

# **District 9 Candidate Biography**

**Name- Matthew Armour**

## **Relevant business and management experience:**

- 1) Licensed Tennessee Attorney
- 2) Partner with Matthews, Rhea & Armour – 2004-2014
- 3) General Counsel/Compliance Officer with The Bank of Fayette County – 2014-2020
- 4) CEO/CFO with Fayette Janitorial Service, LLC – 2020-present
- 5) Co-owner and operator with Armour Farms

## **Community Involvement:**

- 1) Served on Fayette Cares executive board
- 2) President of the Morris Chambers Athletic League
- 3) Served as Trustee of Warren Community Church
- 4) Provide legal services and consultations with local non-profit organizations

## **Biography:**

I have lived and worked in Fayette County my entire life. I graduated from Fayette Academy in 1996, Mississippi State University in 1999, and the University of Memphis Law School in 2003. I find great joy in assisting the residents of Fayette County and the surrounding areas. The time spent in private practice, time spent with The Bank of Fayette County, and my present position with Fayette Janitorial have all allowed me to develop and maintain great relationships with the community. I married Cindy Joyner in August of 1999, and we will be celebrating 25 years of marriage this year. We have three sons – Isaac (22), Grant (19) and Hardy (15). I have been blessed to be able to farm with my father and brothers (and now my sons) on our family farm my entire life. Outside of my professional career, I have served on the Fayette Cares executive board, Warren Community Church board of trustees, Morris Chambers Park president, and legal consultant/advisor for many non-profit organizations in the community.

## **Goals for Chickasaw Board:**

- 1) Implement strategies to continue providing safe, efficient services to the residents of Fayette County.
- 2) Continue to provide employment opportunities for the residents of Fayette County.

## **Why are you seeking this position:**

Chickasaw Electric Cooperative provides essential services to the residents of Fayette County. I feel strongly that my professional experience and commitment to the community will allow me to add value to an outstanding organization.

## **Name- Josh Dowdy**

### **Relevant business and management experience:**

- Co-Owner and Operator of Liberty Hill Farms a 2000+ acre row crop and hay farm in Laconia, TN
- Currently a Major in the TN Army National Guard; Commander of Volunteer Training Site – Milan which is a 19,000+ acre training base that encompasses most of the old Milan Arsenal
- Deployment to Iraq as an OH-58D Helicopter Pilot
- Commander of a U.S. Army Aviation Maintenance Company from 2012-2015 responsible for the mission readiness of OH-58D and UH-60 Helicopters

### **Community Involvement:**

- Sponsor of Dixie Youth baseball at Morris-Chambers ballpark
- Member of the Row Crop Advisor Board for the UT Extension Office
- Vice-Chair of the Staff/Pastor/Parish Relations Committee at Somerville Methodist Church
- Secretary of the Fayette County Republican Party
- Annual Sponsor of the Children/Youth at Somerville Methodist Church's Operation Christmas Child shoebox program for Samaritans Purse.

### **Biography:**

I was born and raised in Fayette County and currently reside in Laconia, TN with my wife Daina and three children Deklan, Gavin, and Lorelai. My family attends Somerville Methodist Church where I serve on the Staff/Pastor/Parish Relations Committee. I enjoy watching and coaching my children in youth sports, traveling with the family and spending time hunting and fishing. I graduated from Fayette Academy in 2002 and then graduated from Middle Tennessee State University in 2006 with a Bachelor of Science degree in Aerospace. I joined the U.S. Army in 2004 and have served for nearly 20 years to include one deployment to Northern Iraq. I am qualified in multiple aircraft including the AH-64 Apache and OH-58D Kiowa Warrior. I have co-owned Liberty Hill Farms with my brother and father for the last 12 years. We manage over 2000+ acres of row crop, hay, and livestock.

### **Goals for Chickasaw Board:**

- To continue to provide low-cost electrical service for our members
- To maintain Chickasaw Electrics reliability and quick response to outages.
- To support the growth and modernization of services, i.e. high-speed internet, to co-op members

### **Why am I Seeking this Position:**

Chickasaw electric sent me on the Washington Youth Tour in the summer of 2001. This experience not only opened my eyes to the world but also displayed to me many of the remarkable qualities of electrical cooperatives. The advantages of electric co-ops were highlighted while using private electrical providers around the military bases where I was stationed. Their price gouging practices, regular outages and lack of urgency following storm damage really made me appreciate Chickasaw Electric Co-op. I am seeking this position to ensure Chickasaw Electric continues its legacy of affordable power, quick outage response and maintains its wonderful reputation within its community.