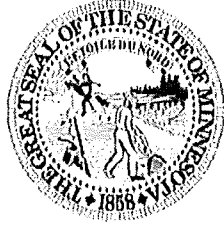


STATE OF MINNESOTA

Executive Department



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JAN 3 2022

Governor Tim Walz

President of the Senate

NOTICE OF APPOINTMENT

Thom Petersen

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

Commissioner

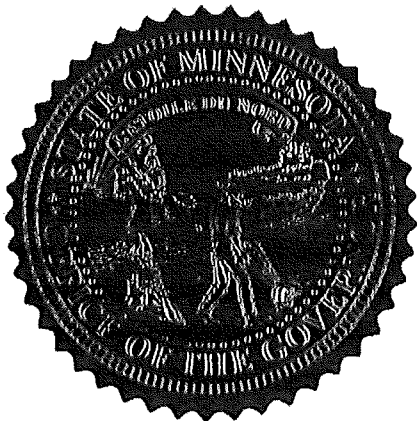
Minnesota Department of Agriculture

Effective: January 2, 2023

Expires: January 4, 2027

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it all rights, powers, duties, and emoluments granted by law and pertaining to this position until this appointment is superseded or annulled by me or other lawful authority or by any law of this State.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 January 2, 2023.



Handwritten signature of Tim Walz in black ink.

Tim Walz
Governor

Handwritten signature of Steve Simon in black ink.

Steve Simon
Secretary of State

Reappointment

Filed on January 2, 2023
Office of the Minnesota
Secretary of State,
Steve Simon

Thomas E. Petersen

9347 Wildflower Road Pine City MN 55063 612-860-9462 cell Email: petersenthome@gmail.com

SKILL SUMMARY

- LEADER: Tough, straightforward, and effective leadership
- LEGISLATIVE ANALYST: Effective research analyst on legislation affecting agriculture
- COMMUNICATOR: Persuasive, effective, fair, and diplomatic communicator
- ORGANIZER: Common sense approach to organizing; plan, execute and evaluate
- COMMITTED: Passionate about legislative process and the power of involvement
- ACTIVIST: Engaged in mobilizing people around political issues

EMPLOYMENT

COMMISSIONER January 2019 to present
Minnesota Department of Agriculture (MDA) St. Paul, MN
Lead agency that ensures integrity of Minnesota's food supply and oversees food production.

- Work to ensure MDA's mission "to enhance all Minnesotans' quality of life by equitably ensuring the integrity of our food supply, the health of our environment, and the strength and resilience of our agricultural economy" is followed and implemented.
- Coordinate and lead budget and 500 employees
- Work with partners to enact policies that ensure safe, affordable, and abundant food supply
- Serve on Boards required by statute including Environment Quality Board (EQB), Board of Water and Soil Resources (BWSR), and the Rural Finance Authority (RFA)

DIRECTOR OF GOVERNMENT RELATIONS October 2002 to Dec. 2018
Minnesota Farmers Union (MFU) St. Paul, MN
Represent Farmers Union before federal, state, and local entities

- Work with members to formulate agriculture and rural policy statement
- Personally, testified over 100 times before various legislative committees
- Handle member casework with federal and state government agencies
- Organize and coordinate events with members and farmers all around Minnesota
- Volunteer for Minnesota Farmers Union Political Action Committee (PAC); raising money, educating candidates on all levels, and coordinate endorsements of state legislative candidates

SAFETY DIRECTOR, MACHINE OPERATOR October 1998 to October 2002
Weyerhaeuser, Inc. St. Paul, MN
Fortune 100 Company specializing in paper and forest products

- Provided safety training and conducted accident investigations
- Picked by management to represent plant workers on companies hiring committee
- Operated die-cut flexo-folder box making machine

SELF-EMPLOYED May 1987 to Oct. 2002
Managed various farming and ranching operations Pine City, MN and Conyers, GA
Managed small business operations of both horse and crop farms.

- Managed operations of up to 100 horses
- Trained as many as 70 young people per week, teaching equestrian lessons
- Worked with many young people in horse and cattle 4-H programs
- Bought sold, and broke horses

EDUCATION

- Associate of Arts Degree 1982-1984
Normandale Community College, Bloomington, MN
- University of Georgia, Athens, GA 1988-1989

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- Cambridge Community College, Cambridge, MN 1993-1994
- University of Minnesota, Minneapolis, MN 1995, 2001-2003

APPOINTED BOARDS

University of Minnesota Citizens Advisory Committee 2015-present
Appointed by University of Minnesota Extension Dean Beverly Durgan, this volunteer committee provides consultative support to the Extension Dean.

Minnesota Fair Plan Board of Directors 2010-2018
Appointed by Governor Mark Dayton to the Board which provides basic and affordable property insurance to Minnesota resident. Chair the Budget and audit Committee.

Citizens Utility Board (CUB) 2017-2018
Currently serve on the Board of Directors of this organization which advocates for affordable and reliable utility service and clean energy for residential and small business consumers across Minnesota.

Farmers Legal Action Group (FLAG) 2006-2018
Serve as President of the Board of Directors of this St. Paul based non-profit that provides legal assistance and support to family farmers across the nation.

Minnesota Rural Broadband Coalition 2017-2018
Serve on the Executive Committee of this Coalition that works to build support for rural broadband across Minnesota and educate policy makers on issue.

MN Ag in the Classroom 2013-2017
Served on the Board of this program that works to educate K-6 grades on the importance of agriculture. Served on hiring, budget, and audit committees.

Minnesota State Organic Task Force 2003-2009
Appointed by Department of Agriculture Commissioner Gene Hugoson to advise Department and Governor on organic farming issues in Minnesota

Minnesota State Impaired Waters Task Force 2003-2007
Invited by then Pollution Control Commissioner Sheryl Corrigan to serve on the "G-16" stakeholders group charged with developing a plan and building consensus in cleaning up Minnesota's Impaired Waters

Minnesota State Biodiesel Task Force 2005-2006
Designated to serve as an alternate representing Minnesota Farmers Union by Department of Agriculture Commissioner Gene Hugoson to help the state work through issues while implementing the state 2% Biodiesel mandate

Next Generation Energy Board 2007-2010
Appointed by Governor Tim Pawlenty to serve as a member representing farm organizations on this board that will work to set and implement renewable energy policy in Minnesota for the future.

INTEREST/ACTIVITIES

- Mentoring young people
- Member of Minnesota Farmers Union and Minnesota Farm Bureau
- Member of Sustainable Farming Assoc. of MN
- Active with family in local saddle club
- Competing in horse shows

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