

**BERKS COUNTY BOARD OF ELECTIONS
MEETING MINUTES
December 19, 2024 – 11:00 A.M.**

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

CALL TO ORDER: 11:10 A.M.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

The Board approved the minutes for the November 14, 15, and 22, 2024, Election Board meetings as presented.

PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA ITEMS

None.

Agenda Items

1. Voting System Malfunction Report Approval

Ms. Nojiri explained that this report is part of a directive issued from the Department of State to allow for uniform reporting of voting system malfunctions. The report identifies voting machine malfunctions that either delayed the casting of votes or the tabulating of results.

Ms. Nojiri said voting machine malfunctions were grouped into three categories for the 2024 General Election report. Technicians were sent to nine precincts for ExpressVote machines that stopped responding or displayed error messages. Technicians were sent to five precincts for reports that ballots were either jamming or not being accepted in an ExpressVote machine. And finally, one precinct reported that the DS200 randomly printed configuration reports twice during the day. The technicians replaced machines at three of the precincts and were able to resolve the issues at the other 12 precincts. The first two incidents did not impact voters' ability to vote because other ExpressVote machines were available. The DS200 issue briefly delayed 13 voters from placing their ballots in the tabulator because they had to wait for the reports to stop printing.

On the motion of Commissioner Santoni, seconded by Commissioner Leinbach, the Board authorized the submission of the Voting System Malfunction Report for the 2024 General Election to the Department of State.

Election Director's Report

Ms. Nojiri shared that the Election Services staff is diligently working to unpack and organize all the precinct supplies and archive all the documents from the 2024 General Election. She said

the staff has also begun processing voter registrations that were received after the deadline for the 2024 election.

Ms. Nojiri said the elections management team is working on updating and confirming the records for the municipal offices that will be on the ballot in 2025. She said notices will then be sent to all the municipalities and school districts to have their staff confirm the positions that will appear on the 2025 ballot.

Ms. Nojiri also noted that election services completed the cancellation process, which removes any inactive voters who had not voted in two federal elections from the voter rolls. A total of 10,662 records were removed.

General Comments from the Board regarding current election-related issues

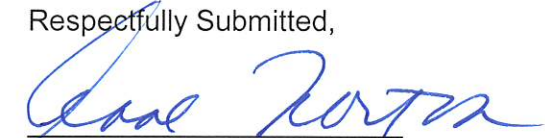
Commissioner Leinbach explained that the upcoming Municipal Election will be a busy year for Election Services because there are a lot of local races on the ballot. He said all of the candidates seeking those positions must file their paperwork and petitions with election services, so it can be far more demanding on the office. He noted that the circulation period for petitions will begin in February.

Public Comment

Jeffrey Wolfe, Brecknock Township, spoke about his continued concerns related to rejected provisional ballots and naked provisional ballots that he believes are anomalies that need to be further investigated.

ADJOURNMENT 11:24 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,


Anne Norton, Chief Clerk