

STATE OF MINNESOTA



MARK DAYTON
GOVERNOR

NOTICE OF APPOINTMENT

Erica Sawatzke

RECEIVED

32687 County Road 28 South
Farwell, MN 56327
County of Pope
Congressional District 7

President of the Senate

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

LIVESTOCK PRODUCER

BOARD OF ANIMAL HEALTH

Effective: September 15, 2018

Term Expires: January 3, 2022

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it all rights, powers, duties, and emoluments granted by law and pertaining to this position until this appointment is superseded or annulled by me or other lawful authority or by any law of this State.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Minnesota to be affixed at the Capitol in the City of Saint Paul, September 10, 2018.



Mark Dayton

Governor

Steve Pinnon

Secretary of State

Replacing: Paul Hanowski

Application for the position Livestock Producers

Part I: Position Sought

Agency Name: Board Of Animal Health
Position: Livestock Producers

Part II: Applicant Information

Name: Erica Irene Sawatzke
Phone: (320) 808-9477
Mailing Address: 32687 County Road 28 South Farwell 56327
Email: ericanelson9477@gmail.com
County: Pope
Mn House District: 12A
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/vnd.openxmlformats-officedocument.wordprocessingml.document

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

Type	File Name
No additional documents found.	

Part IV: Optional Statistical Information

Gender: Female
Disability: No
Age: 32
Political Affiliation: No Answer
Ethnicity: White or Caucasian
Hispanic, Latino or Spanish origin: No

Part V: Signature

Signature: Erica Sawatzke
Date: 8/14/2018 9:08:56 PM

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SEP 12 2018

President of the Senate

8/9/18

Governor Mark Dayton,

It is with sincere passion that I am pleased to submit my application for the Board of Animal Health Livestock Producer position. As a young farmer, I have a determination for ensuring that the state of Minnesota is a leader in animal care, health, and overall well-being. My background specifically provides the board with knowledge about multiple areas of the production animal industry.

After receiving a degree in Animal Science from North Dakota State University, I served the turkey industry as Ag Program Specialist and Membership Coordinator for the Minnesota Turkey Growers Association. In that role, I strived to not only promote the industry, but to specifically support our farmers as they worked to provide the healthiest and safest supply of turkey products in the world. My job included working with farmers, educating the public in such realms as community events and the State Fair, and reaching out to youth through school visits.

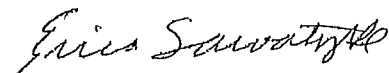
During the outbreak of Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza (HPAI) in 2015, I was embedded in the tireless efforts of informing poultry producers as the outbreak spread, informing the public of the impacts of the outbreak, and providing a producer's viewpoint of the hardships that farmers are going through as the outbreak spread. The tragic loss that so many farmers had to endure leaves an imprint in my heart that will never go away. So many of my decisions today about how our family operates our farm are impacted by what transpired during that outbreak.

My family has operated Oakdale Farm since 1866 and has been involved in turkey breeding since the early 1940's which was the very beginning of modernized turkey production. Our farm has been successful due to our longstanding tradition of proper animal care and constant innovation within the turkey breeding industry. In the spring of 2017, my husband and I officially became the sixth generation on the farm and have already made major improvements to our farm that ensure the health and safety of our birds. We look forward to continuing to improve our operation and hope to pass on the farm to the seventh generation.

Livestock production is in my blood. As a member of the Board of Animal Health, I will work to ensure that farmers have the support needed to provide the best living environment for their animals as possible. As our industry changes, so do our practices that ensure animal health. I believe that it is crucial for the Board of Animal Health to have members that are currently producing livestock and have a vision for the future of livestock production.

It is for all the aforementioned reasons that I submit my application to serve as a livestock producer on the Board of Animal Health. Please see my attached resume and application for further information and I would be happy to answer any questions you may have.

Respectfully submitted,


Erica Sawatzke

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SEP 12 2018

President of the Senate

Erica Sawatzke

32687 County Road 28 South, Farwell MN 56327 – (320)808-9477 -ericanelson9477@gmail.com

Objective: To obtain a government appointee position on the Board of Animal Health

Professional Experience

Oakdale Farms, Inc.

April 2017 – present

Farm Owner/Manager

Kensington, MN

- Develop effective farm staff through initial training and daily support
- Operate 16,000+ turkey operation through turkey management and facilities management
- Manage and collect routine National Poultry Improvement Plan laboratory samples

Minnesota Turkey Growers Association

August 2013 - March 2017

Ag Program Specialist & Membership Coordinator

Buffalo, MN

- Alert members of disease threats in coordination with the MN State Poultry Testing Laboratory
- Coordinate promotional activities on behalf of the turkey industry
- Update members through weekly information articles

NDSU Veterinary Diagnostic Services

June 2008 – March 2012

Laboratory Assistant

Fargo, ND

- Prepped cases for diagnostic testing
- Maintained daily records to comply with quality control regulations
- Created and revised standard operating procedures to comply with regulations

Education

North Dakota State University

2012

Bachelor of Science: Animal Science

Fargo, ND

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Associations

Minnesota Turkey Growers Association

SEP 12 2018

Minnesota Ag in the Classroom Board Director, Vice Chair

References

Steve Olson – (651) 270-3439

President of the Senate

John Zimmerman – (952)807-6886

Dr. Ken Greiner – (218)849-2451