

M.J.M. Electric to Hold Non-Traditional “Drive Thru” Annual Meeting

Due to COVID-19 pandemic precautions, M.J.M. Electric Cooperative will hold a non-traditional, drive thru Annual Meeting of Members on Friday, June 4, 2021, at the M.J.M. headquarters in Carlinville from 4-7 PM.

The M.J.M. 82nd Annual Meeting generally draws well over 450 people at the Carlinville High School. At this time, COVID-19 guidelines would not allow a gathering of this size. The M.J.M. Board of Directors determined that a drive thru method would be the best and safest option.

“This was not an easy decision for the board to make,” President Cutler says. “Many ideas were discussed, but it came down to keeping our Members safe and healthy, while at the same time adhering to our bylaws and keeping the board election timeline intact. The drive thru method met all the criteria. Many electric cooperatives have resorted to this type of meeting and it has been a huge success.”

The drive thru meeting will begin at 4:00 PM and held rain or shine in the drive thru truck bays at the newly built M.J.M. headquarters facility. Members will be directed to one of the three drive thru lanes to conduct the meeting. They will register, receive a copy of the Annual Reports, and ballot if a Member fails to bring their Annual Meeting booklet. Members will then turn in their completed ballots and pick up their attendance gift of an insulated grocery bag and pork chop supper to-go.

From 4-7 PM, music will be provided by the group BlackHill. Tom Black & Ed Hill perform a variety of music from country, rock, blues, and their own originals. While waiting in line, Members can tune into FM 89.5 or watch on M.J.M.’s Facebook/YouTube Live.

As an attendee, the Members casting their ballot will receive a \$15 bill credit on their account and will be entered in the prize drawings to be held after the meeting. Prizes drawn will be twenty-one \$25 bill credits and a grand prize of a \$350 bill credit. Winners of the M.J.M. scholarships will also be announced. All prize drawing winners will be announced via Facebook/YouTube Live, posted on M.J.M.’s website and social media. Winners will be contacted by phone.

Voting will end at 7 PM sharp – no access will be allowed into the meeting after 7 PM.

“On behalf of the board, we want to thank our Members for their patronage and their understanding of the method of this year’s M.J.M. Annual Meeting,” Board Chair Schultz says. “Once this passes, and it will, we look forward to seeing you in person at next year’s annual meeting.”

As a Cooperative, M.J.M. is an independent, private, and not-for-profit organization owned by the Members it serves. Members are represented through a democratically elected Board of Directors which are voted on at the Annual Meeting of Members each year.