

**BERKS COUNTY BOARD OF ELECTIONS  
MEETING MINUTES  
April 2, 2026 – 11:00 A.M.**

**Michael S. Rivera, Chair  
Christian Y. Leinbach, Vice Chair  
Dante Santoni, Jr., Commissioner  
Anne Norton, Chief Clerk  
Christine M. Sadler, County Solicitor – not present  
Cody L. Kauffman, First Assistant County Solicitor**

**CALL TO ORDER 11:12 A.M.**

**APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES**

The Board approved the minutes from March 19, 2026, Election Board meeting as presented.

**PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA ITEMS**

None.

**AGENDA ITEMS**

**1. Permanent Polling Place Change for the 2026 General Primary**

On the motion of Commissioner Santoni, seconded by Commissioner Leinbach, the Board approved a permanent polling place change for Spring Township Precinct 13, for the 2026 General Primary:

**From: Spring Ridge Elementary School**

1211 Broadcasting Rd.  
Reading, PA 19610

**To: GT Church**

1110 Synder Rd.  
Reading, PA 19609

**2. Poll Worker Training and Poll Worker Pay**

Ms. Norton said that the poll worker training class dates and compensation rates are set. Election Day pay and training pay rates will not change for the 2026 General Primary. On the motion of Commissioner Leinbach, seconded by Commissioner Santoni, the Board approved the Poll Worker Training schedule and Poll Worker Pay rates for the 2026 General Primary.

**3. Discussion regarding the Systematic Alien Verification for Entitlements (SAVE) Program**

First Assistant County Solicitor, Cody Kauffman explained that the County has received inquiries about using the SAVE system to verify the County's voter

registration information with regard to citizenship status. Mr. Kauffman briefly explained how the SAVE system works to verify immigration status. He expressed concerns and reservations he has and his hesitation to use the SAVE system in this manner at this time. He noted that another Pennsylvania county is exploring using the SAVE system with voter information but hasn't implemented it yet. He is interested in getting feedback from their experience.

**4. Discussion and decision regarding the potential filing of a voter registration challenge affidavit pursuant to 25 Pa.C.S.A. § 1329.**

First Assistant County Solicitor, Cody Kauffman briefed the Board on circumstances brought to the County's attention by the Department of State regarding a voter potentially registered to vote in Berks County and a neighboring county. Mr. Kauffman recommended submitting a challenge affidavit pursuant to 25 Pa.C.S.A. § 1329 which gives the elector a chance to respond. On the motion of Commissioner Leinbach, seconded by Commissioner Santoni, the Board agreed to submit a challenge affidavit to this voter's registration in accordance with the law.

Commissioner Rivera mentioned that he and Mr. Kauffman had discussed preparing a letter to the Department of State and Secretary of State asking that the upgrades to the SURE system include the ability to show if a voter is registered, or has voted, in more than one county in the state.

**ELECTION DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

Ms. Norton shared that the Election Services office has approved 17,150 mail-in/absentee ballot applications. The ballot is nearing finalization. Mail-In and absentee ballots are expected to be mailed on or about April 20.

**GENERAL COMMENTS FROM THE BOARD REGARDING CURRENT ELECTION-RELATED ISSUES**

Commissioner Santoni shared some facts on voter fraud and pointed out that there is a disproportionate focus on rare instances of voter fraud.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

Jeffrey Wolfe, of Brecknock Township, shared his thoughts on the Executive Order.

**ADJOURNMENT** 11:38 A.M.

Respectfully Submitted,



Anne Norton, Chief Clerk