

Linn County Republican Central Committee Meeting- January 8th, 2026 Meeting Minutes

The LCRCC meeting was held at Christian Life Church 2808 Schaeffer Dr. SW

Call to Order 7 pm

Invocation Barclay Woerner (CR32)

Pledge Dean Soenksen (CR13)

Chairman's Minute Bernie Hayes reminded the body that we are still looking for volunteers to help with caucus and that we are still pinning down a couple locations that recently canceled. He also noted that we have a lot of candidate petitions that need signatures, as well as several guest speakers.

Joe Mitchell- Candidate for US Congress Dist. 2 spoke about his campaign. He is not taking PAC money and supports term limits. His opponent Lindsey Jane is an Oregon native and supports defunding police.

Abby Roesch- Hinson spokesperson brought petitions to sign. She also noted that they are looking for spokespersons at caucus locations.

Membership Report Heidi Barnhart (ROB) 56 voting members, 23 voting associates, 8 associates, 10 guests. No new members to be voted in.

Bernie moved to accept December and November meeting minutes, seconded, passed. He also moved to correct the October minutes to recognize Samantha Soenksen (CR13) as being voted in as a voting member. Seconded, passed.

Joe Golding (TMON1) announced that a new project has been launched called CR Movies for Kids. This is being sponsored by Linn Red as well as some Churches in the city. The goal is to provide a welcoming environment for kids to watch movies that reinforce our American values. They are looking for volunteers as well as host Churches. Reach out to Joe if interested.

Caucus Bernie relayed the status of caucus preparations. He also shared a PowerPoint presentation detailing the roles of caucus volunteers as well as a general overview of the process. Online training by RPI is still available, see our website for details. Bernie also notified the body that we will NOT be taking payments for district and state conventions at caucus. Those individuals accepted at the county convention will pay for those conventions at that time.

Treasurer Report Bernie gave a brief review of the current financial status. He also clarified that the \$100 listed was NOT a "donation" to Cindy Golding's campaign. It was our share of the rent for the use of the Camp Tanager facility.

Adam Steen- Candidate for governor spoke about his campaign and his qualifications.

Legislative Randy Walker (CR03) shared details about HR 38. A bill that has implications for the right to conceal carry firearms in the US.

Fundraising Terry Chostner (TOTT) announced details of the upcoming fundraising event in February, The Reagan Breakfast. It will be 2/21/26 from 11-2:30 pm at Ushers Ferry. Like last year there will be silent and live auctions. Each House District will also be creating their own basket of goods for the auction. They still need donations for the auction as well as volunteers. Bernie also encouraged the body to keep building their HD baskets for the auction. Discounted tickets for the event are available until 2/13.

Cindy Golding HD83 Rep. addressed the body and thanked them for their support at last month's fundraising event. She noted that the new IA legislation session would begin 1/12/26. She also introduced Randy Marzen. He is running against Molly Donahue for Senate District 37. Any support is greatly appreciated.

Announcements Bernie announced that Moms for Liberty will be hosting a debate for gubernatorial candidates 1/27/26. He also reminded the body that Caucus is 2/2 and that our next meeting will be at Christian Life Church (current location) 2/12/26 7pm.

Paul Siver- Eastern Iowa Young Republicans group is having a date night, 2/13/26. Reach out to him for more details.

Janice Woerner (CR32) mentioned that President Trump has recently suggested compromising on the Hyde Amendment in order to help garner bi-partisan support in passing legislation. She strongly encouraged the members to reach out to their representatives to oppose this strategy. She also announced that her husband Barclay will be running for HD 89.

Rachel Cadena (MR12) alerted the body to the Buchanan Co. fundraising event on 1/17, 11-3pm. See her for details.

Pass the Hat \$370

Motion to adjourn seconded, passed 8:36 pm

Respectfully submitted, Matthew O'Neal (CR43) LCRCC Secretary