

April 2025

# Carolina country

## 2025 Annual Meeting Official Notice

Members of South River Electric Membership Corporation will gather online or via phone Thursday, April 24, at 6 p.m. for the Annual Meeting of Members.



### Purpose:

- The reports of officers, directors and committees.
- All other business, which may come before the meeting or any adjournment thereof.

The Board is made up of nine (9) member directors. In accordance with the bylaws, the directors are elected annually from geographic districts to serve a three-consecutive-year term. There are two ways in which directors may be elected by a committee on nominations or by petition.

Earlier in 2025, the following directors were nominated by the nominating committee.

- District 4: Jeffery Martin
- District 6: Dr. E. Sue Godwin-Baker
- District 8: Kayla Bartley

### By Petition:

Any 100 members of the Cooperative acting together may make nominations in writing, listing the nominees separately with respect to the particular term and the particular directorate district from which they are nominated, not less than (40) business days prior to the meeting. No petitions were received.

# Annual Meeting & Registration

Registration for the annual meeting will take place **PRIOR** to the meeting.

Registration begins on Monday, April 21, at 8 a.m. and ends April 24 at 5 p.m.

You can register by completing the form at [sremc.com/form/annual-meeting-sign-up](https://sremc.com/form/annual-meeting-sign-up) or by calling 910.892.8071 during standard business hours.

Those who register will receive a call from South River EMC at 6 p.m. AND will receive call-in/login details via email prior to the meeting.

Your participation in the annual meeting means that you will receive a \$10 credit on your next electric bill. *You must pre-register to receive the bill credit.*

Only those who attend the meeting will be entered into a prize drawing the following week.

Anyone registering on behalf of a company or church must be listed as an authorized person on the account.

## Check The Details

- The member's name, as it appears on the account, is located on this cover and your electric bill.
- Be sure the information you provide matches account information. *Members must register prior to the meeting to receive a bill credit.*
- If you are unsure of any of the required information, check your bill, review your account online or in the app, or call our member service department at 910.892.8071.
- Login and phone-in information will be provided after registration.
- Members must attend meeting to be eligible for prizes.
- Prizes will consist of \$11,500 in bill credits, featuring a grand prize of a \$3,000 bill credit.



Meeting live streamed by:

  
BROADNET<sup>®</sup>

# 2025 Re-elected Directors

Jeffrey Martin lives in the Spivey's Corner area of Sampson County. He is a 1976 graduate of Clement School. He worked for his family business, Martin's Abattoir & Wholesale Meats, Inc., for almost 40 years where his responsibilities included executive management positions such as cattle procurement, cattle and beef transportation and director of operations.

He is co-owner of Martin Family Farms LLC, a beef cattle operation located in North Carolina. Martin served on the NC Meat Processors Board of Directors for over 20 years and he has served on the South River EMC Board of Directors since 2015.

Martin has completed the National Rural Electrification Cooperative Association's Director Certificate Program.

Jeffrey is married to Angela Phillips Martin and has two daughters, Cassie and Karlee. They are members of Clement Baptist Church.



**Jeffrey Martin**  
District 4



**Dr. E. Sue  
Godwin-Baker**  
District 6

Dr. Sue Godwin-Baker has served on the South River EMC Board of Directors since 2012; serving as board chair for seven years. Dr. Godwin-Baker has completed the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association's Director Certification Program.

During her career, Dr. Godwin-Baker held various teaching and administrative positions in Cumberland, Beaufort, and Harnett counties. She retired from the public school system in 2010. She then wrote and implemented the Master of Education program at Methodist University and retired from MU in 2016. Since retiring, she has taken classes Fayetteville Technical Community College.

Dr. Godwin-Baker is a member of First Presbyterian Church in Fayetteville. She has served as deacon, elder and Stephen Minister. She has served on the Allocation Committee for Cumberland County Partnership for Children. She and her husband, Warren, live in Eastover.

Kayla Bartley is a lifelong resident of the Gray's Creek Community in Cumberland County. She attended Campbell University for undergraduate and graduate school, where she obtained a Master of Business Administration in 2013. She returned to Gray's Creek to work for the family businesses, Hoke County Sand Company and Riddle Farms. It is here that she has built many relationships throughout her community.

Bartley is an active member of the community. She is actively involved in the Gray's Creek High School FFA Alumni and the Ladies Auxiliary at Gray's Creek Fire Department Station 18.

Bartley has served on the South River EMC Board of Directors since 2023. She has earned the National Rural Electrification Cooperative Association's Credentialed Cooperative Director certificate.

Bartley lives in the Gray's Creek community of Cumberland County with her husband, James Bartley III, and their three children: Vera, Emmett, and Elliott.



**Kayla Bartley**  
District 8

# It takes work to keep costs down.

Let's start with a few steps you can take that add up:

## Laundry

- Wash full loads of laundry when possible.
- Harvest heat from load-to-load by drying laundry loads consecutively.
- Do not wash or dry clothes at peak use times.
- Keep your lint filter clean to help promote better air flow and reduce fire hazard when drying clothes.
- Consider a solar dryer, or clothes line, when weather permits.

## Ceiling Fans

- Fans should be on only when people are in a room.
- They can be used with air conditioning so you can raise thermostat settings in the summer.
- By flipping a switch on your fan, they can be used to circulate heat, which rises, down in cooler spaces.

## Water Heating

- Set your water heater to 120 degrees.
- If you're in the market for a new water heater, consider a heat pump water heater, or maybe you have the solar resource for a solar water heater.
- Consider a shower over a bath, since showers use less hot water.

## Heating & Cooling

- Have your HVAC system serviced twice a year.
- When your unit needs to be replaced, do so with a unit that has a higher seasonal energy efficiency ratio 2, or SEER2, rating.
- Try setting your thermostat to 68 during heating season and 78 during cooling season. If you can go lower in the winter and higher in the summer, you could see greater savings.

## Appliances

- Consider plugging certain appliances into a power strip. Power strips, when turned off, shut off all power.
- Need new lights? Replace current lighting with LEDs, which use less energy and last longer.
- Look for appliances with the Energy Star logo.



South River Electric  
Membership Corporation

A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative 