

**BERKS COUNTY BOARD OF ELECTIONS
SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES
November 28, 2022 – 11:00 A.M.**

Kevin S. Barnhardt, Chair
Michael S. Rivera, Vice-Chair
Christian Y. Leinbach, Commissioner
Christine M. Sadler, County Solicitor
Cody L. Kauffman, First Assistant County Solicitor

CALL TO ORDER- 11:00 A.M.

PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA ITEMS

Dan Wismer of Greenwich Township – Mr. Wismer spoke on election issues he experienced as a poll greeter on election day.

AGENDA ITEMS

1. Final Certification of Votes Cast for the November 8, 2022, General Election

First Assistant County Solicitor Cody Kauffman provided an update on the two consolidated recount petitions which were filed the previous week by the Berks County Republican Committee. Mr. Kauffman explained that the final certification of votes cast for the 2022 General Election will happen until these petitions are ruled on by the court. As of today, no hearing date is scheduled for the recent petitions.

GENERAL COMMENTS FROM THE BOARD OF ELECTIONS REGARDING CURRENT ELECTION-RELATED ISSUES

Commissioners Leinbach and Barnhardt each brought up several items which should be discussed at the next regular Election Board meeting, among which are the ES&S ballot marking device issues reported on election day, the suggestion that the county revert to using paper ballots, a recap of the 2% audit, and mail sorting system options.

CITIZEN COMMENT

Jeff Wolfe of Brecknock Township – Spoke on the “vote switching” issues voters experienced on election day. Urged the Board to cooperate fully with the recently filed recount petitions and audit. Also urged the Board to discontinue the use of, and file a claim against, ES&S voting machines.

Don Boguski of Centre Township – Expressed it is great to work with the Election Services office. Stated the recent Reading Eagle story, citing the recent recount petitions, missed the point. Finally, Mr. Boguski stated the BCRC will be submitting a report on election day issues, noting steps to improve for the future.

Steve Wilson – Mr. Wilson stated his questions had been answered earlier by Cody Kauffman.

ADJOURNMENT – 11:27 A.M.