



## MEMORANDUM FOR RETIREES

April 1, 2014

FROM: Misawa Military Retirees Association

SUBJECT: Minutes MMRA

1. The bi-monthly meeting of the Misawa Military Retirees Association (MMRA) was held on 1 April 2014 at 1700 hours in the Club Tohoku.
2. The president of the MMRA, Paul Sayles, read the minutes of the 4 February 2014 meeting, which were approved by the attending members.
3. Captain Courtney Addy, Group Practice Manager from the hospital, gave a briefing on the new MiCare, on-line health care tool which enables a patient to communicate with the provider, make appointments, renew prescriptions, consult, and more. Registration must be in person at the base hospital in various sections. Family Practice is the most recognized and accessible section to do your registration. Captain Addy then answered questions and inquiries about problems with the registration process. She also handed out applications to all who had not yet registered.
4. OLD BUSINESS:
  - a. 2014 Retiree Council Inputs - We reminded the members that if they had any inputs to the upcoming Retiree Council meeting in May, they should send them to the RAO for consolidation and forwarding to the PACAF representative. (OPEN)
  - b. New Phone system -Questions still remain regarding the new non-government phone system currently being installed by Allied Telesis. Some of the members at the meeting shared what they knew so far. Joe Roginski is still gathering info and will present it at the June meeting. (OPEN)
  - c. Jackets and Hats - Chief Barton advised that all the jackets and hats ordered have been picked up. (CLOSED)
  - d. A member asked about the Affordable Healthcare Act and TRICARE and how overseas retirees will be affected. We agreed that there were no ACA provisions that affect TRICARE coverage and TRICARE coverage overseas, and that TRICARE meets all the minimum requirements defined in the ACA. However there are still possibilities that the ACA, as it is implemented, may affect TRICARE coverage so this will remain an open item. (OPEN)
  - e. MICARE – A new online process offered by the hospital. The process allows e-mail contact with providers and is also a means to receive information back from the providers, and all the capabilities discussed during the briefing that Captain Addy presented at this meeting. Since there are still many retirees not registered, and there are still occasional problems, this item will remain open. (OPEN)
  - f. Roy Torp, a new member, made the suggestion that at the next Retiree Appreciation Day, a group photo be taken and a print kept in the RAO with the various members present identified. The rationale was that not everyone know all the members and should an event occur which requires identification of a member, the group photo, which will have all the members identified would be very useful. After discussion, it was recommended that this

be added to the RAD agenda for 2014. We decided to close this item but it could be re-opened before the next Retiree Appreciation Day if necessary. (CLOSED)

5. NEW BUSINESS

- a. Joe Roginski noted that the Misawa City Welfare office called to say that Doug Lyon's ashes could not be disposed in the sea, per city ordinances. (See October and December 2013 MMRA Minutes). The welfare office asked if there was a facility on the base that could handle Doug's ashes. Joe told the welfare office he would check. At the meeting nobody knew of such a facility and it might be necessary to go inquire at a higher level. (OPEN)
- b. Chief Tinnirella suggested that we approve a \$100 donation for the Security Forces annual vehicle (road) tax collection activity in anticipation that we would be asked for this activity later this month. The motion was approved. (CLOSED)

6. FINANCIAL REPORT

Tony Watkins read the financial report which was accepted and approved by the attending membership.

7. There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 1800. The president announced that the next meeting will be on 3 June 2014 at 1700 in the Club Tohoku Gray Room.

///Signed///

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