STATE OF MINNESOTA



TIM WALZ
GOVERNOR



FEB 2 1 2020

NOTICE OF APPOINTME Resident of the Senate

Gerald VanAmburg

4518 - 5TH ST. SO Moorhead, MN 56560 County of Clay Congressional District 7

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:

Chair and Citizen Member

BOARD OF WATER AND SOIL RESOURCES

Effective: September 18, 2019

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it all rights, powers, duties, and emoluments granted by law and pertaining to this position until this appointment is superseded or annulled by me or other lawful authority or by any law of this State.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Minnesota to be affixed at the State Capitol in the City of Saint Paul, September 16, 2019.



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art I: Position Sought

gency Name: Board Of Water And Soil Resources

osition: Citizen Member

art II: Applicant Information

ame: Gerald VanAmburg hone: (218) 236-7659

ounty: Clay

In House District: 09A S House District: 7

ecommended by the Appointing Authority: False

art III: Appending Documentation

over Letter and Resume

Type

File Type

lover Letter application/vnd.openxmlformats-officedocument.wordprocessingml.document application/vnd.openxmlformats-officedocument.wordprocessingml.document

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

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etter of Recommendation VanAmburg-gerald-recommendation-crafton-bwsr.pdf

art V: Signature

ignature: Gerald L. Van Amburg ate: 11/19/2018 5:35:28 PM

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President of the Senate

The Honorable Tim Walz Governor of Minnesota

Dear Governor Walz:

Please accept my application for reappointment to serve as a citizen representative and Chair of the Board of Water and Soil Resources. I have enjoyed my service on the Board since my initial appointment. I have been an active member, attending all meetings and have served as Chair since March 2017. I believe I have served faithfully and used my knowledge to help carry out the functions of the Board. During my tenure on the Board I have learned an immense amount about the programs the Board utilizes to carry out its mission to improve and protect Minnesota's water and soil resources. I believe both my professional credentials and education/research interests help me to fulfill the qualifications for this appointment. For over 42 years I was active in teaching and research directed at the natural resources of Minnesota. For over 25 years I have served as a manager of the Buffalo-Red River Watershed District, gaining experience in water management policy at both the local and state level. I have a deep respect and love for Minnesota's natural heritage, as well as an understanding of the economic importance of these resources. My educational background and research, together with my experience in water management and natural resources, provides some of the expertise that is required to serve on this Board. I can honestly say that I have no particular agenda to push other than the conservation of our natural resources. I believe that it is vitally necessary to protect our natural heritage for future generations while recognizing the present economic importance of our natural resources. I am proud of the conservation accomplishments of Minnesota agencies and would welcome the opportunity to serve another term on the Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources.

I respectfully ask to be appointed Chair of the Board of Water and Soil Resources because I believe I can do a good job. I am confident I have the support and respect of the other Board members. The Board is comprised of very capable, diligent individuals. The Executive Director, John Jaschke, is an excellent leader and the staff of BSWR is second to none in state agencies. Thus, it is an honor to work with all these people in carrying out the conservation ethic so forcefully displayed by Minnesota.

Sincerely,

Gerald L. Van Amburg

Professor of Biology, Emeritus

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President of the Senate

GERALD L. VAN AMBURG

Home Address

4518 5th St. So. Moorhead, Minnesota 56560 (218) 236-7659 (h) / (218) 790-2502 (c) Email: vanambur@cord.edu

Educational Background

Ph.D. in Range Science (emphasis in ecology), Texas A&M University, 1969. M.S. in Botany, Fort Hays Kansas State College, 1965. B.S. in Botany, Fort Hays Kansas State College, 1964.

<u>Professional</u> Experience

Professor emeritus and former Chairperson of the Biology Department, Concordia College, Moorhead, Minnesota, and have taught courses in introductory biology, ecology, limnology, plant taxonomy and environmental studies. One year of this period (November 1970 to November 1971) was spent in Nigeria as a representative of the International Atomic Energy Agency as an advisor to the Nigerian government in setting up a grassland research project. I have planned and led numerous Biology Travel Seminars during my tenure at Concordia College. The travel seminars have taken students to Australia, New Zealand, Hawaii, Mexico, Belize, San Salvador Bahamas, Kenya, Madagascar, eastern U.S. and western U.S. In 1997 I was the faculty leader for our semester-long program in India, which is an interdisciplinary study of development. This provided an opportunity to examine first-hand the environmental problems associated with the many facets of economic development. In 2003 I was a faculty co-leader for a semester-long honorary academic program in Greece. During this semester I taught an introductory ecology course and a Mediterranean Studies course. Both of these courses allowed myself and the students to gain insight into the ecological challenges facing Greece and the Mediterranean region. Since 1980 my professional priorities have been in the area of watershed management. This has included wetland ecosystem research as well as an active role in public service and policy-making related to water management. In 2000 I helped to establish and obtain funding for the International Water Institute, and served as the director of one of its two centers. The mission of the institute is to provide a forum for research, public education and information dissemination relating to flood damage reduction and natural resource protection and enhancement in the Red River Basin. I currently serve on the IWI Board of Directors.

Honorary and Professional Societies

American Institute of Biological Sciences
Beta Beta Beta (National Biological Society)
Ecological Society of America
Gamma Sigma Delta (Agriculture)
International Association for Ecology (INTECOL)
Minnesota
Phi Kappa Phi
Sigma Xi

<u>Awards</u>

River Keeper of the Year, 1996 from
Al Society)
River Keepers, Fargo - Moorhead
Conservation Award, 1996 from Minnesota
Chapter of The Nature Conservancy
Natural Resources Award, 1999 from
MN Department of Natural Resources
MN Department of Natural Resources
Friends of Water Planning, 2000 from
Minnesota Association of Water Planners

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Community and Professional Activities

- Appointed by Gov. Dayton as Citizen Member to the MN Board of Water and Soil Resources, June 2011. Elected Vice-President October 2011 and currently serve in that capacity. Reappointed to the Board for second four-year term, June 2015.
- Director, Center for Flood Damage Reduction and Natural Resource Studies, International Water Institute, Fargo, ND 2000 2011. In this capacity I had the responsibility of integrating research professionals from various institutions and agencies to cooperate, via research, in solving the critical water management and natural resources issues in the Red River Basin.
- Appointed to the Buffalo-Red River Watershed Board of Managers in 1986. Served as Secretary during 1987. Elected President in 1988 and served in that capacity until 1997. Served as Vice President 1998-2010. Elected President in 2011, serving through 2016. Currently serve on the Board.
- Elected to the Board of Directors, Minnesota Association of Watershed Districts, in 1989. Served as President in 1993 1994. Served as Vice-President 1995 2001.
- Appointed by the Governor to the Wetland Heritage Advisory Committee, 1991, State of Minnesota. Reappointed in January 1994, 1997 and 2000.
- Past President, Board of Directors, River Keepers, Fargo, ND, Moorhead, MN.
- Served many years as a member of the Advisory Board, Moorhead State University Center for Science, Moorhead State University, Moorhead, MN.
- Served as a member of the Technical Advisory Team, Interbasin Water Transfer Studies Program, North Dakota Water Resources Research Institute.
- Member of the Local Water Planning Advisory Committee, Clay County, Minnesota.
- Served on the Red River Basin Mediation Work Group 1998-1999 and continue to serve on the Red River Basin Flood Damage Reduction Work Group
- Active member, past president, Moorhead Midday Lions International.
- Active member and elder of the Moorhead Presbyterian Church.

Publications and Presentations Upon Request

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