# STATE OF MINNESOTA

Executive Department



# Governor Tim Walz

## NOTICE OF APPOINTMENT

## **Steven Besser**

Because of the special trust and confidence I have in your integrity, judgment, and ability, I have appointed you to the office of:

# Fishing Organization Representative Clean Water Council

Effective: May 5, 2021 Expires: January 1, 2024

This appointment carries with it all rights, powers, duties, and emoluments granted by law and pertaining to this position until this appointment is superseded or annulled by me or other lawful authority or by any law of this State.

Signed and sealed April 30, 2021.

Tim Walz

Governor

**Steve Simon** 

Secretary of State

Reappointment

MAY 4 2021

Senate Engrossing

Filed on April 30, 2021 Office of the Minnesota Secretary of State, Steve Simon

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## **DOLAN & BESSER**

ATTORNEYS AT LAW

William H. Dolan Steven V. Besser . Brian D. Cross \*Also licensed in North Dakota

409 North Sibley Avenue Litchfield, MN 55355-2130

Of Counsel Todd D. Andrews

TEL: (320) 693-9321 (888) 693-9321

Legal Assistants: Jennifer M. Kusler Lisa D. Peterson

FAX: (320) 693-9129 Email: stevebesser@dolanbesser.com

November 23, 2020

Office of the Minnesota Secretary of State ATTN: Open Appointments Application 180 State Office Building 100 Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Blvd. St. Paul, MN 55155-1299

-via digital filing only-

Application for Reappointment to RE: Minnesota Clean Water Council

Dear Sir or Madam:

I have just completed my first term as the Statewide Fishing Organizations Representative on the Minnesota Clean Water Council. What I wrote in my initial application cover letter in December 2016 is equally applicable today - I have been, for as I long as I can recall, not only an avid angler, but fascinated by surface and ground waters. I still recall the first time I saw an artesian well and how I poked a stick down into the bubbling puddle of water, intent on determining how "deep" this "well" must be. I have also long been concerned about the wise use of Minnesota's water resources and the ability to share the resource between competing interests without seeing Minnesota become the Land of 10,000 "Unusable" Lakes and Rivers.

I have learned much in my first term about both our State's capacity to address water issues and emerging issues that can no longer be ignored. I have found both my angling interests and connections as well as my scientific training and law practice have equipped me well to serve on the Council (I have also submitted a resume); AND, I wholeheartedly wish to continue to volunteer my time and talents.

I respectfully seek Governor Walz' reappointment of me to the Clean Water Council. Thank you.

Very Truly Yours,

**DOLAN & BESSER** 

Steven V. Besser

Enclosure(s)

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## STEVEN VERNON BESSER

Seeking Reappointment to MN Clean Water Council (State Fishing Organization Representative)

# PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Admitted to practice before the Supreme Court of the State of Minnesota, Supreme Court of the State of North Dakota, and the Federal District Courts of Minnesota and North Dakota

**Dolan & Besser** (formerly Henretta, Cross, Ness & Dolan), Litchfield, MN October 1, 1997 through present

Marquard & Associates (formerly Hutchinson & Marquard), Duluth, MN Associate attorney – personal injury, worker's compensation, products liability, November 1990 through September 1997

#### Falsani, Balmer, Berglund & Merritt, Duluth, MN

Associate attorney – personal injury litigation, worker's compensation and insurance law, October 1989 to October 1990

Robert J. LaBine & Associates, Grand Forks, ND Law clerk and third year student practitioner, May 1988 – October 1989

#### **EDUCATION**

#### University of North Dakota, School of Law

Juris Doctor with Distinction, May 1989 Order of Barristers Moot Court Board Best Respondent's Brief, Intraschool Moot Court Comp., Fall 1987

#### North Dakota State University, Zoology Dept.

Graduate studies and research – limnology – water chemistry/nutrient cycling in the Jamestown Reservoir and James River system, March 1979 through March 1981

#### **Bemidji State University**

Bachelor of Arts Cum Laude, Biology, March 1979

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#### Southwest State University

Undergraduate studies in Biology and Political Science, September 1970 through March 1972 Senate Engrossing

**MILITRAY SERVICE** 

United States Army, January 1973 through January 1976

Discharge: Honorable

Training: Counter-Intelligence Coordinator (Class Honor Graduate)

#### **LEADERSHIP**

#### Professional activities:

Minnesota State Bar Association, Member, 1989 through present

Appointed to ad hoc Judicial Elections Committee in 2003 and served as subcommittee chair Judiciary Committee (formerly Judicial Elections Committee), member 2004-present; Chair 2004-05, Co-Chair 2005-06 and 2006-07

Insurance for Members Committee, Chair 2005-06, 2006-07 and 2007-08

Fair Response Committee, member 2009 - present

Twelfth District Bar Association, Member 1998 through present

President 2014-15

The Beacon (Minnesota Association for Injured Workers newsletter), columnist June 1994 through 1998

North Dakota State Bar Association, Member, 1989 through present

Minnesota Association for Justice (formerly Minnesota Trial Lawyers Association), Member 1989 through present

#### Civic Activities:

#### Minnesota Clean Water Council

Statewide Fishing Organizations Representative – Gov. Mark Dayton appointee January 31, 2017 – January 4, 2021

#### Minnesota Department of Natural Resources

Citizen member – Esocid (Northern Pike/Muskellunge) Fish Workgroup January 2015 – present Muskie/Pike Representative – Mille Lacs Fisheries Advisory Committee October 2015 – present

Minnesota Citizens Commission for the Preservation of an Impartial Judiciary Gov. Al Quie, Chairman; Commission Member (2006-2007)

#### **Litchfield Area Community Foundation**

Board Member, January 2010 - July 2017; Co-chair 2011-2012; Chair 2012 - July 2017

Meeker County Memorial Hospital, Litchfield, MN Board of Directors, January 2002 to January 2014

Immanuel Lutheran Church, Litchfield, MN

President, 2009 – 2012, 2020 - present; Vice President, 2002-2005 and 2013 – 2019

Litchfield Watercade, Inc. (a Minnesota non-profit corporation)

Board of Directors, 1999-2001; Chairman 2001

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# Application for the position Fishing Organization - Statewide

## Part I: Position Sought

Agency Name: Clean Water Council

Position: Fishing Organization - Statewide

### **Part II: Applicant Information**

Name: Steven Besser Phone: (320) 693-9321

County: Meeker

Mn House District: 18A US House District: 7

**Recommended by the Appointing Authority:** False

## Part III: Appending Documentation

#### **Cover Letter and Resume**

Type

File Type

Cover Letter application/pdf

Resume

application/pdf

Additional Documents (.doc, .docx, .pdf, .txt)

Type

File Name

No additional documents found.

Veteran: Yes

Part V: Signature

Signature: Steven V Besser Date: 11/23/2020 4:11:49 PM

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