

**BERKS COUNTY BOARD OF ELECTIONS
MEETING MINUTES
November 2, 2023 – 12:15 P.M.**

Lucine Sihelnik, Chair
Honorable James E. Gavin, Vice Chair
Honorable Jill Gehman Koestel
Anne Norton, Chief Clerk
Christine M. Sadler, County Solicitor – not present
Cody L. Kauffman, First Assistant County Solicitor

CALL TO ORDER: 12:15 P.M.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

On the motion of Judge Koestel, seconded by Judge Gavin, the Board approved the minutes for the October 12, 2023, meeting as presented.

PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA ITEMS

None

Agenda Items

1. Approve Poll Worker Appointment

On the motion of Judge Gavin, seconded by Judge Koestel, the Board approved the appointment of poll workers for the November 7, 2023, Municipal Election. Anne Norton informed the Board that there are over 900 non-elected poll workers that need to be approved to work at the polling locations.

Election Director's Report

Ms. Norton noted that the deadline to apply for a mail-in or absentee ballot was Tuesday, October 31, 2023. She said the office issued roughly 24,000 mail-in and absentee ballots and, as of the time of the meeting, had received back roughly 10,700 ballots, or 45%. She said the office expects to get back between 70-75% by the end of Election Day.

Ms. Norton added that the logic and accuracy testing of the electronic pollbooks was completed earlier in the week and that the pollbooks were ready to go for Election Day. Finally, she noted there are still a few open poll worker positions due to last-minute cancellations and unforeseen circumstances, but the staff is working to fill the positions as quickly as possible.

Commissioner Sihelnik suggested that residents visit the County's website and the many resources available under Election Services as their first stop when trying to find answers to their questions on Election Day. She said the website is methodically put together to make sure information is accessible and transparent.

Public Comment

None

Adjournment: On the motion of Judge Gavin, seconded by Judge Koestel, the meeting was adjourned at 12:22 p.m.