



Tri-County  
EMC

# CURRENT LINES

AUGUST 2020

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## COOPERATIVE ELECTION BALLOTS COMING IN SEPTEMBER

Each year, Tri-County EMC holds an annual meeting of the membership as well as a board of directors' election. And each member that casts a vote in the election will be entered to win a cash prize of \$500, or one of ten \$50 prizes. Ballots will be sent to each member in September. If you would like to receive your ballot via email, enroll in online voting on our website ([tri-countyemc.com/voting.cms](https://www.tri-countyemc.com/voting.cms)) prior to August 25. If you have voted online in past elections, there is no need to register again. If you do not opt to vote online, a ballot will automatically be sent to you in the mail. If you choose to vote by mail, the ballot can be returned via mail using the postage-paid envelope. If necessary, ballots can be returned at either Tri-County EMC office drive-thru.

Ballot items for this year's election include a proposed bylaw amendment regarding how Nominating Committee members are named and four director seats. Candidates for these director seats are all incumbents and are running unopposed. Candidate biographies and additional information on the proposed bylaw amendment can be found on [pages 2-3](#).

Our annual meeting will take place on October 15. We intend to stream the meeting virtually so that all members can participate without risk. If you plan to attend the meeting in person, please watch for updates as the date nears, as alterations may be made due to COVID-19. (89859001)

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# TRI-COUNTY EMC 2020 ELECTION: WHAT'S ON

## Bylaw Amendment

The Tri-County EMC Board of Directors has proposed a change to the Tri-County bylaws on this year's ballot allowing the Tri-County EMC Nominating Committee to be appointed by the Tri-County EMC Board of Directors. In past years, when director elections and all other business were conducted entirely at the annual meeting, the Nominating Committee has been nominated and elected from the floor. Most of you now participate in the annual meeting process remotely, either by casting a vote by mail or online. In a time of uncertainty for planning and holding cooperative meetings due to COVID-19, transferring the role of selecting the Nominating Committee to a Board of Directors' appointment streamlines the process and ensures that our business meeting can take place, either virtually or in person. The qualifications for and duties of the Nominating Committee members under the Tri-County EMC bylaws, and for members to run for board seats, remain unchanged. Your Tri-County Board of Directors asks for your support and vote for this bylaw change on your annual meeting ballot. The bylaw change question is as follows:

### 1. Shall the Bylaws of Tri-County Electric Membership Corporation be amended to delete from the Bylaws the election of the Nominating Committee at the Annual Meeting of Members?

**Article 3, Section 3.08, Item 8** would be deleted and **Article 4, Section 4.06**, shall have the language in the first grammatical sentence deleted and replaced with language authorizing the Tri-County Board of Directors to appoint a Nominating Committee not less than one hundred twenty (120) days before the Annual Meeting, as shown below and to delete other language not consistent with the Board appointment of the Nominating Committee, as follows:

**SECTION 4.06 Nominations:** ~~At each annual meeting of the members, a committee on nominations shall be elected to serve for the year following their election. At least one hundred twenty (120) days prior to the annual meeting of Members, the Board of Directors shall appoint a Nominating Committee.~~ No member of the committee on nominations shall serve beyond the following annual meet-

ing unless that person is re-elected. The committee on nominations shall consist of nine (9) persons who are Members of the Cooperative, three persons from each of the three Directorate Districts. No person shall serve who is an incumbent director or a close relative thereof or a known candidate for election, as defined by Section 4.13. The Board of Directors shall convene the committee on nominations not less than one hundred and twenty (120) days before a meeting of the Members at which directors are to be elected. If any person ~~elected to the committee at the annual meeting~~ is unable to serve for any reason, the Board of Directors shall appoint a Member to fill the vacancy on the committee from the same Directorate District. No person shall serve more than three (3) consecutive terms on the committee on nominations.

The Cooperative shall post, at least thirty (30) days before the **annual meeting of Members**, a list of nominations for directors, by district, to be elected at the annual meeting. The Committee may include more nominees than there are to be elected, but it shall show clearly which nominees are opposed with respect to the

same Directorate District and the same regular three-year or remaining-year term to be filled.

~~A-Using a Tri-County petition form, any fifty (50) or more members of the Cooperative, acting together over their signatures, not less than ninety (90) days prior to the meeting, may make additional nominations, in like manner listing separately the nominees with respect to the Directorate Districts for which they are nominated, and the Secretary shall cause to be posted for such nominations at the same place where the list of nominations made by the Nominating Committee is posted. The Secretary shall cause to be mailed to the members with the notice of the meeting, or separately, **but at least five (5) days prior to the meeting. The Cooperative shall post, at least thirty (30) sixty (60) days before the meeting, a list of nominations for directors, by district, to be elected at the annual meeting.**~~

There shall be no nominations for director from the floor for the current year's election.

## ACCOUNT NUMBER

Did you find your account number?  
Find your complete account number inside parentheses  
in this issue of Current Lines for a \$50 bill credit.  
Call us at 478.986.8126 to claim your credit.

## ELECTION INFO

To learn more about the Tri-County  
EMC 2020 Election, visit  
[www.tri-countyemc.com/election.cms](http://www.tri-countyemc.com/election.cms)

# THE BALLOT?

## Post 1 Director Seats

Terms for the Board of Directors' seats are 3 years. This year, directors in Post 1 of Districts 1, 2 and 3 are on the ballot. All candidates are incumbents and are running unopposed.



**DAN GREENE** is co-cowner of D.C. Greene's Construction and the manager of Cheehaw Creek Quail Plantation. He has also worked in the dairy business throughout his life, and was the co-owner of Greene Brother's Dairy, which he purchased from his father, from 1977-2006. He is currently managing Greene Settlement Farms — a beef, cattle and hay business. Dan is a graduate of Jones County High School and graduated from the University of Georgia. He and his wife, Beth, attend Bradley Baptist Church.

**Post 1 District 1, Jones & Bibb Counties**



**BRENDA P. GREEN** owned and managed her electrical construction contracting firm for 23 years. Prior to that, she began her career in the EMC world working for Pataula EMC and Oglethorpe Power Corporation. She is a Credentialed Cooperative Director — a certification from the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association (NRECA). She currently serves as Chairman of Tri-County EMC, sits on the Georgia EMC Board, and has served on the boards of Central Georgia Technical College and Central Georgia Christian Food Bank.

**Post 1 District 2, Putnam, Jasper & Morgan Counties**



**SAMMY HALL** is a retired educator of 31 years with the Baldwin County School System. He is a member of the Baldwin County Association of Educators, Baldwin County Board of Commissioners and the Milledgeville Chamber of Commerce. Mr. Hall graduated from Georgia Military College, Georgia College, and earned Specialist and Master's degrees from the University of Georgia. He is a Credentialed Cooperative Director certified by the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association (NRECA).

He and his wife, Linda, attend First Baptist Church in Milledgeville.

**Post 1 District 3, Baldwin, Wilkinson & Twiggs Counties**

## ELECTION FAST FACTS

- Your ballot will be delivered to you via mail or email in September. If you want to vote online, visit [tri-countyemc.com/voting.cms](http://tri-countyemc.com/voting.cms) to register by August 25. All other members will be automatically mailed a paper ballot.
- There are four director seats and a proposed bylaw amendment on the ballot this year. All directors are incumbents and running unopposed.
- Tri-County EMC's Annual Meeting is scheduled for October 15. The meeting will be streamed virtually. If you plan to attend in person, please look for more information as the date draws near.
- All members that cast a ballot will be entered to win a cash prize of \$500 and one of ten \$50 prizes.
- Learn more about the election at [tri-countyemc.com/election.cms](http://tri-countyemc.com/election.cms)

## Post 2, District 1 Director Seat

Earlier this year, Chap Nelson was appointed by the Tri-County EMC Board of Directors to fill the unexpired term of retiring board member Chester Mercer. He agreed to serve in that position until the cooperative election, at which time he would need to be re-elected by the membership at large if he wanted to continue to serve. Chap chose to continue his service and submitted his name to the Nominating Committee to be included on the ballot. He is running unopposed. (45305001)



**CHAP NELSON** is a lifelong resident of Jones County. He has been a skilled nursing center administrator and registered nurse for the past 25 years and currently works at Autumn Lane Health and Rehabilitation. He is an active member of his community and coordinates the Chaptactular Chainsaw Carving fundraiser benefitting the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation each year. He also serves as a 4-H volunteer, is a member of the JCHS College & Career Academy Board and has previously served on the Jones County Development Authority and on the Jones County Board of Commissioners. He is an outdoor sportsman, loves dogs and chainsaw carving. He has two children, Sylvan and Brick Lee.

**Post 1 District 1, Jones & Bibb Counties**

# RECIPE BOX

## ONE-HOUR BREAD

### INGREDIENTS

- 1 ½ cups warm water
- 1 Tbs. active dry yeast
- 1 Tbs. honey
- 1 ½ tsp salt
- 3 ½ - 4 ½ cups all-purpose flour (\*typically 4 cups)

### DIRECTIONS

Combine warm water, honey and yeast in mixing bowl of stand mixer. Let sit about 5 minutes, or until foamy. Using the dough hook, add flour and salt. Mix in flour until the dough is not sticky to the touch. Scoop dough out of the bowl and onto baking sheet, or baking stone, and shape into a long loaf. Cover loaf with a clean towel and let sit for about 20 minutes while you preheat oven to 400 degrees. Using a sharp knife, cut slits in top of loaf. Bake at 400 degrees for 18-20 minutes or until golden brown.

Yield: 1 loaf or 1 dozen rolls.

*Note: Ruth suggests you can make the bread more savory by adding garlic and herbs, or sweeter by adding cinnamon and sugar, to the recipe. You can also make a dozen rolls instead of a loaf by using a muffin tin.*



Thanks to Ruth Eilers of Baldwin County for the recipe. Did you know your recipe is worth \$20 if chosen? Send your best recipes to [kimb@tri-countyemc.com](mailto:kimb@tri-countyemc.com) or mail to P.O. Box 487, Gray, GA 31032.

# TEACHERS: WIN UP TO \$1,500 FOR YOUR CLASSROOM THROUGH BRIGHT IDEAS

Tri-County EMC will award \$30,000 in grants to teachers at schools within the service area to execute innovative projects in their classrooms. Applications are due October 15.

### MISSION:

The Bright Ideas grant program, sponsored by Tri-County Electric Membership Cooperative, provides grants for teachers to improve education in local classrooms for innovative projects in grades Pre-K through 12 that would not otherwise be funded. The program is funded by unclaimed capital credits.

### ELIGIBILITY:

Georgia certified public or private school teachers in grades Pre-K through 12 in Baldwin, Jones, Putnam, Jasper, Twiggs and Wilkinson Counties qualify to apply

### CRITERIA:

Projects will be judged based on innovation, goals, learning objectives, student involvement and budget

### INDIVIDUAL GRANT LIMIT:

Individual projects can be funded up to \$1,500



### TERM:

Grants will be awarded annually based on merit and must be used within 18 months of issue date. Follow up reports may be requested by the cooperative. (39458001)

### APPLICATION:

Applications must be completed online at [www.tri-countyemc.com/bright-ideas.cms](http://www.tri-countyemc.com/bright-ideas.cms) by midnight on October 15.

### FUNDING:

Funds come from unclaimed capital credits that otherwise would have been surrendered to the state

[www.tri-countyemc.com/bright-ideas.cms](http://www.tri-countyemc.com/bright-ideas.cms)  
Application Deadline Extended to October 15



Tri-County  
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Owned By Those We Serve

P.O. Box 487  
Gray, GA 31032  
478.986.8100  
[www.tri-countyemc.com](http://www.tri-countyemc.com)

Ray Grinberg, CEO

### Board of Directors

Brenda P. Green, Chairman  
Sammy Hall, Vice-Chairman  
Thomas Noles, Secretary/Treasurer  
George "Buck" Comer,  
Dan Greene, Chap Nelson,  
Marion Nelson, Cecil Patterson,  
Mike Rainey

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Monthly Publication for  
Tri-County EMC Members