STATE OF MINNESOTA

Executive Department



Governor Tim Walz

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President of the Senate

NOTICE OF APPOINTMENT

Katrina Kessler

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 Pollution Control Agency

Effective: November 1, 2021 Expires: January 2, 2023

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it all rights, powers, duties, and emoluments granted by law and pertaining to this position until this appointment is superseded or annulled by me or other lawful authority or by any law of this State.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 October 29, 2021.

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Tim Walz
Governor

Steve Simon
Secretary of State

Replacing: Peter Tester

Filed October 29, 2021 Office of the Minnesota Secretary of State Steve Simon

KATRINA KESSLER, P.E.

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520 Lafayette Road North, St. Paul, MN 55155 · 651 216 6767 katrina.kessler@state.mn.us

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EXPERIENCE

APRIL 2019 - PRESENT

ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER, WATER POLICY AND AGRICULTURE, MINNESOTA POLLUTION CONTROL AGENCY

Establish the vision for Minnesota's Clean Water Act programs including permitting, monitoring, assessment, and restoration/protection planning. Inspire and champion work to mitigate, and adapt to, climate change impacts on water infrastructure and natural and working lands. Advocate for, and oversee integration of, environmental justice and tribal sovereignty in the state's water policy and regulatory efforts. Lead the interagency preparation and implementation of the \$240 million Clean Water Fund biennial budget. Coordinate with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and U.S. Army Corps of Engineers on high profile issues including regulation of mining, pipeline construction, animal agriculture operations, and discharges to surface waters and groundwater. Identify and support opportunities to meet environmental responsibilities and foster vibrant agricultural and greater Minnesota economies. Liaise with federal and state legislators, tribal leaders, local governments, stakeholders and media representatives to communicate high profile and/or contentious policy issues and decisions. Represent the state on the Great Lakes Commission, the Upper Mississippi River Basin Association, the Association of Clean Water Administrators, the Environmental Council of States, and the Gulf of Mexico Hypoxia Task Force.

APRIL 2016 - APRIL 2019

DIRECTOR, SURFACE WATER AND SEWER DIVISION, MINNEAPOLIS PUBLIC WORKS

Directed the design, construction, operation and maintenance of City's sanitary and storm sewer systems. Set strategic vision for 140 staff. Developed and oversaw \$120 million annual budget. Regularly interacted with elected officials to make policy recommendations to maximize public investments in infrastructure. Engaged with members of the public and the media to build connections to water resources and support for work to maintain and improve the City's sanitary and storm sewer systems. Oversaw implementation of state's first "Integrated" Clean Water Act municipal stormwater permit. Leveraged strong relationship with the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency and Metropolitan Council Environmental Services to terminate the state's last Combined Sewer Overflow permit following a 17-year stalemate in permit negotiations. Collaborated with other local, regional, and state partners to address challenges of aging infrastructure, flooding, and water quality through a resilience lens.

OCTOBER 2012 - APRIL 2016

MANAGER, WATER ASSESSMENT SECTION, MINNESOTA POLLUTION CONTROL AGENCY

Led work to promulgate water quality standards including the adoption of eutrophication standards and wild rice. Oversaw implementation of water quality and treatment standards into discharge permits. Built relationships with municipal and industrial permit holders, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, tribal representatives and advocacy groups through interactions related to water quality standards, permit limits, compliance schedules, and variances. Managed efforts to assess water bodies, develop and communicate the impaired waters list.

KATRINA KESSLER, P.E.

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FEBRUARY 2008 - OCTOBER 2012

SUPERVISOR, EFFLUENT LIMITS UNIT, MINNESOTA POLLUTION CONTROL AGENCY

Supervised the development and implementation of water quality and technology based effluent limits into NPDES permits for municipal and industrial wastewater treatment facilities.

MARCH 2004 - FEBRUARY 2008

NPDES PERMIT ENGINEER, MINNESOTA POLLUTION CONTROL AGENCY

Developed NPDES permits for large municipal and industrial wastewater treatment plants with emphasis in the areas of electrical generation, petroleum refining, mining, and food processing.

JAN 2001 - MARCH 2004

ENVIRONMENTAL ENGINEER, THE RETEC GROUP, INC.

Evaluated and engineered remediation and storm water treatment systems. Collected field data, wrote project reports, corresponded with clients and regulators, and tracked budgets.

EDUCATION

SEPTEMBER 1999 – JUNE 2001 MS ENVIRONMENTAL ENGINEERING, UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA G.P.A 3.8/4.0

SEPTEMBER 1995 – MAY 1999 BA ENIVRONMENTAL STUDIES, AMERICAN UNIVERSITY, WASHINGTON DC

SPRING 1997
SEMESTER AT SEA, STUDY ABROAD IN NINE COUNTRIES

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SKILLS

G.P.A 3.7/4.0

- Can synthesize complex technical information and communicate relevance to wide range of stakeholders
- Able to foster a shared vision and inspire engagement to achieve results
- Critical thinker that enjoys problem solving with diverse groups
- Committed to collaborating across organizational boundaries to build and leverage relationships
- Strong understanding of water regulations and water and climate challenges facing Minnesota

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Statement of economic interest for a public official

Official: Kessler, Katrina

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Statement last updated: 11/10/2021

Occupation: Commissioner

Employer: Minnesota Pollution Control Agency

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Positions held

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Agency	Position held	Appointment date	Appointment ends	Appointment authori
Pollution Control Agency (/reports-and-data/officials- financial- disclosure/agency/19000000/)	Commissioner	11/1/2021	1/2/2023	Governor
Agricultural and Economic Development Board (/reports- and-data/officials-financial- disclosure/agency/10700000/)	Commissioner	11/1/2021	1/2/2023	Statutory
Environmental Quality Board (/reports-and-data/officials- financial- disclosure/agency/11800000/)	Commissioner	11/1/2021	1/2/2023	Statutory
Petroleum Tank Release Compensation Board (/reports-and-data/officials- financial- disclosure/agency/19300000/)	Commissioner	11/1/2021	1/2/2023	Statutory
Public Facilities Authority (/reports-and-data/officials- financial- disclosure/agency/18800000/)	Commissioner	11/1/2021	1/2/2023	Statutory

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Agency	Position held	Appointment date	Appointment ends	Appointment authori	
Water and Soil Resources, Board of (/reports-and- data/officials-financial- disclosure/agency/18600000/)	Commissioner	11/1/2021	1/2/2023	Statutory	
Pollution Control Agency (/reports-and-data/officials- financial- disclosure/agency/19000000/)	Assistant Commissioner	4/22/2019	10/31/2021	Pollution Control Agenc Commissioner	
Agricultural and Economic Development Board (/reports- and-data/officials-financial- disclosure/agency/10700000/)	Designee, Pollution Control Agency Commissioner	4/22/2019	10/31/2021	Statutory	
Public Facilities Authority (/reports-and-data/officials- financial- disclosure/agency/18800000/)	Designee, Pollution Control Agency Commissioner	4/22/2019	10/31/2021	Statutory	
Water and Soil Resources, Board of (/reports-and- data/officials-financial- disclosure/agency/18600000/)	Designee, Pollution Control Agency Commissioner	4/22/2019	10/31/2021	Statutory	
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Sources of income

Name of source Relationship to source

Director Officer Owner Member Partner Employer Employee Honorarium

City of Minneapolis (prior to April 2019)

State of Minnesota

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Business or professional activity categories

None reported

Securities

None reported

Real property

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None reported

Pari-mutuel horse racing interests

None reported

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