

ELECTION GUIDE

2026 PRIMARY



WADENA COUNTY CANDIDATES

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WADENA COUNTY VOTING INFORMATION

How primary elections work



In partisan races or those with political parties, only one candidate in each party moves on. For example, the winner of the Republican primary for governor will be on the ballot in the November general election. The rest of the candidates are out of the running.

You can only vote for one party, but you choose which one, as Minnesota doesn't have party registration.

In nonpartisan races, the primary narrows the pool of candidates down to twice the number of available seats. So if five candidates are running for county sheriff, the top two in the primary will be on the ballot in November. If 14 people are running for four seats on the school board, the top eight will advance.

Where and when do I vote?

There are three ways to vote in Minnesota: by mail, early in-person and in-person on Election Day.



Voting by mail began June 26. Some precincts in rural areas are mail ballot precincts, and ballots are automatically mailed to registered voters there. If you don't live in a mail ballot precinct, you can still request a ballot at mnvotes.gov/absentee. You can return your ballot by mail, and those ballots must be received by no later than 8 p.m. on Election Day. Or, you can drop it off yourself at your county elections office no later than 5 p.m. on Election Day.



Early in-person voting also began June 26. You can go to your county's early voting location(s), usually the courthouse or government center, and fill out an absentee ballot. You will need to know your MN ID or Social Security number to fill out the application.

Starting July 24, voters can cast ballots as part of the "early voting process," which is more similar to voting on Election Day. You'll fill out a short certificate, fill out a ballot and then put it into the ballot counter.

Wadena County's early voting location is the Wadena County Courthouse in Wadena (Monday-Friday, 8 a.m.-4:30 p.m.)



On **Primary Election Day**, Tuesday, Aug. 11, you can go to your local polling place to vote until 8 p.m. You can find your polling place at mnvotes.gov/pollfinder.

Local election officials also send teams of election judges to nursing homes and hospitals during the 35 days before the election and provide ballots to voters who live in the city or town where the facility is located. You can contact facility management or your local election office to find out when that will happen.

WADENA COUNTY VOTING INFORMATION

How do I register to vote?



You can register to vote or update your registration online at mnvotes.gov or by returning a paper form to your local elections office until July 21. You'll need an email address and your driver's license or the last four digits of your Social Security number.

You can also register when you vote, either early in-person or on Election Day. You'll need to bring one proof of residence, like your driver's license or a photo ID paired with a bill or lease.

Where can I find more information?

For more details on voting, you can visit mnvotes.gov, call 1-877-600-VOTE (8683), text 651-217-3862 or contact your county election office.

For more on the 2026 election, including candidates, maps and more, visit kaxe.org/election2026.

What is KAXE?



KAXE is a Northern Minnesota public radio station, founded in 1976. We have signals in Grand Rapids (91.7), Bemidji (90.5) and Brainerd (89.9), and our broadcast can always be streamed at kaxe.org.

KAXE News began in 2023, and our team of Northern Minnesota-born-and-raised journalists puts together this Primary Election Guide.

KAXE's Election Guide methodology



KAXE contacted every candidate three times using contact information submitted to the Secretary of State's Office when they filed for office. Candidate responses have not been edited and are published as submitted.

As necessary, our news team added contextual information and corrected inaccuracies, marked with editor's notes in italics.

Please contact us at news@kaxe.org with questions or comments or to report any errors.

WADENA COUNTY VOTING INFORMATION

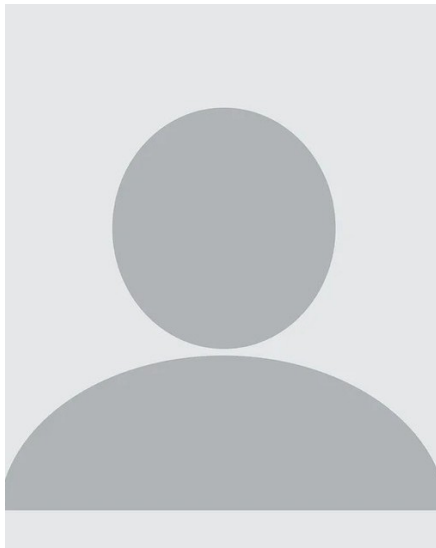
About Wadena County districts

All of the races in this guide will be on Wadena County voters' ballots.



Created with Datawrapper

U.S. CONGRESS DISTRICT 7: DEMOCRATS



Steve Carlson

stevecarlsonforussenate2018.com



Erik Osberg

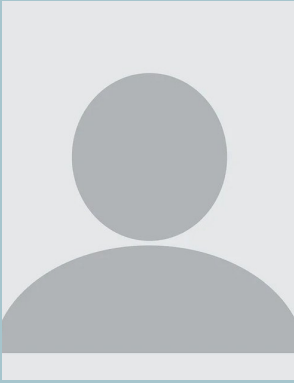
erikosberg.com

Party endorsed

Candidate campaign website as reported to the Minnesota Secretary of State.

U.S. CONGRESS DISTRICT 7: DEMOCRATS

Steve Carlson



Age on Election Day: 75
Community: Capitol Heights in St. Paul, Capitol

Where are you currently employed, and what is your role? I am retired but hope to sell my books. Writer

Please share any prior experience and education that you believe qualifies you for office. Professional journalist, 10 years in state government at U of Minnesota. Won several statewide elections and other Congressional primaries. Novelist writing about Minnesota. Write and perform important political music to reflect my values and lead this state and country. Polyglot and use a number of languages to help others.

Why are you running? I began in politics after returning from Vietnam conflict with a determination and mission to not allow any more Vietnams, which I have written about extensively in my memoir. America's in trouble and we need a new Congress to save the day as my rap Vote for Change explains.

As a business consultant in the Vietnamese refugee community on my return I gained knowledge and experience to transform a community. CD7 is not rebounded, it is not revived, serious people are trying to secede to the Dakotas! It is neglected and both my Swedish and Norwegian grandmothers came from Clay County. I intend to turn it around by my work in Congress and leadership and network with both parties. This can be a golden age for CD7.

Why should voters choose you to advance to the general election? DFL needs to be drastically changed. Indy Party U.S. Nominee in 2014. We need a new party arrangement. Clearly the old DFL is dead, propped by corruption. Few leaders outside the legislature are even from Minnesota. Taken over by haters who've unlawfully taken down our flag to show their disdain. One says Minnesotans are not intellectual enough. I'm a professional linguist fluent in many languages including Swedish and Norwegian, Spanish and Asian languages. Can communicate and lead. Independent voters in CD-7 have voted for me in statewide elections giving me counties in my primary against Steve Simon. I will not follow the party I will lead it. I will challenge Michelle Fischbach to lead the district better, and vote for the SAVE Act. Save CD7 and keep it in Minnesota. My ancestors didn't come to CD7 to see it neglected and undeveloped.

What are your top three priorities, if elected? Please describe specific policy goals. Jobs and economic development; Health care;

government Integrity. Leading Rural Restoration of CD7 by creating Jobs and economic development; Health care; government Integrity. Leading Rural Restoration of CD7 by creating special Restoration Hub Zones using tax and finance measures (local and state) focusing on areas where housing is inadequate for jobs created. Expanding health facilities and social services in these areas. Using AI to provide educational quality and equity to students using broadband internet including Starlink. Work with state and federal government to stop fraudulent practices. Pass SAVE Act. Citizenship is key to advance Minnesota Restoration. Use food processing to create more local food. for foreign markets creating over-supply. Promote educational tourism and educational programs about natural resources. .

What are your natural resources policy positions? Work with federal government to prevent forest fires. Keep the ground water unpolluted. Farming is good, will seek Ag Committee seat if elected. By promoting farm land and food processing to create jobs in CD7 we will produce and sell more food locally, instate, rather than seek to compete with Brazil

(continued on page 7)

U.S. CONGRESS DISTRICT 7: DEMOCRATS

Steve Carlson (continued)

How would you ensure constituents who didn't vote for you still feel represented?

This is not a game, it is Minnesota, the free state who create a government of members. Each of us is a member and cannot be deprived of rights and privileges without the law of the land or due process of law. I will represent the unborn, our little members who can't vote but are still going to be respected and represented and protected as a class in future Minnesota law. A woman, beyond health and safety, incest or rape, does not have the choice to "represent" her unborn by reckless abortion. I am a hyperpolyglot, speaking many languages including Swedish, Norwegian, Spanish, Asian languages so I promote real outreach not the strangulation of CRT.

What would you do if what's best for your district differed from your party's position on an issue?

I previously ran with the Independence Party. So my goal is to be independent and to be a leader. I will not vote straight party line, but for Minnesota CD7. Our interests do vary from DFL. CD7 Rep is not a piece of a battering ram for Chuck Schumer, Amy Klobuchar or John Thune. I support Donald Trump because he can lead. There were election irregularities in 2020 and we must heal this state's electorate. We did it in passing the contentious 1857 MN Constitution and we must revisit the promises of that contest and restore it. We need to restore the original dream of the farmers and foresters who first realized the American Dream and fought for freedom.

Editor's note: There is no evidence of widespread voter fraud in the 2020 election.

U.S. CONGRESS DISTRICT 7: DEMOCRATS



Age on Election Day: 54
Community: Wadena, MN

Where are you currently employed, and what is your role? I currently work for Otter Tail County as the Rural Rebound Initiative Coordinator.

Please share any prior experience and education that you believe qualifies you for office. My experience comes from real life. I grew up in rural Minnesota, graduated from Upsala Area Schools, and worked my way through college while playing football at Hamline University. I've worked in finance, owned a small business, worked in the trades, worked alongside farmers, and now serve as the Rural Rebound Initiative Coordinator for Otter Tail County. My work is focused on helping rural communities grow — partnering with employers, schools, nonprofits, and local leaders to support businesses, attract families, and create opportunity. I'm not a career politician, and I don't pretend to be. I'm someone who knows the

Erik Osberg

value of hard work because I've lived it, just like my neighbors across Western Minnesota.

This campaign is about people, place, and making sure rural communities have a stronger voice. We can do better.

Why are you running? I'm running for Congress because I believe we can do better.

I've lived in rural Minnesota most of my life, and I know what it feels like when people in Washington talk about places like ours but don't really listen.

Working families are stretched thin. Farmers and small businesses are being squeezed. People are driving too far for healthcare, worrying about bills, and wondering if their voices matter. That's not right.

I'm a working-class Minnesotan, a husband, a dad, a small business owner, and someone who believes leadership starts with showing up. This campaign is about people, not politics. It's about honesty, accountability, restoring checks and balances, and bringing some decency and empathy back to public service. Western Minnesota needs someone who listens, tells the truth, and fights for working families, family farms, strong schools, healthcare access, and rural communities.

Why should voters choose you to advance to the general election? I believe trust is earned by showing up. Since we launched this campaign, I've put over 31,000 miles on the road, visited communities in all 38 counties in Western Minnesota, and had thousands of face-to-face conversations. As of mid-June we've made over 200 campaign stops, and

we're not slowing down.

That matters because you can't represent people you don't take the time to listen to. You can't understand what families, farmers, small businesses, teachers, healthcare workers, and rural communities are facing if you're only talking at them from a distance.

This campaign is built around what I hear every day: strengthening rural communities, supporting family farms, improving schools, expanding healthcare access, and helping working families.

People here don't need more political theater. They need someone who will show up, listen, be honest, and get to work. That's why I'm running.

What are your top three priorities, if elected? Please describe specific policy goals. My priorities come from the conversations I've had with people across Western Minnesota. Government should work for people, and right now too many feel like it doesn't.

1. Defend the Constitution and restore accountability. The Constitution is the foundation of our democracy. I'll protect our freedoms, defend fair elections, respect the rule of law, and make sure elected officials answer to the people — not special interests.

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U.S. CONGRESS DISTRICT 7: DEMOCRATS

Erik Osberg (continued)

2. Get big money out of politics.

Your voice should matter more than any corporation's. I support ending the influence of Citizens United, increasing transparency, and reducing the role of corporate money in our elections. My campaign doesn't accept corporate PAC money because trust starts with accountability.

3. Make healthcare more affordable and accessible.

I'll fight to protect rural hospitals and clinics, lower prescription costs, and make sure families can get care closer to home.

We can do better.

What are your natural resources policy positions?

I know our natural resources aren't just something we talk about, they're part of our way of life.

Our lakes, rivers, farmland, forests, and outdoor traditions are worth protecting. Whether you farm, hunt, fish, or just enjoy being outside, we all have a responsibility to be good stewards of the land and water we depend on.

I believe we can protect our environment while also supporting the farmers, workers, and communities who rely on these resources. That means protecting clean water, supporting conservation efforts, investing in sustainable agriculture, and making sure decisions include the people who actually live and work on the land.

Too often, these issues get turned into political fights. They shouldn't be.

Taking care of the land isn't a partisan issue — it's about respecting what we've been given and making sure future generations can enjoy the same Minnesota we do.

How would you ensure constituents who didn't vote for you still feel represented?

I believe representation doesn't only belong to the people who voted for you.

If I'm elected, my job will be to represent everyone in Western Minnesota — Democrats, Republicans, independents, and people who don't think much about politics at all.

That starts with showing up. Throughout this campaign, I've traveled across the district, listened to people from all backgrounds, and had conversations with folks who don't always agree with me. I think that's how leadership should work.

We may not see every issue the same way, but everyone should be treated with honesty and respect, and everyone should have a representative who listens.

I'll keep holding conversations across the district, with farmers, small business owners, workers, parents, seniors, and communities that feel forgotten.

At the end of the day, this seat doesn't belong to a political party. It belongs to the people of Western Minnesota. My responsibility is to them.

What would you do if what's best for your district differed from your party's position on an issue?

My job is to represent the people of Western Minnesota. That responsibility comes before anything else.

Political parties matter because they bring people together around shared ideas and goals, but no party gets every issue right every time. If something isn't right for the people I represent, I have a responsibility to speak up. I'll listen to people in this district, look at the facts, and make decisions based on what will actually help our communities, not what's easiest politically. That's how leadership should work.

I'm running because we need more honesty and accountability in Washington — people willing to work together, ask hard questions, and solve problems instead of just winning political fights

I won't agree with my party on every issue, and not everyone will agree with me every time. But I'll be honest, explain my decisions, and put Western Minnesota first.

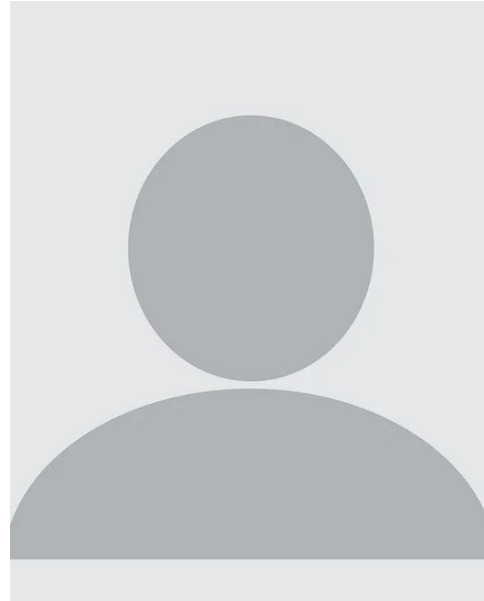
MN STATE SENATE DISTRICT 5: REPUBLICANS



Paul Utke*

paulutke.com

Incumbent



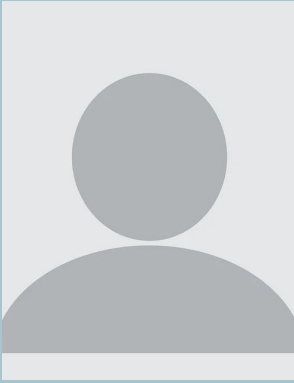
Mike Wiener

Party endorsed

*Candidate did not respond to KAXE's survey.

Candidate campaign website as reported to the Minnesota Secretary of State.

MN STATE SENATE DISTRICT 5: REPUBLICANS



Age on Election Day: 50
Community: Rural, south of Long Prairie

Mike Wiener

Why are you running? As the endorsed candidate I'm running for change. The state budget has increased from \$35 billion to nearly 70 billion in 10 years. Has your income doubled in the last 10 years? NO. And yet career politicians keep voting for massive omnibus bills which only expand government spending. Massive amounts of fraud in the health and human services committee has continued because politicians work for big pharma and lobbyists not the people. I am the only candidate in this race who does not take money from lobbyists. I work for the people not special interests.

Editor's note: Minnesota's spending was \$62.4 million in fiscal year 2025, compared to \$35.9 billion in FY2015. That includes spending from special revenue funds, permanent trust funds, federal dollars and debt services. Spending from the General Fund, Minnesota's largest and most flexible fund, has grown to \$34 billion from \$20.3 billion.

Why should voters choose you to advance to the general election? As the Endorsed candidate receiving 80 percent of the votes at the Republican convention I'm truly honored. It has been a great experience serving in the house, now it's time to take that experience to make change in the Senate. As the author of The articles of impeachment I worked to hold Tim

Walz accountable for the fraud in our state. I was one leading the charge to keep our old Minnesota flag. At the same time warning that down shifts from the state would massively increase our property taxes which has happened. Leaders need to take charge, not wait for a gavel to make change. I will work for our future generations for my children your children our grandchildren for a better Minnesota.

What are your top three priorities, if elected? Please describe specific policy goals.

Cut Government spending which lowers taxes.
Fraud, hold corrupt politicians accountable.
Restore our old Minnesota flag

What environment and natural resources policies do you support? I hunt and fish and want to make sure my kids have the opportunity to enjoy the outdoors as much as I do. When natural resources have become politicized it can have negative effects on our rural way of life. We have seen this with the wolf predation issues. I attended and spoke at many of those events.

Where are you currently employed, and what is your role? Wiener Custom Craft. Owner.

Please share any prior experience and education that you believe qualifies you for office. I served the people of House District 5b as their Representative for the last four years. 20 years ago my wife and I started Wiener Custom Craft a wood processing company that produces animal bedding and Bio -mass. Our business gives me connections with two of the largest industries in our area agriculture and forestry. I also attended to Technical College for Business Management and Sales

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MN STATE SENATE DISTRICT 5: REPUBLICANS

Mike Wiener (continued)

What policies do you support to address concerns of widespread fraud in state-run programs?

Currently health and human services is where the bulk of the fraud is taking place. The departments gauge their success by number of people served but not results. For instance in the housing funding we have spent billions on homelessness and yet the number of homeless has not decreased. These departments need to prioritize results and efficiency along with Zero Based budgeting in order to reign in the fraud. When fraudster are convicted of frauding government the the specific area where the fraud came from have to have their budget cut by that amount.

Editor's note: Federal prosecutors estimated fraud in state-run Medicaid programs, primarily funded by federal dollars, could exceed \$9 billion; Gov. Tim Walz and state officials said that was a sensationalized number. In December 2025, a Minnesota Star Tribune review of federal court cases showed the alleged fraud uncovered to date is closer to \$218 million, though that number was expected to grow as investigations continue.

What policies would you champion to help alleviate growing property tax burdens on residents at the local government level? What changes, if any, would you support to Local Government Aid?

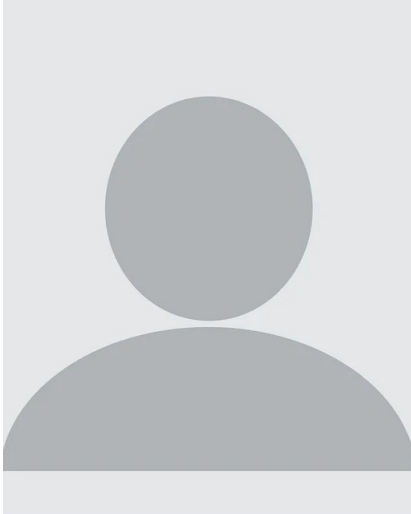
Since before I was elected I proposed a cap on property taxes. Which would protect our homeowners especially in the rural areas. This has to be tied with no unfunded mandates from the state to be successful. Currently the state shifts tax burden down onto the counties and local entities without funding them. LGA and CPA only help alleviate some of the tax burden. As Ronald Reagan said we don't have a tax problem we have a spending problem. We need to cut spending and with an estimated 9 BILLION in fraud there is plenty of areas we can cut.

How would you ensure constituents who didn't vote for you still feel represented?

I work for all the people in my area. Good ideas aren't relegated to one party. But on core issues such as life and the second amendment to me there is no compromise.

WADENA COUNTY SHERIFF

**Voters will select one candidate.
The top two vote-getters will advance to the November ballot.**



Cory Carr*



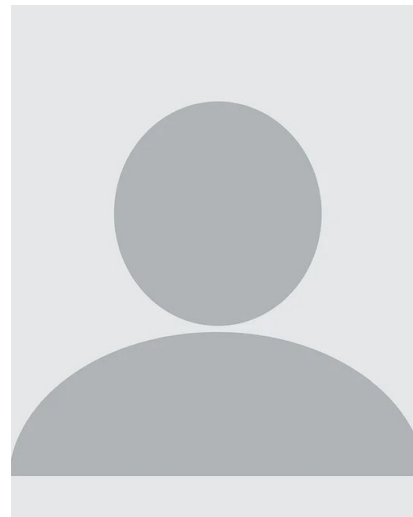
Bryan Savaloja



Aaron Schiller



Milo Scott



Troy Wangsness*

*Candidate did not respond to KAXE's survey.



Bryan Savaloja

knowledge with advanced leadership classes, including the FBI's LEEDA trilogy, which are all week-long courses that focus on different levels of law enforcement leadership.

Why are you running? I am running for Sheriff because I truly care about Wadena County and the Sheriff's Office that I have been proud to serve for nearly two decades. I want to continue moving the Sheriff's Office forward and believe I can hit the ground running in January if elected. This was not a decision I made lightly or simply because the current Sheriff announced his retirement. If I did not believe I was the best person to lead the Sheriff's Office and serve the people of Wadena County, I would not have filed to run for office.

Why should voters choose you to advance to the general election? I have the experience within the Sheriff's Office and understand the day-to-day operations required to keep it running effectively. I have been working toward this goal for most of my career and have been deeply committed to serving Wadena County since day one. If elected, I am not looking to make big, expensive changes within the office. I understand how tight budgets are, both for the Sheriff's Office and for the residents of Wadena County. I will continue to operate within our means, making the most of every taxpayer dollar while maintaining the high level of service our communities expect and deserve.

Name a public leader you admire and explain why. There are many quality leaders, but I need to highlight the current Wadena County Sheriff Michael D. Carr. Sheriff Carr was elected in 2006 and took a chance on me as a young recruit fresh out of college. Sheriff Carr has led by example throughout my career and persevered through the challenges that came up. Under his guidance, I have been fortunate to grow as a deputy and later a supervisor within his office. For a small county, Wadena County has had its share of trauma. From natural disasters to serious crimes, Sheriff Carr has always shown up to lead through the incident. Even after announcing his retirement, Sheriff Carr is still 100% involved in daily operations, which is commendable and respectable. The "why" speaks for itself in that it is my full intention to continue the legacy and respect built under Sheriff Carr's guidance over the last two decades.

Age on Election Day: 40
Community: I grew up and graduated from Wadena and currently live in rural Staples with my family.

Where are you currently employed, and what is your role? I am currently a Sergeant with the Wadena County Sheriff's Office.

Please share any prior experience and education that you believe qualifies you for office. I have been with the Sheriff's Office for 19 years, with 11 of those at the rank of Sergeant. Over my 11 years as Sergeant, I have supervised the jail and 911 dispatch division, court security, patrol operations, Emergency Management, and investigations. I have 11 years budget management experience and have also authored grants that have brought 1.3 million dollars to Wadena County. I have firsthand leadership experience over my career, and have bolstered my

(continued on page 15)

Bryan Savaloja (continued)

What is the biggest challenge facing the sheriff's office, and how would you address it if elected?

A big issue facing many law enforcement agencies, including Wadena County, is succession planning. With retirements on the horizon in many agencies, we must continue to be forward-thinking. In my current position, I have sought grant funding to employ law enforcement students for summer internships. This not only gives students a firsthand insight into the career, but it also allows for a "first look" for the agency to evaluate prospective future employees. This includes patrol positions as well as jail/dispatch. While the Sheriff does not have a direct say in wages, it is important to remain competitive with neighboring agencies so we're able to retain quality employees. The employees are who make the Sheriff's Office what it is which is why retention and recruitment are such important aspects.

How would you build effective relationships with other agencies and offices, including tribal law enforcement, the state attorney general's office and other county sheriffs? In a smaller county, relationships with partner agencies are paramount. Our agencies already work well together and I would make it a priority to keep that at the forefront. We need to work together to maximize the resources we all have and continue to help each other when needed. The Sheriff also needs to work with all departments of county government to include the County Attorney, Administration and the County Board. We already have good relationships built and I look to continue those moving forward. Throughout my career, I have heard the phrase "No Sheriff Stands Alone" and have seen that in action. Whether it is Wadena County sending deputies to help another county, or our requests for assistance being fulfilled, the phrase holds true and I would absolutely continue that with Sheriffs across the state.

How would you seek to address the intersection of mental health issues and criminal justice in calls for service and your jail?

We have already taken strides to bridge this gap. During my time as Jail Administrator, a pilot program was introduced that put a dedicated social worker in the jail utilizing grant funding. With resounding success in the pilot phase, this became a permanent position through a partnership with Wadena County Human Services. This position meets with inmates and when practical, assists with getting into treatment programming. This worker also meets with individuals after their release with the hope being to reduce re-incarceration. When safe, the worker will co-respond with law enforcement in an attempt to keep people out of jail and point them toward resources they need to succeed. More recently, another grant-funded pilot program was introduced in the Wadena County Jail which allows a mental health provider to come into the jail weekly to assist with medication management and other mental health concerns.



Age on Election Day: 35
Community: Rural, Sebeka

Aaron Schiller

Why should voters choose you to advance to the general election? I am a Wadena County native who wants what is best for the community in which I grew up and will raise my children. I believe I bring good forward thinking ideas to inspire change and understand the financial hardships residents face in our community.

Where are you currently employed, and what is your role? Wadena Police Department full time as a patrol officer and Wadena County Sheriff's Office part time as a deputy

Please share any prior experience and education that you believe qualifies you for office. I have over 14 years of law enforcement experience. I have worked in the jail, dispatch, as a transport officer, bailiff, school resource officer, and as a patrol officer/deputy. I am currently a taser instructor, use of force instructor, drone pilot, and a crisis negotiator.

Why are you running? I believe it is best to inspire change from the front and top. I hope to make Wadena County and the agencies it serves a better place.

Name a public leader you admire and explain why. Charlie Kirk. The reason I admired Charlie was his ability to listen and reason with all people of all genres. He supported his statements with factual evidence and displayed strong Christian views which align with my personal views.

What is the biggest challenge facing the sheriff's office, and how would you address it if elected? Our financial budget is always the biggest factor. I would attempt to combat the raising taxes and financial burden on tax payers by addressing our aging jail with the potential to look into a 72 hour holding facility in place of our jail. The potential to combine with neighboring counties to form a regional dispatch facility.

Editor's note: The County Board is responsible for levying taxes.

How would you build effective relationships with other agencies and offices, including tribal law

enforcement, the state attorney general's office and other county sheriffs? I strongly believe in an open door policy. I would speak with both community members, and area city officials to form sustainable solutions to problems in each area.

How would you seek to address the intersection of mental health issues and criminal justice in calls for service and your jail? Mental health is a raising concern both in our county and in our country. For our calls for service our deputies have and will go through trainings to better handle individuals dealing with crisis. We attempt to utilize local hospital settings whenever possible as many of the people do not belong in our jails. We would continue to work with human services to get people the help they need and get back on track. Being they don't belong in our jails some of these people cannot be released into society due to court orders etc. I would personally advocate with our legislature to get more mental health specific facilities to accommodate the people who fit this need.



Age on Election Day: 53
Community: Wadena
County

Where are you currently employed, and what is your role? Wadena Police Department Police Officer

Please share any prior experience and education that you believe qualifies you for office. I graduate from Alexandria Technical Collage with an Associate degree in Criminal Justice, I also gained valuable Leadership skills in National Guard. I was a previous Scoutmaster in the Wadena Boy Scout Troop and Treasure of my church board. Prior to my Law Enforcement career, I was a shift supervisor at a manufacturing plant.

Milo Scott

Why are you running? I am running for Wadena County Sheriff because I believe that our residence deserves strong public safety services that are effective, fiscally responsible and sustainable for the future.

Why should voters choose you to advance to the general election? I believe voters should vote for me because I believe in transparent leadership, community engagement and accountability at every level while continuing to uphold the United States Constitution.

Name a public leader you admire and explain why. I admire Abraham Lincoln because he was a great leader that led the union forces to victory and he played a major role in the abolishment of slavery and issued the Emancipation Proclamation. Lincoln also promoted the 13 Amendment to the United States Constitution abolishing slavery.

What is the biggest challenge facing the sheriff's office, and how would you address it if elected? The sheriff's office faces real challenges such as staffing shortages and an ageing jail facility. I would try to address this by appointing a deputy to search out grants to assist in repairs and updates for the facility that are financially responsible for the taxpayers of the county.

How would you seek to address the intersection of mental health issues and criminal justice in calls for service and your jail? Communities are faced with interactions with metal health issues on a large majority of calls because of the closing of state hospitals and in-patient treatment centers. Law Enforcement needs to have a strong working relationship with local hospitals, criss teams and social workers to give as much assistance to people in criss without resorting to place them in jails.