



## Marlboro Electric Cooperative, Inc.

254 Hwy 15-401 Bypass East  
P.O. Box 1057  
Bennettsville, SC 29512

### General Information

(843) 479-3855  
(800) 922-9174  
www.marlborelectric.coop

### Office Hours

8:00 a.m.–5:00 p.m.  
Monday–Friday

### President/CEO

William L. Fleming

### Chairman of the Board

Sam P. “Bo” McInnis, Jr.

### Board of Trustees

Eddie Gordon, *District 1*  
Raymond Woodle, *District 2*  
Charles R. ‘Ricky’ Smith, *District 3*  
Melvin Carabo, *District 4*  
John M. Alford, *District 5*  
Sam P. “Bo” McInnis, Jr., *District 6*  
*Chairman*  
Jeff Quick, *District 7*  
*Secretary/Treasurer*  
W. Ronald Quick, *District 8*  
Janelle Sauls, *District 9*  
*Vice-Chairman*

### Attorney

Doug Jennings

### Co-op News Editor

Christy J. Overstreet  
email: cjoverstreet@  
marlborelectric.coop

### Mission Statement

The focus of Marlboro Electric Cooperative, Inc. is to make electric energy available to its members at the lowest cost consistent with sound economic principle and management.



Your Touchstone Energy® Cooperative

# Marlboro Electric paid more than \$1 million in taxes

## WE ARE MORE THAN JUST AN ELECTRIC

**COMPANY**, we’re a local business—your local cooperative—looking out for you. Like all individuals and businesses, the electric co-ops pay taxes annually.



Marlboro Electric Cooperative, Inc. paid more than \$1 million in property and vehicle taxes for 2013 alone to Marlboro and Dillon counties. Many people don’t realize that Marlboro Electric Cooperative pays a significant amount of taxes each year.

Cooperatives have the same rights and responsibilities as other American businesses, including the obligation to pay taxes. By fulfilling this American duty, the cooperative has a significant impact throughout Marlboro and Dillon counties that promotes positive growth, development and future progress within the communities.

Property taxes for 2013 were paid to Marlboro County in the amount of \$753,673 and to Dillon County in the amount of \$244,682. In addition, Marlboro Electric paid \$14,900 in vehicle taxes to Marlboro County and approximately \$54,000 in SC Excise (Power) tax in 2013.

Overall in the last five years, Marlboro Electric has paid \$3.3 million in property taxes to Marlboro County and more than \$1.1 million in property taxes to Dillon County.

As a non-profit business who serves more than 6,500 consumers in Marlboro

and Dillon County, Marlboro Electric Cooperative does not pay corporate income taxes. However, since it is a member-owned co-op, Marlboro Electric often returns any proceeds above operating expenses to its members in the form of capital credits. The cooperative returned a total of \$176,750 in capital credits in 2013.

Electric co-ops in South Carolina pay tens of millions of dollars in taxes each year to federal, state, county and municipal governments. In addition to the taxes paid by Marlboro Electric, the wholesale power aggregator for the state’s co-ops, Central Electric Power Cooperative, paid more than \$134,500 to Marlboro County and more than \$63,200 to Dillon County in property taxes.

The tax payments and capital credits are only two ways that Marlboro Electric provides support to the community. School systems, law enforcement, road construction and maintenance, and so many other services are underwritten locally by property tax dollars. Since co-op customers, as well as the public at large, depend on these services, Marlboro Electric plays a significant role in funding them as part of their commitment to the community.

As you can see, we are continuously looking out for you.

### W. Ronald “Ronnie” Quick

*Trustee*

## Help keep your power affordable and reliable

Affordable and reliable electricity is essential. The Environmental Protection Agency’s (EPA) recent proposals could increase electric bills by more than 50 percent! A common-sense solution is needed with energy policies to avoid depriving families and businesses the affordable, reliable energy that everyone needs. Will you speak up to protect it?

Complete available post cards or go online, Action.coop, to communicate your concerns to government officials and tell the EPA that America needs a common-sense solution.



## Marlboro Electric announces new CEO

**MARLBORO ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE, INC.** has named William Fleming, Jr. as its new president and CEO. Fleming brings more than 10 years of cooperative experience and begins in an interim position on February 10, until his predecessor Bill Fleming retires in August.



CONTRIBUTED

**William Fleming, Jr.**

Fleming will also serve as President and CEO of Marlboro Development Team, a wholly owned, for profit, subsidiary of Marlboro Electric. Its purpose is to provide economic and business development revenues and opportunities for its members and the community.

Fleming served as vice president of Marketing and Business Development at Pee Dee Electric Cooperative. There, he worked as a project manager on numerous economic development efforts resulting in more than \$1 billion of investments and 4,000 jobs to the Pee Dee area, including recruitment of Fortune 500 companies such as Johnson Controls, Inc., QVC and Monster.com.

Fleming also manages a program called Rural Economic Development Loan and Grant (REDLG), the largest zero percent interest loan program in the state and the eighth largest in the nation. The USDA REDLG program provides

zero percent interest loans to cooperatives which they, in turn, pass along to county government and municipalities as well as for-profit organizations for community development projects. The REDLG program has helped the Florence downtown revitalization effort, aided Darlington County in acquiring an industrial park, and provided assistance to small businesses in downtown Darlington. With his success, the USDA awarded the cooperative for the fastest-growing REDLG program in the nation.

“Bringing new jobs and investments is one of my main focuses,” Fleming states. “I look forward to starting the REDLG program as one of many strategic opportunities to better support Marlboro and Dillon counties, and continue Marlboro Electric’s commitment to the community.”

“Marlboro Electric’s Board of Trustees ran an extensive national search for six months receiving 52 applications for the president and CEO position,” MEC’s Board Chairman Bo McInnis said. “After many interviews with qualified candidates, the Board unanimously selected William for the immediate value that he could bring to our co-op and to our members.

“The entire Board was impressed with William’s enthusiasm, knowledge and experience of economic development, the REDLG program, the cooperative system, and the comprehensive plan offering solutions to help with rising power cost,”

McInnis expressed. “He grew up in the cooperative system. That, combined with his dedication to member-owned electric cooperatives, will make him a great asset for growth and success well into the future.”

Fleming earned a bachelor’s degree in marketing and management at the University of South Carolina and an executive graduate degree in management from the Harvard Business School.

Fleming’s cooperative training began in high school when he worked on a line crew as a groundman for Delta Electrical Construction and then as staking technician at Marlboro Electric. During his college years, he worked as an intern at the Palmetto Economic Development Corporation in Columbia promoting industrial sites, industrial buildings and the state’s unique advantages for industry.

Fleming has received many awards including “Future Business Leader of the Year” by the Darlington Chamber of Commerce, and for being the youngest president of Darlington Kiwanis, one of South Carolina’s oldest civic organizations. He is a deacon at Darlington Presbyterian Church and volunteers with Habitat for Humanity. He also serves as a member of many economic development organizations, including Dillon County’s Economic Development Public/Private Partnership. William, his wife, Leah and son plan to move to Bennettsville in the spring.

### Your Annual Meeting date is Saturday, April 12, at the Marlboro County High School

#### TIME SCHEDULE

ITEM	BYLAW PROVISION	ACTION
Nomination Committee Appointed	Not less than sixty (60) days nor more than ninety (90) days before any meeting of members, consisting of three (3) members	Appointed at January 22, 2014, meeting
Meeting Notice of Nominating Committee	RUS requirement (No Bylaw Provision)	Posted at Co-op
Posting of Report of Nominating Committee	Co-op procedure	Report posted at Co-op
Credentials and Election Committee Appointed	At least sixty (60) days but no more than ninety (90) days before any meeting of the members, appoint at least five (5)	To be appointed by February 11, 2014
Notice of Meeting	Not less than ten (10) days nor more than twenty-five (25) days before the date of the meeting	To be mailed before April 2, 2014