



2022 *Delta Council*
ANNUAL REPORT

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT



EMILY and PATRICK JOHNSON

PATRICK JOHNSON

It has been my pleasure to serve as President of Delta Council this year. I would like to thank my wife, Emily, family, Delta Council members, and friends of this organization and region for their support in working together to achieve results.

My service this year has further reinforced my belief that Delta Council is a unique organization that is making a difference on many of the challenges that the Delta faces – whether industrial development, agricultural policy, flood protection, workforce training, early childhood education, transportation, and the myriad of other issues that the membership of this organization comes together to impact.

During my tenure, working with our membership, officers, committee

chairmen, directors, and staff, I don't believe I have ever seen an organization more committed to the day-to-day activities of the people it serves than Delta Council.

In this Annual Report, and in our 87th Annual Meeting today, we highlight some of both the opportunities and challenges we face, and most importantly, the men and women in the Delta who are working together to make positive outcomes a reality. I had always known that Delta Council was a positive force for the region, and my faith and forecast for the future of the Delta has been supported by your efforts.

Welcome to the 87th Annual Meeting of Delta Council, and thank you for making our important part of the world a special place!

87TH ANNUAL MEETING OF DELTA COUNCIL

June 17, 2022

**BOLOGNA PERFORMING ARTS CENTER
DELTA STATE UNIVERSITY / CLEVELAND, MISSISSIPPI**

9:00 a.m. - 10:00 a.m.

19th ANNUAL SALUTE TO DELTA HONOR GRADUATES

Lt. Governor Delbert Hosemann

**Location: Lawn of the
Bologna Performing Arts Center**

10:30 a.m.

WELCOME & OPENING REMARKS

William N. LaForge

President, Delta State University

INVOCATION

Dr. Paul E. Husband

Tunica Presbyterian Church

PRESENTATION OF COLORS

Boy Scout Troop 4200

Scoutmaster Dennis Waldo

Greenwood, MS

PATRIOTIC MUSIC

Variety

Cleveland, MS

BUSINESS SESSION

- Recognition of Special Guests
- Wear Cotton Recognition
- Good Middling Community Service Award Recognition
- Recognition of Honor Graduates & Scholarship Recipient
- Introduction of New Officers

INTRODUCTION OF KEYNOTE SPEAKER

Patrick Johnson, President

KEYNOTE ADDRESS

David Magee

Bestselling Author and Speaker

12:00 Noon

Catfish Luncheon

Location: Delta State University
Quadrangle Lawn

RECOGNITION OF 2020-2021 ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS

Patrick Johnson, President



WILL LONG, Chairman

Indianola

PRESTON ARRINGTON

Inverness

PHILIP GOOD

Macon

EMILE GUEDON

Natchez

MIKE GRAVES

Ripley

JAN HILL

Meridian

LARRY KILLEBREW

Lexington

GEORGE KING

Chattham

TURNER MASSEY

Clarksdale

JEFFRY MITCHELL

Cary

JACK PHILLIPS

Holly Bluff

TODD WILLIAMS

Olive Branch

The Mississippi Corn Promotion Board, established in 2006, is supported by a corn checkoff of \$.01 per bushel. The 12-member appointed board oversees research and promotion efforts that help farmers increase yields, reduce production costs, and grow a healthier crop.

2022 HONOR GRADUATES

Mississippi Delta

BOLIVAR

Jayda Nichole Anderson McEvans School
Sylvester Cannon, III Cleveland Central High
Devon Harbin Cleveland Central High
Matthew Harris Northside High
Farrah Kathryn Hood Bayou Academy
Treveon Lee West Bolivar High
Vanessa Martinez West Bolivar High
Princess Ariah Sanders McEvans School
Kennedy Starks Northside High
Lindsey Grace Strongosky Bayou Academy
Bryce Collier Carroll Academy

CARROLL

Kennedy Johnson J.Z. George High
Georgia Neill Carroll Academy
Jacarra Sherrod J.Z. George High

COAHOMA

Myranda Coleman Clarksdale High
Almilleon Davis Coahoma County High School
Marlene Dimas Clarksdale High
Jett Harrell Lee Academy
Andrea Harris Coahoma County High School
Sara Lutts Lee Academy

DESOTO

Emma Allen Hernando High
Liam Allen Northpoint Christian School
Illiana Barshinger Horn Lake High
Jeffery Chen Desoto Central High
Nicholas Douglas Southaven High
Kyle Heath Center Hill High
Abigail Landon Desoto Central High
Ashley Lowe Olive Branch High
Janel Marquez Horn Lake High
Jenna Munsey Lake Cormorant High
Heath Patterson Olive Branch High
Callia Paulino Center Hill High
Elijah Stage Hernando High
Abigail Stine Northpoint Christian School
Rachel Strickland Lake Cormorant High
Brandon Suh Southaven High
Jaylynn Taylor Lewisburg High

GRENADA

Ainsley Craven Grenada High
Lexie Draper Kirk Academy
Tramiah Leason Grenada High
Mary Wilkinson Kirk Academy

HOLMES

Jordan Engle Central Holmes Christian School
Zanashia Hawkins Holmes County Central High School
Lillian Lewis Holmes County Central High School
Noah Steen Central Holmes Christian School

HUMPHREYS

Oliva Grace Gorton Humphreys Academy
Andreanna Page Humphreys County High
Ashantia Wigley Humphreys County High
Emily Williams Humphreys Academy

LEFLORE

Joshua Bishop Delta Streets Academy
Dia Chawla Pillow Academy
Gabriel Cordova Delta Streets Academy
Ceniya Christine Glass Amanda Elzy High
Hal Mandel Haney, Jr. Amanda Elzy High
Jakylah Lawrence Greenwood High
Demarius Leflore Leflore County High
Cheyenne Roberts Leflore Christian School
Morgan Stanley Greenwood High
Amber Williams Leflore County High
Christopher Winter Pillow Academy

PANOLA

Sadie Gray North Delta School
Heather Hollins North Delta School
Anna McCain South Panola High
Bethaney Morgan North Panola High
Lamerria Webb North Panola High
TaDarrian Woodard South Panola High

QUITMAN

Nakerrius Eppenger Madison S. Palmer High
Nathaniel Douglas Rushing Delta Academy
Trinity Taylor Madison S. Palmer High
Grant Douglas Wolfe Delta Academy

SHARKEY/ ISSAQUENA

Ja'Kelcey Fuller South Delta High
Imani Barnes South Delta High
Taylor Dean Sharkey-Issaquena Academy
Presley Perry Sharkey-Issaquena Academy

SUNFLOWER

Dylan Bailey Gentry High
Samantha Barham North Sunflower Academy
Don Brown Thomas E Edwards Sr High
Abby Chambers Gentry High
Hamp Judson Indianola Academy
Morgan McKay North Sunflower Academy
Makyria Watkins Thomas E Edwards Sr High
Rosalea Woodard Indianola Academy

TALLAHATCHIE

Razavier Davis West Tallahatchie High
Katavious Gibbs West Tallahatchie High
Sedrick Smith, Jr. Charleston High
Elizabeth Willard Charleston High

TATE

Shelby Besheers Magnolia Heights School
Ana Aguirre Independence High
Djenja Bah Strayhorn High

Tegan Davis Independence High

Joseph Ener Coldwater High

Terrica Mitchell Coldwater High

Sara Frances Neyman Magnolia Heights School

Malcolm Oliver Strayhorn High

Brandon Williams Senatobia High

Mary Elizabeth Winstead Senatobia High

TUNICA

Sarah Goff Tunica Academy

Darnisha Hamilton Rosa Fort High

Arlandria Johnson Rosa Fort High

Hadassa McGee Tunica Academy

WARREN

Mary Katherine Archer River City Early College High

Macey Bufkin Porter's Chapel Academy

Lauren Carson Vicksburg High

Sarah Alice Drinkard Warren Central High

Olivia Masterson Porter's Chapel Academy

Kyleigh Neal Vicksburg High

Henry Hartley Sullivan Warren Central High

Emma Linn Waisner Vicksburg Catholic School

William Watts River City Early College High

Tristan Ross Wilbanks

Vicksburg Catholic School

WASHINGTON

Hannah Britton Deer Creek School

Kamiya Clark St Joseph High School

Avery Cole St. Joseph High School

Mariyah Curtis Greenville Christian School

Milly Florian O'Bannon High

Efren Z. Ford, Jr. Unity Christian

Marlee Furr Deer Creek School

Rachel Guynes Greenville High

Lawler Horn Washington School

Nia Symone Kindred Leland High

Jermonique Lloyd Simmons High

Kiara Marsalis Greenville High

Eriana Gabrielle Murphy Leland High

Meri-Kathryn Norris Riverside High

Ann Garner Scott Washington School

Deandria Smith Greenville Christian School

Hunter Wablington Riverside High

Tymon Wells Simmons High

Raven Whitley O'Bannon High

YAZOO

Elizabeth Dianne Carpenter Manchester Academy

Carter Crow Benton Academy

John Harris Benton Academy

De'Shawn Hudson Yazoo County High

Mallory Rhodes Yazoo County High

Kimbrilee Sayles Yazoo City High

Jacob Roark Scott Manchester Academy

Marcus Straughter Yazoo City High



CATFISH FARMERS OF MISSISSIPPI

Andy Jones, Chairman, *Moorhead*
Chris McGlawn, President, *Swiftown*
Will Nobile, Vice President, *Moorhead*
Andy Prosser, Secretary/Treasurer, *Yazoo City*
Houston Battle, *Tunica*
Dan Bradshaw, *Yazoo City*
Bobby Jones, *Glen Allan*
Shorty Jones, *Glen Allan*
Ben Pentecost, *Doddsville*
Ed Pentecost, *Cleveland*
Brad Phillips, *Eden*

662-887-4842

catfishfarmers@bellsouth.net

1100 Highway 82 East, Suite 202

Indianola, MS 38751

2021-2022

Delta Council **OFFICERS**



PATRICK JOHNSON, JR.
President
Tunica



LA SHON BROOKS
Vice-President
Itta Bena



LAWSON GARY
Vice-President
Greenwood



JAY GORE
Vice-President
Grenada



SHAW JOHNSON III
Vice-President
Clarksdale



JOHNNY MCRIGHT
Vice-President
Greenville



TIM TIMBS
Vice-President
Indianola



CRAIG SHIDELER
Treasurer
Senatobia

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2022-2023

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President
Greenwood



VICTOR BYAS
Vice-President
Indianola



JULIA CLARK
Vice-President
Rolling Fork



TIM CLEMENTS
Vice-President
Greenville



PARKER ENGLAND
Vice-President
Greenville



HUNTER FORDICE
Vice-President
Vicksburg



LEWIS POINDEXTER
Vice-President
Indianola



CRAIG SHIDELER
Treasurer
Senatobia

Board of DIRECTORS

2022-2023

COUNTIES

BOLIVAR

Bubba Bailey, Shaw
Larry Davis, Shaw

CARROLL

Calvin Bowlin, Carrollton
Richard Macy, N. Carrollton

COAHOMA

Mattson Flowers, Lyon
John McKee III, Friars Point

DESOTO

Ward Bloodworth, Hernando
Jim Sayle, Lake Cormorant

GRENADA

Brent Brasher, Holcomb
Cheryl Holmes, Grenada

HOLMES

Patrick Martin, Greenwood
Milton Parrish, Lexington

HUMPHREYS

Bill Allen, Belzoni
Hue Townsend Jr., Belzoni

ISSAQUENA

Gene Boykin, Rolling Fork
Matt Sharpe, Rolling Fork

LEFLORE

Pierce Brown IV, Schlater
Clint Dunn, Itta Bena

PANOLA

Brad Robison, Batesville
Sledge Taylor III, Como

QUITMAN

Lewis Barksdale IV, Clarksdale
Bill Walker, Marks

SHARKEY

Clark Carter, Rolling Fork
Jeffry Mitchell, Cary

SUNFLOWER

Will Long, Indianola
Randy Randall III, Indianola

TALLAHATCHIE

Graham Flautt III, Sumner
Mike Wagner, Sumner

TATE

Scott Crockett, Senatobia
Matthew Raff, Senatobia

TUNICA

Gary Bailey, Tunica
Jon Bibb, Tunica

WARREN

Tommy Shelton, Vicksburg
David Wansley, Valley Park

WASHINGTON

Carter Murrell, Avon
C.D. 'Bubba' Simmons, Arcola

YAZOO

Clay Adcock, Holly Bluff
Andy Prosser, Yazoo City

CITIES

BATESVILLE

Danny Holland

BELZONI

Jimmy Turner

CLEVELAND

Ronnie Aguzzi
Gary Fioranelli

CLARKSDALE

Tripp Hayes
Pete Hunter

DREW

Tucker Miller III

GREENVILLE

Clayton Davis
Tommy Goodwin

GREENWOOD

Chris Bush
Hank Reichle

GRENADA

Keith Mitchell

HERNANDO

Tracy Huffman

HOLLANDALE

Jan de Regt

INDIANOLA

John Rodgers Brashier
Alan Hargett

LELAND

Will Smythe

RULEVILLE

Fletcher Clark

SARAH

Marty Allison

SUMNER

Brad Hausner

VICKSBURG

Jan Daigre
Howard Waring

YAZOO CITY

Barry Bridgforth
John Murry Greenlee

SENIOR DIRECTORS

Fred Ballard, Jr., Leland
Robert E. Coker Sr., Yazoo City
Clifton Porter, Madison
Ray Rounsaville, Rossville, TN
Emery Skelton, Greenville

PAST PRESIDENTS

Dan Branton, Leland
Robert A. Carson, Jr., Marks
Woods Eastland, Indianola
Bowen Flowers, Lyon
Dick Flowers, Lyon
Tommy Gary, Jr., Greenwood
Tom Gresham, Indianola

Walton Gresham III, Indianola
Paul Hollis, Rolling Fork
Kenneth Hood, Gunnison
William Houston III, Memphis
John Sharp Howie, Yazoo City
Patrick Johnson, Jr., Tunica
Bryan Jones III, Yazoo City
Bill Kennedy, Inverness
George King, Chatham
Bill Litton, Greenwood
Harley Metcalfe III, Greenville
Frank Mitchener Jr., Sumner
Griffin Norquist, Jr., Madison
Cass Pennington, Indianola
William Percy II, Greenville

John Phillips, Holly Bluff
Al Rankins, Sr., Greenville
Tom Robertson, Jr., Indianola
Travis Satterfield, Benoit
Harry Simmons, Jr., Yazoo City
Gibb Steele, Hollandale
Mike Sturdivant III, Glendora
Kent Wyatt, Cleveland

DIRECTORS AT LARGE

Meredith Allen, Greenwood
Hugh Arant, Jr., Ruleville
Robert Carson III, Clarksdale
Paul Dees, Leland

Scott Flowers, Clarksdale
John Howarth, Jr., Cleveland
Austin Jones, Moorhead
B. Jones IV, Ridgeland
Bernie Jordan, Jr., Yazoo City
Mike Lamensdorf, Cary
Lawrence Long, Indianola
Reese Pillow, Greenwood
Jim Robertson, Jr., Indianola
Kirk Satterfield, Benoit
Shane Stephens, Greenwood
Nott Wheeler, Jr., Merigold

Past PRESIDENTS

W. M. Kethley,* Cleveland (1935-37)
 W.T. Wynn,* Greenville (1937-38)
 John Pettey,* Greenwood (1938-39)
 Ellis T. Woolfolk,* Tunica (1939-40)
 James Hand, Jr.,* Rolling Fork (1940-41)
 Hugh L. Gary,* Greenwood (1941-42)
 Walter Sillers,* Rosedale (1942-43)
 Alexander Fitz-Hugh,* Vicksburg (1943-44)
 W.K. Anderson,* Clarksdale (1944-45)
 Jere B. Nash,* Greenville (1945-46)
 Irby Turner,* Belzoni (1946-47)
 Ellis T. Woolfolk, Jr.,* Tunica (1947-48)
 W.T. McKinney,* Anguilla (1948-49)
 W.M. Garrard, Jr.,* Indianola (1949-50)
 Sam H. Coker,* Yazoo City (1950-51)
 Maury Knowlton,* Perthshire (1951-52)
 J.R. Flautt,* Swan Lake (1952-53)
 C.R. Sayre,* Scott (1953-54)
 William A. Crabill,* Marks (1954-55)
 Luther W. Wade,* Greenwood (1955-56)
 LeRoy P. Percy,* Greenville (1956-57)
 G.C. Cortright,* Rolling Fork (1957-58)
 R.P. Parish,* Greenwood (1958-59)
 Miller P. Holmes,* Yazoo City (1959-60)
 Sidney Livingston,* Ruleville (1960-61)
 O.C. Carr, Jr.,* Clarksdale (1961-62)
 Aven Whittington,* Greenwood (1962-63)
 F.H. Nance,* Cleveland (1963-64)
 George K. Wade,* Greenwood (1964-65)
 Frank T. Brumfield,* Inverness (1965-66)
 Monty Payne,* Winterville (1966-67)
 E.M. Hood, Jr.,* Tunica (1967-68)
 James Hand III,* Rolling Fork (1968-69)
 Morris Lewis, Jr.,* Indianola (1969-70)
 Harris S. Swayze,* Benton (1970-71)
 Robert A. Carson,* Marks (1971-72)
 J. Tol Thomas III,* Cruger (1972-73)
 Frank M. Mitchener, Jr., Sumner (1973-74)
 Henry C. Self,* Marks (1974-75)
 Carter Stovall,* Stovall (1975-76)
 W.P. Brown, Jr.,* Schlater (1976-77)
 Robroy Fisher,* Glen Allan (1977-78)
 Seymour Johnson,* Indianola (1978-79)

Jimmie Dick Carter,* Rolling Fork (1979-80)
 William H. Houston III, Tunica (1980-81)
 Bruce J. Brumfield,* Inverness (1981-82)
 W.A. Percy II, Greenville (1982-83)
 R.B. Flowers, Tunica (1983-84)
 B.A. Jordan,* Yazoo City (1984-85)
 W.T. Robertson,* Holly Ridge (1985-86)
 Charles W. Capps, Jr.,* Cleveland (1986-87)
 John T. Dillard,* Leland (1987-88)
 John Sharp Howie, Yazoo City (1988-89)
 Ralph Hand, Jr.,* Glendora (1989-90)
 Harry Vickery,* Greenville (1990-91)
 Bill Gresham,* Indianola (1991-92)
 T.S. Shuler,* Greenwood (1992-93)
 John McPherson,* Indianola (1993-94)
 Mike Sturdivant III, Itta Bena (1994-95)
 Bobby Carson, Marks (1995-96)
 Harley Metcalfe, Greenville (1996-97)
 Griffin Norquist, Jr., Yazoo City (1997-98)
 Tom Robertson, Indianola (1998-99)
 Curt Presley,* Clarksdale (1999-2000)
 Kenneth Hood, Gunnison (2000-2001)
 Ben Lamensdorf,* Cary (2001-2002)
 Bryan Jones, Yazoo City (2002-2003)
 Dan Branton, Leland (2003-2004)
 Ken Murphree,* Tunica (2004-05)
 Kent Wyatt, Cleveland (2005-06)
 Tom Gary, Jr., Greenwood (2006-07)
 Bill Kennedy, Inverness (2007-08)
 John Phillips, Yazoo City (2008-09)
 Travis Satterfield, Benoit (2009-10)
 Cass Pennington, Indianola (2010-2011)
 Bowen Flowers, Clarksdale (2011-2012)
 Bill Litton, Greenwood (2012-2013)
 Gibb Steele, Greenville (2013-2014)
 Walton Gresham, Indianola (2014-2015)
 Al Rankins, Greenville (2015-2016)
 Harry Simmons, Yazoo City (2016-2017)
 George King, Chatham (2017-2018)
 Woods Eastland, Indianola (2018-2019)
 Tom Gresham, Indianola (2019-2020)
 Paul Hollis, Rolling Fork (2020-2021)
 * Deceased



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Pete Hunter, Vice Chairman
George King, Vice Chairman

SOYBEAN, CORN & FEED GRAINS

John Howarth, Jr., Chairman
Paul Dees, Vice Chairman
Jerry Slocum, Vice Chairman

Achievement AWARDS



**OUTSTANDING CONTRIBUTIONS
TO DELTA AQUACULTURE:**
Sissy Bridges



**OUTSTANDING CONTRIBUTIONS
TO COTTON GINNING:**
Joe Thomas



**OUTSTANDING CONTRIBUTIONS
TO HARDWOOD FORESTRY:**
Steve Burgess



**OUTSTANDING
RICE PRODUCER:**
Patrick Swindoll

2022



**OUTSTANDING CONTRIBUTIONS
TO COTTON GINNING:
Dr. Chris Delhom**



**OUTSTANDING
SOYBEAN PRODUCER:
Willard Jack**



**CONSERVATION
FARMER OF THE YEAR:
Jack Phillips**



**RESEARCHER
OF THE YEAR:
Dr. Jodi Scheffler**

For THOSE THAT



Clay Adcock
Joe Aguzzi
Ronnie Aguzzi
Bill Allen
David Allen
Miller Arant
Hugh Arant, Jr.
Albert Austin
Bubba Bailey
Mac Baker
Anderson Barham
Roger Barlow
John Barnard
Dudley Barnes
Hall Barret III
Hamp Bass IV
Asa Bennett
Rusty Bennett
Jon Bibb
Richy Bibb III
Rodney Brantley
Dan Branton
John Rodgers Brashier
Rodgers Brashier
W.P. Brown III
Ike Brunetti

Nathan Buehring
Chris Bush
Wayne Bush
Alan Byrd
Robert Carson III
Robert A. Carson, Jr.
Ron Cassada
Bobo Catoe
Suresh Chawla
Pat Chism
Barney Chiz
Will Choate
Fletcher Clark
Jimmy Clayton
JC Clements
Tim Clements
Dottie Collins
DeLoach Cope
Theo Costas
John Daniels III
Larry Davis
John Dean, Jr.
Paul D. Dees
Hayes Dent
Joshua Duhon
Clint Dunn
Dwight Dunn

Travis Dunn
Woods Eastland
Bob Eley
Alan Ellis
David Fisher
Bowen Flowers
R.B. "Dick" Flowers
Harry Flowers
Mark Fratesi
Caroline Laudig Gaines
Gary Gainspoletti
Lawson Gary
Justin George
Tommy Goodwin
John Thomas Greenlee
Tom Gresham
Walton Gresham III
Alan Hargett
Tripp Hayes
Cliff Heaton
Mitchell Hill
James Hollingsworth
Paul Hollis
David Holt
Will Hood
David Howard
Jeremy Jack

do a little EXTRA

Willard Jack
Billy George Janous
Buster Jennings
Austin Jones
Bryan Jones III
Bernie A. Jordan, Jr.
Barthell Joseph III
Tim Kalich
Bill Kennedy
Dean Kiker
George King
Keith King
Bill LaForge
David Leard
Buster Lewis
Bill Litton
Wade Litton
Bill Long
Lawrence Long
Will Long
Po Lutken
Ray Makamson
Ellington F. Massey
Terry Maxwell
Charles McClintock
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Floyd Melton, III
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Jim Meyer
Scott Middleton
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Sells Newman, Jr.
Roy Nichols
Jerry Nobile
David O'Bryan
Mike O'Dell
Ralph Owens, Jr.
Parker Brothers
Mike Patrick
William Percy II
Gines Perez III
Tim Perkins
Holmes Pettey
John Phillips
Fred Poindexter
John Doty Porter
Randy Randall III
Bob Reed
Joe Reed
Joe Reed, Jr.
Ben Robertson
John Thomas Robertson
Xan Robertson
James Robertson III
Jim Robertson, Jr.
Tom Robertson, Jr.
Brian Robinson
David Robinson
Ed Robinson
Rodge Rodgers, Jr.
Kirk Satterfield

Ben B. Sayle
Robert Sayle, Jr.
Solon Scott, Jr.
Dan Shannon
Tommy Shelton
Doe Signa, Jr.
Harry Simmons, Jr.
Emery Skelton
Nevin Sledge
Homer Sledge III
Ted Smith
Rob Spiller
Gibson Steele
Mike Sturdivant III
Johnny Swayze
Ryan Tabb
Paul Tedford
Judson Thigpen III
Jim Thomas
Kenneth Thompson
Huey Townsend
Floyd Trammell
Jed Turner
George VanLandingham
Rod Veazey
Jimmy Walker
Keith Walker
Martin Walker
Ben Walker
Nott Wheeler, Jr.
James Andrew Whitaker
James Wilbourn
Phillip Williams
Kent Wyatt

CARTER MURRELL

Chairman
Hollandale

RONNIE AGUZZI

Cleveland

JAMES ALLISON

Sarah

CURTIS BERRY

Robinsonville

NOLEN CANON

Tunica

MARVIN COCHRAN

Avon

LARRY DAVIS

Shaw

GARY FIORANELLI

Cleveland

DONALD GANT

Merigold

RANDY HOWARTH

Boyle

GIBB STEELE

Greenville

PATRICK SWINDOLL

Hernando

The Rice Promotion Board is comprised of 12 members nominated by three organizations (Delta Council, Farm Bureau, Mississippi Rice Council) and appointed by the Governor to 4-year rotating terms. The Rice Promotion Board was established for the purpose of using funds assessed from rice producers for research, education, and advertising to promote the rice industry.

Mississippi



Rice Promotion Board

P.O. Box 257 • Stoneville, MS 38776 • <http://rice.msstate.edu/>





POLICIES & RESOLUTIONS

ADVISORY RESEARCH

- Support for Public Sector Science and Education in Agriculture
- Delta Research and Extension Priorities
- Property Tax Calculations
- Economic Threshold
- National Centers
- Soil Health: Research and Extension
- Water Resources Research and Education Center
- Cotton Research and Market Development: Non-Wovens

AQUACULTURE

- Aquaculture
- Food Technology

FARM POLICY

- Farm Policy
- Crop Insurance
- Copper Theft

RICE AND SMALL GRAINS

- Rice
- Mississippi Rice Check-Off

SOYBEAN, WHEAT, CORN, AND FEED GRAINS

- Soybeans
- Corn

SOIL AND WATER RESOURCES

- Corps Groundwater Mission
- Accurate and Complete Data
- Delta Water Resources Sustainability
- Alternative Strategies for Water Balance
- Groundwater Permits
- Adoption of Water-Conserving Practices and Interagency Cooperation
- Compatibility of Water Quality and Water Supply Strategies
- Water Resources, Research, and Education Center
- Soil Health: Research and Extension
- USDA Conservation Programs and Local Tax Base
- Conservation Programs-USDA - Wetlands Reserve Easement Caps

GINNING AND COTTON QUALITY IMPROVEMENT

- USDA Cotton Ginning Laboratory - Stoneville
- Ultra Low Gossypol Cottonseed (ULGCS)

FORESTRY AND WILDLIFE RESOURCES

- Hardwoods Research
- Feral Hogs

FLOOD CONTROL

- Corps Groundwater Mission
- Flood Control
- Flood Control Reservoirs
- Mississippi River Levee Enlargement
- Yazoo Basin Flood Control
- Upper Yazoo Project
- Hillside Watersheds
- Carter-Rocky Bayou Watershed Project

HIGHWAY IMPROVEMENT AND TRANSPORTATION

- U.S. Highway 82 Bypass
- Highway Development
- Corridor 18 (I-69)
- Bridge Replacement and Repairs
- Delta Rail Service

EDUCATION AND HEALTH POLICY

- Medicaid Expansion
- Higher Education Funding
- Early Learning
- Adult Literacy

DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT

- Delta Strong
- Port Expansion
- Workforce
- Historic Tax Credit
- Growth and Prosperity
- Delta Regional Authority

Find Resolutions at: www.deltacouncil.org/policies_resolutions.html



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Our mission is to

**INVEST MISSISSIPPI CHECKOFF DOLLARS TO DEVELOP
AND PROMOTE SOYBEAN AND SOYBEAN PRODUCTION
TO IMPROVE THE BOTTOM-LINE POTENTIAL FOR
SOYBEAN FARMERS.**

The Work We Do

Below are just a few examples of the work of **Delta Council** in the region over the past year and looking to the next one. It must be stressed that **Delta Council** alone is not able to accomplish anything. It is through partnerships with local organizations and bodies, statewide agencies, officials, and organizations, federal partners, private business, and a myriad other individuals and entities that **Delta Council** is able to have any success in lifting up the economic and community potential of the MS Delta region. **Delta Council** remains focused on achieving results and would much prefer that the appropriate local, state, or national entities lead the efforts that are necessary to get things done...as long as the regional objectives are met.

DELTA COUNCIL



- Preparing for the 2023 Farm Bill and ensuring that the abiding principles of farm law over the past decades remains intact (items such as base acreage, safety net in times of low commodity prices, and looking to the market for planting decisions.)
 - Work to strengthen Delta agriculture by staying on top of ever-evolving regulatory issues impacting agri-business, whether it be water quality, catfish inspection, pesticides, Waters of the United States, and dozens of other administrative actions.
- Advocate that any discussions and policy imperatives concerning conservation and climate dollars in the new Farm Bill need to be in addition and not instead of Title 1 safety net provisions.
- Be an advocate for the continuation of the H2A program and ensure that producers and agri-business have the best information on ensuring compliance.
- Support for public sector research efforts of USDA and MSU at Stoneville, the largest branch experiment station in the world, to enhance the profitability of the largest industry of the region – agriculture. Almost 700 employees, and 175 Ph.D.'s, that come to work in Stoneville every day from our region.
- Work with private industry and producers to have input on research direction in key programs of work, such as the National Center for Alluvial Aquifer Research Center, the Southern Pollinator Health Center, the USDA Ginning Laboratory, the U.S. Forest Service Center for Bottomland Hardwoods Research, and the National Warmwater Aquaculture Center, among others.
- Maintain support for a comprehensive statewide highway program with an increased excise user fee for a dedicated and continuous influx of funds that will allow roads and bridges to be maintained and built in a consistent and obligated manner.
 - Continue to advocate that increased federal funding for transportation be directed to road and bridge maintenance as has been done the last couple of years.
- Build support for continued work on the Interstate 69 corridor from Canada to Mexico. To date, the states with the least amount of mileage include Mississippi, Arkansas, and Louisiana along the footprint of the federal freight corridor and Delta Council will work with MDOT and our Federal Delegation to continue to take intermediate steps for the buildout of the entire network.



- Advocate for continued emphasis on our airports, railroads, and ports that are so fundamental to our economic future.



- Recognize that flood control remains fundamental to the ability to live and do business in the Mississippi Delta, and work every day to advance the completion of all parts of the flood protection plumbing in our region.

- Continue to highlight all pieces of construction and maintenance projects in the Yazoo Mississippi Delta, with particular emphasis on the completion of the Upper Yazoo Project.

- Maintain strong and vocal support for the completion of the Yazoo Backwater Pumping Plant and highlight the injustice and foolishness that has been wrought upon the residents of the Delta by the extreme environmentalists and others who oppose the project.

- Implement strategies to remove barriers to rehabilitation of watershed dams in Mississippi that threaten property and lives.



- Support the Governor's Task Force on Sustainable Water Supply to look at any and all solutions that can reduce overdraft of our alluvial aquifer. Pay particular attention to continued research and extension efforts aimed at conservation and also pilot projects and strategies that hold the potential for great strides in water balance.

- Advocate for key conservation programs that address the Delta's unique soil and water challenges.
- Maintain support for asking the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers to make water supply a critical mission.



- Continue our longstanding support for early childhood education intervention in the Mississippi Delta, with particular focus on the Promise Communities that are in three Delta counties.

- Ask elected officials and other associations to consider and support the expansion of Medicaid in the State of Mississippi and the relief it will provide to our rural hospitals and healthcare providers, underscoring their importance in the health of not only our citizens, but the economy.

- Maintain support for the continued funding of our higher education institutions that serve the Delta, including Delta State University, Mississippi Valley State University, and the Mississippi State University Division of Agriculture.



DELTA STRONG

DELTA STRONG

- Continue the work of the successful Delta Strong program. To date, three new businesses have located in the region with over 120 individual prospecting visits. Currently working on 9 active projects with over \$170 million in capital investment.
- Working daily with local economic development officials and existing companies on expansion activities,



highlighted by companies such as Milwaukee Tool.

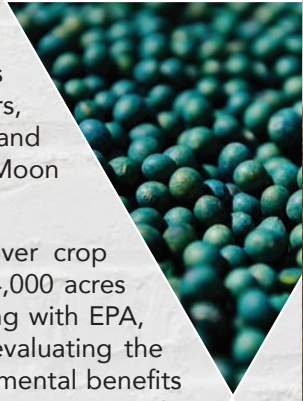
- Emphasize importance of the ACT Work Ready Community effort. In partnership with our Workforce Development Area, local economic development leaders, and community colleges, ALL 19 counties in the region are certified as Work Ready
- Remain staunch advocates for the Growth and Prosperity Program as authorized by the Legislature and administered by the Mississippi Development Authority.



DELTA WILDLIFE and DELTA F.A.R.M.



- Delta Wildlife has begun the construction of 9 NRCS wetland reserve enhancement projects, working with partners on Green Tree Reservoir enhancement projects at Delta National Forest and wetland habitat enhancement projects at William C. "Billy" Deviney WMA (Wildlife Management Area) and Mahannah WMA.
- Provided wildflower seed for a butterfly garden at Delta National Forest, sold approximately 2,000 bags of corn, soybeans, and grain sorghum for wildlife habitat food plots that will provide nearly 7,000 acres of additional food and habitat resources for wildlife.
- Completed wetland and feral swine assessments on 59,605 acres of WRE lands, documented feral swine damage on 29,500 acres of WRE, removed 1,298 feral swine, preventing over \$400,000 in economic damages to private lands. A total of 197,766 acres enrolled in NRCS Feral Swine Control Pilot Program.
- Working with the Rice Stewardship Partnership, Delta Wildlife brought almost \$1,000,000 in extra EQIP funds to rice producers in the Delta, bringing the total to \$11,620,350.00 since 2014.
- Provided timber inventories to 885 CRP landowners using remote sensing technology with grant assistance from the Farm Service Agency.
- Delta FARM staff installed 65 pipes for grade stabilization, three weirs, and 2,500 ft of constructed wetland to reduce sediment loading into Moon Lake.
- Delta FARM provided enough cover crop seed for producers to plant over 4,000 acres during the fall of 2021 and, working with EPA, MSU, and NRCS, Delta FARM is evaluating the economic, agronomic, and environmental benefits of cover crops and minimum tillage in MS Delta farming systems.
- Documented voluntary conservation practices on over 600,000 acres using the Delta FARM Personal Conservation Assessment Tool.





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