

BRMEMC...continued from Page 1A

members to voting only for candidates within their district – is that it would limit each district's overall representation within the EMC.

"Fannin County has one director, Cherokee County (NC) has one director, Towns County has two directors," said Nelms. "Next year, there won't be any Towns County representation up for re-election. So, next year, nobody in Towns County will be voting for a director. That's how that district voting is going to work."

Right now, all directors are elected at large, so every member actually has nine representatives for which they can vote.

If district voting passes, members in Fannin County, for example, will only be able

to vote for one director every three years.

Either way, Nelms said his job will be to report to the nine-member EMC board "regardless of how they get elected."

Another subject broached by Nelms at the July 20 meeting was the upcoming EMC Town Hall Meeting to discuss the bylaw amendments.

That Town Hall will take place at 6 p.m. on Aug. 7, inside the main lobby of the BRMEMC headquarters in Young Harris.

EMC Director Roy Perren of Towns County also attended the Movers and Shakers meeting on July 20, and he said he envisions the Town Hall Meeting as an opportunity for the board to

have a conversation with the membership.

"Personally, I want this to be where people feel like they can come in, and they can ask questions and get answers," said Perren. "And if we don't know the answers, that we can have the resource get in touch with that person so we can get them an answer."

"I like the open meeting format, but in truth, people just get to come and there's no interaction. So, the Town Hall Meeting (will allow for) the interaction between the board and the members."

Nelms also addressed the expected wholesale power rate increase that will be coming down from the Tennessee Valley Authority in August.



L-R: William "Scotty" Scott, Roy Perren, Jeremy Nelms and Michael Borkman. Scott and Borkman share hosting duties for the Mountain Movers and Shakers. Photo by Shawn Jarrard

Fishing Team...from Page 1A

and some students approached us about starting a Bass Fishing Club," said Union County High School Principal C.T. Hussion. "We were very receptive, we're both big fishermen, and they definitely had a good plan."

"So, that was approved. They got a coach and set up a booster club, got their sponsorships, and off and running we were."

What happened after that was pretty amazing, said Hussion, "because very quickly, they did an unbelievable job."

Over the course of the fishing season, the boys competed at Lake Hartwell, Lake Lanier and others, and ended up doing well – especially for being in their first full year as a club – at the national tournament.

"Both teams finished in the Top 100, which is really

amazing, and they'd never fished those lakes, that's something to keep in mind," said Hussion. "So, they're out just having to go blind, pretty much, and rely on what they see and what equipment they had."

The UCHS Fishing Team is composed of smaller pairings, and each pair has a boat captain who controls the boat as the students fish. In this instance, the boat captains were Terry Stover and Charlie Davis.

Also in the meeting, the school board adopted a resolution requesting that the Blairsville City Council annex the high school property into the city limits.

"A lot of times, we have jurisdictional issues," said Union County Schools Superintendent John Hill. "A lot of times, city police will

respond first to a call or a wreck or something on our campus, and there is limited jurisdiction for those city police."

"They have only jurisdiction inside of the city limits ... (which) essentially splits the football field almost in half and doesn't cover the high school properties. And part of the middle school parking lot is out of the city limits."

"So, to enable the city of Blairsville to be able to assist our officers, we would request the blessing for the city to annex the high school properties and Union County Schools' properties that adjoin the city limits into the city limits. The mayor is on board with this idea and supportive, as is the commissioner."

Before adopting the resolution, Board Member Janna Akins asked if annexation into the city would centralize "all or any citations that our new police department writes,

that would all then go through the city court system, right?"

Hill responded in the affirmative that evening.

Also that evening, Union County Probate Judge Dwain Brackett swore in Chad Deyton, Chad Berry and Jeff McConnell to serve as the very first officers in the new Union County Schools Police Department.



Superintendent John Hill with BOE Members Janna Akins and Tony Hunter in the July 17 board meeting. Photo by Shawn Jarrard

Long...continued from Page 1A

of marijuana charges near the Tennessee state line that July 11, according to authorities.

Long reportedly ingested an unknown substance before being taken into custody, claiming that it was a mint, according to authorities.

He seemed impaired yet fine at the time, but later collapsed inside the jail, according to authorities.

Long was life-flighted to the University of Tennessee Medical Center in Knoxville,

where he was pronounced dead, according to authorities.

A toxicology report was still in the process of being completed at press time Monday, according to authorities.

Long is a native of Copperhill, Tennessee, and the son of Sheila Morehead Long and the late Billy Joe Long, according to his obituary.

He worked in landscaping for most of life, and at the time of his death, he was employed

with Cobb-Vantress, according to his obituary.

Long loved people and being outdoors, and he was a loving father, son, brother and uncle, according to his obituary.

He was of the Baptist faith, and a funeral service was held in his honor on Monday, July 16.

Mountain View Funeral Home of Blairsville had charge of his arrangements.