Seneca County Republican Central Committee

Debora J Wilkinson, Secretary
1070 S. Co. Rd. 17
Tiffin, OH 44883

July14th, 2026

J Dian West called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. Jeff Clagg led us in prayer followed by the Pledge of Allegiance

Elected Officials Update:

Julie Adkins: Auditor — 2026 is a property value change year. Will be advertising by postcard amount to property owners tentative value amounts. It will have QR code to check their value. If there is a levy on the ballot it will affect taxes. Should have received your tax bill. They are due July 31st. House bill 186 was passed which provided inflation tax credit. This credit does not apply to everyone. Homestead Act if 65 yrs or older, permanently, or totally disabled you can get a credit if income under $41,000.00 of 2025 adjusted gross income. State is doubling up on that credit but only for one year. The state had an excessive (billion) carryover. You should ask your legislators why.

Bill Frankart: Commissioner Seneca Co — Sheriff Stevens sends his regards. He had a busy day with 46,000 people trying to see the Train. We are in budget season. Cyber security is super important. Wood Co. had to pay 2 mil in ransom. They are getting upgrades on all their systems. Investing a lot into buildings HVAC and maint. with Juvenile Center, Sheriff Dept.

Damon Alt Judge — He knows people don't like to serve jury duty. People are allowed to change their plea. Went in Monday to excuse jurors and there were only 19 people there. They usually have 23 after challenges, usually seat 13. They would not have been able to do that. To continue that trial he would have had to go to the street to find qualified people. It has been done before. Please show up for jury duty. It can be a positive experience. Judge Shuff and Alt received a grant for Pivot. Thanks to Sen Reineke being able to secure $187,000.00 for Pivot. They also received $10,000.00 from the Greater Fostoria Community Foundation and from the Ohio Attorney General's Office had a grant for upgrading technology in court rooms $130,000.00

Stephanie Hicks: Clerk of Courts — Clerk of Courts going well. Working on advancements and improvements. Applied for the Attorney General Technology Grant for $62,000.00 and will be upgrading their server and systems. When something is put in it will automatically be there. In March we changed from Capital Recovery Service and turned all uncollected court costs over to the Attorney General and have collected over $10,000.00.

Brent Busdeker: Commissioner Seneca Co sent an email saying he is in Fostoria at the Train event.

Minutes: *Linda Davis made a motion to approve the May 27th, 2026 Minutes Jim Ehrman 2nd Motion Passed*

Treasurer's Report: Robin Reeves gave a report from May 27, 2026-June 30, 2026 Only two transactions one for the Fair and one for the Website. The ending balance in the regular account with Sutton Bank is $51,135.45. There was no activity in the Old Fort Judicial Account or the Century Club account. She would like to go to Electronic Record Keeping, but will investigate further. She would also like to inquire about getting a Debit Card and will look into any policy needed. Thank You to Jim and the Board of Elections and to Duane Alt for his support. She is also working on a semiannual report.
Charles Knight made a motion to accept the Treasurer's Report for July 14th 2026 Cary Theis 2nd Motion Passed

Fair: A sign up sheet to work at the fair was passed around the room. Pictures of Elected Officials have been updated. There are new decorations for the 250th. Everyone is invited at 2:00pm Friday July 24 for set up. There will be literature and signs to pass out. ORP is sending a fair box. An email was sent out to the Elected officials and all committee members asking for a $50.00 donation to offset fair costs. This Friday is the last day to turn in funds. A sign will post all peoples who have donated. So far 10 donations for $500.00 Please see Robin for passes for the fair.

Communication/Media: A contact list was sent around for all committee members to approve by initials or add any info. This list will not be published. We also ask that you not share this info with others outside of this Committee. It was questioned why several emails were used to send information. Senecacountyrepublicanparty@gmail.com is the email used by the Secretary. Josh Randall from Liamer Media sends out our updates and events and takes care of our website. Mike Oberlander will continue to chair the monthly luncheon the second Wednesday of the month 11:30 at Fort Ball Pizza. Susan Platt will be the person organizing the evening event at Buffalo Wild Wings at 5:30 on Wednesdays

State Central Rep: Susan Platt announced the Young Republicans of Summit Co. will be having a statewide Gala August 15th. The State Central Committee meeting is the 1st Friday in September the 11th. Trump has called a National Convention in Dallas Sept 8,9,&10th. The Republican Women have a meeting Thursday night. September 11-12th the Ohio Federation of Republican Women's Convention in Perrysburg. Info online at theofrw.org. The June 6th event was a great memorial at Bill Frankart's Barn. There was a moving service with Bob Latta speaking.

Mission Statement: The officers were going to present a mission statement to represent our committee.
Linda Davis made a motion to table the Mission Statement till the next meeting Robin Reeves 2nd Motion Passed.

Campaign Donations: At this time there is no candidate request form for donations. Tyler Shuff has compiled a list of questions. Other items also need changing in the by-laws and need to be gone over. This committee would go over the by-laws and make suggestions to present to the committee. The Ohio Revised Code would need to be considered. The Sunshine Act (2025) is not currently reflected in our by-laws.
Cary Theis made a motion to form a committee to go over and change some by-laws Larry Durst 2nd
Charles Knight stated we have no by-laws since we are a new committee. Damon Alt was consulted and he viewed that as long as the body had not dissolved the by-laws would remain. Cary Theis then amended his motion.
Cary Theis then made a motion to grandfather the by-laws we now have and to form an ad hoc committee to review those by-laws and present changes of those by-laws to the committee. Larry Durst 2nd Motion Passed.
The Chair will form the committee.

There is a general election in November. The previous committee had approved a budget of campaign support of $4500. It is proposed that we amend and bring up to date **Article II Endorsements** so we have some rules.
Charles Knight made a motion to amend and bring up to date the "Article II Endorsements" to ensure a set of rules for continuity Glenn Ardner 2nd
Discussion: Tyler Shuff explained the form a candidate would use to request funds from the committee.

SENECA COUNTY REPUBLICAN PARTY
Request for Donations Form
Name:
Date:
What office are you seeking?
How much money are you requesting for your campaign?
What makes you a good Republican?
Why are you seeking public office and what is motivating you?
How have you helped the Republican Party?
Give us a brief description or bio about yourself
When we look at your voting history and turnout frequency, what will we see?
If we were to grant you a campaign contribution, what would the funds go towards?
Are you willing to volunteer and help out with Republican Party related events in the future?

Accepted or Declined
Amount of Donation

The form basically gives us information about the candidate so we may better know them, how much they are asking for, and what they will use the funds for. The SOS has a website with a chart stating how much we can donate. The ORC3517.10. has a chart of the state limits.

Jim Ehrman made a motion to use the Campaign Finance questionnaire Tyler Shuff presented to the committee for the 2026 election and then establish a Committee to include this form into discussion for future ratification in the by-laws. Angela Bliss 2nd Motion Passed

Meeting Dates: Our by-laws currently state we will meet 4 times a year quarterly. Our next meeting is Sept 8th.
A proposed addition to the by-laws for changing the frequency of our meeting was read.

Current By Laws Article I C Meetings

2. Regular Meetings: The Central Committee shall meet quarterly throughout the year at a suitable time and place as designated by the Chairperson or upon the petition by at least 25% of the current members of said Central Committee to the Chairperson and/or Secretary of the Central Committee. Any topic or subject may be raised, by any Central Committee member, at a Regular Central Committee meeting. The organizational meeting referred to in Article I (C)(1) above may constitute one of the quarterly meetings. Any regular meeting of the Central Committee may be adjourned or suspended so that a meeting of the Executive Committee may occur, when necessary.

Proposed change to amend : Article I C Meetings

2. Regular Meetings: The Central Committee shall meet at minimum quarterly throughout the year at a suitable time and place as designated by the Chairperson or upon the petition by at least 25% of the current members of said Central Committee to the Chairperson and/or Secretary of the Central Committee. The Central Committee, through majority vote, may elect to meet more often such as every other month. Any topic or subject may be raised, by any Central Committee member, at a Regular Central Committee meeting. The organizational meeting referred to in Article I (C)(1) above may constitute one of the meetings. Any regular meeting of the Central Committee may be adjourned or suspended so that a meeting of the Executive Committee may occur, when necessary.

Our main purpose is to replace elected officials who for whatever reason are leaving their elected office. In addition to raise money for support for candidates. For thought meeting months suggested: January if it was a year with a March primary. March middle of month for discussion of primary. May for discussion of the Fair. July final fair prep. September review of fair and prepare for November election. November for post election and agenda for next year.

Dawn Bour made a motion to change the frequency of the committee meeting to the suggested times stated on the screen and paraphrased above. Cary Theis 2nd. Motion Passed.
This vote adapts Article I Section C. Meetings in the by-laws as per attached document.

Approved Minutes Posting: Under Article I Section D Notice of Meetings it is proposed that
Yes, county central committees can legally post their approved minutes online in Ohio, though they are not strictly mandated by state statute to publish them digitally. [1]
Because political party central and executive committees are "public bodies" defined by Ohio's Open Meetings Act, they are required to promptly prepare, file, and maintain official minutes that are open to public inspection. [1]
Key guidelines for posting and managing these minutes include:

- **Public Accessibility:** Posting them on a publicly accessible website satisfies the legal requirement that the minutes be open for public inspection, making it a highly transparent best practice. [1]
- **Redaction:** Any sensitive personal information (such as private addresses or emails of committee members) that qualifies as confidential or protected data should be redacted before uploading. [1, 2]
- **Executive Sessions:** If the committee holds a closed-door "executive session" for permissible matters, the minutes need only reflect the general subject matter discussed, not the detailed deliberations. [1]
- **Official Record:** The minutes must be formally voted on and approved by the committee to become the official, binding record of the proceedings. [1]

For the latest legal guidelines on Open Meetings and Public Records, you can review the 2025 Ohio Sunshine Laws Manual provided by the Ohio Attorney General. [1, 2]

Cary Theis made a motion to amend the proposed changes stated in the for Article I Section D Notice of Meetings section in the by-laws. Glen Ardner 2nd Motion Passed

EMAILS:
Josh Randall from Liamer Media uses Contact@senecarepublicans.org for reminders, luncheon, BW3 & meeting dates
Brevo Newsletter@senecarepublicans.org is used for mass emails and is not monitored.
The secretary uses senecacountyrepublicanparty@gmail.com
Starting May 2026 the minutes will be emailed to support@liamermedia.com as per the by-laws

Republican Headquarters: We are looking for a place to have our headquarters. We usually set up a place to hand out info on candidates and signs to post. We need to pick times (days of week and times of day). We will be open and will need people to man the building. In the past we have had it at Reineke's shop beside Subway. They are using it now.

Adjournment: *Charles Knight made a motion to adjourn Brian Courtney 2nd Motion Passed.*

Respectfully submitted
Debora Wilkinson
Secretary of Seneca County Republican Party