

Meet the candidates

THE MEMBERS of the Nominating Committee, duly assembled, after giving full consideration to the district location, did nominate the following members of the cooperative as trustee candidates for a three-year term.



District #3

Johnny M. Shelley

Incumbent

1750 Highway 917
Nichols, SC 29581

JOHNNY SHELLEY and his wife, Sonnie, have two children, Cam and Kristi. Kristi

is married to Brian Forbus, and they have a son, Cole, and a daughter, Georgia. Cam and his wife, Jill, have a daughter, Jaelyn, and a son, Jackson. The Shelleys are lifetime members of Horry County's Pleasant View Community, where they are also members of the Pleasant View Baptist Church.

A farmer, Shelley has previous experience as a science teacher and a physical education teacher. He also worked for several years in the financial sector. Shelley is a graduate of Floyds High School and Campbell University. He plays an active role in Horry County and his community. He has experience serving on The Alliance for Health, Economic and Agricultural Development Committee (a Washington, D.C.-based committee), served as a governor's appointee for the revitalization Phase II board, and served on the Horry County Council for 13 years. He currently serves as a board member for Anderson Oaks Assisted Living and the Horry County Council on Aging Board of Directors. Shelley enjoys spending time with his grandchildren on the family farm. He currently serves as President of Horry Electric Cooperative, Inc. Shelley was elected to the Board of Trustees in 2002.



District #8

Eugene Harriott, Jr.

Incumbent

11006 Freewoods Road
Myrtle Beach, SC 29588

EUGENE HARRIOTT JR. has three children and one grandchild. He lives in the Burgess community and is a member of New Bethel Baptist Church.

Harriott is a registered barber. He served in the United States Army for three years as an aircraft hydraulic repairman and is a Vietnam veteran.

Harriott currently serves as Vice President on the Board of Trustees. He was elected to the Board of Trustees in 1993.



District #9

COL.(R) John Newcomer

Nominee

618 Plantation Circle
Conway, SC 29526

COLONEL(R) JOHN NEWCOMER retired to Conway in 2021 after 30 years in the Army, and eight years as a contractor for the Department of Defense. He has one son, Vincent, who resides in Florida. Newcomer is a member of Christ the Servant Lutheran Church in Conway.

Newcomer is an active member of the community and currently serves on the Rosehill Memorial Gardens Committee for the City of Conway. He is a life member of the Veterans of Foreign Wars and the American Legion, as well as a member of the Little River, South Carolina Benevolent and Protective Order of the Elks lodge. Additionally, he serves as the Vice President of the Lock Haven University Alumni Association Board in Lock Haven, Pennsylvania.

He graduated from Lock Haven University in 1984 with a Bachelor of Arts in Psychology. Newcomer has a master's degree in public administration from Georgia State University (Atlanta, Georgia) and a Master of Strategic Studies from the United States Army War College at Carlisle Barracks in Pennsylvania.

Newcomer is a rated helicopter and airplane pilot with nearly 5,000 flight hours over his 38-year career with the United States military. He was awarded the Legion of Merit, Bronze Star medal and the Defense Meritorious Service medal to name a few. He held various leadership and command positions, culminating as the Director of Army Reserve Aviation at Fort Bragg, North Carolina.

In his spare time, Newcomer enjoys golfing, exercising, reading, traveling, getting to know people and exploring the natural beauty of Horry County and South Carolina.



District #9

Freddy Thompkins

Incumbent

3955 Long Avenue Extension
Conway, SC 29526

FREDDY THOMPKINS and his wife, Minnieree Allen Thompkins, have lived in the Maple

community for more than 20 years. They are members of First Baptist Church of Conway. They have two children, Allen Thompkins and Crystal Calhoun, and two grandchildren, Colby Calhoun and Callie Cate Calhoun.

An active member of the community, Thompkins is a member of the Masons and the Shriners. He retired from Horry Telephone Cooperative and is currently self-employed. He is a Vietnam veteran in the First Air Cavalry Division, where he served 13 months as a helicopter door gunner and as a crew chief. At that time, he was awarded the Army Commendation Medal with a V for Valor, a Combat Entry Badge and Flight Wings. While stationed at Fort Rucker in Dothan, Ala., he was nominated for Soldier of the Year Award with his company.

In his spare time, Thompkins enjoys watching sports, fishing, boating and spending time with his family.