

BRMEMC...continued from Page 1A

Fine Arts Center.

Jason Waldroup, a 15-year resident of Towns County, will now face Rogers in the seat that Vice Chairman Steven Phillips resigned from for personal reasons.

Danny Henson will seek to unseat Incumbent Charles Jenkins as one of the Union County representatives on the BRMEMC board. However, there are two other candidates seeking that seat in Pirie and White.

And Jeff Ledford hopes to unseat Incumbent Chris Logan as one of the Clay County, North Carolina, representatives on the BRMEMC board. He also must beat Preston Cabe.

Henson was a board member for a short while in 2015. The BRMEMC Board of Directors disqualified him because of a business partnership with then fellow board member Greg Owenby.

Today, Henson is back, ready to seek another seat on the board. This time, Henson was nominated by the EMC's Nominating Committee to again earn a seat on the Board. Pirie, White and incumbent Charles Jenkins, also in the race for the Union County seat, join Henson on the ballot.

Jenkins rode the wave of petition ballot winners in 2014. He has almost completed his first term as a board member.

Pirie currently is a substitute teacher for Union County Schools. She and her family attend First Baptist Church of Blairsville, where she is a member of the choir and volunteers as the choir teacher for 3-year-olds.

White is a lifelong resident of Union County. He attended Woody Gap School, went to North Georgia College, and graduated from the University of Georgia.

He is past president of the Union County Saddle Club. He has managed consumer finance offices and is now self-employed at Budget Propane in Suches. He and his wife Susan have two daughters.

In Towns County, Waldroup and his wife Sonya have two children, Alexis and Tristan. They attend Macedonia Baptist Church and have called Towns County home for the

past 15 years.

Rogers is a lifelong resident of Towns County. He and his wife Diane have two daughters and three grandchildren. They attend Macedonia Baptist Church.

Meanwhile, in Clay County, Ledford, a life-long resident of Clay County, North Carolina, is currently the Used Car Manager at Ware Chevrolet in Blairsville.

Cabe is a lifelong resident of Clay County, North Carolina. He graduated from Hayesville High School in 1994. He has been married to Amanda Smith from Blairsville for 15 years, and they have two daughters, Kaitlyn and Maci Cabe. They are members of Mountain Grace Baptist Church in Clay County, North Carolina.

Logan, who also won election by way of petition ballot in 2014, presently serves as treasurer of the BRMEMC, chairman of the Finance Committee, and serves on the North Georgia Network Board of Directors.

BRMEMC General Manager Jeremy Nelms said any misunderstanding associated with the 2017 Directors election is a result of questions about the proper qualifications required for a member to be eligible to serve as a director.

While the bylaws are quite clear in most requirements, they are void of any clear definition of "member in good standing," and the board is taking steps to clarify that requirement for the membership's consideration in 2018 at the Annual Meeting.

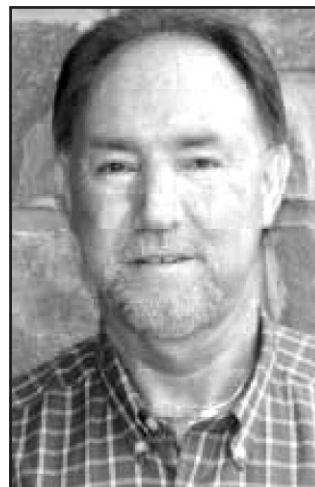
The Board of Directors doesn't vote on who is on the ballot, that's a decision by the Credentials Committee, said the EMC Board Secretary Roy Perren.

The Credentials Committee received direction by internal and external legal counsel to judge the nomination process by payment history, thus the "member in good standing" confusion regarding candidates.

According to Perren, the EMC board intends to offer amendments to the



Preston Cabe



Jeff Ledford



Chris Logan



Bert Rogers



Jason Waldroup



Danny Henson



Charles Jenkins



Karen Pirie



Tommy White

bylaws that more clearly define candidate qualifications in order to eliminate any confusion in future elections.

However, the earliest opportunity to do that would be the 2018 Annual Meeting, due to specific notification requirements for amending corporate bylaws.

"We wouldn't be able to get it ready for this year's Annual Meeting," Perren said.

September is National Preparedness Month

Union County – The Georgia Emergency Management and Homeland Security Agency and Union County are encouraging residents to take action for emergency preparedness nationwide in honor of National Preparedness Month this September.

The month-long initiative is to increase awareness and inspire citizens of Georgia to be prepared for any natural and man-made disaster. Union County will join a nationwide coalition of thousands of private, public and nonprofit organizations, each hosting local events and initiatives designed to motivate people to take the necessary steps to ensure that their homes, workplaces and communities are prepared for disasters and emergencies of all kinds.

"National Preparedness Month is a perfect opportunity for people to evaluate their emergency plan, and if they don't have one, to make one," said David Dyer, Union Coun-

ty Emergency Management Director.

Residents can learn how to prepare, plan and stay informed of natural and man-made disasters by visiting ready.ga.gov. By creating a Ready profile, Georgians can also create a tailor-made plan for their entire family that includes the specific amount of supplies to put in their household Ready kits. In addition, the Ready Georgia mobile app provides preparedness information on the go.

Preparedness is just a click away, and with September being National Preparedness Month, now is the best time to get Ready, Georgia. To learn about specific risks in your area, contact us at 706-439-6091 or visit www.facebook.com/ucfd1/.

About GEMA/HS: As part of the Office of the Governor, GEMA/HS works with local, state and federal governments, in partnership with the private sector and faith-based

community, to protect life and property against man-made and natural emergencies. In addition, GEMA/HS employees are on 24-hour call statewide to assist local authorities when disaster strikes. GEMA/HS's Ready Georgia campaign helps Georgians prepare for disasters. Go to www.ready.ga.gov or download the free Ready Georgia app for information on developing a custom emergency plan and Ready kit.

About Ready Georgia: Ready Georgia is GEMA/HS statewide campaign designed to educate and empower Georgians to prepare for and respond to natural disasters, pandemic outbreaks, potential terrorist attacks and other large-scale emergencies. Ready Georgia aims to prepare citizens for maintaining self-sufficiency for at least 72 hours following an emergency, and uses an interactive website, free mobile app, broadcast and print advertising and public awareness media messaging to reach its audiences.

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