

**BERKS COUNTY BOARD OF ELECTIONS
MEETING MINUTES
October 5, 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 September 28, 2023, meeting as presented.

PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA ITEMS

None

Agenda Items

1. Polling Place Change for the 2023 Municipal Election

On the motion of Judge Gavin, seconded by Judge Koestel, the Board approved the following polling place change for Amity Township, Precinct 5, for the upcoming 2023 Municipal Election. Ms. Norton noted that this was a return to the permanent polling location after a temporary location was needed due to COVID-19.

Amity Township - Precinct 5

From: Daniel Boone School District at River Rock Building
2144 Weavertown Rd
Douglassville, PA 19518

To: Amity Place
139 Old Swede Rd
Douglassville, PA 19518

Election Director's Report

Ms. Norton noted that the Logic and Accuracy (L&A) testing for the DS200 precinct tabulators and Express Vote ballot-marking devices began on Oct. 4 and would continue until complete. She explained that during L&A testing, the ballot is loaded onto the machines.

She also noted that poll worker training classes have begun and will continue until early November. She stated that the staff continues to contact poll workers to determine what openings exist. She highlighted that there are open Judge of Election positions in precincts in Amity, Douglass and Hereford townships and two openings at Muhlenberg Township precincts.

Ms. Norton reported that the first batch of nearly 18,000 mail-in/absentee ballots is expected to be mailed out on Oct. 12, 2023. Sample ballots for all 202 precincts are available to review on the county website.

Commissioner Sihelnik reiterated that the poll worker trainings are robust and feels they are a great representation to the community of the hard work done by the Election Services office. She also updated the Board about the ongoing discussion by the legislature to move the date of the 2024 Primary Election. Commissioner Sihelnik stands firm in advocating for the Office of Election Services to get a date set as soon as possible so the county can properly and adequately prepare for the Primary.

Public Comment

None

Adjournment: On the motion of Judge Gavin, seconded by Judge Koestel, the meeting was adjourned at 12:23 p.m.