



Blue Ridge Mountain EMC

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Press Release

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*** BRMEMC NAMES NELMS AS GENERAL MANAGER ***

Young Harris - Blue Ridge Mountain EMC's Board of Directors announced today that Jeremy Nelms has been hired to serve as the co-op's new General Manager. Nelms will be taking over for Dan Brewer who has been serving as Interim Manager since August 26, 2015.

Nelms served as the Director of Engineering and Operations Services for Talquin Electric Cooperative, Inc. (TECI) in Quincy, Florida where he has been a team member since 2006. In addition to traditional supervisory duties, he also provided transitional and technical leadership in converting TECI's current utility system to a smarter electric grid.

Nelms aggressive research and implementation skills are credited as being an integral component of deploying TECI's twelve million dollar Advanced Metering Infrastructure (AMI) initiative as well as a high bandwidth, redundant, territory-wide telecommunications and tower upgrade project in excess of eight million dollars.

Additional professional credits include that of principal author and technical specialist for application development of the much sought after Department of Energy Smart Grid Investment funding, then awarded to only one hundred electric utilities across the nation. Awarded funding has afforded TECI historically unprecedented operational efficiencies and cost reductions.



Academically, Nelms possesses both a B.S. in Electrical Engineering and Wireless Engineering from Auburn University as well as a MBA from Florida State University. A licensed Professional Engineer (P.E.), Nelms is also a certified Professional Distribution Engineer by the Tennessee Valley Public Power Authority.

Nelms is a native son of the state of Georgia, born in Newnan and raised for several years in Watkinsville before moving to Cullman in north Alabama. He currently resides in Tallahassee, Florida with his wife, Elizabeth, and their two children, Bradlee and Mara.

BRMEMC President, Steven Phillips, commented that, "We are excited to have someone with Jeremy's knowledge of the electric industry and educational background to lead us into the future. The Board is looking forward to working with Jeremy to provide our members with the best service possible."

Blue Ridge Mountain Electric Membership Corporation is a member-owned electric cooperative headquartered in Young Harris, Georgia, serving over 50,000 customers in Cherokee and Clay Counties in Western North Carolina, and Towns, Union and Fannin Counties in Northeast Georgia. Organized locally in 1937, BRMEMC has invested well over \$150 million in physical infrastructure in its mission to provide reliable electric and broadband services to its members where those services would not otherwise have been available.