



# Frequently asked questions on voting

## Q. CAN I VOTE FOR ALL THE DIRECTORS ON THE BALLOT, NO MATTER WHAT DISTRICT I'M IN?

A. Yes.

## Q. HOW CAN I VOTE?

A. You can vote one of three ways.

1. Vote by mail by completing an Absentee Ballot that will be mailed to you, or
2. cast an electronic vote through the SmartHub system, or
3. cast your vote at the annual meeting held April 29, 2023.

## B. WHEN CAN I VOTE?

A. Absentee ballots will be included in the WECN magazine and will be accepted on or before April 28. Electronic voting opens March 31 and closes at 4 p.m. on April 27. Members can also vote at the annual meeting on April 29, 2023.

## Q. CAN MY SPOUSE AND I BOTH VOTE?

A. No. Only one vote per joint membership is allowed. Regardless of the number of meters or accounts you may have with JREC, you only have one membership. See Article I, Section 3 of the co-op bylaws.

## Q. CAN I BRING MY ABSENTEE BALLOT TO THE ANNUAL MEETING TO BE COUNTED?

A. No. Absentee ballots need to arrive at either our Hayward or Ladysmith office on or before April 28 to be counted.

## Q. CAN I WITHDRAW MY VOTE OR SUBSTITUTE MY BALLOT ONCE CAST?

A. No. See Article III, Section 7(g) of JREC's bylaws.

## Q. HOW CAN AN ONLINE ELECTION WEBSITE PREVENT VOTING MORE THAN ONCE?

A. Each member's log-in information is disabled immediately after submitting their web ballot, preventing them from logging into the voting website again and voting twice. Read next question for more on JRECs voting verification procedure.

## Q. HOW DOES JREC ENSURE ONLY ONE VOTE IS CAST PER MEMBERSHIP, REGARDLESS OF HOW THEY VOTE?

A. JREC has a proven voting verification procedure in place that records when a vote is cast by absentee ballot or electronic ballot. Once a vote is cast electronically, that member's online voting option is disabled, ensuring that only one web ballot can be cast per membership. Members who attend the annual meeting are only given a Meeting Day ballot once it has been confirmed that no other ballot had been previously cast.

## Q. WHO OVERSEES THE ELECTRONIC VOTING PROCESS?

A. JREC has hired Survey & Ballot Systems (SBS) to set up and oversee the electronic voting process. They are a well-established company located in Eden Prairie, Minnesota, with an A+ rating from the Better Business Bureau. For more information log on to [surveyandballot.com](http://surveyandballot.com).

## Q. WHAT TYPE OF SECURITY CAN I EXPECT WITH AN SBS-MANAGED ONLINE ELECTION?

A. Several layers of security are employed to protect your SBS election. The voting website is hosted on their secure server and our election website is only accessible to authorized members through unique voter logins and passwords. Ballots are transmitted to the data center using Symantec TLS encryption and authentication technology. Voting websites also employ passive and active network and security monitoring services to detect and prevent unauthorized access. Data is stored in a secure data center with controlled, monitored access 24 hours per day, 7 days per week, 365 days per year.

## Q. DOES SBS HAVE QUALITY CONTROL PROCEDURES IN PLACE?

A. Yes. A summary of their procedures includes data receipt verification, proofing, test batches, auditing, and certification.

## Q. HOW IS MY VOTE KEPT ANNOYNOUS?



A. SBS only provides a list of members who voted to JREC, not how they voted. Web votes are tallied by SBS and certified election results given to JREC. Mail-in absentee votes are kept in a secure location until the Annual Meeting day. Members who serve on the election inspection committee open and tally these votes in a way that maintains anonymity.

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