



Save the Date: JOEMC's 2024 Annual Meeting—New Venue, Same Family Fun!

Plans are being made for the 2024 Jones-Onslow Annual Meeting of Members. This year's event will take place on Friday, March 22, at a NEW location—River of Life Church, 2460 Gum Branch Road, in Jacksonville.

The registration and display festivities kick off at 5:30 p.m. Stay tuned for an extensive list of activities in next month's Spotlight.

JOEMC's Annual Meeting is designed for the entire family. It provides the opportunity for members to learn firsthand about the coopera-

tive, various programs and services offered, and JOEMC's role in making our community a better place to live, work, and raise a family.

The evening promises special entertainment, and in keeping with tradition, exciting drawings will be conducted, presenting attendees with the chance to win gifts worth hundreds of dollars.

Mark your calendars and join us with your family for this year's

Annual Meeting being held at River of Life Church.

MARCH 22 2024



Exclusive Opportunity for High School Juniors

Discover a fantastic leadership opportunity this June in Washington, D.C., where you can join students across North Carolina and the United States!

JOEMC annually sponsors four rising high school seniors for the Electric Cooperative Youth Tour. This program teaches young people about cooperatives and how they do business, encouraging personal growth that can benefit our community. Many past participants have become leaders in their schools and communities.

Interested in applying or know a student who is? Information about the contest will be sent to local high schools this month by a Jones-Onslow representative. Contact Krystal Phillips, JOEMC Youth Tour coordinator, at (910) 353-1940 or visit <https://www.joemc.com/your-cooperative>.



joemc.com



joemc@joemc.com



(910) 353-1940



259 Western Blvd, Jacksonville
1225 Hwy 210, Sneads Ferry

Summary of Bylaws Pertaining to the Annual Meeting

Any natural person, firm, association, corporation, business trust, partnership or body politic shall be eligible to become a member of, and, at one or more premises owned or directly occupied or used by him, to receive service from Jones-Onslow Electric Membership Corporation. No person shall hold more than one membership in the cooperative.

An Annual Meeting of the members, for the purpose of electing directors, hearing and passing upon reports covering the previous fiscal year, and transacting such other business as may properly come before the meeting, shall be held on the last Friday of the month of March of each year. Provided, that for good cause, the Board of Directors may fix a different date for such Annual Meeting not more than thirty (30) days prior or subsequent to the date established for such meeting in this Section.

Attendance in person of at least two percent (2%) of the then total members of the cooperative shall be required for the transaction of business at any meeting of the members. If less than a quorum is present at a meeting, a majority of those present in person may adjourn the meeting to another time and date.

The election of directors shall be completed at each legal meeting by the members. The business and affairs of the cooperative shall be managed by a Board of ten (10) Directors, which shall exercise all the powers of the cooperative except such as are by law or by the cooperative's Articles of Incorporation, or Bylaws conferred upon or reserved to the members.

The Board of Directors shall consist of ten (10) Directors. One (1) of the cooperative's Directors shall be elected on an "At-Large" basis and may reside anywhere within the Cooperative service territory. The other nine (9) directors shall be nominated and elected so that at least three (3) but not more than four (4) shall be residents of each of the Cooperative's three (3) Directorate Districts, which are as follows: District Number One--those areas served by the Cooperative in Pender, Onslow, Carteret and Craven counties and which lie on the eastern side of U.S. Highway No. 17; District Number Two--those areas served by the Cooperative in Duplin County and in Pender and Onslow counties on the western side of U.S. Highway No. 17; and District Number Three--those areas served by the Cooperative in Lenoir County and Jones County, and the western side of U.S. Highway No. 17 in Craven County. The one (1) "At-Large" Director shall be elected on an "At-Large" basis and may be a resident of any of the foregoing three geographic Directorate Districts, even if the result is to give one District more than four Directors.

Nominations. It shall be the duty of the Board to appoint, not less than fifty (50) nor more than one hundred fifty (150) days prior to the date of a meeting of the members at which directors are to be elected, a Nominating Committee, consisting of three (3) members from each of the Cooperative's three (3) directorate districts, and who (a) are not existing Cooperative employees, agents, officers, directors or known candidates for directors; and (b) are not close relatives or members

of the same household of any such person. Only those directors not up for election shall be eligible to participate in the nomination, voting, and ultimate appointment of the Nominating Committee. The Nominating Committee shall serve three (3) year terms and shall not be permitted to serve consecutive terms. Members may be reappointed to the Nominating Committee so long as they do not serve two (2) consecutive terms. This Committee shall be appointed so that three (3) members are appointed and consist of one (1) member from each of the Cooperative's three (3) directorate districts and the following year three (3) members are appointed consisting of one (1) member per directorate district and so on. In the event that a member of the Nominating Committee is unable or unwilling to serve a full three (3) year term then the Board shall appoint a replacement to fulfill the unexpired term created by the vacancy. In such cases the new appointee shall be eligible for re-election at the conclusion of the unexpired term. The Committee shall meet in person in one of the counties in which the Cooperative serves or a meeting may be authorized to enable member participation through an electronic format under circumstances determined by the CEO of JOEMC (see footnote 1). The Committee shall prepare and post at the principal and all district offices of the Cooperative, at least twenty (20) days before the meeting, a list of nominations for directors to be elected, listing separately the nominee(s) for each directorate district from which a director must or may, pursuant to this article, be elected at the meeting. The committee may include more nominees than there are to be elected, but it shall show clearly which nominees are opposed with respect to the same directorate district, or as between two or more districts; provided, it shall not make a nomination until it shall have first determined that the nominee is qualified to serve in accordance with the provisions of Section 4.02 and, if elected, will serve. Any one half of one percent (.5%) or more members of the Cooperative, acting together, may make additional nominations in writing over their signatures, listing their nominee(s) in like manner and filing the same with the Cooperative not less than thirty-five (35) days prior to the meeting; and the Secretary shall

post such nominations at the same places where the list of nominations made by the Committee is posted. The Secretary shall mail to the members with the notice of the meeting, or separately, but at least fourteen (14) days prior to the date of the meeting, a statement of the names and addresses of all nominees, showing clearly those nominated by the Committee and those nominated by petition, if any. The Secretary shall include, if requested, in such mailing a brief (250 words or less) prepared biography of a nominee and/or advertisement for the election of the nominee which shall be authorized by the nominee in writing or by the initials of the nominee. All nominations, however made, shall specify the particular Directorate District for which the nomination is made. Notwithstanding anything in this Section, failure to comply with any of the provisions of this Section shall not affect in any manner whatsoever the validity of any action taken by the Board after its election at such meeting.

A Credentials and Election Committee of at least five (5), and no more than thirteen (13), shall be appointed by the Board at least ten (10) days before any meeting of members. It shall be the responsibility of the Committee to pass upon all questions that may arise with respect to the registration of members in person, to count all ballots cast in any election, unless delegated by the Board to an independent auditor, or in any other ballot vote taken, and to rule upon the effect of any ballots irregularly marked. The Committee's decisions on all such matters shall be final.

Each member who is not in a state of suspension, shall be entitled to one vote and no more upon each matter submitted to a vote at a meeting of the members. A member, which is an association, corporation, business trust or body politic may be present in person and vote at such meeting by and through a duly designated representative, qualified as such upon registering for the meeting. At all meetings of the members, at which a quorum is present, all questions shall be decided by a majority of the members voting thereon, in person, except as otherwise provided by law or by the cooperative's Certificate of Incorporation or Bylaws. ♦

2024 Nominating Committee

A Nominating Committee has been selected for the purpose of nominating individuals for election to the position of Director in District One, District Two, and District Three. This committee is scheduled to meet on February 15, 2024. The committee's names and addresses are as follows:

DISTRICT I

Gary Johnson
267 Grandview Dr.
Sneads Ferry, NC 28460

Galen Treble
118 Leslie Dr.
Hubert, NC 28539

David Whaley
104 Sailway Ct.
Sneads Ferry, NC 28460

DISTRICT II

Susan Thomas
PO Box 222
Richlands, NC 28574

Pansy Horne
1810 Haw Branch Rd.
Beulaville, NC 28518

Ronald Pittman
1079 Gregory Fork Rd.
Richlands, NC 28574

DISTRICT III

Deanna MacIntosh
2585 Oak Grove Rd.
Trenton, NC 28585

Timmy Haddock
1955 Wyse Fork Rd.
Trenton, NC 28585

Bobby Smith
168 Sutton Ln.
Trenton, NC 28585

Power Restoration Behind the Scenes

When the power suddenly goes out, we all want to know when the lights will return, right? Have you ever thought about how it all gets fixed? This article is here to give you a closer look at what our hardworking JOEMC lineworkers do to bring back the electricity. We'll break down their essential steps, from figuring out what went wrong to finally getting everything up and running again. So, join us as we explore the behind-the-scenes journey of our lineworkers and learn how they make sure our lights stay on.

The Outage Journey Unveiled: A Lineworker's Timeline

When An Outage Occurs:

- 1. Notification:** Local lineworkers receive a call from our Operations Center with outage information to determine its scale (individual or line).
- 2. Travel:** Responding from home, lineworkers drive to the reported location, which can take time.
- 3. Identify:** Lineworkers visually inspect the power lines to identify the cause, such as fallen trees, damaged equipment, or accidents, and verify if a protective device has tripped, such as fuses or breakers.
- 4. Safety Procedures:** Once the cause is identified, a job briefing is performed to discuss a plan of action and identify any hazards associated with the job. Other safety measures, such as work zones and grounding procedures, are implemented to protect against backfeeding.

- 5. Repairs:** Depending on the issue, lineworkers clear obstacles and replace damaged components to ensure the infrastructure is safe.
- 6. Verification:** Once repairs are made, lineworkers guarantee the scene is safe before energizing the repaired line or equipment.
- 7. Re-energize:** Lineworkers contact the Operations Center, obtain clearance, and close the protective device to restore power.

This process can vary in time, and lineworkers are dedicated to restoring power as quickly and safely as possible, understanding the impact of outages on the community.

From the first call about an outage to the final moments of restoration, a linemen's dedication ensures that our lights return, bringing comfort and normalcy to our homes.



MS. VELMA'S 'It's Just Soup'

Serves 2 gallons
Source: www.carolinacountry.com

INGREDIENTS

- 1 whole chicken plus several additional leg quarters, drumsticks or thighs
- 2 cans (28 oz.) crushed tomatoes
- 2 large onions (we used yellow and sweet)
- 2 cups white corn
- 2 cups tiny butterbeans
- 1 medium head of cabbage, shredded
- Salt and pepper to taste

Optional additions

- 2 cans (15-ounce) creamed corn
- 3-4 large celery stalks, diced
- 2 tablespoons sugar (to cut acidity of tomatoes)

DIRECTIONS

1. In a large pot, bring chicken to boil in 3-4 quarts of salted water. Once boiling, cover and reduce to a low boil, cooking until tender. Be sure to cover, as you do not want the broth to cook out.
2. Remove chicken with a slotted spoon and cool. Once cool to the touch, remove skin, debone and shred.
3. Add chicken and remaining ingredients except sugar to broth. Let simmer at low boil an hour or longer until nice and rich, and flavors marry. Taste for acidity and add in small amounts of sugar until flavors seem balanced. If too thick, add a bit of broth or water for preferred consistency.



Lights On, Community Strong: Join Us at JOEMC's Annual Meeting for More Than Power

Did you know every cooperative is required to conduct an annual meeting of the members?

The purpose of your co-op's meeting is to confirm the election of the board of directors, share important financial information, learn about programs and services available from the cooperative, and, of course—win some great door prizes or even a pickup truck!

JOEMC's annual meeting is a community gathering where neighbors can meet new neighbors—or catch up with old acquaintances. As our lives get busier with the “errands of life” and more interactions with others are online (via

social media), we must renew the value of face-to-face human connections. Few organizations, like Jones-Onslow, are uniquely positioned to unite all local community members.

While folks in our community probably do a better job of staying connected to their neighbors, it is not something we should take for granted. The simple act of smiling, saying hello, and shaking someone's hand truly lifts both parties.

JOEMC's annual meeting is designed to take care of the critical business of your co-op and the equally important business of building a real sense of community. All cooperatives serve



Gary Ray, CEO

both an economic and social purpose. While safe, reliable, and affordable electric power is crucial to our mission, improving the quality of life for all members is at the core of what we do every day.

If you have not attended your annual meeting in the past or it has been a few years, please take the time to be with your fellow co-op members. We get out of life what we put into it. Jones-Onslow is connected to you by more than just power lines. We are your neighbors, and we look forward to seeing you at your annual meeting on Friday, March 22, at the River of Life Church on Gum Branch Road in Jacksonville.

ENERGY EFFICIENCY TIP OF THE MONTH

During winter months, ensure your home is well sealed to reduce the need for excessive heating. Seal air leaks around your home and add insulation where needed to save up to 10% on annual energy bills.

Install weather stripping on exterior doors and apply caulk around windows. Check attic insulation levels and hire a qualified contractor if additional insulation is required.

Source: energystar.gov



STAY IN THE KNOW.
If your info has changed, update it through your JOEMC member portal or call (910) 353-1940.

Our offices will be closed January 15, in honor of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

