

**BERKS COUNTY BOARD OF ELECTIONS**  
**MEETING MINUTES**  
**July 3, 2025 – 11:00 A.M.**

**Michael S. Rivera, Chair**  
**Christian Y. Leinbach, Vice Chair - Virtual**  
**Dante Santoni, Jr., Commissioner**  
**Anne Norton, Chief Clerk**  
**Christine M. Sadler, County Solicitor**  
**Cody L. Kauffman, First Assistant County Solicitor**

**CALL TO ORDER 11:00 A.M.**

**APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES**

The Board approved the minutes from the June 6, 2025, Special Election Board meeting as presented.

**PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA ITEMS**

None.

**AGENDA ITEMS**

**1. Voting System Malfunction Report Approval**

Ms. Norton explained that this report is based on information submitted by poll workers and the Election Day software used with our technicians. Commissioner Rivera noted that Election Services will follow-up with ES&S regarding any machine issues. On the motion of Commissioner Santoni, seconded by Commissioner Leinbach, the Board authorized the submission of the Voting System Malfunction Report for the 2025 Municipal Primary to the Department of State.

**2. Polling Place Accessibility Survey**

Commissioner Rivera explained that this survey is requested annually by the Department of State. He noted that all polling places in Berks County are accessible or have been modified to be accessible. On the motion of Commissioner Santoni, seconded by Commissioner Leinbach, the Board authorized the execution of the Survey of Polling Place Accessibility for the Elderly and Persons with a Disability to the Department of State.

**3. Act 88 Grant Application**

Ms. Norton shared that she is proactively asking for permission to apply for the Act 88 grant covering the 2025 Municipal Election and the 2026 General Primary ahead of the application period in early August. Commissioner Rivera noted that the funding we receive is determined by DCED. On the motion of Commissioner Santoni, seconded by Commissioner Leinbach, the Board authorized the submission of the application for the Election Integrity Grant Program (Act 88) for funds to be utilized for the November 4, 2025, Municipal Election and the May 19, 2026, General Primary.

**4. Discussion regarding the handling of campaign signage/advertising complaints**

As a follow-up to a discussion regarding Election Services handling of campaign signage and advertising complaints from the June 6, Special Election Board meeting, Ms. Norton shared that the Election Services office and the Solicitor's office recommend that corrective action should be equal to what the initial infraction was. It was also recommended that Election Services must receive evidence of the remedy within seven days, or before Election Day (whichever is a shorter time period). The Board asked follow-up questions requesting clarity on recent complaints and Election law. On the motion of Commissioner Santoni, seconded by Commissioner Leinbach, the Board approved the recommended handling of campaign signage/advertising complaints.

**5. Update and discussion regarding the Genser v. Butler County matter pertaining to a voter's ability to vote by provisional ballot if the voter's mail-in/absentee ballot was rejected for an error**

First Assistant County Solicitor, Cody Kauffman, provided a background on the Genser v. Butler County matter and overview of the current state of law as it relates to a voter's ability to vote by provisional ballot if the voter's mail-in/absentee ballot is rejected for an error. Mr. Kauffman updated the Board that the United States Supreme Court denied the pending writ of certiorari in the matter. As such, the Pennsylvania Supreme Court's decision will remain the guiding law on this issue, absent further change in the law.

**ELECTION DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

Ms. Norton stated that nearly 3,300 National Change of Address letters were mailed to voters that may have moved. Five-year notices will be sent out later in the month.

Monday, July 7, is the deadline for write-in winners to file acceptance paperwork in the Election Services office.

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

None.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

Jeffrey Wolfe, of Brecknock Township, expressed concerns about voter rolls, the SAVE act, voter eligibility, registration policies, and how Act 88 funds could and should be used.

**ADJOURNMENT** 11:31 A.M.

Respectfully Submitted,



Anne Norton, Chief Clerk