



**Jackson Energy Authority**  
One thing you can count on.

electricity | gas | water | wastewater | telephone | cable tv | internet

## Press Release

Steve Bowers, Media Relations Coordinator | 731.422.7459 | cell 731.616.0183 | sbowers@jaxenergy.com

Jackson Energy Authority | EPlus Broadband | EPlusTV 6 | 119 East College Street | Jackson, TN 38301 | 731.422.7500 | 731.422.7530

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Date: 8/1/2022

### **Jackson Energy Authority Transitions To New Leadership**

**Jackson, TN** – Monte Cooper has been named the new Chief Operating Officer of the Jackson Energy Authority (JEA). The JEA Board announced the decision following an open application process and several weeks of candidate interviews.

JEA selected a Chief Operating Officer as part of a leadership transition from Jim Ferrell, current JEA President and Chief Executive Officer who will retire at the end of January 2023.

The JEA Board's intention is to facilitate this important leadership change by having Jim Ferrell continue as President/CEO but work with Chief Operating Officer Monte Cooper to best equip our new C.O.O. to effectively assume full JEA leadership next year.

Monte began his career with Jackson Energy Authority while working as a co-op engineering student from 1992-1995. After graduating from the University of Tennessee, Knoxville in 1997, Monte was offered a position with Memphis Light Gas & Water as a Project Engineer. He then returned to JEA in March of 1998 as an Electric Project Engineer and has since been promoted to various management positions. He is currently serving as the Senior Vice President of the JEA Electric Division. Monte earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Electrical and Computer Engineering from the University of Knoxville, a Master's degree in Business from the University of Tennessee, Martin and is a registered Professional Engineer. Monte, his wife Shea, and their children Trey, Cassidy and Will, are long-time residents in our community.

Ferrell stated, "JEA is very fortunate to have a person of Monte's caliber already on our senior management team. JEA has a bright future in the months and years ahead, and the Board and I are confident that Monte will bring new ideas and leadership as JEA continues to excel and give superior customer service as we always have".

Jim Ferrell will retire with 34 years of service at the Jackson Utility Division and Jackson Energy Authority. Ferrell is only the 5<sup>th</sup> JUD/JEA President in its 62-year history.

####