

ALONG THE LINES



MAY 2024 VOL.17, NO. 5



VOTING BALLOT ON PAGE 2. BRING THIS BOOKLET FOR REGISTRATION.

2024 ANNUAL MEETING

THURSDAY, JUNE 6, 2024 3:30-6:30 PM

- BUSINESS MEETING AT 6:35PM -

MJM HEADQUARTERS • 18300 SHIPMAN RD, CARLINVILLE, IL

IN PERSON VOTING BALLOT



Each voting Membership in attendance will receive a \$15 bill credit, a gift, and entry into the drawing for MJM's prizes.

Drive-thru registration lanes will open **June 6th, 2024** at 3:30 p.m. and registration will close at 6:30 p.m. Voting will conclude at the end of the annual meeting.

Enter MJM's drive through parking lot and register at the welcome table.

*****Turn this voting ballot in at that time*****

APPROVAL BALLOT

Please fill in the appropriate oval to cast your vote for the 2024 Annual Meeting notice and 2023's Annual Meeting Minutes.

I approve the **MJM 2024 Annual Meeting Notice.**

**See page
5**

☐ YES
☐ NO

I approve the **Minutes of the 2023 MJM Annual Meeting.**

**See pages
8-9**

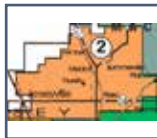
☐ YES
☐ NO

2024 BOARD OF DIRECTOR BALLOT

Please vote for one Board Director in each district by filling in the oval.

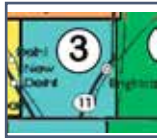
District #2

☐ Robert Moore



District #3

☐ Charles Huebener



District #8

☐ Todd Stewart



2024 AGENDA



3:30 PM

REGISTRATION OPENS FOR MJM MEMBERS.

There will be three drive-thru truck bays available for Members.

Bring this booklet for easy registration!

3:30 PM-
6:30PM

Upon entering the truck bay, three booths will be set up. A registration, information, and food booth are placed to make this drive-thru a quick and easy process. Entertainment will be provided by **Patty Ames** (see page 19 for details)! While waiting in line, MJM Members can tune into FM 89.5 to enjoy the music. Members may also view Facebook/YouTube Live during this time.

6:35 PM

Business Meeting

Registration will close at 6:30 p.m. sharp and we will begin the **business meeting**. If you would like to stay and participate in the meeting, let registration know and they will direct you where to park. If you would rather listen from your vehicle, MJM will continue to broadcast via FM 89.5 (only available near the MJM HQ) and Facebook/YouTube Live to announce the Annual Meeting prize winners, scholarship winners, and any Cooperative announcements. The live stream videos will be played back on MJM's website and social media pages if you are not able to catch it live.

Annual Meeting prize winners will be contacted by phone and do NOT need to be present to win.

ATTENDANCE BILL CREDITS AND PRIZES!



Members registered in person at the Annual Meeting of Members on June 6th will receive a **MJM ice cream scoop & magnet**. Each registered membership will also receive a **\$15 credit** on their July 1st electric bill.

A grand prize drawing of **one 8.7 gallon Yeti Tundra Cooler (\$300 value)** will be awarded, and **two \$100 gift card** drawings.

FOOD: BAGGED PORK CHOP SUPPER

The Macoupin County Pork Producers will be grilling **pork chop sandwiches** on site for a fresh, delicious meal! Bagged meals will have prepackaged sides along with bottled water for an easy grab-n-go.

Guests receiving meals MUST be present in the vehicle.





SECRETARY'S REPORT



Marcie Tonsor, Secretary

I, Marcie Tonsor, am the duly elected, qualified and acting Secretary of M.J.M. Electric Cooperative, Inc. I wish to report that the notice for the 85th Annual Meeting of the Members of the Cooperative was posted at the M.J.M. Headquarters office on May 13, 2024 as well as mailed to each Member of the Cooperative to their address on record. The Official Annual Meeting Notice can be found on page 5.

I, also, certify that on **April 29, 2024** the Elections and Credentials Committee met. The Election and Credentials Committee report was posted at the M.J.M. Headquarters office on **April 30, 2024** and is printed on page 5.

To satisfy the quorum requirements for our Annual Meeting, we are asking that Members participate this year by way of driving to the Annual Meeting site where Cooperative Staff and Board Members will greet you. **It is important that you bring your annual meeting booklet** with you to help speed up the registration process. In the annual meeting booklet, a ballot is provided for voting for the director election, approving the Annual Meeting Notice and 2023 Annual Meeting minutes. **If you have any old or new business, please notify the Cooperative by Friday, May 31st.** A comment page is included on page 21 if you wish to submit it by mail. Otherwise, please call the office at 217-707-6156.

Note that the Cooperative's current Bylaws do not allow for mail-in ballots. In order for your vote to be counted it will need to be cast at the Annual Meeting using the drive-thru process no later than 6:30PM. Following the collection of the ballots, a continuation of the Annual Meeting will take place at 6:35PM. If you plan on staying for the short meeting which will be held in the truck bay, please let us know so we can save you a seat. Notification to MJM, however, is not required to attend. A pork chop meal to-go will be provided for only those individuals participating in person. Prize and scholarship winners will be announced via Facebook and YouTube Live. Information will also be posted on MJM's website and social media by the next business day. Winners will also be contacted directly. Questions and/or comments for MJM will be answered subsequently. We hope you can join us!

*Sincerely,
Marcie Tonsor, Secretary*

2024 OFFICIAL MEETING NOTICE

Notice is hereby given that the 85th Annual Meeting of the Members of M.J.M. Electric Cooperative, Inc. will be held at the M.J.M. Electric headquarters, 18300 Shipman Road, Carlinville, IL, on Thursday, June 6, 2024, at **3:30 p.m.**, to act on the following:

1. The reports of officers, directors, and committees.
2. The election of one director from each of Districts Two, Three, and Eight for terms of three years each or until their successors have been duly elected and qualified.
3. Any other business which may come before the meeting or any adjournment(s) thereof.

In connection with the election of directors, the following members have been nominated by the election and credentials committee, appointed pursuant to the Bylaws:

For directors for a term of three years each or until their successors have been elected and qualified:

Robert Moore of Medora, IL - District 2
Charles Huebener of Brighton, IL - District 3
Todd Stewart of Nokomis, IL - District 8

You are urged to attend this Annual Meeting via a drive-thru process this year so that we can satisfy our legal quorum requirements, and to allow our Members to participate in the very important Annual Meeting process. Parking will be available for those who wish to stay and enjoy the music and/or attend the business meeting at 6:35pm.

BOARD CHAIRMAN & PRESIDENT/CEO'S REPORT



Kay Schultz
Board Chairman



Joe Heyen
President/CEO

It is our pleasure to invite you to the 85th Annual Meeting of MJM Electric Cooperative Members on Thursday, June 6, 2024, to be held at the MJM headquarters in Carlinville. As we have in the past, we will continue the drive-thru format. Come join us for a pork chop sandwich, stay for some entertainment or head on out to the County Fair, all while conducting the important business of the Cooperative.

If you choose to stick around, there will be seating available, and Patty Ames will be providing music while you eat. There will also be a few "Electrified" displays for you to check out.

MJM has three incumbent Directors that are up for re-election for three-year terms: Todd Stewart- District 8, Robert Moore- District 2, and Charles Huebener- District 3.

At last year's meeting, the Membership was informed that MJM would no longer be using contractors for vegetation clearing. Our in-house team has come together, and that program has exceeded our expectations and is progressing very well. The crews are ahead of schedule and Member relations with the crews are much improved.

Maintaining our fleet continues to

be challenging as lead times on aerial trucks and digger derricks continue to be out as much as two years, and equipment prices have nearly doubled. As a result, we have upgraded our fleet maintenance program, and we are keeping trucks and equipment a little longer than in past years.

MJM is also in the process of replacing the outdated automated meter reading (AMR) system. This project is also ahead of schedule. The new meters will give us a more robust outage management system and they also have lower Electromagnetic Field (EMF) than our current meters, which is better for our environment.

With cyber security being a real concern for business, the Cooperative has been participating in cyber security tabletop exercises put on by the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association (NRECA) and participating with the Illinois Cyber Mutual Assistance (ICMA) to sharpen our processes for our Members. This is an important matter and MJM takes the protection of your data very seriously.

At MJM, we manage our finances quite effectively! I'm pleased to see that we have a good handle on our operations expenses and have been able to

maintain them steadily since 2018. It's also reassuring that our Total Utility Plant Investments have consistently outpaced our Long-Term Debt, indicating financial stability and growth.

The continued strength of our equity is yet another positive indicator of our healthy financial position. Our margins and member debt service coverage scores have remained within preset ranges for several years.

The increase in our margins from 2022 to 2023 is notable and indicates a positive trend. Additionally, MJM retired \$545,119 in capital credits in 2023.

Conducting a cost-of-service study to develop future-focused rate structures is a proactive step on our part, especially considering the evolving landscape of energy technologies like solar, wind, and battery storage. Adapting to these new technologies will be crucial for staying competitive and meeting the needs of all our Members.

Overall, it seems like we're on the right track financially and are taking the necessary steps to adapt to changes in the energy industry while ensuring fairness and benefit to all our Members.

We inspected 2,073 poles in 2023 with 118 found to need replacement. Overall, we installed 463 new poles. MJM has recommitted to a work plan that will provide system hardening and improve reliability across the territory.

Our Board Chairman, Kay Schultz, and I are proud to share that the Operation Roundup Program distributed \$21,000 to nonprofit organizations within the

MJM service areas in 2023, and \$26,608 so far in 2024. Complete details are on our website. We are very impressed with the work this committee does and the time they are willing to contribute to this cause. The Cooperative continues to be committed to all of the Counties that we serve in and is an integral part of the community. This is our home. Members are our friends, neighbors, and families. The Cooperative has a full range of involvement from youth education, economic development, and community enrichment.

MJM's Board of Directors conducted a board self-assessment session in March 2023. Lessons learned from these exercises greatly enhance Board performance. The Directors also take part in Board Credential programs offered by NRECA.

Let's not forget our employees. Our employees take their commitment to providing excellent service seriously. It is through their efforts that MJM is able to provide great service to the membership no matter the obstacles.

Members own the Cooperative, and our focus is on you. As we make decisions on behalf of the Members, we try to balance the overall well-being of the membership as a whole. The board and employees develop goals and objectives around your needs. We believe that our cooperative business model is working as it should, the Directors, MJM Staff and employees are dedicated to providing reliable service for our Members.

*W. Kay Schultz, Board Chairman
Joe Heyen, President/CEO*

ANNUAL MEETING MINUTES

JUNE 8TH, 2023



The Annual Meeting of Members of M.J.M. Electric Cooperative, Inc. was held at the M.J.M. Headquarters at 18300 Shipman Road, Carlinville, Illinois, on Thursday June 8, 2023.

Registration was from 3:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. The entertainment was provided by Patty Ames.

Chairman Kay Schultz welcomed M.J.M. Electric Cooperative members, guests and friends to the 84th Annual Meeting of Members.

Chairman Kay Schultz then introduced Senator Steven McClure, Wabash Valley Power Alliance employees Spencer Hours and Mike Parker, and Association and Illinois Electric Cooperative employees Brooke Gross and Baylee Flowers.

Chairman Kay Schultz announced that a quorum was present and called to order the business session of the 2023 Annual Meeting of Members of M.J.M. Electric Cooperative, Inc. pursuant to the Bylaws. A complete list of those registered in person and by proxy is attached to the official minutes of this meeting of the Cooperative.

Secretary Marcie Tonsor posted the Official Notice of the 2023 Annual Meeting of Members of M.J.M. Electric Cooperative, Inc., as mailed to all members of the Cooperative, together

with her affidavit of mailing of such notice to each member as required by the Bylaws.

The Minutes of the June 10, 2022 Annual Meeting of M.J.M. Electric Cooperative, Inc. were approved as presented in the 2023 Annual Meeting Notice.

It was pointed out that the Treasurer Report by Treasurer Robert Moore, was contained in the 2023 Annual Meeting Notice.

CEO Joe Heyen addressed the membership regarding the income and expenses charts.

CEO Joe Heyen announced the M.J.M. Scholarships recipients as Paige Lucykow of Hillsboro High School and Hank Bouillon of Southwestern High School and honorary scholarships were awarded to Kam Link of Gillespie and Grant Neuhaus of Staunton.

CEO Joe Heyen addressed the membership regarding various aspects



of the Cooperative, Mission Statement, and power supply.

Attorney Lee J. Plummer addressed the proposed Order of the Day and Rules of the Day. Attorney Plummer referred the members to the proposed agenda as found on page two of the Annual Meeting Notice and pointed out that this agenda is in compliance and verbatim with M.J.M. Electric Cooperative's Bylaws. A motion was made and seconded to adopt the Order of the Day being the proposed agenda on page two of the 2023 Annual Meeting Notice. Upon voice vote, the motion carried.

Attorney Plummer then presented to the members for their consideration the following recommendations for the Rules of the Day, which were unanimously approved by the Cooperative's Board of Directors at their February 2023 meeting:

First, that not more than 25 minutes be allocated to discuss each motion that is addressed; second, that during the consideration of the motion, each speaker may speak for up to three minutes unless no one else wishes to speak and that the chair will attempt to recognize speakers with alternating viewpoints; third, that during the question and answer period, each person may speak up to two (2) minutes unless no one else wishes to speak; fourth, that Robert's Rules of Order will govern the conduct of the meeting; and fifth, that the Cooperative's Attorney, Lee J. Plummer, will serve

as Parliamentarian for this meeting. A motion and second was made to adopt these recommendations as the Rules of the Day. Upon a voice vote, the motion carried.

The 2023 Election and Credentials Committee Report as contained in said Annual Meeting Notice, listed the following candidates for the Directors for a term of three years each or until their successors have been elected and qualified:

District 4- Robert Lehmann, Girard
District 4- Amy Box, Hettick
District 5- Dwayne Milner, Piasa
District 7- James Niemann, Litchfield

Attorney Plummer then called for the ballot boxes to be opened for voting for the Directors. Pursuant to the tabulation of votes, it was determined that the Directors that were elected for the following positions were, Robert Lehmann for District 4, Dwayne Milner for District 5 and James Niemann for District 7.

A question was addressed by a member regarding member generation policies. It was determined that there was no additional unfinished business or new business.

Chairman Kay Schultz discussed Operation Round Up.

There was a motion and a second to adjourn. Upon a vote, the motion carried, and the business session of the meeting was adjourned.

ELECTION AND CREDENTIALS COMMITTEE REPORT



CARLINVILLE, ILLINOIS – APRIL 29, 2024

The Elections and Credentials Committee, appointed by the Board on February 22, 2024, met pursuant to the Bylaws on April 29, 2024.

Being the Members of Election and Credentials Committee, we hereby certify the following named persons, as candidates for the position of Director from the respective named Districts of MJM ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE, INC., for terms of three years each, or until their successors have been elected and qualified, beginning June 6, 2024.

Further, we state that we have examined the Petitions of the following named persons and found that said Petitions are in compliance with the requirements of Article IV, Section 4.05 of the MJM Bylaws and that they are qualified candidates for the respective positions. For Directors for a term of three years each, or until their successors have been elected and qualified:



ROBERT MOORE:
Medora, Illinois - District 2

CHARLES HUEBENER:
Brighton, Illinois - District 3

TODD STEWART:
Nokomis, Illinois - District 8

THE 2024 VOTING BALLOT IS ON PAGE 2.

PLEASE BRING THIS BOOKLET FOR EASY
REGISTRATION & VOTING.



DISTRICT 2

ROBERT MOORE



Serving in Medora as a Board of Director is Robert E. Moore. For 23 years, Moore has held his District 2 Board of Director title. He has achieved his Board Leadership and Director Gold status from the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association (NRECA). Currently, he sits on the Executive and Audit & Finance Committee. When Moore isn't serving MJM, he finds himself to be busy by serving as the SBL Ethanol Board Treasurer and acting as the Fidelity Township Clerk of Jersey County. He has served as a director of the CHS Elevator and an active Member of the Knights of Columbus.

Moore grew up in Jersey County and graduated from Jersey County High School. After high school, he attended LCCC. He married his wife Donna where they operate a farm. Together they have three children; a son Mike, two daughters Kathy and Kari, and four grandchildren; Hanna, Jenna, Samantha, and Abbey. Moore states that he enjoys working with a great, well-qualified group of Directors.

DISTRICT 3

CHARLES HUEBENER



Charles Huebener is running for his second term as Board Director of District 3. He currently serves as the Vice Chairman of the Board, as well as also serving on 3 MJM committees: The Executive, Annual Meeting, and the Audit and Finance Committees. He was recently appointed to serve on the Wabash Valley Power Alliance Board, as MJM's representative. He is involved in farming on his family farm west of Brighton.

Mr. Huebener grew up in Brighton, IL and graduated from Southwestern High School. He then continued his education at the University of Illinois, obtaining his Bachelor of Science Degree in Agricultural Economics. He and his wife Felecia have been married for 39 years, and together have two children, Emily and Ben, as well as a daughter in law, Lacy and one grandchild, Mila Rose. They are active members of Saint Alphonsus Catholic Church in Brighton.

DISTRICT 8

TODD STEWART



District 8 Director Todd Stewart has been serving on MJM's Board of Directors for one year and was appointed to serve after Dennis Stewart passed away in 2022. Todd states, "I have learned many things about the Co-op in the past year. I hope to continue serving our members by making good, educated, helpful, and cost-saving decisions in order to provide affordable electric service for years to come." Todd serves on two MJM Board Committees: Building & Equipment and Member Services & Policies.

Todd was born and raised in Nokomis and still lives there today with his wife Erika of 23 years. He graduated from Nokomis High School and attended Black Hawk East Campus where he earned an Associates in Ag Production Technology. Today, he is the Owner/Operator of T.S. Trucking Co., and helps manage his family's farm, Stew & Stew Farms. He and his family are members of St. Louis Catholic Church and Todd volunteers time with the Nokomis FFA Alumni Association.

Todd and Erika have two children; their 20-year-old daughter Skylar is a sophomore at LLCC majoring in Ag Business with hopes to transfer to Kansas State in the fall semester. Their 16-year-old son, Walker, is a sophomore at Nokomis High School.



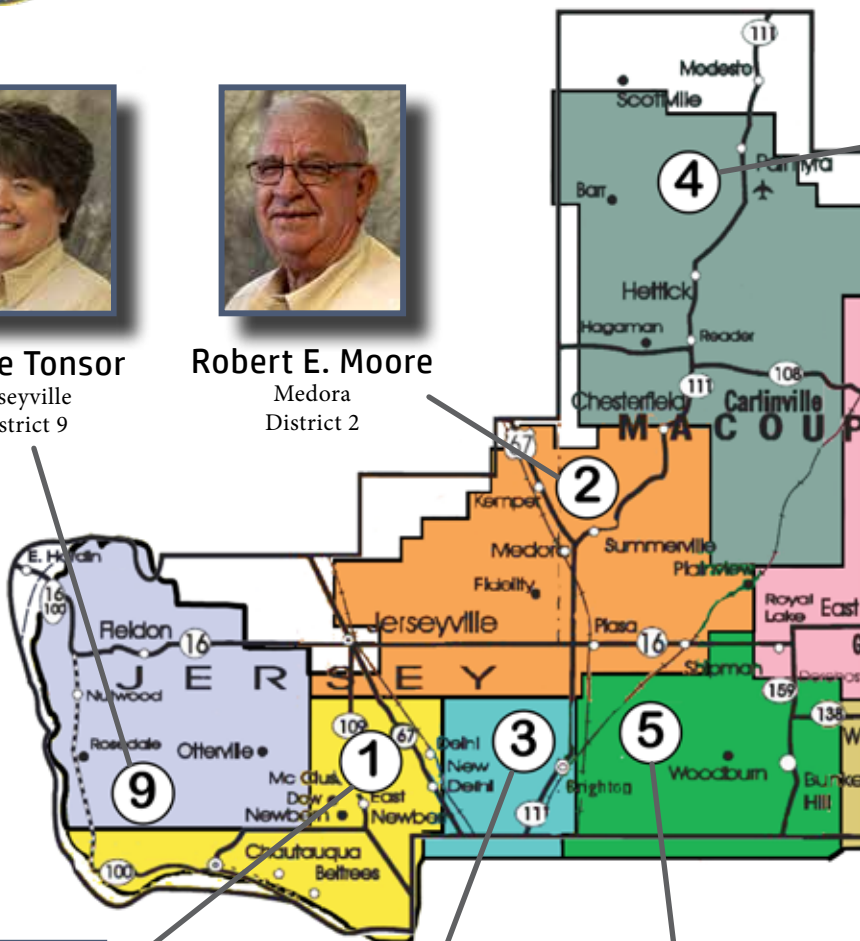
YOUR NEIGHBORS SERVING AS YOUR COOPERATIVE'S DIRECTORS



Marcie Tonsor
Jerseyville
District 9



Robert E. Moore
Medora
District 2



W. Kay Schultz
Godfrey
District 1



Charles Huebener
Brighton
District 3



Dwayne Milner
Piasa
District 5



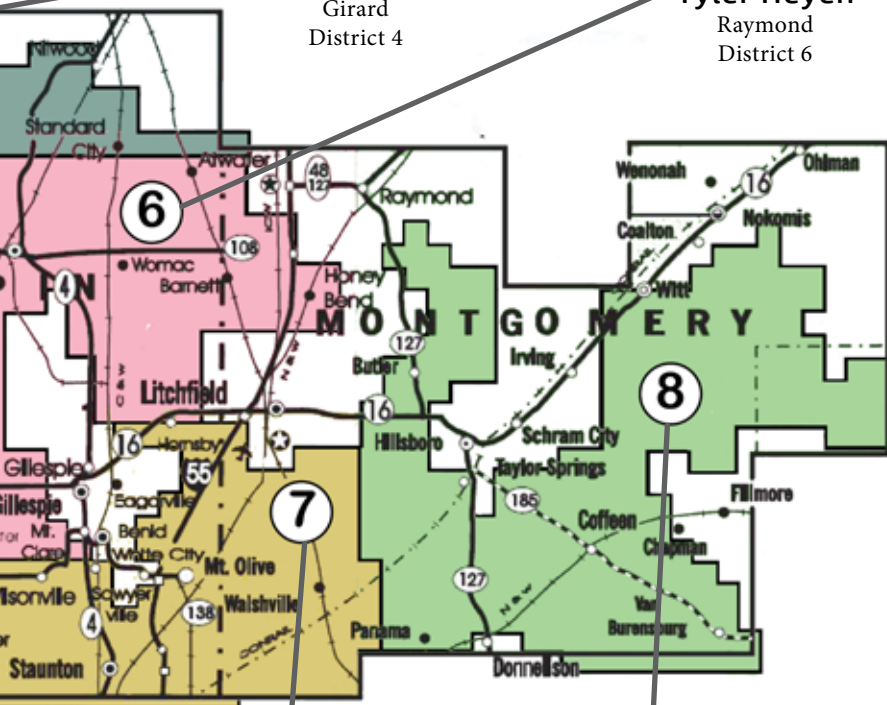
Robert Lehmann

Girard
District 4



Tyler Heyen

Raymond
District 6



James Niemann

Litchfield
District 7



Todd Stewart

Nokomis
District 8





TREASURER'S REPORT



Robert E. Moore, Treasurer

I, Robert E. Moore, am the duly elected, qualified, and acting Treasurer of M.J.M. Electric Cooperative, Inc. The financial statements in the annual report are based upon a complete and independent audit of the Cooperative's books and records for year ending December 31, 2023 and was performed by Kelso Lynch, P.C., P.A. and completed in April of 2024.

As part of obtaining reasonable assurance about whether the Cooperative's financial statements are free of material misstatement, the auditors examine records relating to the receipt of loan funds and the construction and acquisition of property, plant, and equipment. During the year, MJM received \$945,000 in long-term advances from the National Rural Utilities Cooperative Finance Corporation (CFC) on loans controlled by MJM's banker, the CFC Mortgage and Loan Agreement and were able to make long term debt payments of \$1,279,960. Plant additions totaled \$4,148,661.

MJM had strong positive margins for the year ending 2023 and was able to meet the Debt Service Coverage ratio required by its lender, CFC. As a not-for-profit, any margins, or revenues remaining after all expenses have been paid, are returned to Members in proportion to their usage of the co-op's services through capital credit allocations and retirements. In 2023, MJM's Board elected to do a general capital credit retirement for all of 1984; amounting to \$545,119. They also continued to retire capital credits for estates.

2023 margins will be allocated back to the Members in the form of capital credits on Members' July 1, 2024 bill and appear as equity on the Balance Sheet. Equity is used to help meet the expenses of the co-op, such as paying for new equipment to serve Members and repaying debt. Capital credits represent each Member's share of the cooperative's margins and ownership of the co-op. Capital credits help by reducing the amount of funds that must be borrowed.

A summary of the financials is found on page 15 - 17 of this annual meeting booklet. Further explanation of the financials is discussed in the Board Chairman and President/CEO's report found on pages 6 & 7. A copy of the audit report is available for your inspection at the MJM office.

Sincerely,

Robert E. Moore, Treasurer

INCOME AND EXPENSES

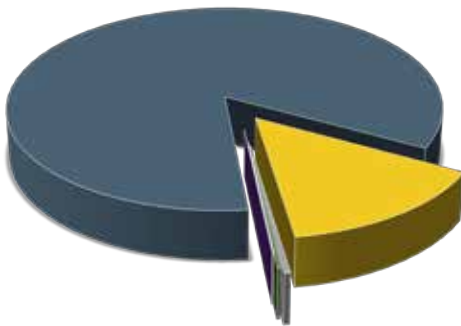
2022

2023

Statement of Income

Residential	\$18,422,478	\$18,382,358
Public Highways and Buildings	\$13,071	\$18,331
Small Commercial	\$3,158,797	\$3,399,128
Other Sales to Public Authorities	\$44,895	\$44,820
Other Revenue	\$199,031	\$165,558
Total Electric and Other Revenue	\$21,838,272	\$22,010,195

PERCENT OF REVENUE



- **RESIDENTIAL: 83.5%**
- **COMMERCIAL: 15.4%**
- **OTHER REVENUE: 0.8%**
- **PUBLIC AUTHORITIES: 0.2%**
- **PUBLIC HWYS. & BLDGS.: 0.1%**

Statement of Expenses

2022

2023

Cost of Power	\$12,353,133	\$11,882,067
Administrative and General	\$1,253,451	\$1,257,301
Operations and Maintenance	\$3,124,401	\$3,893,541
Transmission Expense	\$80,816	\$71,618
Consumer Accounting, Collecting	\$286,221	\$292,412
Interest on Debt	\$1,217,345	\$1,327,817
Taxes	\$53,883	\$48,821
Member Service and Information	\$143,244	\$174,435
Depreciation of Plant	\$2,044,416	\$2,076,842
Total Operating Expense	\$20,556,910	\$21,024,853

EXPENSE PER DOLLAR:

58 1/4 cents = *Cost of Power*

16 1/4 cents = *Op. & Maint.*

10 1/4 cents = *Plant Depreciation*

6 1/4 cents = *Admin. & General*

6 cents = *Interest on Debt*

1 1/4 cents = *Cons Acct./Collect*

1 cent = *Member Service & Info*

1/2 cent = *Transmission*

MARGINS

	2022	2023
Total Income	\$21,838,272	\$22,010,195
Total Operating Expense	\$20,556,910	\$21,024,853
Net Margins	\$1,281,362	\$985,342
Non-Operating Margins	\$191,037	\$86,309
Capital Credits from G&T and Others	\$377,396	\$867,556
Total Margins	\$1,849,795	\$1,939,207

COMPARATIVE BALANCE SHEET

December	2022	2023
<u>What we own</u>		
The total cost of our system	\$72,701,668	\$76,850,219
We estimate it has depreciated	(21,925,958)	(23,588,428)
Which leaves a net value of	50,775,710	53,261,791
We have cash in the bank amounting to	250,274	136,536
Members owe us (current billing)	1,922,595	1,722,014
Our stock of materials and supplies is worth	950,579	1,014,113
We have made prepayments of	177,745	259,467
We also have a regulatory asset of	305,469	196,166
Interest earned	5,953	15,351
And investments in associated organizations	7,950,973	8,690,391
Investments of economic development	556,127	330,299
Making our total assets	\$62,895,425	\$65,622,128
<u>What we owe</u>		
We owe our lenders for long term debt	28,094,225	27,628,714
We owe for short term debt	1,512,675	3,059,453
We have an obligation for taxes, interest, etc.	424,037	480,000
Memberships and consumer deposits	1,199,186	1,209,144
Members' capital credits	27,390,567	28,411,490
Other deferred credits and misc. liabilities	648,332	741,026
Margins and other equities	3,626,403	4,092,301
Making our total equities and liabilities	\$62,895,425	\$65,622,128

FIVE - YEAR OPERATING STATISTICS

	2023	2022	2021	2020	2019
Average Number of Meters Billed (all rates)	9,509	9,513	9,465	9,409	9,386
New Services Connected	62	58	88	89	77
Services Retired	18	33	57	70	55
Total Services in Place	10,522	10,477	10,452	10,421	10,397
Idle Services	1,003	970	960	984	1,019
Total Miles of Line Energized	2,119	2,116	2,114	2,116	2,117
Total kWh Purchased	139,113,072	147,438,756	142,124,291	137,812,646	144,288,677
Total kWh Sold and used by MJM	133,983,466	139,722,275	134,336,309	129,640,269	134,905,214
Percent of Line Loss	4.68%	5.76%	5.48%	5.93%	6.503%
Farm and Residential Rate:					
Average Monthly kWh Usage	990	1,057	1,035	1,016	1,028
Average Bill per Member per Month	\$166.25	\$166.65	\$151.59	\$154.91	\$158.05
Average Members per Mile	4.49	4.49	4.47	4.45	4.43
Capital Credits Refunded Cumulative To Date	\$5,796,298	\$5,175,952	\$4,994,439	\$4,367,869	\$3,708,705

MJM Along The Lines (USPS 854-620) is published monthly for \$4.75 per year, per member by M.J.M. Electric Cooperative, Inc., P.O. Box 80, Carlinville, Illinois 62626. Periodical postage paid at Carlinville, IL. POSTMASTER: Send Address changes to MJM Along The Lines, P.O. Box 80, Carlinville, IL 62626.



OPERATIONS

MAJOR PROJECTS IN 2023



Matt Eisenmenger

Director of Operations

The Operations Department is happy to report to our Members the progress we accomplished. We have improved Right-of-Way Maintenance, replaced a number of poles, and completed work plan projects as well as purchased new equipment to improve efficiencies.

- **ROW Maintenance Update:** In 2023, MJM successfully executed its Right-of-Way (ROW) maintenance program. We trimmed vegetation along 560 miles of lines and addressed numerous hazard trees spread across our service area. Additionally, we sprayed herbicides along 730 miles of ROW lines, enhancing vegetation control around multiple substations. By dedicating our in-house crew solely to ROW vegetation management, we've enhanced our responsiveness to Members' needs while upholding ROW integrity. As we press on with our ROW program, we are confident in our ability to meet Members' demands and maintain ROW health.
- **Pole Inspection and Replacement Summary:** This year, MJM engaged Lee Inspection Service to assess 2,073 poles within our system. Following the inspections, 118 poles were identified for replacement. In 2023, we installed a total of 502 poles, with 156 deemed unfit based on inspections. The remaining poles were erected for various purposes, including line extensions, work orders, and incident response.
- **Work Plan Highlights:** To bolster reliability, we replaced two and a half miles of three-phase overhead lines at Riniker Substation. Additionally, nearly 5 miles of underground primary lines were installed or upgraded, addressing both aging infrastructure and system accessibility. In 2023, we completed 197 work orders, comprising 110 system improvements, 74 new constructions, and 13 retired services.
- **Introduction of New Equipment:** MJM acquired a 47ft. bucket truck, replacing an older model, to enhance service capabilities. Furthermore, we introduced a side-by-side vehicle, intended for off-road outage response and to support ROW maintenance activities, particularly during spray season.



MJM WELCOMES BACK:

Patty Ames!

TUNE TO: 89.5 FM

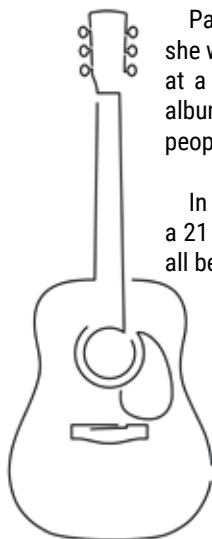
when you get to MJM on June 6th to listen live.

Patty Ames has been performing music and writing since the age of 21 when she wrote her first song entitled "As One". Her first album was recorded in 2005 at a local studio in Crawfordsville, Indiana. The album is an original gospel album titled "Where to next Lord." Patty's hope is that her music can really touch people's hearts.

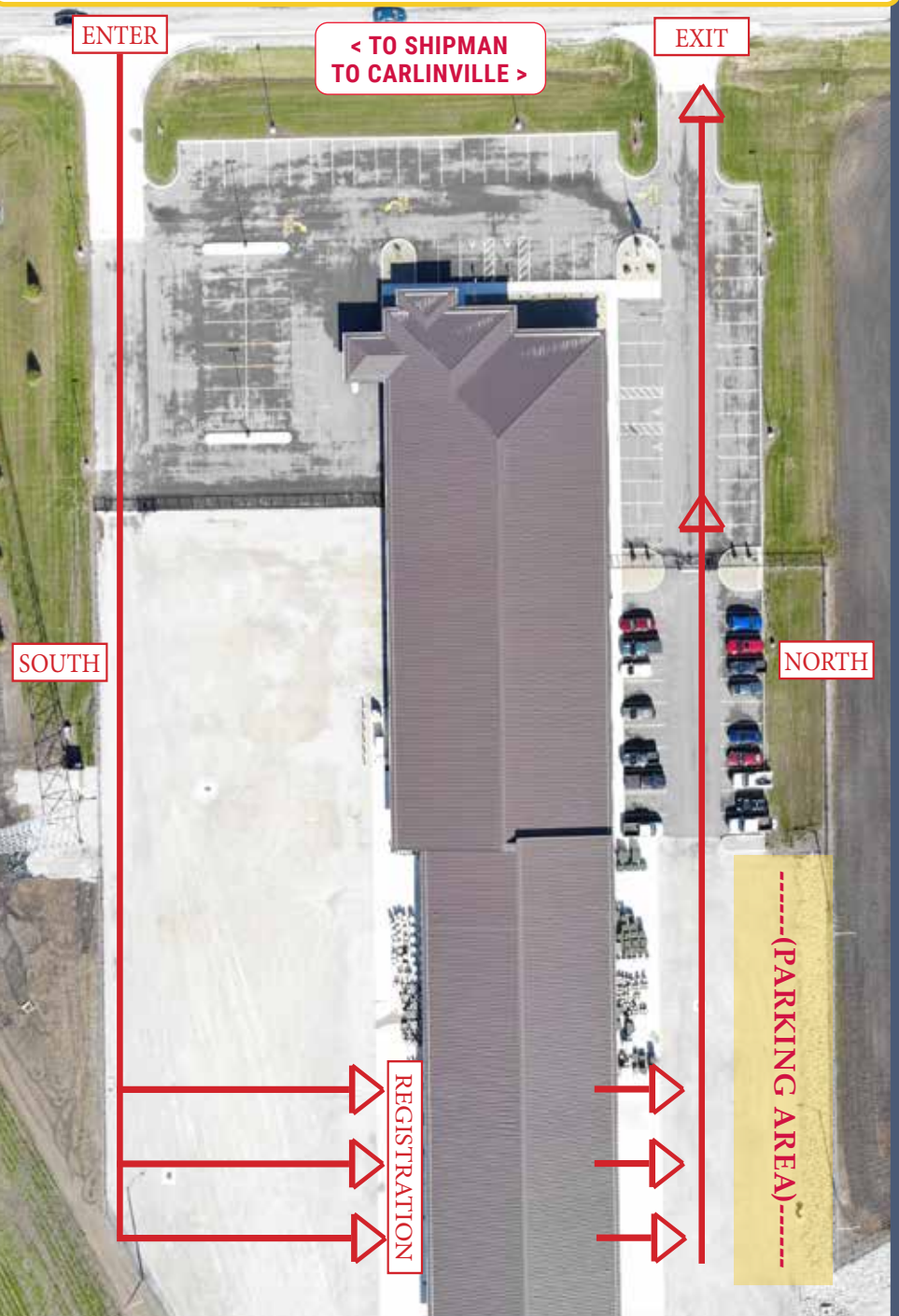
In addition to being a musician, Patty is a proud mother of a 29 year old son, a 21 year old step-daughter, and wife to a wonderful husband. Her family have all been been very supportive with her music ministry.

Along with her own original songs, Patty plays a wide variety of cover songs; from Patsy Cline, Pat Benetar, country music, classic rock music, modern music, or gospel, Patty can cover it all.

You can follow Patty at: www.pattyames.com



WONDERING WHICH WAY TO GO?



Follow the map for an easy drive-thru experience!

MJM COMMENT AND FEEDBACK FORM

If you have any old or new business, please notify the Cooperative by **Friday, May 31st, 2024**. We value your opinion and want to take time to address any questions or concerns that you may have.

To leave a comment and provide feedback, please fill out the form below and turn it into the registration table on June 6th or mail to MJM Electric, P.O. Box 80, Carlinville, IL, 62626.

Name (Print): _____

Address: _____

Account Number(s): _____

Do you wish to be contacted? **YES or NO.**

If yes, please provide a contact number:

Call Back Number: _____

Use the space below to write out your comments, feedback, and/or questions:



TWO GREAT WAYS TO SAVE!

To sign up, please fill out and return this page at the Annual Meeting, or mail to P.O. Box 80, Carlinville, IL 62626

At MJM, we are dedicated to keeping operations costs low, which helps save our Members \$\$\$!

1. SIGN UP TO RECIEVE PAPERLESS NEWSLETTERS

This will help keep yearly printing operations costs down. Turn this slip in at the check in station with your current email listed below (please print).

NAME: _____

EMAIL: _____

2. SIGN UP FOR ELECTRONIC CHECK PAYMENTS

Electronic check payments are less expensive to the Cooperative as compared to fees related to credit and debit card transactions. Plus, setting up electronic check payments eliminates the process of updating your info when you recieve a new debit/credit card. Checking account payments may be processed as a one-time payment or recurring monthly auto payments.

You can call the main office (217-707-6156) during regular business hours (Monday - Friday, 7:30am - 4:00pm) to set this payment method up for your account or use the SmartHub app.

2024 VOTING PROXY

ONLY USE THIS PROXY IF YOU ARE UNABLE TO ATTEND

KNOW ALL MEN BY THESE PRESENTS, that I, the undersigned member of M.J.M. Electric Cooperative, Inc., do constitute and hereby appoint:

my lawful attorney and proxy to vote in my place and stead at the annual meeting of members of the M.J.M. Electric Cooperative, Inc., to be held at the MJM Headquarters, Carlinville, Illinois, on June 6th, 2024, and at any and all adjournments of said meeting, and I hereby ratify and confirm my proxy's vote in my stead on all matters properly brought before said meeting, including the election of directors.

Witness my hand and seal this _____ day of _____, 2024.

Signature of member giving proxy



NOTE: A member attending the meeting in person can vote no more than one (1) proxy.

PERIODICAL
POSTAGE
PAID



MAY CALENDAR

May 12th: Mother's Day

May 21st: Armed Forces Day

May 27th: Office Closed - Memorial Day

UPCOMING

June 6th: MJM's 85th Annual Meeting

June 14th: Flag Day

June 16th: Father's Day

Holidays observed:

New Year's Day, Good Friday, Memorial Day, Independence Day, Labor Day, Veterans Day, Thanksgiving Day, day following Thanksgiving, Christmas Eve, Christmas Day, and New Year's Eve.



**BRING THIS BOOKLET WITH YOU FOR
EASY REGISTRATION AND VOTING!**