



Manistee County GOP Membership Meeting

September 15, 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) Door Knocking/Lit Drop**
- 3) August State Convention Wrap-up**
- 4) John James Event**

New Business

Adjourn

Manistee County Republican Committee August 13, 2026, Meeting Minutes

Chairman, Duane Jones called the meeting to order at 6:01 pm. All present recited the Pledge of Allegiance. Dave Niedzielski gave the invocation.

Agenda amended to include presentations by:

Kim Cole, Republican candidate for State Senate.

Jim (James) Henderson, candidate for Manistee Area Public Schools (MAPS) Board of Education.

Motion to amend and approve the agenda was made by Kellie Mowry, Seconded by Steve Wheeler.

Welcome to Guests:

Glen Zaring; Good Shepherd Lutheran Church Pastor, Richard Blue; Candidate for District 2 Rep, Brett Amelia

Secretary's Report (July 2026)

The secretary's report was distributed via Constant Contact.

Motion to approve was made by Steve Wheeler, Seconded by Steve Govorchin.

Treasurer's Report (July 2026)

Steve Wheeler presented the financial summary. He informed us that our dues collections are behind last year's and members were encouraged to submit payments to P.O. 621. A motion to approve the report was made by Jim Mowry, seconded by Dave Niedzielski.

Old Business

1) Headquarters and Volunteer Activities

- Continued need for headquarters volunteers.
- Campaign signs and merchandise remain available.
- Plans for additional pop-up events and outreach activities were discussed.

2) Parades

- Participation in local parades was reported as successful.
- Positive public reception noted.
- Activities came in under budget.

3) August Convention

- Reminder of upcoming county convention to select delegates for the Michigan Republican State Convention. State Convention scheduled for August 22 in Mt. Pleasant.

New Business

Fall Event Planning

- Initial planning underway for a fall Republican candidate meet-and-greet event.
- Goal is to invite statewide Republican candidates, including Mike Rogers, John James and other statewide nominees.
- Venue possibilities and logistics are being explored.

Door Hanger Project

- Members are updating voter outreach door hangers.
- Materials will focus on: Republican principles and priorities and accomplishments of the Trump administration.

Additional Announcements

- Election integrity resolution previously discussed was finalized and submitted.
- Members discussed recent political news and statewide campaign developments.
- John James selected Jay DeBoyer as his running mate for Lieutenant Governor.

Billboard Updates:

- The existing billboard contains an incorrect P.O. Box number (631 instead of 621).
- A second billboard is scheduled to go up later in August.
- Billboard locations and messaging may be rotated to maintain visibility.

Candidate Presentation: Kim Cole (State Senate Candidate)

- Campaign Update:
- Reviewed primary election victory and outlook for the general election.

- Identified Manistee, Benzie, and Muskegon Counties as critical to winning the district. Reported active efforts including door knocking, mailers, meet and greet events and volunteer recruitment. Requested assistance with door-to-door campaigning, placement of campaign signs and event participation. *** Sheriff Cole shared that he had been notified he would receive recognition as American Sheriff of the Year in November.

Candidate Presentation: Jim Henderson (School Board Candidate)

- Campaign Priorities: Student safety; Academic excellence; Parental involvement; Ensuring schools focus on students' best interests; Maintaining safe and appropriate learning environment.
- Members expressed support for Henderson's candidacy.
- Discussion included helping promote his campaign through the county party website and social media channels.

Adjournment

- Motion to adjourn was made by Dave Niedzielski at 6:54 pm, seconded by Jim Mowry.
- Meeting adjourned with members invited to refreshments before reconvening for convention business.

The Treasurer's Report will be available in printed form at the meeting.