# **2023 CANDIDATES**

## **District 1 Northwest Independent Director**



#### Larry DeWitt

Larry was born in Ponca City, where his father was the ag teacher until 1975 when upon that time they moved to Cherokee. At age 13, he crop leased his first farm ground and still farms that land today.

DeWitt showed livestock and purchased a hay wagon and 10 head of Angus cows during his high school years. Throughout his time in 4-H/FFA, he

was successful showing livestock and was chosen as the State Star Agri-Businessman for his efforts with his hay hauling business.

DeWitt attended NWOSU and OSU, where he earned a Bachelor of Science in Ag Economics. He then earned a Master of Science in Ag Economics from OSU.

After college, DeWitt worked for the OSU Extension (IFMAPS), where he worked with farmers developing cash flows and balance sheets for banks, FSA and the Farm Credit.

DeWitt currently works at BancCentral NA as the chief lending officer. His portfolio not only consists of ag loans, but also numerous commercial and medical loans. He services over 400 customers.

DeWitt's leadership roles include past chairman of the Oklahoma Bankers Association Ag Committee, the Oklahoma Ag Mediation Program, commissioner on the Oklahoma Real Estate Board and director on the Alfalfa Electric Cooperative Board. He has also served as the president of the Cherokee Chamber of Commerce, treasurer of the local Lions Club and the Cherokee Methodist Church and member of the OALP Class VII. Larry and his wife Patty own an Angus cow/calf operation, farm over 1800

acres, and have four children and one grandson.



#### **Jordan Shearer**

Jordan Shearer is a fourth-generation farmer and rancher from Slapout. He has a cow/calf operation and raises wheat and sorghum.

Shearer is currently serving as assistant vice president at SNB Bank National Association, Shattuck branch. In this role, Shearer serves as a lender for agricultural and commercial loans, oversees the bank's SBA

program and handles public relations for the bank.

Shearer previously served as executive director of the Oklahoma, Colorado and New Mexico Sorghum Associations. He managed sorghum-related association and commission activities, as well as worked with each group's board of directors to coordinate state programs. Prior to that, Shearer served as chairman of the Oklahoma Sorghum Association for



### **Roger Edenborough**

Roger L. Edenborough was born in Stillwater, Okla., while his father was attending graduate school at Oklahoma State University. He was raised in the Oklahoma Panhandle, specifically Goodwell, where he attended school and graduated from Goodwell High School. He then attended college at Goodwell at Oklahoma Panhandle State University. While

attending college, Edenborough was active in the student senate and held academic honors at the time of graduation. Edenborough attained his CPA in 1992 and joined his father as a partner in the accounting firm, Edenborough and Edenborough, CPAs.

In 1989, he married his wife, Shelley, and together they raised three daughters, Cassidy, Shandy and Kenly, who all graduated from Goodwell High School before completing university degrees. The Edenboroughs were very involved in the activities of their children during their school years.

As a fifth generation Oklahoman, Roger has been enthusiastic about protecting the rural values and assets of Oklahoma. He has served on the board of trustees for Panhandle Telephone Cooperative, Inc., for 27 years. His time spent on the PTCI board has made him a firm believer in cooperative values. He currently serves on the Goodwell Town Council. In addition, Roger served 19 years as a board member of Goodwell Public Schools, holding offices multiple years and serving on the Oklahoma State School Board Association for eleven years, serving as the OSSBA President in 2016-2017, where he advocated for rural schools across the state.

five years and worked as a project director for the Oklahoma Association of Conservation Districts.

Jordan is a member of Leadership Sorghum Class I, a Sorghum Checkoff program established in 2011, and Leadership Oklahoma Class 30. He is also a business partner in a guided hunting business that specializes in wild quail. He serves on the Harper County Local 8 and Harper County Farmers Union boards of directors. Shearer served as chair of the AFR/ OFU Policy Committee from 2019-2021 and is currently serving as the Oklahoma delegate to the National Farmers Union Policy Committee.

## **District 3 Northeast Agent Director**



### William Lane

William Lane grew up in Northeast Oklahoma at Jay, Okla. He attended school at Jay and graduated in 1992. From there, he attended NEO and was a member of the livestock judging team. After NEO, he attended Oklahoma State University and was on the livestock judging team there as well. He graduated with a Bachelor of Science in 1996. He was a member

of Class 10 of Oklahoma Ag Leadership Program.

William is a third-generation AFR insurance agent. His grandfather Claud Cagle started in the insurance business in 1974 when he purchased an AFR agency. William owns an AFR insurance agency in Gentry, Ark., and helps his mother with her AFR agency, Cagle Insurance, in Langley, Okla. He first began his career in the insurance industry in 1998 when he came to work for his grandfather in his agency. William also owns a small cattle operation where he raises purebred Shorthorn and Shorthorn Plus cattle that are exhibited on local, state and national levels.

William and his wife, Jennifer, live in Grove, Okla.. He has two children, Ryan and Lexi, and three stepchildren, Derek, Candace and Bri. When he is not at his insurance office, William can most likely be found in the barn or somewhere else on the farm. He helps coach his local 4-H and FFA Judging teams. He can also be found at a lot of livestock shows across the country.



#### John Ogden

John Ogden, a rancher from Muskogee County, has been involved in an AFR/OFU leadership capacity for many years, including service as vice-president and director on the Executive Board from February 1978 to February 1988, from 2001-2011, and 2020 to 2023. He and his wife, JoAnn, have been longtime AFRMIC agents and have been active in the Muskogee County

and Local AFR/OFU chapter serving as a county board member for 43 years, while JoAnn served as county president.

Ogden has been owner/agent of the Ogden Insurance Agency in Muskogee from January 1976 to present. He was also the owner/agent of the Ogden Insurance in Haskell, where his duties included heavy client contact and sales.

Ogden has served as executive director of the Muskogee County Community Action Foundation, where he wrote and administered various grants for low-income families. Ogden owned and operated Muskogee Overhead Door Company until selling in in 1992. He became branch manager of Rocket Freight Lines after having worked as a driver. He was store manager for McAdams Pipe and Supply and worked as a construction engineer for ODOT.

Ogden attended Connors State College and Bacone College.

Also during his lifetime of public service, Ogden has served on the Governor's Task Force for Small Business, and as a board member of W.I.S.H. He is past president of Teamsters Union Local 516. He is a member and has served as a deacon in the Assembly of God Church.

## Secretary



#### **Paul Jackson**

Paul Jackson was elected AFR Secretary/Treasurer in February 2013 to fill an unexpired vacancy and since has been elected unopposed to three full three-year terms. As Farm & Cooperative Programs Director, he led cooperative activities, policy development, adult and youth leadership and legislative fly-ins to Washington, D.C. A 27-year AFR/OFU employee, he

holds Property, Casualty, Health and Life insurance licenses. He served 10 months as the interim AFRMIC CEO. He continues as annual meeting/ convention coordinator.

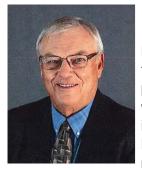
A fourth-generation farmer/rancher, Jackson has a diverse agricultural background, including cow-calf, stocker cattle, wheat, rye, peanuts, alfalfa and hogs.

Jackson served on the boards of Love County Farmers Union and Local 741, Oklahoma Agricultural Leadership Program Advisory Council, Midwest Shows Scholarship Program and Oklahoma 4-H Foundation, where he is currently the president. He is a former volunteer fireman, current church assistant pastor/song leader/secretary-treasurer, a member of Oklahoma Society of Association Executives and secretary to the Farmers Union Foundation, AFRPAC, OCBA and appointed corporate secretary of AFRMIC and AFRLIC.

Jackson has chaired the National Farmers Union Policy Committee, coordinated NFU Convention delegations, and served on Oklahoma Comprehensive Water Planning. He previously worked on rural development and agriculture policy/appropriations for an Oklahoma congressman. Jackson was the National Rural Water Association Professional Programs Director, representing and providing technical assistance to small water utilities.

He earned a bachelor's degree in agricultural communications from OSU and has completed Leadership Love County and the Oklahoma Agricultural Leadership Program. He and his wife, Kim, have two daughters, Courtney and Sarah.

## **District 4 Southeast Independent Director**



#### **Loyd Steward**

Loyd Steward values work ethic, which is the driving force of his life. He acquired this trait from his parents on the family farm near Dale, Okla. Steward was active in sports, 4-H and FFA and earned a B.S. in Agriculture at Oklahoma State University. Loyd and Becky have celebrated 47 years of marriage, while residing in Bethel Acres. They raised two children,

Jon and Jennifer, and now have five grandchildren. Steward operates a cow/calf operation.

The past 30 years, Steward has owned and operated RS Lawn Services, Inc. Steward is known for his premier service to his clients, while advising new entrepreneurs and resourcing local suppliers. He has worked side-byside with many young men and women, training them to give an honest day's work.

Steward voluntarily maintains a community cemetery and helps raise funds for local 4-H and FFA chapters. He spends many volunteer hours improving the turf on the local school's sports complexes. He recently completed a yearlong Leadership Square and Pavilion project at Bethel High School. Steward served on the Bethel School Board for eleven years. Steward has been a longtime member of Oklahoma Farmers Union/AFR and has served as county president for over 20 years. He served on the AFR Policy Committee and attended a Washington, D.C., Fly-In.

Steward's hobbies include smoking meat for family, friends and church events. However, spoiling the grandkids is his favorite pastime.

Loyd Steward is passionate about serving others, which shows in his actions in the community where he lives.



#### **Mike Goodwin**

Mike Goodwin was raised in Mead and currently resides in Roberta. He has been a lifelong resident of Bryan County. He received his bachelor's and master's degrees from Southeastern Oklahoma State University.

Goodwin has spent his career as an educator in the high school classroom, as a high school principal, a

school superintendent, and also as a CareerTech center administrator. He has twice been named as the Bryan County Administrator of the Year in his career. Additionally, Goodwin served in the United States Army Reserves, retiring in 2016 at the rank of Command Sergeant Major with 36 years of total service.

Goodwin volunteers his time for his community by serving with the following: Bryan County Fire Board, Durant Economic Development Board, Durant Industrial Authority Board, Lake Texoma Association Board, Durant Chamber of Commerce, Rising Star Masonic Lodge, Little Dixie Shrine, and the Durant Elks Lodge. He has twice been awarded the Honorary Chapter Farmer Degree, and has also been awarded the FFA Honorary State Farmer Degree. He is a member of the Bokchito First Baptist Church. Goodwin has been a member of OFU/AFR since January 1988. He and his wife Annette have been married for 38 years and share an 80-acre ranch in Roberta. They have two daughters, Charlee and Aubree. Charlee teaches school for Choctaw Interlocal Schools and is the proud mother of their first grandchild. Aubree works as a veterinary nurse in Calera, Okla.

# **CONVENTION DOOR PRIZES**

