BERKS COUNTY BOARD OF ELECTIONS MEETING MINUTES

August 7, 2025 – 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 11:00 A.M.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

The Board approved the minutes from the July 3, 2025, Election Board meeting as presented.

PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA ITEMS

None.

AGENDA ITEMS

1. Provisional Ballot Affidavit Redesign Envelope Grant

Ms. Norton shared that to offset costs for a newly designed provisional ballot envelope, the Department of State has made funds available to counties through a grant. To accept and receive \$1,400 in grant funds, Berks County must complete and submit both the Notice of Intent to accept the funds and an Attestation of Destruction of Old Provisional Ballot Envelopes.

On the motion of Commissioner Santoni, seconded by Commissioner Leinbach, the Board authorized the completion and submission of the Notice of Intent to Accept the Provisional Ballot Affidavit Redesign Grant Funds and further authorized the execution and submission of the Attestation of Destruction/Disposal of Old Provisional Ballot Envelopes.

2. Act 88 Post-Election Report

Ms. Norton gave an overview of the Act 88 funds spent for the 2025 Municipal Primary. Areas of spending include mail in ballot printing costs, poll worker training and election day payments and voting machine preparation and delivery expenses.

On the motion of Commissioner Leinbach, seconded by Commissioner Santoni, the Board approved the Election Integrity Grant Program (Act 88) Post-Election Report for the May 20, 2025, Municipal Primary.

ELECTION DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Ms. Norton shared an update on the annual voter list maintenance program. Voters not responding to notices mailed by Election Services have been moved to inactive status.

Ms. Norton also provided an update on the Shoemakersville polling site. The borough is hopeful that work to improve the parking lot and sidewalk at the Borough Hall will be complete in time to hold elections there beginning in 2026.

GENERAL COMMENTS FROM THE BOARD REGARDING CURRENT ELECTION-RELATED ISSUES

Commissioner Rivera noted that National Poll Worker Recruitment Day is on August 12. He emphasized the importance of residents stepping up to serve at the polls, adding that Berks needs approximately 1,200 poll workers each election.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Jeffrey Wolfe, of Brecknock Township, stressed the importance of Berks voters being aware of their rights throughout the election process.

Evelyn Morrison, of Reading, requested clearer explanations on ballot questions, specifically in the City of Reading.

A brief discussion by the Board followed the public comment. The Board's role in the complaint and investigation process was clarified and the ballot question formulation procedure was reviewed.

ADJOURNMENT 11:20 A.M.

Respectfully Submitted,

Anne Norton, Chief Clerk