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Record Attendance for Co-op's 78th Annual Meeting

Halifax EMC's 78th Annual Meeting of the membership saw record attendance this year with 343 members registered plus guests! Held on Saturday, May 20, at Inborden Elementary/Enfield Middle School, this year's meeting was one for the books.

The day began with entertainment provided by The Mills Family of Hollister and booths sponsored by Carolina Country, ElecTel Cooperative Federal Credit Union, Touchstone Energy, NC811, Roanoke Valley Diabetes Resource Center, Halifax County EMS and Warren County EMS.

The Halifax EMC Volunteers In Action provided a continental breakfast of doughnuts and coffee and worked with the caterer, Abrams, to assemble fried chicken and barbecue lunch plates. To assure that no one left hungry, ice cream was served by Ice Screams of Hobgood.

Prior to the annual meeting, the election of Districts 3, 5 and 7 was conducted by mail-in ballot. The Credentials & Election

Committee counted and sorted 1,327 ballots – the most ever received. During the business meeting, the Cooperative Attorney, Mr. H. Lawrence Armstrong, Jr., announced the election results: Barbara L. Brayboy (District 3), Robert F. Harris (District 5), and Robin S. Williams (District 7). Read more about your new director, Barbara Brayboy, on page 24.

Not only was the Credentials & Election Committee tasked with verification and ballot counting, they also held a drawing for four \$100 electric service credits. Four names of members who mailed in their ballots were selected at random and announced during the annual meeting: Mamie Harvey of Enfield, Cossie Richardson of Enfield, Jesse Brannan of Macon, and Rodney Brown of Enfield.

Check out the list of door prize winners on pages 23-24.

Thanks to all who participated in the election by voting and to all who attended the meeting. We look forward to seeing you again next year!

Holiday Closing

Halifax EMC

will be closed on

Tuesday, July 4.

Have a safe

holiday!

Charles H. Guerry

*Executive Vice President
& General Manager*

Board of Directors

ROBERT F. HARRIS

President, District 5

STANLEY BROTHERS

Vice President, District 6

BASIL WILLIAMS

Sec.-Treas., District 2

ROBIN WILLIAMS

Asst Sec.-Treas., District 7

MORELL JONES

District 1

BARBARA BRAYBOY

District 3

LEON WILLIAMS

District 4

BEVERL WALKER

District 8 At-Large

ROBERT EDWARDS

District 8 At-Large

Business Hours

8:30 a.m.–5 p.m.

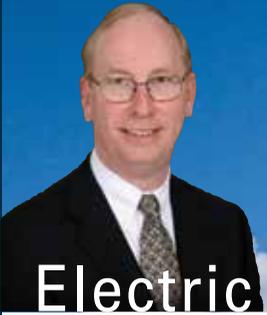
Locations

Enfield/Macon: (252) 445-5111

halifaxemc.com

Tell Us...

Halifax EMC is your electric cooperative. Your comments and questions are very important to us. Please tell us how we may improve our service. Return your comments/questions along with your payment, or e-mail them to bamartin@halifaxemc.com. Specific account questions will be answered personally. Remember to include your account number for these types of questions.



“There are occasions when
outside factors impact our
cost of doing business in
unexpected ways.”

Electric Lines

by Charles H. Guerry, P.E.

Executive Vice President & General Manager

A big part of managing our electric cooperative, from both my perspective and that of our board of directors, is keeping costs as low as possible. As a not-for-profit business, we operate within tight margins based on precise projections. But once in a while, there are occasions when outside factors impact our cost of doing business in unexpected ways. Rises in electricity costs due to new regulations for coal ash management are one such factor affecting us now.

You may recall that in February 2014, coal ash from a Duke Energy power plant spilled into Rockingham County’s Dan River. Following that unfortunate incident, North Carolina enacted the nation’s first state law to regulate disposal of the substance. Coal ash, a by-product of the process used to generate electricity at coal-fired power plants, has historically been disposed of in lined basins, but North Carolina’s Coal Ash Management Act of 2014 introduced more stringent disposal and storage requirements. These requirements apply to Duke Energy, which has 33 coal ash basins in the state.

Complying with those requirements is a cost Duke Energy will pass on to all individuals and wholesale customers who buy power from the utility. Additionally, ratepayers across the nation will soon feel an impact as this incident — as well as a 2008 spill in Tennessee — have prompted federal regulations.

Although Halifax EMC does not own any coal-fired power plants, we have been engaged in the coal ash management discussion from the start because a portion of the electricity we supply to you comes from wholesale power agreements that our power provider, North Carolina Electric Membership Corporation (NCEMC), has with Duke Energy. Costs incurred by Duke Energy to comply with these new regulations will be integrated into the wholesale rates we pay for power. As an at-cost provider of electricity, that means they will ultimately make up a part of the costs you, our members, pay for electricity.

Our focus and success in these discussions has been to balance environmental goals while minimizing impacts on rates. We have been working

very hard to minimize the impact of these costs to you both in conversations with legislators and executives at Duke Energy. As a result, state lawmakers amended coal ash legislation in 2016 to adopt a science-based approach that preserves environmental goals while cutting millions of dollars from initial projections of consumer costs.

Halifax EMC members have already noticed minimal increases to their bills, which began in April and will last through 2019. Coal ash management costs will extend through 2032, although after the first two years, our projections indicate a very minimal impact.

So, what do these costs cover? Expenses related to bringing existing coal ash basins into compliance with new standards by either capping the basins in place or excavating them. In both scenarios, water will be removed

from the basins in a way that protects water quality of nearby lakes or rivers, and closure plans are customized for each basin to ensure effectiveness. The costs stemming from cleaning up the Dan River spill, however, have not and will not be passed on. Duke Energy shareholders are responsible for cleanup fees, and our responsibilities are only linked to complying with new regulations.

We will continue to do whatever we can to mitigate any cost increases, because we know any increase can have an impact on your family budget. Should industry factors affect rates, we will let you know well ahead of time, and we will continue to pursue new ways to fulfill our mission of providing you with safe, reliable, environmentally responsible and affordable electricity.

Annual Meeting Door Prize Winners

\$200 Halifax EMC
Electric Service Credit–
Carlton Bullock

Roku Smart LED TV–
Ava Booth

\$100 Halifax EMC
Electric Service Credit–
Calvin Silver

\$75 Halifax EMC
Electric Service Credit–
Tommie Richardson

Handmade beaded
collar by Lori Silver–
Larry Ingram

\$50 Halifax EMC
Electric Service Credit–
David Evans

Amazon Echo Dot–
Alton Anderson, Jr.

Black and Decker
quart slow cooker–
Jimille Silver

Corded hedge
trimmer–
Judy F Whitaker

Carolina County
gift basket–
Garry Wison

\$25 Halifax EMC
Electric Service Credit–
Alice M Williams

8–outlet surge
protector–
Patricia Evans

Holmes box fan–
Shirley B Staton

Aunt Ruby's peanuts–
Madelean Evans

Carpenter bee trap–
Mary Anstead

Energy Efficiency Tip of the Month

Let the sun work for you! Consider solar lights for outdoor lighting. Solar cells convert sunlight into electricity that can be stored in a battery and tapped at night to make light. Check manufacturers' instructions to make sure your solar lights are situated to receive sufficient sunlight to recharge during the day.

Source: U.S Department of Energy



Annual Meeting Door Prize Winners

Jar of local honey–
Marlene Garner

Mosquito zapper–
Thomas E Lynch

Extension cord–
Phillip Cross

Electric can opener–
Norman R Richardson

Wooden butterfly
house–
Frederica Higgs

Solar powered
LED light–
Madgielean Lynch

Igloo mini cooler–
Vance Richardson

LED outlet plug–
Arthur Shields

Wreath donated by
Prenesia Anstead –
Florence E Millar

Hanging basket–
Sara R Richardson

Hanging basket–
Margaret A Richardson

ElecTel gift bag–
W M Gardner

Volunteers In Action
50/50 raffle winner–
Marlene Garner (\$500)

Meet Your New Director: Barbara Brayboy

Barbara Brayboy of Warren County was elected to the Halifax EMC Board of Directors in the Co-op's election held in May. Brayboy will serve a three-year term representing District 3.

A retired educator of 43 years, she has served in several leadership positions, including assistant principal and principal in Halifax County Schools. Brayboy also has longevity as a school board member with Warren County Schools and currently serves as the board chairperson.

Brayboy enjoys volunteering as a proctor for testing in the Warren County Schools. She serves as a member of the Juvenile Crime Prevention Council (JCPC), the Warren County Memorial Library boards, The Warren Foundation Committee, and the Aging Council of Warren County. She also is a member of Walnut Grove



Baptist Church, serving as Mother of the Church, the Young Adult Sunday School teacher and the church clerk.

Brayboy received her bachelor's degree from Pembroke State College (currently UNC-Pembroke) in elementary education. She obtained her master's degree in elementary education from North Carolina Central University and received her school administration certification from East Carolina University.

She is the widow of Rev. Techumseh B. Brayboy, III, founding pastor of Walnut Grove Baptist Church. She and her late husband have three daughters.

New Employee

Halifax EMC wishes to welcome its newest lineman, Branden Edwards who began working with us in May as a Lineman III.

Edwards is a graduate of Northeast Academy and the Electrical Line Construction Program at Nash Community College. Upon graduation, Edwards was hired by another North Carolina cooperative and brings with him a full year of knowledge and on-the-job training.

He enjoys hunting and fishing in his spare time and attends Galatia Baptist Church.

Edwards is a second generation cooperative employee. His father is a staking technician at another eastern North Carolina cooperative. Welcome aboard, Branden!

