



Rayle Electric Membership Corporation



2024
Annual Report

2025 Annual Meeting of Members
June 19, 2025
Edward B. Pope Community Center

Weathering the storm

Summer is on our doorstep and like many of you, I'm looking forward to more opportunities to be outdoors and enjoy warmer weather. Summertime brings many of my favorite activities like cooking out with family and friends, time spent working in the garden and simply slowing down a bit to enjoy life.

Unfortunately, summer can also create the perfect conditions for severe weather. As the warmer days of summer approach, it's crucial to prepare for the possibility of severe storms. While we often enjoy summer for its sunny days and outdoor activities, this season also brings the risk of thunderstorms, heavy rain and high winds. Being ready for these events can protect your home and keep your family safe.

Rayle EMC crews are always prepared and standing by to respond should power outages occur in our area. When severe storms cause power disruptions, our line crews take all necessary precautions before they get to work on any downed lines.

I would encourage you to also practice safety and preparedness to protect your family during storms and outages. You can also play a role in keeping our linemen safe. When you see utility vehicles on the side of the road, move over a lane, if possible. If that's not an option, slow down below the speed limit and be prepared to stop.

The Federal Emergency Management Agency recommends the items below as a starting point for storm and disaster preparedness, but you can visit www.ready.gov for additional resources.

- Stock your pantry with a three-day supply of nonperishable food, including canned goods, energy bars, peanut butter, powdered milk, instant coffee, water and other essentials (i.e., diapers and toiletries).
- Confirm that you have adequate sanitation and hygiene supplies including towelettes, soap and hand sanitizer.
- Ensure your first-aid kit is stocked with pain relievers, bandages and other medical essentials, and make sure your prescriptions are current.
- Set aside basic household items you will need, including flashlights, batteries, a manual can opener and a portable, battery-powered radio or TV.
- Organize emergency supplies in one location so they are easily accessible.

In the event of a prolonged power outage, turn off major appliances, TVs, computers and other sensitive electronics. This will help avert damage from potential power surges and will also help prevent overloading circuits during power restoration. That said, do leave one light on so you will know when power is restored.

If you plan to use a portable generator, make sure it's rated to handle the amount of power you will need, and always review



the manufacturer's instructions to safely operate it.

Severe storms can occasionally bring down power lines. If you see a downed line, always assume it's energized and never approach it. If flooding occurs, never walk through areas where power lines could be submerged.

Advance planning for severe storms or other emergencies can reduce stress and anxiety caused by the weather event and lessen the impact of the storm's effects.

Listen to local news or a NOAA Weather Radio for storm and emergency information, and sign up for NOAA emergency alerts and warnings. Check Rayle EMC's website and Facebook page for the latest power restoration updates. If you experience an outage, please don't report it on Facebook. Call our outage reporting number at 1(844) 744-7849. You also can text your outage by texting #OUT to 85700, or you can call one of our local numbers. These are the fastest ways to let us know if your power is out.

If you experience a power outage after severe weather, it's likely many other customers are out too. When there are widespread power outages, Rayle EMC follows a restoration process that focuses on repairs that will return power to the greatest number of customers as safely, quickly and efficiently as possible. Emphasis is placed on vital public health and safety facilities such as hospitals, law enforcement, fire departments, water treatment facilities and pumping stations.

We do our best to avoid power disruptions, but they are inevitable from time to time. If the lights go out, know that your co-op team is working as quickly and safely as possible to restore power. Our member services representatives are taking your calls, engineers and field staff are surveying damage, our vegetation management team is clearing hazards, dispatchers are organizing crews and communicators are keeping everyone informed of progress or potential dangers. When your power goes out, we all work together to get you back to normal.

Tree branches interfering with power lines can be a primary

Continued on page 20H

Statement of Operations

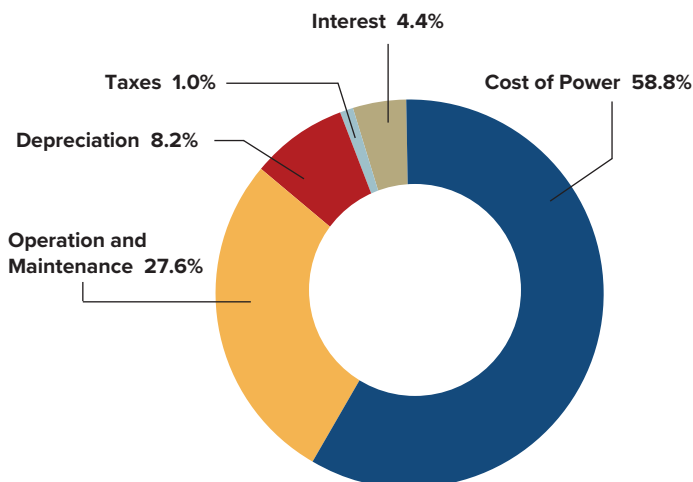
December 31, 2024 and 2023

Revenue	2024	2023
Operating Revenue	\$ 42,829,159	\$ 37,773,215
Expenses		
Cost of Purchased Power	\$ 24,795,062	\$ 21,245,035
Operation and Maintenance	\$ 11,648,020	\$ 9,875,612
Depreciation	\$ 3,446,501	\$ 3,376,742
Interest	\$ 1,875,700	\$ 1,651,368
Tax	\$ 420,000	\$ 425,000
Other	<u>\$ 236,599</u>	<u>\$ 181,540</u>
Total Expenses	<u>\$ 42,421,882</u>	<u>\$ 36,755,297</u>
Operating Margins	\$ 407,277	\$ 1,017,918
Non-operating Margins	\$ 35,525	\$ 28,127
Other Capital Credits	<u>\$ 1,765,226</u>	<u>\$ 1,458,396</u>
Total Margins and Capital Credits	<u>\$ 2,208,028</u>	<u>\$ 2,504,441</u>

What We Own	
Cost of Utility Plant	\$ 133,366,267
Reserve for Depreciation	<u>\$ 42,627,054</u>
Net Value of System	\$ 90,739,213
Cash in Banks	\$ 1,007,237
Reserve	\$ 19,431,070
Accounts Receivable	\$ 8,335,822
Materials and Supplies	\$ 3,347,741
Other Current and Accrued Assets	\$ 3,246
Deferred Debits	<u>\$ 1,659</u>
Total Assets	<u>\$ 122,865,988</u>

What We Owe	
RUS & CFC Loan Obligation	\$ 54,785,197
Current & Accrued Liabilities	\$ 15,018,577
Non-current Liabilities	\$ 3,909,757
Patronage Capital & Margins	\$ 46,776,436
Membership Fees & Deposits	\$ 923,312
Deferred Credits	<u>\$ 1,452,709</u>
Total Liabilities	<u>\$ 122,865,988</u>

Where Your 2024 Dollar Went



Statistics

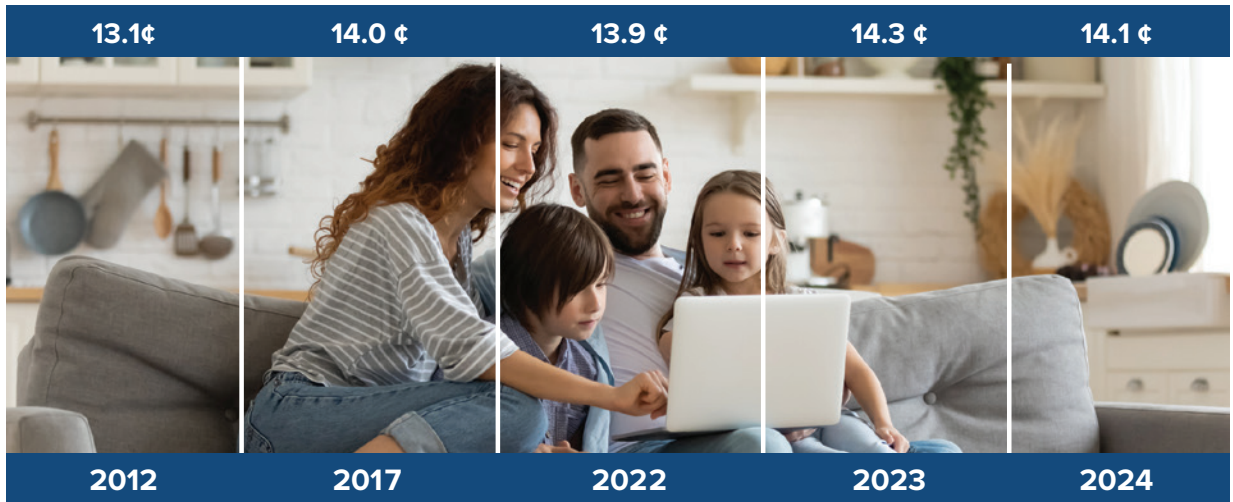
Average Monthly kwh Used



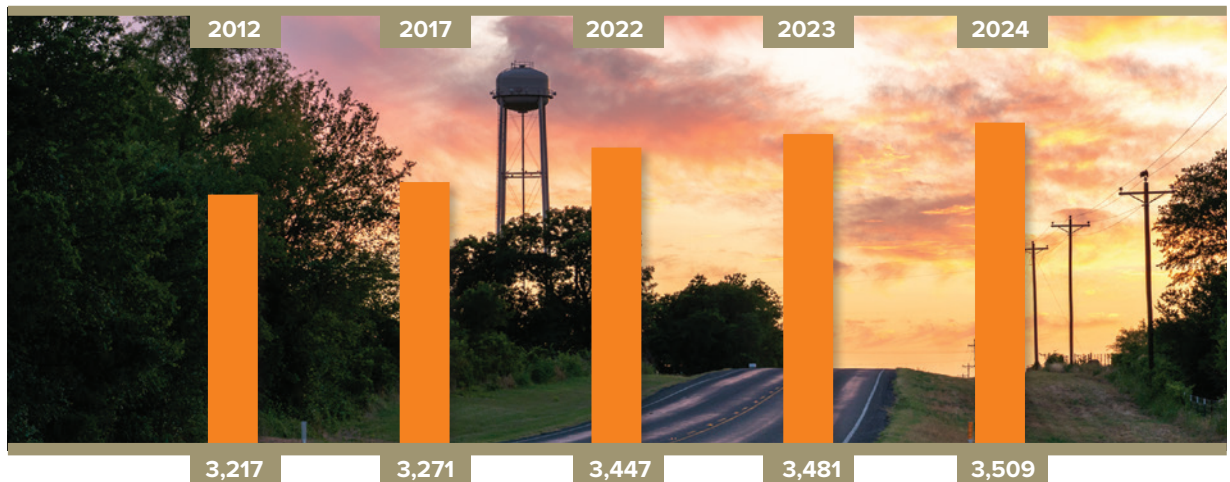
Meters Served



Average Cost Per kwh



Miles of Line Energized



Accountants' Report and Invitation



389 Mulberry Street | Macon, Georgia 31201
Post Office Box One | Macon, Georgia 31202
478-746-6277 | mmmcpa.com

December 19, 2024

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

The Board of Directors
Rayle Electric Membership Corporation

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of **Rayle Electric Membership Corporation**, which comprise the balance sheets as of September 30, 2024 and 2023, and the related statements of operations and comprehensive income, changes in members' equity, and cash flows for the years then ended, and the related notes to the financial statements.

In our opinion, the accompanying financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of Rayle Electric Membership Corporation as of September 30, 2024 and 2023 and the results of its operations and its cash flows for the years then ended in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

Basis for Opinion

We conducted our audits in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America (GAAS) and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards* issued by the Comptroller General of the United States. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements section of our report. We are required to be independent of Rayle Electric Membership Corporation and to meet our other ethical responsibilities, in accordance with the relevant ethical requirements relating to our audits. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinion.

Responsibilities of Management for the Financial Statements

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of these financial statements in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America, and for the design, implementation, and maintenance of internal control relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, management is required to evaluate whether there are conditions or events, considered in the aggregate, that raise substantial doubt about Rayle Electric Membership Corporation's ability to continue as a going concern for one year after the date that the financial statements are available to be issued.

Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance but is not absolute assurance and therefore is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with GAAS and *Government Auditing Standards* will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control. Misstatements are considered material if there is a substantial likelihood that, individually or in the aggregate, they would influence the judgement made by a reasonable user based on the financial statements.

In performing an audit in accordance with GAAS and *Government Auditing Standards*, we:

- Exercise professional judgement and maintain professional skepticism throughout the audit.
- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatements of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, and design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks. Such procedures include examining, on a test basis, evidence regarding the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of Rayle Electric Membership Corporation's internal control. Accordingly, no such opinion is expressed.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of significant accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluate the overall presentation of the financial statements.
- Conclude whether, in our judgement, there are conditions or events, considered in the aggregate, that raise substantial doubt about Rayle Electric Membership Corporation's ability to continue as a going concern for a reasonable period of time.

We are required to communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit, significant audit findings, and certain internal control-related matters that we identified during the audit.

Other Reporting Required by *Government Auditing Standards*

In accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*, we have also issued our report dated December 19, 2024 on our consideration of Rayle Electric Membership Corporation's internal control; compliance with provisions of laws, regulations, contracts and grant agreements; and instances of fraud. The purpose of that report is solely to describe the scope of our testing of internal control over financial reporting and compliance and the results of that testing, and not to provide an opinion on the effectiveness of Rayle Electric Membership Corporation's internal control over financial reporting or on compliance. That report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards* in considering Rayle Electric Membership Corporation's internal control over financial reporting and compliance.

McNair, McEmore, Middlebrooks & Co., LLC
McNAIR, MCLEMORE, MIDDLEBROOKS & CO., LLC

You are cordially invited to attend

Rayle Electric Membership Corporation's Annual Meeting of Members

Thursday, June 19, 2025

Registration & Voting
for Directors begins at 12:30 p.m.

Business Session
Begins at 2 p.m.

Edward B. Pope Community Center
48 Lexington Avenue
Washington, Georgia

Meeting Notice & Nominating Report

Official Annual Meeting Notice

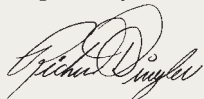
Dear Member,

Notice is hereby given that the 2025 Annual Membership Meeting of the Rayle Electric Membership Corporation will be held Thursday, June 19, 2025, at the Edward B. Pope Community Center in Washington, Georgia.

Registration and voting to elect two directors will begin at 12:30 p.m. The President will welcome everyone at 2 p.m. to receive reports of the officers, directors and committees and to act on any business which is stated in this notice. I encourage each of you to be present for this very important meeting of your cooperative.

All members with special needs, who plan to attend the Annual Meeting, are asked to contact Karen Chafin at the cooperative at (706) 678-2116 prior to the Annual Meeting.

Respectfully,



Wm. Richard Dingler, Sr.
Secretary-Treasurer
Rayle EMC Board of Directors

Nominating Committee Report

Rayle Electric Membership Corporation
Washington, Georgia

April 17, 2025

The Rayle Electric Membership Corporation Nominating Committee appointed to nominate candidates for Directors for 2025 does hereby nominate the following for the two seats on the Board of Directors to be filled at the 2025 Annual Meeting.

Fred McWhorter, Lincoln County
Directorate District 2 - Lincoln County

Richard Dingler, Greene County
*Directorate District 3 -
Greene and Morgan counties*

Respectfully Submitted:

Allen Danner, *Chairman*
Judy Hodnett
Kenneth Ingram

Roy McGee
Charles Rhodes
David Stevens

Little Roy and Lizzy to entertain

Rayle EMC is proud to present the Little Roy and Lizzy Show at the Annual Meeting June 19.

Little Roy was a member of The Lewis Family, the legendary bluegrass gospel music group that retired in May 2009. Instrumentally, Little Roy is one of the most talented banjo and guitar players in the music business. *USA Today* called Little Roy "a banjo master." Little Roy is multitalented—he sings, plays many instruments, tells stories and acts.

Elizabeth Long, or Lizzy, as her friends and fans know her, was born on a farm in Lincolnton, Ga. She began her music career at an early age. While starting out



on the piano, Lizzy soon took up the fiddle, guitar, autoharp, bass, banjo and mandolin, and has become an accomplished musician, alternating between these instruments as part of her entertainment repertoire. Con-

tinuing her quest for success, Lizzy paired up with Little Roy Lewis from the legendary Lewis Family. Lewis and Long have won three Dove Awards for "Best Bluegrass Song of the Year."

Agenda & Proxy

2025 Annual Meeting Agenda

12:30 p.m. Registration and Election of Directors (First Ballot)

1 p.m. Entertainment
The Little Roy and Lizzy Show

2 p.m. Call to Order and Welcome
Fred McWhorter, *President*

Invocation

Motion to Close Registration and First Ballot of Election

Announcement of Quorum

Reading of Notice of Meeting and Proof of Mailing and Reading of Previous Minutes

Report of Nominating Committee
Allen Danner,
Chairman, Nominating Committee

Introduction of Credentials and Election Committee

Introduction of Guests

General Manager's Report
Tony Griffin, *General Manager*

Service Awards
Fred McWhorter, *President*

Director Runoffs as Needed

Old Business Stated in the Official Annual Meeting Notice

New Business Stated in the Official Annual Meeting Notice

Awarding of Attendance Prizes

Adjourn

LETTER OF AUTHORIZATION FOR CHURCHES, CLUBS, CORPORATIONS OR UNINCORPORATED ASSOCIATIONS (“ORGANIZATION”)



(Print name of representative to represent this organization)

has been appointed to represent

(Print name of organization as it appears on bill)

as its voting delegate and to receive prizes for the organization at the Annual Meeting of Members of Rayle Electric Membership Corporation on Thursday, June 19, 2025.

DATE

SIGNATURE OF DESIGNATED OFFICER

(Must be President, Chairman, Vice President, Vice Chairman, Secretary, Treasurer, or other officer of the Organization. **The term “officer” includes “pastor” in the case of churches.**)

TITLE OF OFFICER

If you are to be the representative of your organization at the Annual Meeting on June 19, 2025, please have this form properly completed by an officer of your organization and in your possession when you register. If your membership is for a business which you own as an individual; or if your membership is not for a church, school, club, **unincorporated association or corporation on file with the Secretary of State of Georgia**, you may **not** use this form.

Early voting for Rayle EMC Director in the event of a contested election

There will be no voting by proxy at the Annual Meeting. In the event of a contested election, if you are unable to attend the Annual Meeting, you can vote early by registering at any Rayle EMC office between June 9 and June 13, 2025. If you do not take advantage of the early voting opportunity, you may still register and vote in person at the Annual Meeting. This is **ONLY** in the event of a contested election.

Rayle EMC Board of Directors



President
Fred A. McWhorter
Lincolnton, Ga.
District Two



Vice President
Linton Scott
Washington, Ga.
District One



Secretary/Treasurer
Wm. Richard Dingler Sr.
Union Point, Ga.
District Three



Kyle Brown
Tignall, Ga.
District One



Jackie Copelan
Madison, Ga.
District Three



James A. Mathews
Lexington, Ga.
District Five



Herbert Powell
Lincolnton, Ga.
District Two



Iris Walker
Lexington, Ga.
District Five



Wayne Williams
Crawfordville, Ga.
District Four



DISTRICT ONE:

Wilkes County

DISTRICT TWO:

Lincoln County

DISTRICT THREE:

Greene and Morgan counties

DISTRICT FOUR:

Taliaferro and Hancock counties

DISTRICT FIVE:

Oglethorpe, Clarke, Madison and Oconee counties

Report to Members, *Continued from page 20B*

cause of flickering lights and extended power outages, especially when combined with summer storms. To reduce the chance of outages, Rayle EMC works daily to keep nearly 4,000 miles of distribution lines clear of trees and other overgrown foliage. Currently, our contract right of way crews, Townsend/McAllister and Georgia Right of Way are working in western Wilkes County and western Lincoln County. We will soon have another Townsend crew begin work in the Robinson community in Greene and Taliferro counties.

As I'm sure all of you remember, Hurricane Helene made landfall in Florida's Big Bend region on Sept. 26, 2024, as a Category 4 storm. Helene then moved quickly inland through Georgia. Hurricane Helene caused significant damage throughout Rayle EMC's service territory. Helene entered Rayle as a tropical storm with sustained winds of 45 mph and gusts as high as

70 mph. Transmission lines were damaged throughout the state, some affecting seven of our 23 substations, with the outages at these substations lasting three days or more. The outages at the onset numbered approximately 12,000 meters out of approximately 20,000 meters.

Thanks to your Rayle EMC employees, neighboring EMCs and contract crews, we were able to repair and restore the damage, including more than 300 broken poles, in a remarkable time frame. A special thanks must go to our entire community for the support and help we received during this unprecedented storm.

I hope we do not experience severe storms over the summer months, and I especially hope we never experience another hurricane like Helene, but we can never predict Mother Nature's plans. At Rayle EMC, crews are prepped and ready to roll out, because storm preparedness is always our best defense.