



National Watershed Coalition Elects New Officers

The National Watershed Coalition elected Brad Shedd as their chairman and Lisa Knauf Owen as vice-chair at the National Conservation Conference in Lexington, Kentucky on October 2, 2019. They will serve in these positions until the Fall of 2021. Barb Oltjen from Robinson, Kansas will continue to serve as Secretary-Treasurer for the organization.



Brad Shedd
Deputy Administrator
Mississippi Soil & Water
Conservation Commission

Brad Shedd is a native of Sandhill, Mississippi which is a rural community in Central Mississippi. During his youth, he learned how to farm the family land which cultivated his love for agriculture and conservation.

Brad attended and graduated from Mississippi State University with a Bachelor of Science degree in Agriculture Economics. He is also a graduate of the State Executive Development Institute of Mississippi, class of 2013 and received the designation of Certified Public Manager in 2018.

Brad began his career with the Mississippi Soil and Water Conservation Commission in 2002 and prior to his employment at MSWCC he worked for Helena Chemical Company.

Brad and his wife Susan are members of First Baptist Church of Fannin. They have two wonderful children named Brooke and Lane.

Lisa Knauf Owen
Assistant Executive Director of the Oklahoma Conservation
Commission
Oklahoma City, OK

In her more than 25 years of service to the Commission and Conservation Districts, she has served in multiple capacities including Education Coordinator, Assistant Director of District Operations, Director of District Services, Operations Chief and now Assistant Executive Director.

Lisa's main job functions include providing day-to-day contact and assistance to Oklahoma's 84 conservation districts, their staff and directors. This includes providing leadership and council in the areas of ethics, financial management, personnel management, payroll procedures, board meeting procedures, budget preparation and strategic planning. She also provides oversight to the Commission's financial management and human resources agreement with Department of Agriculture and the Conservation Programs Division.

Lisa comes from a farming family in Texas who were peanut farmers, raised chickens, pigs, cows and various other enterprises over the years. Although her schooling and background are in Forest Management, Lisa spends the majority of her time working with a different natural resource; the men and women who work for Oklahoma's conservation districts, when she isn't dealing with budget challenges, legislative requests or personnel issues.

Lisa and her husband, Keith, reside in Norman, Oklahoma where in their spare time, they enjoys various outdoor pursuits including shooting sporting clays, kayaking, fishing and hunting.