



Working with Villages and Schools for Optical Scan Voting

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Chautauqua County Demographics

- 80,000 Registered Voters
- 15 Villages ranging in size from 313 to 5,250 registered voters
- 18 school districts ranging in size from 1,277 to 16,113 registered voters
- Two of the school districts are “small city schools” and the remaining sixteen districts are “central schools”.
- One of our school districts crosses into Cattaraugus County and one Cattaraugus County school district crosses into Chautauqua County.

Chautauqua County is not a charge back county

- As directed by our County Legislature, we do charge villages for out of the ordinary operating expenses.
- One village holds their general elections in November and they are not charged any election expenses.
- All other villages hold their general elections in March.
- All school board general elections are held in May.
- Lately, school districts have been conducting bond vote elections on dates other than the usual school board general elections.

VILLAGES

- The Chautauqua County Board of Elections has taken the position that we will only provide county owned optical scan equipment to villages that pass a resolution turning over the village elections to the Board of Elections.

VILLAGE ELECTIONS

§ 15–104 1(c)

“The board of trustees of a village may adopt a resolution, subject to a permissive referendum as provided in article nine of the village law, providing that village elections shall be conducted by the board of elections.”

**There is no current provision
in the law for school
districts to turn
“chief election officer”
duties over to the BOE.**

***Thus, we provide ballots,
voting machines, trained poll
workers and optical scan
voting machine support and
supervision to the school
districts we service, without
control of the **entire** voting
process.***

13 of 15 Villages have turned over elections to the Chautauqua County BOE

- Villages and schools have been granted permission to continue lever voting technology through 2012.
- We provided quotes to **each village and school** soliciting them to allow us to conduct their elections.
- Most Chautauqua County villages were convinced to accept BOE optical scan technology now rather than in 2013.

3 of 18 School Districts have
turned to the Chautauqua
County BOE for a
partnership to provide optical
scan voting machines.

*...but some are still thinking
about it for 2012!*

RUNNING A VILLAGE ELECTION

- CC BOE receives all paper work at the county seat.
- CC BOE designs and prints ballots.
- CC BOE hires and pays Election Inspectors.
- CC BOE provides all levels of support for the voting machines and all aspects of voting.
- CC BOE is the “Chief Election Officer: for Village Elections.

Two Villages Do Not Currently Use the BOE

- We will not provide voting machines.
- We do support their efforts.
- We do provide **permanently disabled voter** absentee labels and voter lists as required by NYS Election Law.
- They are still required by law, as of 2013, to offer the voters a “scanable” ballot, that the election inspectors would have to hand count.

“Central” School District Elections run by the BOE

- School Board petitions are filed **thirty** days before the election, giving us a very short time frame to design a ballot.
- We print absentee ballots for the district to mail out. We print bound ballots for optical scan balloting use.
- We deliver and support the optical scan voting machine and we provide all supplies.
- The school district clerk remains the **“chief election officer”** and we act as a partner.

What about “Central” School District Elections NOT run by the BOE?

- They continue to use lever machines.
- The CC BOE does not support lever technology.
- We provide lists, as requested.
- The CC BOE provides absentee voter labels.
- Voters sign in without signature verification. (Some ask for ID)

**“Small City”
School District
Elections
NOT run by the BOE**

- **They continue to use lever machines.**
- **Voters sign in on lists of registered voters provided by the CC BOE.**
- **The CC BOE provides absentee voter labels.**

Our “Small City” School District Elections Proposal

- **Voters sign in on poll books sold to the district by the CC BOE.**
- **A supplemental list is used for voters who register only for small city school elections.**
- **The CC BOE designs ballots, prints ballots, and fully supports optical scan technology.**

What we charge for:

Legal Ads	As Charged by Newspaper	
Programming & BOE Time	No Charge	
Ballots:		
Absentees	15 Cents Each	
Blanks	15 Cents Each	
Bound Ballots	15 Cents Each	
Inspectors:	\$8 Per Hour	
Election Night Reporting:	No Charge	
Poll Books:	\$20 Per 1,000 Voters	
Absentee Postage/Envelope	56 Cents Each Voter	
Poll Site Rental	\$100 for Non-Public Bdg	
Delivery of Machines	\$50 Per Poll Site	
BOE Mileage	As Submitted	

Estimates for 2012

- Villages range from \$488 to \$1,968
- Schools range from \$444 to \$4,329
- Total school and village billable will be \$30,000
- Invoices are mailed out December 1st

Conclusion

While the “Chautauqua Way” is not the right fit for every county...It is **our** motto that every school and village **election** voter deserves the skilled service that only full time election professionals can provide. Thus, we offer our election expertise at cost and do not charge for services already paid for through the county tax bill. ***We look forward to the day when every voter casts a ballot using the optical scan method of voting.***

Questions

