



A MESSAGE FROM YOUR CEO

## Are you prepared?



**Brian Hughey**  
General Manager & CEO

As we enter the month of June, we begin yet another hurricane season. You will hear a number of messages in the coming weeks, encouraging you to begin preparations for hurricane season by storing such things as non-perishable food, water, fuel and batteries. You may also be encouraged to have storm evacuation routes picked out ahead of time, depending on the magnitude of the storm. While this is not a topic any of us enjoy discussing, it is of utmost importance we take storm preparation seriously.

Singing River Electric recently concluded the annual review of our Emergency Preparedness Plan. Should a hurricane or tropical storm approach our area, our plan contains detailed steps to take once the storm enters the Gulf of Mexico. Employees are pre-assigned specific tasks, such as securing supplies, food, fuel and housing, while line crews,

service personnel and their supervisors are assigned certain areas of the system to report to once the storm has passed. This plan was activated and successfully implemented numerous times last year, specifically prior to and during Tropical Storm Cristobal, Hurricane Sally and Hurricane Zeta.

Being a part of the national network of electric cooperatives provides Singing River Electric access to cooperative line personnel who will assist us in restoring your electric service following a disaster. Cooperatives have come from as far away as Delaware, Illinois and Indiana to assist us following past storms, and should we face another disaster, fellow cooperatives will again come when needed. This is an immeasurable asset allowing us to speed restoration and help our communities.

I encourage each of you to begin making your preparations for this hurricane season. It's not too early. Be assured, your electric cooperative is prepared to restore electric service to our members as quickly and safely as possible.



**Jeff Gray**  
Energy Services Representative  
gray@singingriver.com

### Use ceiling fans wisely

Ceiling fans do not cool the air. They circulate air in the room and make you feel cooler. This is why they should only run when the room is occupied. Because you feel cooler, the thermostat can be set a degree or two higher, which saves money. Each degree you adjust your thermostat can save you around 5% on your energy costs.



When using ceiling fans in the summer months, check the fan to ensure air is moving in a downward direction. The fan speed can be set to your personal preference. ENERGY STAR-certified ceiling fans are 60% more efficient than conventional fan/light combinations. So, it might be time to update your fixture to compound these energy savings.

For more information, visit [singingriver.com/ways-to-save](http://singingriver.com/ways-to-save) and [energystar.gov](http://energystar.gov).

## 2021 Annual Membership Meeting Notice

JOIN US AT THIS YEAR'S MEMBERSHIP MEETING!

Singing River Electric is member-driven and built by the communities we serve.



### 2021 Annual Membership Meeting

**Thursday, June 24**  
11187 Old 63 South, Lucedale  
Registration begins at 5:00 p.m.  
Meeting begins at 6:00 p.m.

#### Participate by voting online or returning your proxy.

Co-op bylaws require a **10 percent** quorum of the membership in order to conduct business. Your participation is crucial to our success, and with it you will be eligible to win prizes including **\$500** in cash!

THERE ARE **THREE** WAYS TO PARTICIPATE:  
**IN PERSON, BY PROXY AND ONLINE**



Voting in person can be done the night of the membership meeting on **Thursday, June 24, at 6 p.m.** The meeting will be held at the SRE Lucedale office at 11187 Old 63 South and will comply with current COVID-19 restrictions.



To vote by proxy, simply complete the proxy in this notice and return it using the enclosed self-addressed, postage-paid envelope by **Tuesday, June 15**. You may still attend the meeting; your presence will rescind the proxy and allow you to vote in person.



Voting online is easy! Members can vote online beginning **Monday, May 10, through Tuesday, June 15**. Simply click on the "Vote Here" icon on either the SmartHub app or website at [singingriver.com](http://singingriver.com). By entering your membership ID and zip code, you can view candidate biographies and cast your vote.

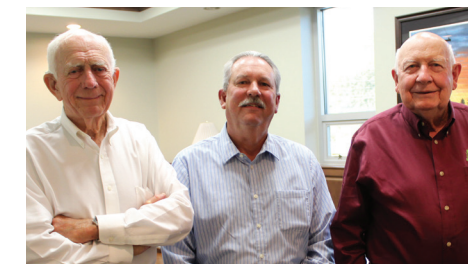
**Six members who vote online or return their proxies by the June 15 deadline will be selected to receive a \$250 CASH prize. One member who votes online or returns the proxy by the deadline will receive a special grand prize of \$500 CASH!**

## Meet your SRE board

Singing River Electric is led by member-consumers like you who understand and listen to the community. Our 10-member board of directors is elected by the membership to serve a three-year term.



Singing River Electric board members (left to right): Ron Wilson, Ralph Hicks and Robert Steele.



Singing River Electric board members (left to right): Roy Grafe, Howard Davis and Travis Baxter.

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## SRE fiber project Member update

Singing River Electric has chosen contractors for make-ready engineering, make-ready construction and fiber construction. We are on schedule and projected to begin fiber construction of the fiber ring connecting SRE's 44 substations and three district offices in July.

Locations of the three pilot project areas and further updates about SRE's fiber project will be announced at the Annual Membership Meeting being held at SRE's Lucedale office located at 11187 Old 63 South in Lucedale on Thursday, June 24, with registration starting at 5 p.m. and the meeting beginning at 6 p.m. We will also launch the website for SR Connect at that time.

Should you miss the membership meeting, watch for the pilot project locations and more in the July 2021 issue of *Today in Mississippi*.



Conexon project manager Patrick Barnes consults with SRE project engineer/fiber coordinator Brandon Welford.

Happy Independence Day  
JULY 4TH

Our employees will observe Independence Day and our offices will be closed Monday, July 5, for the holiday.

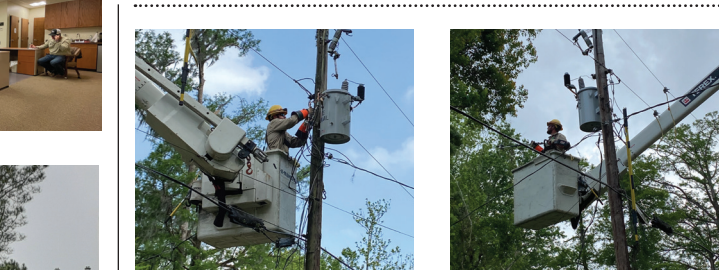


# Crews respond to severe weather this spring

Looking toward summer this month, we can only hope for a mild hurricane season. Singing River Electric crews have been busy responding to weather-related outages this wet and storm-filled spring. Here are a few photos:



SRE crews respond to weather-related power outages and flooding throughout Jackson County.



Linemen Colby Pilkington and Collin Davis join Construction Foreman Ryan Evans to restore power in Cedar Creek Estates in Jackson County.

## Greeting our membership at Lucedale's Second Saturday event



Singing River Electric employees visited with SRE members attending Lucedale's Second Saturday event on May 8. Trees and large shrubs were given away with discussions about how important it is to call 811 before you dig, look up before you plant, consider the tree's mature height and never plant anything within 10 feet of a power line. Always consider safety first!  
[www.singingriver.com/electric-safety](http://www.singingriver.com/electric-safety)



## Supporting technical education

### SRE NHN Grant benefits Jackson County FABLAB

#### NHN Community Grants

Neighbors Helping Neighbors (NHN) Community Grants help Singing River Electric merge efforts with the hard work of those within our communities.

Since the program's inception in 2001, \$312,178.15 has been awarded to local non-profits in local communities.

Jackson County FABLAB received a \$2,470 Neighbors Helping Neighbors Community Grant to purchase 20 Makeblock Airblock modular drones for use throughout the school year and at the 32 camps scheduled this summer. These drones help students focus on modular design, electronics, coding and programming. According to FABLAB Manager Scott Beebe, working with drones gives students a hands-on, tangible way to experiment with what is taught in the classroom and engages the students in critical thinking and cognitive development.

For more information on SRE NHN Community Grants and how to apply, visit [singingriver.com/my-community](http://singingriver.com/my-community). Grants for up to \$2,500 are awarded to nonprofits in SRE's service area three times a year in January, May and September.

## Generator Safety

For tips on how to operate a generator properly along with storm-related safety information as we begin hurricane season, visit [beawareeverywhere.com](http://beawareeverywhere.com) and view the severe weather safety area.



We honor all fathers this month. Thank you to all the dads, grandfathers and all those who step up to fill this role in the lives of so many.