



horryelectric.com

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

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- Johnny M. Shelley
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- Eugene Harriott Jr.
Vice President
- Elaine D. Gore
Secretary/Treasurer
- Aaron C. Johnson
- Franklin C. Blanton
- Ronald H. Floyd
- Jody D. Prince
- Debbie Vereen Givens
- Frederick 'Freddy' Thompkins

EXECUTIVE VICE PRESIDENT & CEO

J. Reed Cooper, P.E.

CO-OP ATTORNEY

Kenneth R. Moss

CO-OP NEWS EDITOR

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

Horry Electric Cooperative Inc. is a not-for-profit, member-owned organization providing information and energy-related services on a fair and equitable basis.



A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative



Annual Member Meeting March 31–April 1

THIS MONTH'S EDITION of *South Carolina Living* is your Official Notice of the Annual Member Meeting.

Going forward, we will hold the meeting the week before Easter. More details can be found in the cover wrap of this magazine.

Your Official Annual Member Meeting Registration Card will be mailed March 16. When it arrives, please put it in a safe place and bring it with you to the Drive-Thru Registration and Voting event.

Only members who register in person on Tuesday, March 31 between the hours of 7 a.m. and 7 p.m., or Wednesday, April 1 between 7 a.m. and 11 a.m., are eligible to receive the Registration Gift, which is a \$25 electric bill credit.

Drive-Thru Registration and Voting will be held at the Conway office (2774 Cultra Road). The business session will air Wednesday, April 1 at 7 p.m. You can watch online on horryelectric.com under the "Featured" section of the homepage.

Important reminders

The Official Annual Member Meeting registration cards are addressed directly to the member on record for each account. You will also need to bring your photo ID with you to register.

Members will enter the employee parking lot and traffic attendants will direct vehicles into a lane leading to a registration table under our truck shed. When members pull up to a table, employees will scan the special barcode on the registration card to register the member. You will then vote on the three positions for the board of trustees.

On average, the process takes about two to three minutes from the time you pull up to a table. Once registration is complete, members will exit the parking lot toward Highway 501.

Due to the event, the Socastee office will be closed March 31–April 1. The Conway office will be closed March 31, but will reopen at 1 p.m. on April 1. During the Drive-Thru Registration and Voting event, the Conway office drive-thru lanes will be closed, meaning members will not have access to the Conway night deposit box or kiosk. It will be closed from 5 a.m. on Tuesday, March 31, through 1 p.m. on Wednesday, April 1.

See you soon!

Even though the Drive-Thru Registration and Voting process is a quick one, we look forward to seeing everyone.

Horry Electric's bylaws require a quorum equal to 5% of the membership to conduct an official business meeting. With a preliminary estimate of 86,314 members, we'll need to have a minimum of 4,316 members register. If we fail to meet quorum, we will not be able to do business.

For the virtual business session, if you have any questions for me or the board, please email those to annualmeeting@horryelectric.com by March 9.

J. REED COOPER, P.E.
 Executive Vice President and CEO



JOSH P. CROTZER

We look forward to greeting our members, and furry companions alike, at our Annual Member Meeting Drive-thru Registration and Voting event. HEC employees will guide you to the registration lanes where you will present your picture ID. You will be able to register and vote without leaving your vehicle.

Official Notice of the Annual Member Meeting

The Annual Member Meeting Business Session of Horry Electric Cooperative will be held virtually on Wednesday, April 1 at 7 p.m. We will hold a day and a half of Drive-Thru Registration on March 31–April 1 at our Conway office, located at 2774 Cultra Road. Action will be taken on the following matters:

- ▶ The report of officers, trustees and committees;
- ▶ The election of trustees;
- ▶ All other business which may come before the member meeting, including any necessary bylaw changes.

Drive-Thru Registration begins at 7 a.m., and each cooperative member is urged to attend. We also encourage members to tune in to the virtual business session.

Each member who registers will receive a \$25 credit on their bill. Only members who register,

in person, on Tuesday, March 31 between the hours of 7 a.m. and 7 p.m., or Wednesday, April 1 between the hours of 7 a.m. and 11 a.m. are eligible to receive the registration gift.

Members who register will be automatically entered in the prize drawings. Prize winners will be posted following the virtual meeting.

March 31, 7 a.m.–7 p.m.
Drive-Thru Registration and Voting

April 1, 7 a.m.–11 a.m.
Drive-Thru Registration and Voting

April 1, 7 p.m.
Virtual Business Session

ELAINE D. GORE
Secretary/Treasurer

HORRY EXTRA

More Annual Meeting info

ON PAGES 12A-12D, learn more about the 2026 capital credit disbursement, see HEC's board member district map, read bios of trustee candidates and review the co-op's 2025 financials.



JENNIFER CUMMINGS

Christine Ponte, with son-in-law, Louis Marconi, won the grand prize of an E-Z-Go electric golf cart in 2025. You could be the grand prize winner of an electric golf cart this year!

You're invited!

Horry Electric Cooperative Annual Meeting

Drive-Thru Registration and Voting

Tuesday, March 31, 7 a.m.–7 p.m.

Wednesday, April 1, 7 a.m.–11 a.m.

Where: Horry Electric Cooperative Conway Office, 2774 Cultra Road in Conway.

Virtual Business Meeting

Wednesday, April 1, 7 p.m.

Watch: The business session can be viewed on horryelectric.com.

REGISTRATION GIFT

\$25 electric bill credit

Only those who register, in person, at the Horry Electric Cooperative Conway office on Tuesday, March 31, between the hours of 7 a.m. and 7 p.m., or Wednesday, April 1, between the hours of 7 a.m. and 11 a.m., are eligible to receive the Annual Member Meeting registration gift. No exceptions.

PRIZE DRAWINGS:

- ▶ \$500 first prize
- ▶ \$300 third prize
- ▶ \$400 second prize
- ▶ More than 50 prize drawings

Prize winners will be notified following the virtual meeting.

Reminder: You must bring a picture ID to drive-thru registration and voting.

HEC returning \$5.9 million in Capital Credits

THIS MONTH, Horry Electric Cooperative will return approximately \$5.9 million to members who had active accounts in 2010 and/or 2024.

These payments reflect a unique feature of the cooperative business model—capital credits.

Unlike other types of companies, cooperatives do not have shareholders who expect to make money from the company's profits. Co-ops are not-for-profit businesses that exist solely to provide members with a particular service, such as electricity.

In a cooperative like Horry Electric, members are the stakeholders.

After the co-op has paid expenses for a given year,



left over margins are allocated to members through capital credits. This is an example of the cooperative principle of Member Economic Participation.

When finances allow, co-ops retire capital credits and refund those retired margins to members.

This spring, members who had active accounts in 2010 and/or 2024 will receive payments based on how much electricity they paid for during those years.

Capital credit refunds below \$100 will be applied as a credit to the member's account. Refunds exceeding \$100 will be mailed as a check. Checks are expected to be delivered to members by the end of March.

How do capital credits work?

1

At the end of each year, we determine if there is excess revenue above what's needed to run Horry Electric.

2

As a non-profit, we work to return any excess revenue, also called margins, to our member-owners.

3

We allocate the margins to members as capital credits based on their electricity use that year.

4

When our financial standings allow, the board of trustees retires the capital credits and gives money back to members.

5

We then issue member-owners their capital credit refunds in the form of a check or account credit on the March bill.



Board of Trustees



Elaine D. Gore
DISTRICT 1
Secretary/Treasurer



Aaron C. Johnson
DISTRICT 2



Johnny M. Shelley
DISTRICT 3
President



Franklin C. Blanton
DISTRICT 4



Ronald H. Floyd
DISTRICT 5



Jody D. Prince
DISTRICT 6



**Debbie Vereen
Givens**
DISTRICT 7



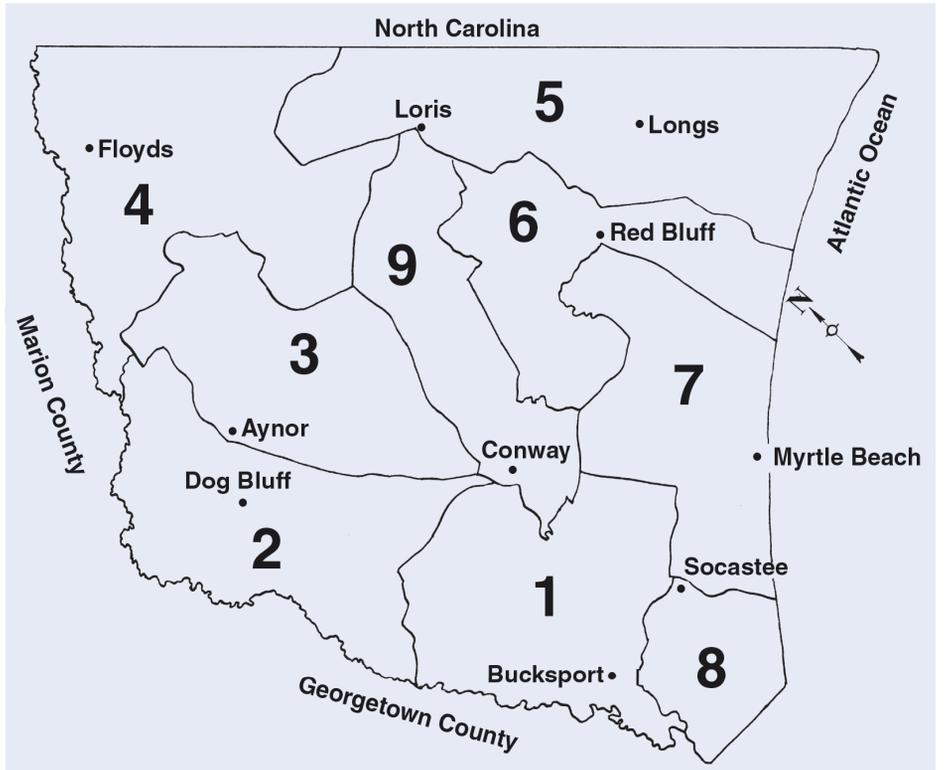
Eugene Harriott Jr.
DISTRICT 8
Vice President



Freddy Thompkins
DISTRICT 9



Kenneth R. Moss
CO-OP ATTORNEY



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IN ACCORDANCE with Federal civil rights law and U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) civil rights regulations and policies, the USDA, its agencies, offices and employees, and institutions participating in or administering USDA programs are prohibited from discriminating on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, or disability. Remedies and complaint filing deadlines vary by program or incident.

Persons with disabilities who require alternative means of communication for program information (e.g. Braille, large print, audiotape, American Sign Language, etc.) should contact the responsible Agency or USDA's TARGET Center at (202) 720-2600 (voice and TTY) or contact USDA through the Federal Relay Service at (800) 877-8339. Additionally, program information may be made available in languages other than English.

To file a program discrimination complaint, complete the USDA Program Discrimination Complaint Form, AD-3027, found online at http://www.ascr.usda.gov/complaint_filing_cust.html, and at any USDA office, or write a letter addressed to USDA and provide in the letter all of the information requested in the form. To request a copy of the complaint form, call (866) 632-9992. Submit your completed complaint form or letter to USDA by:

1. mail: U.S. Department of Agriculture Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights 1400 Independence Avenue, S.W. Washington, D.C. 20250-9410;
2. fax: (202) 690-7442; or
3. email: program.intake@usda.gov.

Meet the candidates



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.

District #3

Johnny M. Shelley

Incumbent

1750 Highway 917
Nichols, S.C. 29581

Now 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.

Shelley has completed numerous training courses through the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association and earned the status of Credentialed Cooperative Director. He has also earned his Board Leadership certificate through NRECA, in addition to his Director Gold Credential..



FREDDY THOMPKINS and his wife, Minnieeree Allen Thompkins, have lived in the Maple community for nearly 40 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.

District #9

Freddy Thompkins

Incumbent

3955 Long Avenue
Extension
Conway, S.C. 29526

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.

Thompkins was elected to the Board of Trustees in 2011. Since then, he's earned the status of Credentialed Cooperative Director and obtained his Board Leadership Certificate through the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association. He's also received his Director Gold Credential.

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



EUGENE HARRIOTT JR. has three children, two grandchildren and one great grandchild. He lives in the Burgess community and is a member of New Bethel Baptist Church. Harriott is a registered barber.

Harriott served in the United States Army for three years as an aircraft hydraulic repairman and is a Vietnam veteran. He was awarded the Army Commendation Medal for his meritorious service, as well as the Air Medal for heroism.

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

A Credentialed Cooperative Director, Harriott has completed numerous training courses through the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association. He has also earned his Board Leadership Certificate and Director Gold Credential through NRECA.

District #8

Eugene Harriott, Jr.

Incumbent

11006 Freewoods Road
Myrtle Beach, S.C.
29588



RETIRED COLONEL JOHN NEWCOMER

moved to Conway in 2021 after a 30-year career in the Army and 11 years as a contractor for the Department of Defense. He has one son, Vincent, who resides in Florida. Colonel Newcomer attends services at Christ the Servant Lutheran Church in Conway.

District #9

Retired Army Colonel John Newcomer

Nominee

618 Plantation Circle
Conway, S.C. 29526

He is an active member of the community, formerly serving 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, Colonel Newcomer serves as President of the Lock Haven University

Alumni Association Board of Directors in Lock Haven, Pennsylvania.

Colonel Newcomer graduated from Lock Haven University in 1984 with a Bachelor of Arts in Psychology. He 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. He is planning to start law school this fall to pursue a Juris Doctor (JD).

Colonel Newcomer is a rated helicopter and airplane pilot with more than 5,000 flight hours over his 40-year career with the United States military. He received the Legion of Merit, Bronze Star medal and the Defense Meritorious Service medal, among other awards. He held various leadership and command positions, culminating as the Director of Army Reserve Aviation at Fort Bragg, North Carolina.

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

Balance Sheet

ASSETS

Utility Plant

Electric Plant in Service - At Cost	\$519,840,096
Construction Work in Progress	\$16,800,890
Gross Utility Plant	\$536,640,986
Less: Accumulated Provision for Depreciation	\$165,159,544

Utility Plant - Net **\$371,481,442**

Other Property and Investments

Investment in Associated Organizations	\$22,709,060
Other Investments	\$171,833

Total Other Property Investments **\$22,880,893**

Current Assets

Cash and Cash Equivalents	\$56,779,792
Temporary Investments	\$0
Accounts Receivable	\$26,371,533
Accounts Receivable-Other	\$3,963,070
Materials and Supplies	\$11,356,447
Other	\$2,127,797

Total Current and Accrued Assets **\$100,598,639**

Deferred Debits

\$21,602,027

Total Assets

\$516,563,001



EQUITIES AND LIABILITIES

Equities

Membership Fees	\$429,925
Patronage Capital	\$188,207,625
Other Equities	\$42,792,846
Total Equities	<u>\$231,430,396</u>

Long-Term Debt

CoBank	\$39,422,134
FFB	\$133,964,231
CFC	\$1,192,986

Total Long-Term Debt **\$174,579,351**

Other Noncurrent Liabilities

Accumulated Operating Provision **\$171,734**

Current Liabilities

Current Maturities of Mortgage Notes	\$9,732,643
Accounts Payable	\$27,477,034
Member Deposits	\$6,827,779
Accrued and Withheld Taxes	\$0
Other Current and Accrued Liabilities	\$7,336,719

Total Current Liabilities **\$51,374,175**

Regulatory Liabilities

\$56,470,694

Other Deferred Credits

\$2,536,651

Total Equities and Liabilities

\$516,563,001

What we took in: \$213,443,820

What we paid out: \$207,079,396

Patronage Capital and Operating Margins \$6,364,424

Other Income and Equity \$10,166,551

WE HAD LEFT: **\$16,530,975**

Comparative Operative Statistics

GROWTH

	2025	2024	2023	2022	2021	2020	2019	2018
Average Kwh per Residential Member per Month	1,092	1,088	1,090	1,124	1,149	1,107	1,151	1,213
Average Residential Bill per Month	\$156.33	\$160.71	\$158.83	\$156.27	\$155.17	\$152.72	\$159.25	\$167.41
Meters on System	103,949	99,014	94,537	90,475	87,422	84,507	81,919	79,747
Miles of Line	6,344	6,120	5,948	5,747	5,596	5,468	5,375	5,292
Average Cost per Kwh sold (Cents)	14.16	14.5	14.3	13.7	13.3	13.6	13.7	13.7

EXPENSES

Wholesale Power	69%	66%	67%	67%	67%	66%	66%	66%
Operating Maintenance and General Expenses	21%	23%	23%	23%	22%	21%	20%	20%
Depreciation	7%	7%	6%	6%	7%	7%	7%	7%
Interest	2%	3%	3%	3%	3%	5%	6%	6%
Taxes	1%	1%	1%	1%	1%	1%	1%	1%
Total	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%