

## Horry Electric Cooperative, Inc.

[horryelectric.com](http://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*
- Eugene Harriott Jr.  
*Vice President*
- Ashley Anderson  
*Secretary/Treasurer*
- Elaine D. Gore
- Aaron C. Johnson
- Franklin C. Blanton
- Ronald H. Floyd
- Jody D. Prince
- Frederick 'Freddy' Thompkins

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 Daniel B. Shelley, III

**CO-OP ATTORNEY**  
 Kenneth R. Moss

**CO-OP NEWS EDITOR**  
 Jennifer A. Cummings  
[jennifer.cummings@horryelectric.com](mailto:jennifer.cummings@horryelectric.com)

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



# Countdown to the Annual Member Meeting

## New dates for 2024

**THIS MONTH'S EDITION** of *South Carolina Living* is your

Official Notice of the Annual Member Meeting. The meeting is happening a week earlier this year. You can find more details in the cover wrap of this magazine.

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

Only members who register in person on Tuesday, April 30, between the hours of 7 a.m. and 7 p.m., or on Wednesday, May 1 between 7 a.m. and 11 a.m., are eligible to receive the Registration Gift, which is a \$25 electric bill credit.

Early Drive-Thru Registration and Voting will be held at Horry Electric's Conway office (2774 Cultra Road). The business meeting will be held virtually on Wednesday, May 1 at 7 p.m. You can watch the meeting online at [horryelectric.com](http://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 our 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 account. Members will then vote on the three positions for the board of trustees.

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

Due to the event, the Socastee office will be closed April 30-May 1. The Conway office will be closed April 30, but will reopen at 1 p.m. on May 1. During the Annual Member Meeting Early Drive-Thru Registration and Voting event, the Conway office drive-thru lanes will be closed. This means members will not have access to the Conway night deposit box or kiosk beginning at 5 a.m. Tuesday, April 30 through 1 p.m. Wednesday, May 1.

### See you there

We are counting down the days until we're able to see everyone. Even though the Drive-Thru Registration and Voting process is a quick one, we love the opportunity to see our members and get to know them better.

Horry Electric's bylaws require a quorum equal to 5 percent of the membership to conduct an official business meeting. With a preliminary estimate of 78,557 members, we'll need to have a minimum of 3,928 members register. If we fail to meet quorum, we will not be able to do business.

For the virtual business meeting, if you have any questions for the board or myself, please submit those questions in writing to my attention prior to April 22. This will allow us to address your questions during the virtual business meeting on May 1.

We look forward to seeing you!

**DANIEL B. SHELLEY, III**  
 Executive Vice President and CEO



HEC Conway Office, 2774 Cultra Road

## Official Notice of the Annual Member Meeting

THE ANNUAL MEMBER MEETING BUSINESS SESSION of Horry Electric Cooperative, Inc. will be held virtually on Wednesday, May 1 at 7 p.m. We will hold a day and a half of Drive-Thru Registration on April 30–May 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 urge members to tune in to the virtual meeting.

Each member who registers will receive a \$25 credit on their bill. **Only members who register, in person, on Tuesday, April 30 between the hours of 7 a.m. and 7 p.m., or Wednesday, May 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 announced following the virtual meeting.

|                         |   |
|-------------------------|---|
| April 30, 7 a.m.–7 p.m. | Early Drive-Thru<br>Registration and Voting |
| May 1, 7 a.m.–11 a.m.   | Early Drive-Thru<br>Registration and Voting |
| May 1, 7 p.m.           | Virtual Business Meeting                    |

**ASHLEY ANDERSON**  
Secretary/Treasurer

### HORRY EXTRA

#### Details inside!

ON PAGES 20A–20D, you can get details on our 2024 capital credit disbursement, see Horry Electric’s board member district map, read bios of trustee candidates and review the cooperative’s 2023 financials.

## Join Us!

### Early Drive-Thru Registration and Voting

**Tuesday, April 30, 7 a.m.–7 p.m.**

**Wednesday, May 1, 7 a.m.–11 a.m.**

HEC Conway Office, 2774 Cultra Road

### Virtual Business Meeting

**Wednesday, May 1, 7 p.m.**

Watch the business meeting online at [horryelectric.com](http://horryelectric.com).

### Registration Gift

**\$25 electric bill credit**

Only those who register, in person, at the Horry Electric Cooperative Conway office on April 30 between the hours of 7 a.m. and 7 p.m., or Wednesday, May 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

Drawings will be held for a \$500 first prize, \$400 second prize and \$300 third prize, plus more than 50 other door prizes. Prize winners will be notified following the virtual meeting.

**Grand Prize**  
**2018 E-Z-Go TXT**  
**electric golf cart**



## Co-op returning \$5.3 million in capital credits

**THIS MONTH**, Horry Electric Cooperative will return approximately \$5.3 million to members who had active accounts in 2008 and/or 2023.

These payments reflect a unique feature of cooperative businesses—capital credits.

After the co-op has paid expenses for a given year, left over margins are allocated to members through capital credits. When finances allow, co-ops like Horry Electric retire capital credits and refund those retired margins to members.

This spring, members who had co-op accounts in 2008 and/or 2023 will receive payments based on how much electricity they paid for during those years.



Jodi Jordan, Horry Electric office manager, says the co-op refunds capital credits below \$100 to an active member's account.

"Individuals who were members in 2008 and/or 2023 who don't get a check will see a credit on their

electric bill," she says.

Capital credit checks are expected to be delivered to members by the end of April.

It's an exciting time for us around here," Jordan says. "Being able to return capital credits is a direct reflection of the financial strength and stability of your cooperative. We can all take pride in this accomplishment."

**The chart below is designed to help members calculate and estimate what their capital credit check might be. If you have questions about capital credits, call the Member Service Department at (843) 369-2211.**

### Capital Credit Disbursement 2024

**THE ALLOWABLE RETIREMENT** this year is \$6,480,003.77 less \$1,100,000 in estate payments. The total amount being distributed is \$5,380,003.77 which includes the \$4,980,003.77 balance of 2008 and \$400,000 of 2023.

If you were a member in 2023, you will receive 1.23% of your 2023 assignment. If you were a member in 2008, you will receive the remaining unretired balance of your assignment for that year. You can calculate the approximate amount of your 2023 allocation and disbursement by using this example. Capital credit disbursements are distributed by the end of April.

| If your 2023 electric bills totaled  | \$1,000  | \$1,500  | \$2,000  | \$2,500  |
|--|----------|----------|----------|----------|
| The 2023 assignment factor is: (multiply the percentage times your bills)      | 17.22%   | 17.22%   | 17.22%   | 17.22%   |
| Your Capital Credit assignment for 2023 would be:                              | \$172.20 | \$258.30 | \$344.40 | \$430.50 |
| The 2023 retirement percentage will be 1.23% of your capital credit assignment | 1.23%    | 1.23%    | 1.23%    | 1.23%    |
| Your general retirement refund for 2023 would be approximately:                | \$2.12   | \$3.18   | \$4.24   | \$5.30   |

## It pays to be a member!

**NOT MANY BUSINESSES** pay you for buying something you wouldn't want to live without—but electric cooperatives do.

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 their members with a particular service, such as electricity. In a cooperative like Horry Electric, members are stakeholders.

"In a co-op, the net margins don't belong to the company; they belong to the members who paid their monthly electric bills," says Jodi Jordan, office manager for Horry Electric.

When the co-op takes in more money than is needed to run the business, the owners are entitled to a portion of those margins. It's an example of the Cooperative Principle of Member Economic Participation.

Each year, money is allocated to each member's account, according to the amount of electricity the member bought, says Ashley Anderson, secretary/treasurer of Horry Electric's board of trustees.

"The more electricity purchased, the higher their share of equity. The co-op sets up a credit account that shows on the books the share of the year's net margins belonging to each member," Anderson says.

Generally, members don't receive a check the year they earned the capital credits. "That's because electric cooperatives use their members' equity.

### Horry Electric Cooperative, Inc.

Your Touchstone Energy® Cooperative 

## Board of Trustees



**Elaine D. Gore**  
District No. 1



**Aaron C. Johnson**  
District No. 2



**Johnny M. Shelley**  
District No. 3  
President



**Franklin C. Blanton**  
District No. 4



**Ronald H. Floyd**  
District No. 5



**Jody D. Prince**  
District No. 6



**Ashley Anderson**  
District No. 7  
Secretary/Treasurer



**Eugene Harriott Jr.**  
District No. 8  
Vice President



**Freddy Thompkins**  
District No. 9



**Kenneth Moss**  
Co-op Attorney

## 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 #2

#### **Aaron C. Johnson**

*Incumbent*

1359 White Oak Lane  
Galivants Ferry, SC 29544

**AARON C. JOHNSON** and his wife, Teresa, have two children and two grandchildren. The Johnsons are members of Mt.

Hermon Baptist Church, where Aaron has served as a deacon, and in various other positions, for more than 30 years.

During his first term on the Horry Electric Board of Trustees, Johnson completed all three training levels of trustee certification from the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association (Credentialed Cooperative Director Certification, Board Leadership Certificate and Director Gold Certificate). In addition, Johnson currently serves as Chairman for the Horry County Council on Aging Board.

After retiring from Horry County Schools in 2009, Johnson entered federal civil service at the Joint Operations Center in Columbia. There, he worked with the South Carolina Emergency Management Division to plan, respond and manage emergency response for all hazard incidents, such as hurricanes, impacting South Carolina.

Johnson attended the National Emergency Management Academy in Emmitsburg, Maryland, where he graduated from the FEMA Fundamentals of Emergency Management Course. He is also a graduate of the U.S. Army Defense Support to Civil Authorities Course and the Operational and Strategic Planners Courses.

Johnson served in the Army National Guard and U.S. Army for 30 years, until his retirement as Colonel in 2015. He trained in many countries throughout his career. He was also deployed to Afghanistan. While serving in Operation Enduring Freedom, he was awarded the Joint Service Achievement Medal, the Joint Service Commendation Medal and the Bronze Star Medal.

Johnson is a graduate of Aynor High School (1978), Coastal Carolina University (1982-Business Administration), Francis Marion University (1990 - Masters in Secondary Mathematics) and Grand Canyon University (2006 - Masters in Educational Leadership/Administration).

Johnson is a member of the American Legion, Disabled American Veterans and Gideon's International. He's also served as a volunteer driver for the Veterans Administration to assist veterans in accessing medical care.

Aaron's personal interests include various fitness activities, such as biking, hiking and backpacking.



**District #4**

**Franklin C. Blanton**

*Incumbent*

6386 Maplewild Road,  
Nichols, SC 29581

**FRANKLIN C. BLANTON** has been a resident of the Mt. Olive Community in the Floyds

Township of Horry County for more than 70 years. He serves as a member, trustee, deacon and Sunday School teacher at Mt. Olive Baptist Church. He and his late wife, Nancy, have four children, eight grandchildren and one great-grandchild.

Blanton has successfully completed training through the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association to earn the status of Credentialed Cooperative Director. He has also earned a Board Leadership Certificate and a Director Gold Certificate from NRECA. He currently serves as a trustee on the Central Electric Power Cooperative Board as Horry Electric Cooperative’s representative. He previously served as a board member for The Electric Cooperatives of South Carolina.

An active member of the community, Blanton currently serves as a board member for the Coastal Carolina University Education Foundation and as a member of the Charleston Southern University Board of Visitors.

Blanton’s previous community involvement includes serving in the past as President of the Loris Civitan Club; Lt. Gov. and Deputy Gov. of the Civitan Clubs of South Carolina; President of the Loris Merchants Association; Chairman of the Horry County Board of Education; Director of the Loris Healthcare Commission; and as an advisory board member for McLeod Loris-Seacoast Hospitals. He was appointed by Gov. David Beasley to serve on the first Ride 1 committee (Ride Improvement & Development Effort) for Highway 22. Blanton also served with Horry County Ride 111 to make recommendations for needed funds to upgrade roads in Horry County. He was the organizing Chairman for the founding of Horry County State Bank and served as President of the Independent Building Supply Association based in Smithfield, North Carolina.

Blanton has received many honors, including the 2020 Lifetime Achievement Award by the Loris Chamber of Commerce; Loris Chamber Merchant of the Year; “A Friend of Education” acknowledgement by the Horry County Education Association; All State Board of South Carolina; Community Leadership awards from the Woodmen of the World, as well as Horry County Soil and Water Conservation District; and Distinguished Service Award from the Civitan Clubs of South Carolina.

A 1962 graduate of Floyds High School, Blanton earned a Bachelor of Science degree in business administration from Campbell University in 1968. He currently serves as President of Blanton Supplies, Inc. in Loris and President of Blanton Supplies of Little River, Inc., both dealing with retail sales of building materials.



**District #6**

**Jody D. Prince**

*Incumbent*

3090 Graceland Road,  
Loris, SC 29569

**JODY D. PRINCE** and his wife of 27 years, Renee, live in the Mt. Vernon Community

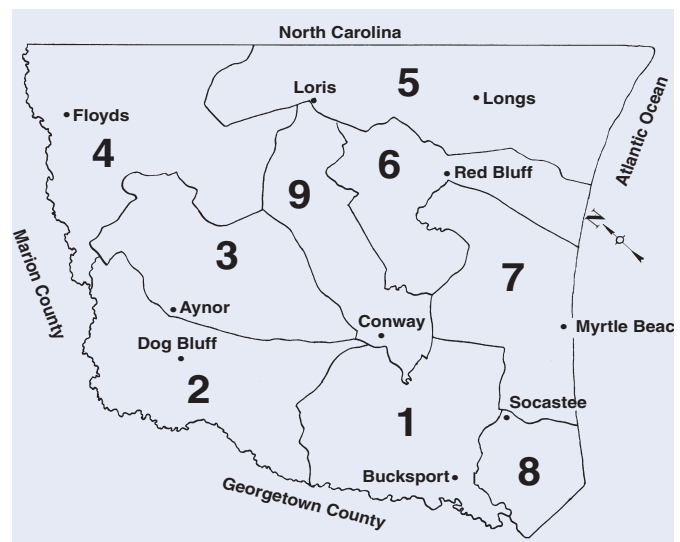
and are members of Mt. Vernon Baptist Church. They have one daughter, Kassidy.

Jody is the owner of Coastal Carolina Remediation and is a licensed asbestos abatement contractor in both North and South Carolina.

Prince previously served eight years as an Horry County Councilman for District 10. During his tenure, he served in several positions, including County Council Vice Chairman and Chairman of the Infrastructure and Regulation Committee. He sat on the Public Safety Committee and the Interstate Railroad Committee. He also served on the Board of Directors for the Waccamaw Regional Council of Governments, which fosters regional programs to support the three-county region it serves.

Prince currently serves as Horry County Planning Commissioner for District 10, Sales Tax Commissioner for RIDE IV and sits on the Board of Trustees for the Mt. Vernon Community Center. He is a Past Master and current member of the Loris Masonic Lodge #205. He is also an Omar Shriner. He’s a member of the Loris Blue Pride, which provides support to Loris High School student athletes.

Prince has successfully completed training through the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association to earn the status of Credentialed Cooperative Director. He has also earned a Board Leadership Certificate and a Director Gold Certificate from NRECA.



## Balance Sheet

### ASSETS

#### Utility Plant

|  |                             |
|--|-----------------------------|
| Electric Plant in Service - At Cost          | \$449,084,484               |
| Construction Work in Progress                | <u>\$4,833,268</u>          |
| Gross Utility Plant                          | \$453,917,752               |
| Less: Accumulated Provision for Depreciation | <u>\$144,596,244</u>        |
| <b>Utility Plant - Net</b>                   | <b><u>\$309,321,508</u></b> |

#### Other Property and Investments

|   |                            |
|---|----------------------------|
| Investment in Associated Organizations  | \$19,033,849               |
| Other Investments                       | <u>\$422,588</u>           |
| <b>Total Other Property Investments</b> | <b><u>\$19,456,437</u></b> |

#### Current Assets

|   |                             |
|---|-----------------------------|
| Cash and Cash Equivalents               | \$79,775,186                |
| Temporary Investments                   | \$0                         |
| Accounts Receivable                     | \$20,261,876                |
| Accounts Receivable-Other               | \$2,244,732                 |
| Materials and Supplies                  | \$8,898,635                 |
| Other                                   | <u>\$1,950,000</u>          |
| <b>Total Current and Accrued Assets</b> | <b><u>\$113,130,429</u></b> |

#### Deferred Debits

**\$17,771,748**

#### Total Assets

**\$459,680,122**

## Horry Electric Cooperative, Inc.

Your Touchstone Energy®  
Cooperative 

### EQUITIES AND LIABILITIES

#### Equities

|                       |                             |
|-----------------------|-----------------------------|
| Membership Fees       | \$390,675                   |
| Patronage Capital     | \$171,968,853               |
| Other Equities        | <u>\$39,095,584</u>         |
| <b>Total Equities</b> | <b><u>\$211,455,112</u></b> |

#### Long-term Debt

|                             |                             |
|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|
| CoBank                      | \$52,062,051                |
| FFB                         | \$104,074,510               |
| CFC                         | <u>\$2,030,680</u>          |
| <b>Total Long-Term Debt</b> | <b><u>\$158,167,241</u></b> |

#### Other Noncurrent Liabilities

Accumulated Operating Provision **\$422,488**

#### Current Liabilities

|                                       |                            |
|---------------------------------------|----------------------------|
| Current Maturities of Mortgage Notes  | \$9,972,034                |
| Accounts Payable                      | \$18,314,837               |
| Member Deposits                       | \$5,950,748                |
| Accrued and Withheld Taxes            | \$0                        |
| Other Current and Accrued Liabilities | <u>\$7,395,514</u>         |
| <b>Total Current Liabilities</b>      | <b><u>\$41,633,133</u></b> |

#### Regulatory Liabilities

**\$46,400,725**

#### Other Deferred Credits

**\$1,601,423**

#### Total Equities and Liabilities

**\$459,680,122**

What we took in: \$171,504,494

What we paid out: \$171,048,043

Patronage Capital and Operating Margins \$456,451

Other Income and Equity \$14,226,280

**We had left: \$14,682,731**

## Comparative Operating Statistics

### GROWTH

|  | 2023     | 2022     | 2021     | 2020     | 2019     | 2018     | 2017     | 2016     |
|--|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|
| Average Kwh per Residential Member per Month | 1,090    | 1,124    | 1,149    | 1,107    | 1,151    | 1,213    | 1,116    | 1,166    |
| Average Residential Bill per Month           | \$158.83 | \$156.27 | \$155.17 | \$152.72 | \$159.25 | \$167.41 | \$155.70 | \$159.77 |
| Meters on System                             | 94,537   | 90,475   | 87,422   | 84,507   | 81,919   | 79,747   | 78,127   | 75,984   |
| Miles of Line                                | 5,948    | 5,747    | 5,596    | 5,468    | 5,375    | 5,292    | 5,220    | 5,157    |
| Average Cost per Kwh sold (Cents)            | 14.3     | 13.7     | 13.3     | 13.6     | 13.7     | 13.7     | 13.8     | 13.5     |

### EXPENSES

|  |             |             |             |             |             |             |             |             |
|--|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| Wholesale Power                            | 67%         | 67%         | 67%         | 66%         | 66%         | 66%         | 66%         | 65%         |
| Operating Maintenance and General Expenses | 23%         | 23%         | 22%         | 21%         | 20%         | 20%         | 20%         | 21%         |
| Depreciation                               | 6%          | 6%          | 7%          | 7%          | 7%          | 7%          | 7%          | 7%          |
| Interest                                   | 3%          | 3%          | 3%          | 5%          | 6%          | 6%          | 6%          | 6%          |
| Taxes                                      | 1%          | 1%          | 1%          | 1%          | 1%          | 1%          | 1%          | 1%          |
| <b>Total</b>                               | <b>100%</b> | <b>100%</b> | <b>100%</b> | <b>100%</b> | <b>100%</b> | <b>100%</b> | <b>100%</b> | <b>100%</b> |