**BERKS COUNTY EMPLOYEES' RETIREMENT FUND BOARD MINUTES**
**OCTOBER 1, 2026** – To be Approved on October 26, 2026

The Berks County Retirement Fund Board met in a regular session on Thursday, October 1, 2026, at 9:00 A.M. in person and via Microsoft Teams Live, pursuant to due notice to Board members and the public.

Chairman Christian Leinbach called the meeting to order with Vice Chairman Michael Rivera; Secretary Joseph Rudderow III; Member Commissioner Dante Santoni Jr; and Member Mitchell Darcourt in attendance. The following County staff attended: Cody Kauffman, 1st Assistant County Solicitor; Kevin Barnhardt, Chief Operations Officer; Larry Medaglia Jr., Deputy Chief Operations Officer; Jessica Weaknecht, Chief Human Resources Officer; Laura Jones, Chief Financial Officer; Grazyna Nykiel, Deputy Controller; Wendy Pennington, Benefits Manager; and Jonnelle Keller, Benefits/Pension Coordinator.

## APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The minutes from the August 24, 2026 meeting were approved as presented.

Chairman Christian Leinbach reported the Pension Fund balance as of end of day September 30, 2026, was $699,258,390.69.

## *NEW BUSINESS*

1. A motion was made by Secretary Joseph Rudderow III and seconded by Member Dante Santoni Jr. to authorize the following. Motion carried.

    25R.2026 Adopt a resolution authorizing and approving employee buyback request as follows:
    a. Edward Winters is purchasing 4 months and 2 days of leave of absence time in the amount of $2,392.21.

2. A motion was made by Vice Chairman Michael Rivera and seconded by Member Mitch Darcourt to authorize the following. Motion carried.

    25R.2026 Adopt a resolution authorizing and approving employee buyback request as follows:
    b. Brian Bennethum Jr. purchasing 2 years, 6 months, and 11 days of leave of absence time in the amount of $12,336.21

***AUTHORIZE DISBURSEMENTS***

1. A motion was made by Vice Chairman Michael Rivera and seconded by Member Mitch Darcourt to authorize the following. Motion carried.

   26R.2026 Adopt a resolution authorizing and approving annuities and refunds for September 2026 as follows:

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| Annuities | $ 2,710,751.40 |
| Refund | $ 1,552,973.97 |
| Total | $ 4,263,725.37 |

2. A motion was made by Vice Chairman Michael Rivera and seconded by Member Mitch Darcourt to amend the wording on the above resolution to read "ratify and confirm" since the payroll had previously been approved by Kevin Barnhardt due to the timing of the meeting, pursuant to resolution 02R-2023.

3. A motion was made by Member Dante Santoni Jr. and seconded by Vice Chairman Michael Rivera to authorize the following. Motion carried.

   27R.2026 Adopt a resolution authorizing and approving payment of Invoice INV-38862 in the amount of $39,000.00 to EHD (Engle-Hambright & Davies, Inc.) for the 2026-2027 Fiduciary Liability Policy.

There being no further business, on a motion made by Vice Chairman Michael Rivera and seconded by Member Dante Santoni Jr. the meeting adjourned at 9:05 A.M.

Respectfully Submitted,

Joseph Rudderow III, Secretary Retirement Fund Board