

Estimated Assessment against Southwestern CSD for an Hypothetical 2011 Special Election in February or August 2011

	2011 Elections
1) Total Cost (Maintenance + License Fee)	\$486,000
2) Per Election (Total Cost from Line 1 divided by 4)	\$121,500
3) Registered voters in Southwestern CSD	788,000
4) Per voter (Row 2 divided by Row 3)	\$0.1542
5) Special Election Southwestern CSD in 2011	
6) Southwestern (Row 4 divided by 1)	\$0.1542
7) Voters (Number of registered voters in Southwestern CSD)	81,859
8) Assessment for election levied on Southwestern CSD	\$12,622.66

Source: CCAO and Driscoll & Fleeter

The table adjusts the original estimates by removing the 10% premium added to the cost amount in row 1. This change lowers the per voter cost from 16.96 cents (\$0.1696) per voter to 15.42 cents (\$0.1542) per voter.

Row 6 assumes that the school district has the only special election on the ballot in February or August in the precincts included within Southwestern CSD. That is the reason for the divisor of "1" in row 6. In the original proposal, in primary or general elections the \$0.1542 per voter charge would be divided by 3 (1 for county and state + 1 for city/village/township +1 for school districts). As a result, each type of subdivision would pay \$0.0514 per voter. However, the removal of general and primary elections from the computation appears to mean that the schools would pay the full \$0.1542 per voter in a special election.

Row 8 equals the product obtained by multiplying the per voter charge of \$0.1542 times the 81,859 voters registered in the Southwestern CSD. The original estimate equaled \$13,883. That included the 10% premium.

In each of the primary and general elections, the Southwestern CSD share of the cost of the election would equal \$0.1542 divided by 3. Then the quotient would be multiplied by 81,859 voters to get the charge of \$4,208. Therefore, the total cost of these two elections to the school district would equal \$8,416. However, these charges apparently do not appear in the current version of the proposal.

Capital costs for voting machines are similar to full time employee compensation – they are fixed for the county and they county makes these expenditures whether or not there is a special election. So, perhaps an amortization approach is not the best.

Instead, and in keeping with the model that has been in existence for some time, it may be best to focus on the annual operating costs for running an election that are largely necessitated by the scheduling of elections.

I suggest that for a special election (including the May and November elections in odd-numbered years) that the total cost for the software/firmware license and maintenance fees for the year plus 10% be divided by 4. The resulting amount would then be divided by the total number of voters eligible to vote in the given election, and amount per voter established. The amount per voter would then be divided among the number of taxing jurisdictions in which that voter is eligible to vote, and the result charged back.

Example:

2011 Annual Maintenance Cost:	\$45 / unit * 4,500 units	=	\$202,500
2011 Annual License Fee:	\$63 / unit * 4,500 units	=	\$283,500
TOTAL (\$486,000 +10%)		=	\$534,600
Amount per Election (25% of Total)		=	\$133,650
Amount Per Registered Voter (788,000)		=	\$0.1696

Franklin County General Election, November 2011

Distribution [(\$0.1696/30*788,000) = \$.0565

State/County	City/Village/Township	School Districts
N/A	\$44,552 (total for county)	\$44,552 (total for county)
		\$4,625.03 (for SW Schools)

Franklin County Special Election, August 2011 (South-Western Schools)

Distribution [(\$0.1696/1)*81,859] = \$13,883.29