



Scot Blehm was appointed to the position of Nebraska State Director for USDA Rural Development by Agriculture Secretary Mike Johanns and the Bush Administration on April 19, 2005.

Prior to his appointment, Blehm served as Rural Initiatives Director for Congressman Tom Osborne (NE-03) in the Scottsbluff, Nebraska office. Blehm directed Congressman Osborne's rural development agenda, served as the project leader in creating 'Rural Economic Development' and 'Entrepreneurship' handbooks, and hosted numerous conferences to promote opportunities in rural Nebraska. Before joining Representative Osborne's staff, Blehm was employed by the University of Nebraska as the Plant Pathology Manager for the Panhandle Research and Extension Center in Scottsbluff.

Blehm's post-secondary education includes an Associate of Science degree from Western Nebraska Community College in Scottsbluff, a Bachelor of Science degree in Biology and a Master of Science degree in Molecular Biology and Pathology from Colorado State University in Fort Collins, Colorado.

Blehm is a rural Nebraska native from the Mitchell area, located in the extreme Western Panhandle of the state, where a majority of the Blehm family still resides. Prior to his appointment as State Director, Blehm lived near Mitchell where he was active in his family's farming and livestock operations.

Blehm's community development organizational memberships include the Nebraska Ag Relations Council, the Nebraska Rural Development Commission and the Nebraska Rural Renaissance.

Blehm currently resides in Lincoln, Nebraska with his wife Stephanie and daughters, Lindsey, Lauren and Olivia.