

Horry Electric Cooperative, Inc.

www.horryelectric.com

MAIN OFFICE
P.O. Box 119
Conway, SC 29528-0119
(843) 369-2211



**TO REPORT
POWER OUTAGES ONLY**
(843) 369-2212

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Johnny M. Shelley
President

Daniel B. Shelley, III
Executive Vice President and CEO

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Vice President

Ashley Anderson
Secretary/Treasurer

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Bobby E. Jordan

Franklin C. Blanton

Ronald H. Floyd

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CO-OP ATTORNEY

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CO-OP NEWS EDITOR

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Horry Electric Cooperative, Inc., is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

Horry Electric Cooperative, Inc. is a non-profit, member-owned organization providing information and energy-related services on a fair and equitable basis.



A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative

Annual Meeting a success

Planning ahead and looking forward to 2021



ANNUAL MEETING 2020 was a major success. Our early Drive-Thru Registration and Voting event received an amazing response from you—our members. We managed to break our all-time record by registering 7,632 accounts over the course of two days. The

previous record of 7,571 was set in 2013 at Coastal Carolina University.

In 2019, we registered 5,855 accounts. The drive-thru setup allowed us to exceed our 5% quorum requirement of 3,446, which means we got to see more of you.

We also appreciate all of you that tuned in to watch our virtual business meeting on Oct. 13. We hope everyone enjoyed this year's setup.

Trustees re-elected

The business session agenda included the election of three trustee candidates, who are also members of the cooperative, to serve on the board of trustees for a three-year term. Johnny Shelley (District 3), Eugene Harriott Jr. (District 8) and Freddy Thompkins (District 9) were re-elected.

The board of trustees elected officers at the October board meeting. Johnny M. Shelley remains as president, with Eugene Harriott Jr. as vice president and Ashley Anderson as secretary/treasurer.



JENNIFER HARMON

Betty Stroup is now the proud owner of the 2020 Annual Meeting of Members Grand Prize, a 2016 E-Z-Go electric golf cart. Also, be sure to check out some of the pictures on Page 5 from our early Drive-Thru Registration and Voting event in September.

Continuing to grow

Horry County is continuing to grow at a rapid pace. We started this year with 81,919 accounts and it looks like we'll finish with close to 84,200. In terms of miles of line, we've added 66.43 miles to our system, bringing our total to 5,440.98 miles of line.

Happy holidays

It's hard to believe the holiday season is already here. This edition of the magazine is a two-month combination, so stay up-to-date with us on social media. You can expect the next magazine to hit mailboxes in January 2021.

From all of us at Horry Electric, we wish you a Happy Thanksgiving, as well as a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

Daniel B. Shelley, III

DANIEL B. SHELLEY, III
Executive Vice President and CEO

Do you have special medical needs?

MEMBERS WHO HAVE a health issue requiring the use of special, electric-powered medical equipment should contact Horry Electric. Many need to obtain a Special Medical Needs Account Member Certification form.

Residential members with such conditions will be required to secure the signature of a licensed health care

provider on the form and then return it to the co-op. The certification is valid for 91 days from the date of the signature of the health care provider. It is the member's responsibility to renew certification by obtaining the appropriate signatures on a new certification form and submitting it to the co-op. Details: (843) 369-2211.



How to Become a Trustee of Horry Electric Cooperative, Inc.

I. **Qualifications:**

1. General Trustee

Qualifications. A Trustee or Trustee Candidate must:

- a. Be a natural person;
- b. Have the capacity to enter legally binding contracts;
- c. While a Trustee and during the 365 days immediately preceding the Trustee election, maintain their primary residential abode within the boundaries of the applicable residential Trustee District;
- d. While a Trustee, and during the twenty-five (25) years immediately prior to becoming a Trustee, not:
 - i. Be, nor have been, convicted of a felony; or
 - ii. Plead, nor have pled, guilty to a felony.

2. Membership

Qualifications. While a Trustee, and during the 365 days immediately prior to becoming a Trustee, a Trustee or Trustee candidate must:

- a. Be a Member using, receiving, and purchasing electric service from the Cooperative at the Trustee's or Trustee candidate's principal residence, as determined by South Carolina voter registration law; and
- b. Be current in all respects regarding payment

to the Cooperative of Additional Payments and obligations, and not be subject to disconnection for non-payment of electric service at the Trustee or Trustee candidate's primary residence.

3. Conflict of Interest

Disqualification. A Trustee or Trustee candidate must not be or have been:

- a. A Close Relative of any current Trustee, Cooperative employee, or Cooperative subsidiary employee;
- b. Employed by, materially affiliated with, or share a material financial interest with, any other Trustee;

c. Engaged in, nor employed by, materially affiliated with, or have a material financial interest in, any individual or entity:

- i. Directly and substantially competing with the Cooperative or any Cooperative subsidiary; or
- ii. Possessing a substantial conflict of interest with the Cooperative or any Cooperative subsidiary.

d. Previously subject to an involuntary separation of employment from the Cooperative or any Cooperative subsidiary; or

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May the Spirit of the Holiday Season Shine Bright

Now more than ever, we're all looking forward to the light and hope that the holiday season can bring. At Horry Electric Cooperative, we're proud to always provide our members with reliable service at an affordable price—bringing light, warmth and dependability to you and your loved ones now and into the coming year.

*Merry Christmas and
Wishing You a Bright New Year!*

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Horry Electric will be closed for the holidays Nov. 26–27, Dec. 24 at 1 p.m., Dec. 25 & 28 and Jan. 1.

Co-op awards teachers \$10,000 in grants

ELEVEN TEACHERS. Eleven innovative projects winning a total of \$10,000.

Eleven grants were awarded to teachers across Horry County last month. "It's so exciting! HEC loves giving back to our community and our schools," says Toni Gore, coordinator of the Bright Ideas program at Horry Electric since the program launched in 2007. "It's rewarding to see the smile on their faces when they receive funding for something they have dreamed of doing, but couldn't due to the lack of funds."

Horry Electric extended the Bright Ideas application deadline this year to give teachers extra time to apply.

“This year we had to do things a little differently due to COVID-19 and the new school schedules,” says Gore. “We love being able to surprise these teachers in person with the big grant check. We hated that we couldn’t do that this year, but we hope this grant money will help these teachers with their projects and even with virtual learning.”

Reflecting HEC's commitment to community, Bright Ideas is a grant program designed to provide funding for innovative classroom-based education projects. The grants awarded are intended to fund the projects outside normal public school funding parameters and can be made available to all disciplines in grades K-12 in Horry County. A school may apply, and teachers are limited to one application per year. "We encourage any teacher in the district to apply! We would love the opportunity to help fund any project a teacher may want to do for their class," says Gore. "We hope we're able to get back to surprising the teachers in person next year!"

Jaymie McDowell takes a selfie with her \$1,000 Bright Ideas grant check she plans to use to increase student learning through reading and movement.



Denise Wright holds her \$650 Bright Ideas grant check, along with a 'Meow Bit' that she will use to teach students coding in order for them to create and play their own game.

The 2020 winners are:

Jessica Partin, Homewood Elementary—Sharpening Skills, \$1,000: Enhance learning through multiple avenues of instruction.

"I can't thank Horry Electric enough for providing me with a grant to purchase materials to sharpen my students' academic and functional skills."

Stephany Floyd, Kingston Elementary—Teaching with Technology, \$1,000: Taking learning to new horizons.

"I will use the grant to purchase Osmo Kits for second grade classrooms to incorporate authentic learning experiences, and connect the academic curriculum to real world experiences."

Benjamin Golden, Daisy Elementary—Scientific Tools, \$1,000: Enable students to study weather patterns that impact their everyday lives.

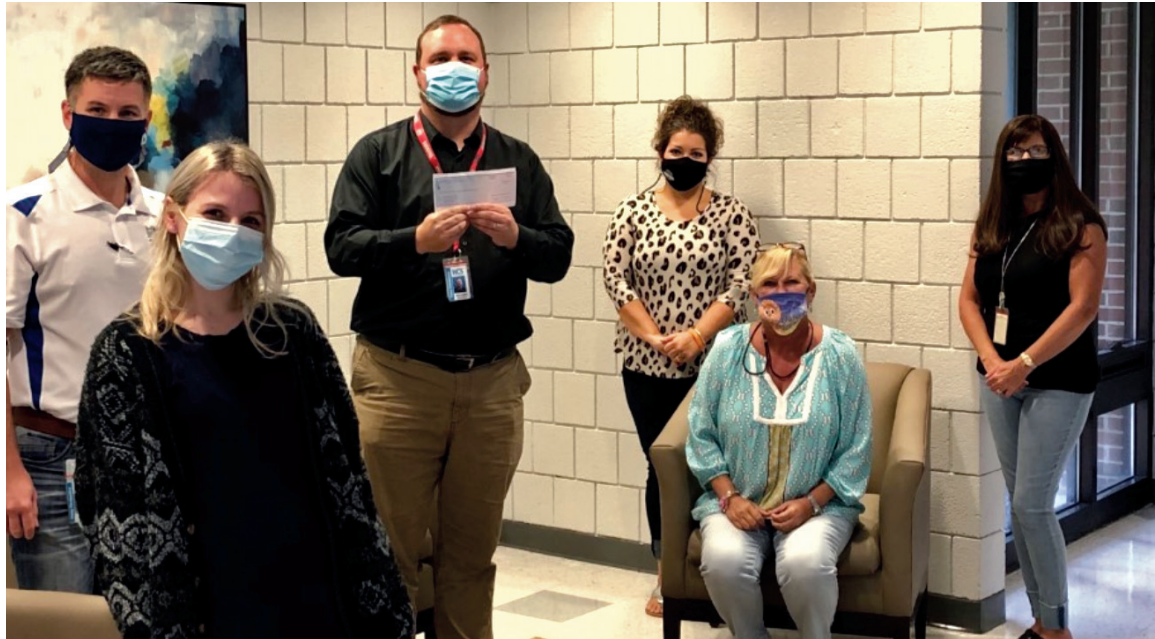
"We are very grateful and excited at Daisy to use this funding to put scientific tools into the hands of students and foster a love of scientific exploration. Students will be able to interact with the world around them and study weather patterns. We hope this will spark an interest to continue a love for the sciences as they get older."

Christine White, Palmetto Bays Elementary—Welcome to the STEM Lab, \$1,000: Flexible seating and furniture to enhance learning.

“These funds will be used to purchase new tables and flexible seating options to accommodate students from child development through 5th grade. I want the lab to be an inviting space for my students to be comfortable as they engage in STEM activities.”



Benjamin Golden (third from left) receives his \$1,000 check. With him are (from left to right) Daisy Elementary Principal Josh Todd, Alyssa Caruana, Ashley Strickland, Penny Green and Sandy Carland, assistant principal.



Jaymie McDowell, Pee Dee Elementary—Buzzing for Books and More, \$1,000: Increasing student learning through reading and movement.

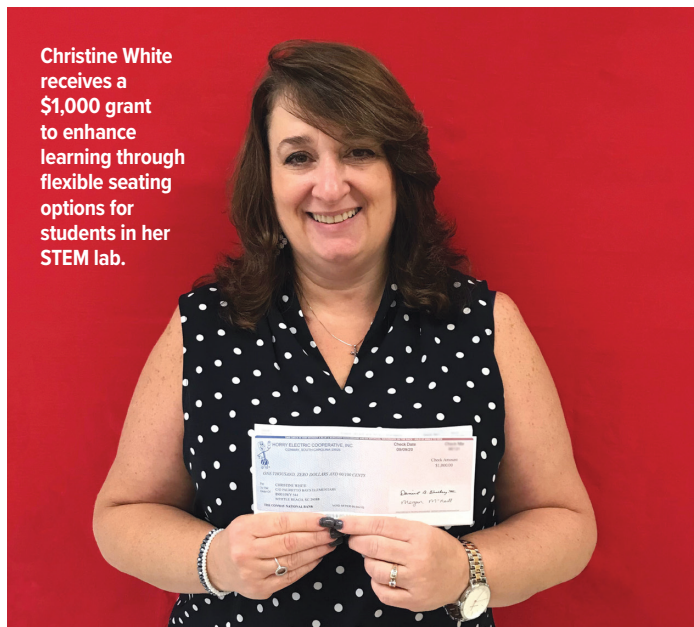
“This money will help provide my students with books at their levels and desk bands to help keep their busy bodies moving.”

Stacy Morgan, Green Sea Floyds Elementary—Help Us Hear, \$970: Educators are learning new ways to overcome challenges brought about by the pandemic.

“We will use these funds to purchase headphones for our kindergarten students to use with their district-owned device.”

Tangia Hammel, Conway Middle School—Color the Walls with History, \$725: Lining the walls with history.

“My students are smiling and happy. They will be using the color markers and pencils to create large posters and decorate the walls of the classroom with history.”



Christine White receives a \$1,000 grant to enhance learning through flexible seating options for students in her STEM lab.

PHOTOS BY BRIGHT IDEAS WINNERS

Regina Wydock, Loris Middle School—Financial Literacy, \$700: Teaching financial literacy in the context of real-life situations.

“Teaching financial literacy to middle school students is something I feel strongly about. I believe it is never too early to educate students about money and how to use it correctly. By the time students enter middle school, most have been exposed to money, credit/debit cards, and banks, but they do not have a good understanding of how they work in the real world. I want to give my students the opportunity to dive into the world of finance and learn some basic financial skills they can take with them. These life skills will pay dividends and help to secure their financial futures.”

Tara Cook, Green Sea Floyds Middle School—Sensory Area/Bouncy Bands, \$970: Emotional regulation and focus for students with emotional behavioral disabilities.

“This grant will award our special education students with equipment that will enhance their everyday learning. This includes flexible seating, bands for desks and light diffusers that will minimize distractions, which is extremely beneficial to our learners.”

Denise Wright, Ocean Bay Middle School—Game Design in STEM, \$650: Collaborative efforts to design and play a game.

“We are so appreciative and excited about this grant. Learning about coding through ‘Game Design’ will make student learning meaningful, memorable and fun!”

Amy Hickman, Conway High School—Key Life Skills for English Learners, \$985: Helping English Learners become confident in their new surroundings.

“With this money, I’ll be able to purchase a set of classroom books featuring key life skills, such as how to save money, organizing for school success and learning about community services.”

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e. While a Trustee or during the five (5) years immediately prior to becoming a Trustee, employed by the Cooperative or any Cooperative subsidiary, or engaged contractually (as an employee, principal, owner, partner, or shareholder, except through passive investment) with a firm that contracts with the Cooperative or any Cooperative subsidiary as a prime or sub-contractor.

II. Nominations:

Below are the two methods that may be used to become nominated for the purpose of being elected as a member of the Cooperative's Board of Trustees.

1. A member may be nominated by the appointed Nominating Committee of the Cooperative as a candidate for the Board of Trustees from the Trustee District in which the member lives and for that District's seat. The Nominating Committee will meet at least thirty days prior to the Annual Meeting. For the exact date of the Nominating Committee meeting, call the office at (843) 369-2211.

2. A member can also be nominated by petition as a candidate for the Board of Trustees from the Trustee District in which the member lives and for that District's seat. Official forms must be obtained from the Cooperative and must be signed by at least twenty-five or more active members in order to be considered valid. The deadline for petition candidates is at least forty-five

days and not more than sixty days prior to the date of the Annual Meeting of Members. This date is specified on the Official Petition Form.

III. Election:

The following is how the election will take place at the Annual Meeting:

All members who have been nominated by the Nominating Committee or

who have been nominated by Petition, and meet the qualifications, will have their names appear on the official ballot of the Cooperative. The members who are in attendance at the Annual Meeting will then select their representative to the Board of Trustees by secret written or electronic ballot by the Members, with polling and early voting as required by

state law; PROVIDED that in the event of an uncontested race, secret balloting may be dispensed with and the particular election may occur by acclamation.

For additional information on this procedure, please refer to the Cooperative's Bylaws, which are posted on horryelectric.com. For a printed copy of the Bylaws, please stop by one of our offices.

Horry Electric's Virtual Business Annual Meeting is Tuesday, May 11, 2021

Time Schedule

ITEM	BYLAW PROVISIONS	ACTION
Nominating Committee Appointed:	At least sixty (60) days before (3/12/21) and not more than one hundred fifty (150) days (12/12/20) prior to the Annual Meeting of Members, consisting of at least five (5) members.	To be appointed at December Board Meeting to meet in January 2021.
Notice of Meeting of Nominating Committee in local newspaper:	RUS requirement (No Bylaw provision).	Published in a local newspaper December 2020/January 2021.
Posting of Report of Nominating Committee:	Nominees: At least thirty (30) days prior to the Annual Meeting of Members.	Post before 4/9/21.
Deadline for Petition Candidates and Posting of Report:	At least forty-five (45) days (3/26/21) and not more than sixty (60) days (3/12/21) before Annual Meeting of Members.	Deadline to submit Petition Forms is 3/12/21 (Friday) <u>at 12 noon</u> ; Post in office by 3/26/21.
Credentials and Elections Appointment:	At least sixty (60) days - by (3/12/21) and not more than ninety (90) days (2/10/21) before any meeting of the members, and consisting <u>an uneven number of members, and of at least 5 members.</u>	To be appointed at February Board Meeting.
Notice of Meeting:	Not less than thirty (30) days (4/11/21) and not more than sixty (60) days (3/12/21) before the date of meeting.	Direct mailers to all member-owners between 3/12/21 and 4/11/21.

With names and addresses of all nominees, distinguishing between those nominated by the Committee and those nominated by petition.

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Completed/ Dated: 10/22/2020