

**BERKS COUNTY BOARD OF ELECTIONS  
MEETING MINUTES  
April 17, 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 for the April 3, 2025, Election Board meeting as presented.

**PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA ITEMS**

None.

**Agenda Items**

**1. Polling Place Changes for the 2025 Municipal Primary**

On the motion of Commissioner Santoni, seconded by Commissioner Leinbach, the Board approved the following permanent polling place changes for the 2025 Municipal Primary.

Commissioner Leinbach asked Director Anne Norton to clarify whether the poll changes are at the request of the polling locations. Ms. Norton indicated most of them are by request, however, St. Lawrence Borough has physically moved their municipal building to a new location. All affected voters will be notified of the polling place changes.

**St. Lawrence Borough**

**From:** St. Lawrence Borough Building  
3540 St. Lawrence Ave.  
Reading, Pa 19606

**To:** St. Lawrence Municipal Building  
135 N. Prospect St.  
Reading, PA 19606

**Cumru Township – Precinct 5**

**From:** Grace Fellowship Church  
622 Old Lancaster Pike  
Reading, PA 19607

**To:** Mosaic Church  
332 S. Wyomissing Ave.  
Reading, PA 19607

**Cumru Township – Precinct 1**

**From:** Christ Yocom's Lutheran Church  
840 Philadelphia Ave.  
Reading, PA 19607

**To:** The Heritage of Green Hills  
200 Tranquility Lane  
Reading, PA 19607

**Cumru Township – Precinct 4**

**From:** The Barn at Flying Hills  
10 Village Center Dr.  
Reading, PA 19607

**To:** Christ Yocom's Lutheran Church  
840 Philadelphia Ave.  
Reading, PA 19607

**Bernville Borough**

**From:** Bernville Boro Hall  
6602 Bernville Road  
Bernville, PA 19506

**To:** Kirkhoff Funeral Home  
206 N. Main Street  
Bernville, PA 19506

**City of Reading - Ward 14, Precinct 1**

**From:** Centre Park Historic District Headquarters  
705 N. 5th Street  
Reading, PA 19601

**To:** Holy Spirit Lutheran Church  
401 Windsor Street (Corner of N. 4th and Windsor Streets)  
Reading, PA 19601

**South Heidelberg Township – Precinct 3**

**From:** Wernersville State Hospital, Building 16  
160 Main Street  
Wernersville, PA 19565

To: Sinking Spring YMCA  
4920 Penn Avenue  
Sinking Spring, PA 19608

**2. Approval of the Permissible Date Range for Absentee/Mail-in Ballots for the 2025 Municipal Primary**

Cody Kauffman, First Assistant County Solicitor, provided an update on the Western District litigation pertaining to the counting of undated and incorrectly dated absentee and mail-in ballots. Mr. Kauffman explained that GOP intervenors filed a motion for an expedited appeal. The motion requests a decision from the 3<sup>rd</sup> Circuit by August 16, 2025. Mr. Kauffman will keep the Board apprised of any updates.

On the motion of Commissioner Leinbach, seconded by Commissioner Santoni, the Board approved the date range of April 21, 2025 to May 20, 2025 as the permissible date range for Absentee/Mail-in ballots for the 2025 Municipal Primary.

**Election Director's Report**

Ms. Norton shared that the first batch of ballots are expected to be mailed out on Tuesday, April 22. About 16,000 ballots will be in the first mailing.

Poll worker training will begin the following week. The Election Services Office is currently recruiting poll workers to fill city and county vacancies.

Sample ballots are now available on the Election Services website.

Logic and Accuracy (L&A) testing began April 14 at South Campus and is expected to conclude by April 18. Ms. Norton stated that the L&A testing schedule for the Electronic Poll books and Central scanners is now on the Election Services website. L&A will be open to the political parties as well as the public.

Commissioner Rivera asked if anyone attended L&A. Ms. Norton stated no one attended.

Commissioner Leinbach stated that if anyone from the public has concerns about the voting machines, L&A is the process to witness.

**General Comments from the Board regarding current election-related issues**

Commissioner Rivera stated that the last day to register for the upcoming Primary is May 5 and the last day for voters to request a ballot is May 13. Over the counter voting begins next week. Voters can vote early by paper ballot, not by voting machine.

**Public Comment**

Michelle Duffy, South Heidelberg Township, spoke regarding the Wernersville State Hospital polling location. Ms. Duffy indicated she was a poll watcher at the Wernersville State Hospital and stated the polling location is chaotic and does not serve the needs of the patients or the voters. Ms. Duffy also stated she voiced her concerns to South Heidelberg Township as well as the GOP.

Julie Hicks, Spring Township, spoke about her voting experience on November 5. Ms. Hicks stated she had issues when selecting certain candidates on the ballot marking device. Ms. Hicks indicated that she selected a candidate on the ExpressVote screen but the candidate

below was selected instead. Ms. Hicks stated she did correct her selection to the desired candidate. Ms. Hicks stated she called the Election Services office and was told that this issue has happened in the past and has been happening to other voters.

Jeffrey Wolfe, Brecknock Township, spoke about translators and poll workers assisting voters behind the curtain. Before Mr. Wolfe continued with his comments, Commissioner Leinbach asked Mr. Wolfe to clarify whether the voters are requesting assistance or whether the poll workers are going behind the curtain without consent from the voters. Mr. Wolfe stated that yes, voters are requesting help from the poll workers. Mr. Wolfe indicated that part of his concern is that this assistance must be recorded, and Mr. Wolfe stated he is not sure whether the poll workers are properly recording when assistance is provided to voters. Mr. Wolfe went on to state that there is a statutory 3 minute time limit for voting at the polls and it is not being enforced.

Commissioner Santoni asked Ms. Norton whether there is a statutory time limit for voting. Ms. Norton indicated there is a time limit that is dependent on whether there are others waiting to vote, Ms. Norton further indicated that each polling location has multiple ballot marking devices which help to alleviate lines.

**ADJOURNMENT:** 11:26 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

  
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Anne Norton, Chief Clerk