native who graduated from

Union County High in 2002.

She attended Brenau University

for her bachelor's degree and

Piedmont College for her

for 12 years now, with the past

five of those spent between the

third and fourth grades at Union

She has been a teacher

master's degree.

THE NORTH GEORGIA NEWS

Page 3A Currently, Jordan teaches

> has two children – Mya, age 6. and Maddyn, age 2 - with her husband Joe. "My personal teaching

fourth grade students, and she

philosophy is the teacher is the facilitator in the classroom," said Jordan, who became a teacher because she loves kids. "I am there to support my students and help meet their needs,

academically and physically. "Each child is very unique and special. I set expectations for them and treat each of them like they are my own. Jordan thanks her fellow

teachers and staff for their support, and said that each of them are teachers of the year in Check back with the Nov.

29 edition of the North Georgia News for more interviews with Union County Teachers of the

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Meanwhile, Nelms told the Directors that the cost of Hurricane Irma in September was approximately \$596,000. "I feel like we were spared significantly," Nelms

said. "We had everything back on (electricity) within 70 hours. We hope to get 75 percent of that back from the feds. The question is, if and when.'

Meanwhile, Nelms explained that he was exploring a pilot program by the Rural Utilities Service that would allow the refinancing of federal financing bank loans. There is a \$600 million max debt load that could be refinanced.

The cooperative has already submitted all loans with higher interest rates (close to \$50 million of debt) to be considered for refinancing in the pilot program.

"If we take all the notes more than 2 percent in interest and refinance them, it would save hundreds of thousands in interest," Nelms said. "That's a significant savings.

Director Gene Mason received recognition in the meeting for completing the Credentialed Cooperative Director program in December of 2016, and received his certificate of completion at the start of the November board

pitiful. Williams added that he does not support having only county specific voting measures to elect directors as requested at the Annual Meeting by the membership. One thing was certain, no one verified that those persons attending the annual meeting were in fact members of the cooperative with voting privileges, Williams said. Director Bert Rogers also disagreed with the county specific voting method. "I represent the

members to contact their

representatives on the board

and let them know if they want

paper ballots included in next

said the voting turnout was a

members and only a little

more than 1,900 voted in our

last election," he said. "That's

**Director Larry Williams** 

"We've got 50,000

year's elections.

disgrace

BRMEMC...from Page 1A

that move in the future,"

crowd of about 20 persons

that the Board needed to hear

from its membership to learn

what the membership likes

and dislikes about the new

measures the Board goes

that the costs of the 2017

Annual Meeting were

significantly lower than costs

in 2016. In 2016, the cost

of the annual meeting was

\$112,640.05 compared with

Jeremy Nelms told the board

that he believed the cost savings

came in the form of not having

paper ballots printed to send to

agreed that made a significant

financial difference. He added

that it also had another impact,

one of the lowest voting

saying I think we should

revisit using paper ballots in

future elections," President

Cummings said. "Online

voting left something to be

turnouts in EMC history.

EMC General Manager

President Cummings

"I'm going on record

The Board also learned

through each month.

\$76,619.97 in 2017

the membership.

desired."

Cummings told the

Cummings said.

cooperative, not just Towns County," Rogers said.

Williams said that he believed the EMC's new attorney, Charles Autry, should do some due diligence to determine if holding votes specific to each county was Cummings asked

Teachers...from Page 1A

wonderful coworkers at the high school. Over at Union County Elementary School, Brittany Jordan said she, too, was honored to have been chosen

of the Year," adding that her

success comes from having

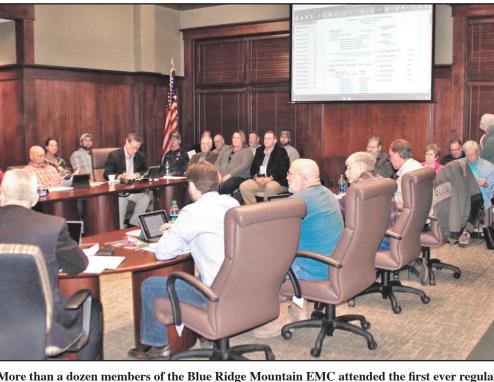
such awesome students and

as teacher of the year.

Jordan is a Union County



2017 - Eclipse Day. Photo/Facebook



More than a dozen members of the Blue Ridge Mountain EMC attended the first ever regular board meeting open to the membership on Thursday, Nov. 16. Photo/Byron McCombs

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