Phillip Ray is a graduate of Missouri Western State University where he studied Music, Spanish, and Philosophy. He and his wife Taya along with their children Caleb and Brooklynn reside near Trenton on their multigenerational family farm established in 1843. Phillip and his brother Matt are partners in a diversified farming operation producing corn, soybeans, beef cattle, and forage.

Phillip currently serves as the Presiding Commissioner of Grundy County and is very active in the community. He is a founding member of the North Central Missouri Development Alliance. Phillip also serves as a member of North Central Missouri College President's Community Council, the Foundation Trust for Trenton High School, Missouri Day Marching Festival Committee, Cat Creek Cemetery Board, Art's Alive, and is a site council member for Bright Futures. Phillip is a member of Dockery Chapel UMC.