secretary, MMRA