

JULY 2025



CONNECT

A newsletter for the members of JEFFERSON ENERGY COOPERATIVE

Your Vote Matters

Vote Today for Jefferson Energy Cooperative's Next Director

Wayne A. Gossage, Jr.
President and CEO



As a member-owner of Jefferson Energy Cooperative (JEC), your participation in the upcoming director's

election is vital. But what exactly does being a member-owner mean? When you join the cooperative, you become more than just a customer, you become an owner. This ownership gives you a voice and a stake in how the cooperative operates, making you an integral part of the decision-making process that shapes the future of your energy provider.

Jefferson Energy Cooperative operates under a democratic structure, which is the foundation of all successful cooperatives. In a democratic cooperative, control is shared equally among members. Each member has one vote—regardless of how much energy they use—ensuring fairness and equal influence. This “one member, one vote” principle guarantees that every voice counts and that decisions reflect the collective will of the membership.

Elections for the cooperative board of directors are a key aspect of this democratic process. These directors are elected by members to make important decisions about policies, rates,

service programs and community initiatives. Elected directors are accountable to members, meaning they serve the best interests of the community rather than outside shareholders or investors.

Your vote directly impacts the leadership and direction of Jefferson Energy Cooperative. By casting your ballot, you help select representatives who prioritize your needs, maintain affordable and reliable service and ensure the cooperative continues to operate efficiently and responsibly. It's an opportunity to influence policies that affect your everyday life and your community.

Remember: As a member-owner, your voice is powerful. Participating in director elections is a simple, yet impactful, way to ensure the cooperative remains receptive and accountable. Don't miss your chance to shape the future of Jefferson Energy Cooperative; your vote truly matters!

Join Us for Our 88th Annual Meeting of the Members

The 2025 Annual Meeting of the Members of Jefferson Energy Cooperative will be held Tuesday, July 15, at Jefferson County High School in Louisville.

Registration will begin at 8:30 a.m., followed by the business session at 10 a.m.

Early registration and early voting will be available at all JEC offices through July 7. The Thomson office will remain open until 7 p.m. on June 30. The Richmond County office will remain open until 7 p.m. on July 1; and the Wrens office will remain open until 7 p.m. on July 7.

Livestreaming will be available online at www.jec.coop or the JEC Facebook page.

A valid government-issued ID is required for registration. Businesses, churches, schools, etc., are required to present a copy of the bill to register.

North Region Candidates

Scan these QR Codes to see each candidate's video on the JEC website.



Charles "Chase" Lord

Lord is a lifelong resident of Columbia County. He graduated from Evans High School and attended Augusta University, where he received his Bachelor of Business Administration in Management in 2007.

Lord built MEGA Soft Wash and Azalea Outdoor Lighting from the ground up, turning them into successful businesses that serve homeowners and businesses across the Central Savannah

River Area. Before becoming a business owner, he worked in project management, budgeting and supply chain operations for companies like Southern Nuclear and The Coca-Cola Company.

Lord is a dedicated member of his community, actively serving at Warren Baptist Church and thoughtfully leading his family. He has been happily married to his wife, Mandy, for 17 years, and they are proud parents of three wonderful children.



Chase Lord



Randy Johnson

Johnson is a lifelong resident of Warren County. He graduated from Briarwood Academy and attended Georgia College in Milledgeville.

He works for Core and Main, a leading specialized distributor of water, wastewater, storm drainage and fire protection products, and related services in the United States. He has been serving for more than 26 years as an outside sales representative

and branch manager. Prior to working for Core and Main, Johnson worked for the City of Warrenton for seven years, serving as water superintendent at just 24 years old.

Johnson is an active member of his community. He attends Johnson Church, where he has served as chairman on the Board of Trustees, and is a member of the Johnson Cemetery Association Committee.

Johnson and his wife of 38 years, Judith, live in Warrenton.



Randy Johnson



Holiday Office Closing

Jefferson Energy Cooperative's offices will be closed Friday, July 4, in observance of Independence Day.

Celebrating Success

JEC Foundation Honors High School Graduates at Scholarship Luncheon



Each year, the Jefferson Energy Cooperative Foundation proudly awards scholarships to outstanding graduating seniors who live in a home powered by JEC. These scholarships recognize students' academic success, community engagement and participation in school activities, as well as their compelling essays highlight their potential and dedication.

These scholarships are made possible through the Operation Round Up program and unclaimed capital credits. Operation Round Up is a program in which members' electric bills are rounded up to the nearest dollar each month, with the extra cents directed to the Jefferson Energy Cooperative

Foundation. For more information on capital credits, visit www.jec.coop/about-jec/capital-credits. Together, these programs fund scholarships and initiatives, helping support students through the foundation each year.

This year, 30 exceptional students from 14 different high schools were honored, collectively receiving \$114,500 in scholarships. We commend all these talented individuals for their hard work and accomplishments. Best wishes as they embark on the exciting next chapter in their lives and continue to strive toward a bright and promising future!

List of schools and recipients:

A.R. Johnson High School

Willie Hicks
Zyari Rodriguez

Briarwood Academy

Johnston Hackenberry (Kenneth Cook
Engineering Scholarship)
Mason Thigpen

Bulloch Academy

Jacob Avery

Burke County High School

Alli Osborn
Macarla Williams

Davidson Fine Arts

Laurin McCoy
Kymian Battle

Edmund Burke Academy

Rylee Myers

Emanuel County Institute

Emma Lawrence
Georgia School for Innovation and the Classics
Lauren Caruso
Brandon Harrison (WYT delegate)
Ethan Taylor

Glascocock County Consolidated School

Dominick Moss
Blake Daniels
Brian West (James L. Andrew Lineman
Scholarship)
Hannah Taylor
Jacob Hunnicutt
Jolee Kelley
Leyton Lewis
Tristan Clark
Zanya Harris

Harlem High School

Chasade Norris (WYT delegate)
Elijah Rodriguez
Nya Williams (WYT delegate)

Hephzibah Comprehensive High School

Ja'Niya Grant

Jefferson County High School

Michael Perez-Velazquez
Nykeria Jordan

Thomas Jefferson Academy

Timothy Moore III

Thomson High School

Guadalupe Carrillo
Judith Vasquez (Scholarship/WYT delegate)
Makayla Jones



CONNECT

Jefferson Energy Cooperative

Jefferson Energy Cooperative

P.O. Box 457
3077 Highway 17 N
Wrens, GA 30833-0457
www.jec.coop

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

LARRY HADDEN

Chairperson, North Region

THOMAS PHELPS

Vice Chair, North Region

JAMES L. GAY

Secretary/Treasurer, South Region

TIM GARRETT

South Region

MARK DAVIS

South Region

OPHELIA McCAIN

Richmond County Region

JOE SHURLEY

North Region

DEREK PARTRIDGE

Richmond County Region

RHONDA DAIGS

Richmond County Region

A member-owned Georgia cooperative since 1937

OFFICE HOURS

All offices: 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.
Monday through Friday

WAYNE A. GOSSAGE, JR.

President/CEO

TAMIKA LAMPKIN

Director of Cooperative Communications

For your convenience, bills can be paid anytime
at the corporate headquarters, or in the
Richmond, Louisville or Thomson offices.

TOLL-FREE SERVICE NUMBER

(877) 533-3377

24-hour Dispatching Daily

THE OFFICE WILL BE CLOSED:

Memorial Day, May 26
Independence Day, July 4
Labor Day, Sept. 1
Thanksgiving, Nov. 27-28
Closing at 12 p.m., Dec. 19
Christmas, Dec. 24-25

KEEP INFORMED AND WIN \$25

It pays to keep informed about JEC's business. Read and find
your account number in "Connect." Call our member services
department to claim your award—a \$25 credit on your bill.

WITH YOUR CORRECT PHONE NUMBER, WE CAN GET THE LIGHTS ON FASTER

During large outages, Jefferson Energy Cooperative receives
thousands of calls at once. Having your correct phone number helps
our Outage Call Answering System retrieve your information faster.

Please check the phone number and service address listed on your
electric bill. If they are incorrect, please call 877-JEFFERSON (877-
533-3377) with the correct information so we can better serve you.

*Jefferson Energy Cooperative is an equal
opportunity provider and employer.*

Levelized Billing

- Worried about the uncertainties of your energy bill?
- Looking for some normalcy from month to month?



**We are now offering levelized billing for
all residential members!**

Who?

Any member with a zero balance.
Members who have been with JEC for at least 12 months.
**Not valid for prepay account members.*

What?

A rolling 12-month average of your bill.

How?

Call us at (706) 547-2167 and speak to one of our
representatives for more information.

Switch to E-Check

A safer, faster and easier way to pay by check

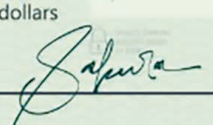
Are you still paying your bill by check? Let Jefferson Energy help you with a
more reliable and secure payment method.

Did you know that between the rising costs of postage, postal delivery delays
and potential check washing (also known as fraud), paying by check has become
more difficult?

Jefferson Energy is now offering an **E-Check** solution for members who
traditionally pay by check. This option:

- Allows our EMC to post your payment immediately, reducing the risk of a late payment due to postal carrier delays.
- Keeps your checking information secure and safely stored in our information system, which lowers your risk of fraudulent activity.

**Give us a call at (706) 547-2167 to find out how you can sign up for
E-Check today.**

Your name	<u>Valued Member</u>	0123
Date	_____ 20 ____	
Pay to the order of	<u>Jefferson Energy</u>	\$ _____
	_____ dollars	
Memo	<u>E - Check</u>	
012345678 0123 01234		

Jefferson Energy Cooperative