



Manistee County GOP Membership Meeting
August 13, 2026

6:00 pm

West Shore College Building

400 River St.

Manistee, Michigan 49660

Call to Order
Pledge of Allegiance
Approve/Amend Agenda
Secretary Report
Treasurer Report (interim)

Old Business

- 1) HQ status**
- 2) Parades - Wrap up Kellie**
- 3) August Conventions**

New Business

Adjourn

7/14/26 Manistee County GOP Meeting Minutes

Chairman, Duane Jones, called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance, and an invocation by David Niedzielski.

2. Approval of Agenda

Additional agenda items were added:

- Right to Life update
- Additional remarks from Paul Battige
- Tea Party Picnic announcement

Motion: Approve agenda as amended.

Result: Approved unanimously.

3. Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes

Minutes from the June 11th meeting were presented.

Motion: Approve minutes as presented.

Result: Approved unanimously.

4. Treasurer's Report

Treasurer, Steve Wheeler, presented the June 2026 and the YTD 2026 financial report with paper copies available.

Members were advised that a substantial billboard expense would appear in the July report and significantly reduce the account balance.

Motion: Approve Treasurer's Report.

Result: Approved unanimously.

5. Headquarters Status

Members discussed the impact of ongoing downtown construction on headquarters operations.

Topics included:

- Reduced visibility and access due to street and sidewalk construction.
- Need for temporary "pop-up" headquarters locations during construction.
- Potential locations discussed included:
 - Former Clark Station south of town.
 - Property across from Oak Grove Cemetery.
- Construction completion is currently projected for some time in August.

6. Tea Party Picnic Announcement

Members were reminded of the upcoming Tea Party Picnic:

- Date: Thursday, July 16th
- Time: 5:00 PM
- Location: Lions Pavilion, First Street Beach
- Potluck event

- Featured speaker: Director of the Manistee County Library

7. Parade Report

Recent parade participation was reported as highly successful, with positive public response.

Upcoming parades:

Arcadia Days Parade

- July 26
- Line-up: 12:30 PM - Parade starts: 1:30 PM

Onkama Days Parade

- August 9
- Line-up: Noon - Parade starts: 1:00 PM

Volunteers were encouraged to participate

8. August County Convention

The 6:00 PM August meeting will be followed by the county convention at 7:00.

Purpose:

- Elect delegates and alternates to attend the State Convention on August 22 in Mount Pleasant.

Members unable to attend the county convention but wishing to be considered as delegates were instructed to notify Duane Jones or David Niedzielski in writing before 5:00 PM, August 13th.

State-endorsed candidates for Secretary of State, Attorney General, Supreme Court, State Board of Education, and University Boards were reviewed.

9. Candidate Meet-and-Greet Discussion

Members discussed the possibility of hosting a post-primary candidate meet-and-greet event.

Potential timing: Late August or early September

Possible venues and logistics were discussed, but no formal action was taken.

10. Right to Life of Manistee County Dinner Update

Shane Machen provided an update regarding the annual Right to Life fundraiser.

Focus on Life Dinner

- Date: August 10
- Featured Speaker: Genevieve Marnon, Right to Life of Michigan
- Includes student pro-life oratory contest winner presentation.
- Reservation information is available on the party website.

Members wishing to sit together may designate "GOP Table" on their reservation forms.

11. Patriotic Film Event Proposal

Paul Battige reported on efforts to organize a community event tied to America's 250th anniversary.

Potential films discussed:

- *Young Washington* (Angel Studios)
- *Revolutionary America* (Hillsdale College)

Possible venues:

- Vogue Theatre
- Manistee High School Auditorium

Further research and planning are ongoing.

12. Election Integrity Volunteer Opportunity

Paul discussed a volunteer opportunity associated with reviewing election records obtained through a Freedom of Information Act lawsuit involving Detroit election records organized by Check My Vote.

Volunteers would assist with:

- Data entry
- Document review
- Election record comparisons

Information will be posted on the manisteerepublicans.com website for interested members.

13. Senior Center Sign Discussion

Members discussed concerns regarding:

- Signage at the Senior Center.
- Funding sources and governance of the organization.
- Responses received through FOIA requests and related correspondence.

No formal action was taken.

14. Memorial Contribution

Members were informed of the passing of longtime Republican supporter **Dr. David Wild**.

Funeral and visitation information was shared.

Motion: Donate \$50 in memory of Dr. Wild to the memorial designated by the family.

Result: Approved unanimously.

15. Additional Business

Additional discussion included:

- Election security and federal legislation.
- A proposed resolution regarding election integrity measures.
- Positive reactions from international visitors regarding the United States.

No formal actions were taken.

16. Adjournment

Motion: Adjourn the meeting.

Result: Approved unanimously.

Meeting Adjourned.

MANISTEE COUNTY REPUBLICANS

CONVENTION AGENDA

1. Chairman (County Executive Committee Chair) calls convention to order
2. Appointment of Permanent Secretary
3. Secretary reads Call to Convention (motion to waive reading)
4. Permanent Chairman appoints:
 - Tellers
5. Oath of Office administered to all Permanent Convention Officers:

OATH: "I do solemnly swear that I will support the Constitution of the United States and that I will faithfully discharge the duties of the office of _____ according to the best of my ability."

6. County Convention Delegates select Delegates to the State Endorsement Convention.
(NOTE: ONLY current precinct delegates may vote. Delegates can NOT be elevated at this convention until AFTER the conclusion of the delegate selection process)
7. Delegates fill any vacancies in State Convention Delegate or Alternate slots.
(NOTE: Delegates and Alternates must live in the County and Congressional District that they will represent.)
Permanent Chairman will distribute convention packets to all convention delegates and alternates via email. State Convention details:
 - Date: August 22, 2026
 - Location: Soaring Eagle Casino, Mt. Pleasant, MI
14. Filling of Precinct Delegate vacancies (See Rule 5C of the Rules for the Selection of Delegates and Alternates to the 2025 Republican County and State Nominating Conventions).
15. Permanent Chairman asks for any further business. (Convention fee)
16. Chairman declares convention adjourned.