

MEMORANDUM FOR RETIREES 4 June 2026

Minutes of the May 2026 bi-monthly membership meeting of the Misawa Military Retirees' Association (MMRA).

1. The meeting was held on Tuesday, 2 June at 1700 in the Gray Room of the Consolidated Open Mess. Paul Sayles read the minutes of the April 2026 meeting, in place of Joe Roginski, which were approved and accepted.
2. Officers present: President-Paul Sayles, Vice-President Gary Grishaver, and Treasurer-Dave Barton. Joe Roginski was unable to attend the meeting.
3. Purpose: Bi-monthly general membership meeting to inform the membership of matters pertaining to the operations of the Association, and to canvass the membership on matters of concern in operation of the Association, and any issues pertaining to living in Japan, living and working in and around Misawa Air Base.
4. Members present: 15, including officers.
5. Old Business

a. A follow-up was given regarding the disposal of DVDs that belonged to Toby Fanelli. There are approximately 1000 DVDs in Toby's storage locker. Dave Barton and Lee Martin will remove them from the storage locker and take them to the base Thrift Shop where they will be donated. Lee is still sorting through Toby's personal effects prior to disposition to his family. Bill Tuttle reported that the financial disposition of Toby Fanelli's financial assets was complicated by the fact that the beneficiaries did not have an ITIN. He is working to resolve this issue with the IRS and Navy Federal Credit Union. He reminded the membership that an ITIN was necessary to access funds held by the NFCU, if the beneficiary did not have a Social Security Account Number. (Open)

b. Paul Sayles reported that the commissary policy of making a charge for plastic shopping bags was discontinued. He did suggest continuing the use of reuseable shopping bags going forward. (Closed)

6. New Business

a. Bill Tuttle reminded the membership that due to American Day, there would be main gate closures on 21 June. Paul Sayles mentioned that for set-up purposes, there may be a main gate disruption during the evening of 20 June. (Closed)

b. Bill Tuttle reported that the Memorial Day Retreat Ceremony was held with 13 retirees in attendance, which was a good turnout. Retirees were able to provide a formation for the ceremony. Paul Sayles noted that a photo appeared on the Misawa AB Facebook page which showed the retiree formation. (Closed)

c. Ray Everhardt asked if there was an equivalent retiree association for the Japanese Air Self-Defence Force. Bill Tuttle reported that there was an equivalent RAO office for JASDF outside the main gate staffed by volunteers and possibly one paid secretary. It is housed in the same building which was the former home of Swan Restaurant. Bill Tuttle will ask the JASDF RAO if there was an equivalent Japanese retiree association. (Open)

d. Paul Sayles reported that the MMRA Constitution and Bylaws were undergoing revision to meet new content requirements. The revised constitution and bylaws would be disseminated to the membership prior to the August meeting with anticipated voting on the revisions at that meeting. (Open)

7. Financial Report. Treasurer Dave Barton gave the financial report for the period 1 April to 1 June 2026. The beginning balance was 7276.97. Income MMRA dues \$120.00. Interest dividend was \$0.12 for a total of \$120.12. Expenses were club payment of \$166.86. The Widows fund stood at \$5044.44, while the General Fund stood at 2352.65. The ending balance was \$7230.23. The report was approved by the membership. (Closed)

8. A motion to close the meeting was made at 1732, which was approved by the membership. President Paul Sayles announced that the next scheduled meeting of the MMRA would be held on 4 August 2026 at 1700 in the Gray Room. Future meeting dates will be 6 October and 1 December.

Paul H. Sayles, MMRA President (& recorder pro-tempore of minutes 2 June 2026)