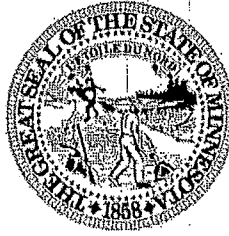


STATE OF MINNESOTA
Executive Department



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Governor Tim Walz

President of the Senate

NOTICE OF APPOINTMENT

Paul Nelson

Congressional District 6

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

Public Board Member

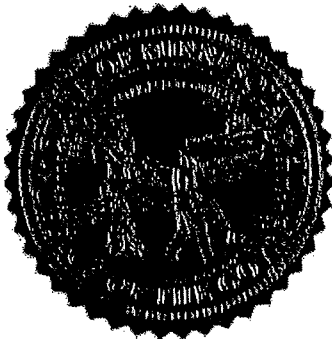
Minnesota Environmental Quality Board

Effective: January 4, 2022

Expires: January 5, 2026

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it all rights, powers, duties, and emoluments granted by law and pertaining to this position until this appointment is superseded or annulled by me or other lawful authority or by any law of this State.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 1, 2021.



Handwritten signature of Tim Walz in black ink.

Tim Walz
Governor

Handwritten signature of Steve Simon in black ink.

Steve Simon
Secretary of State

New Seat

Filed on October 1, 2021
Office of the Minnesota
Secretary of State,
Steve Simon

PAUL NELSON

6743 County Line Road, SE ✦ Delano, Minnesota 55328
763-334-3757 ✦ pnnelspa@gmail.com

March 17, 2021

To Whom It May Concern:

I am applying for the 6th Congressional District vacancy on the Environmental Quality Board (EQB). I live in the District and bring a lifetime of both personal and professional experience regarding environmental issues. This experience enhances my ability to help advance the EQB's 5-Year Strategic Plan, and the Work Plan that was updated at the February 2021 meeting. Areas where my expertise and experience line up particularly well with these plans include:

1. Fostering innovation as highlighted in the first EQB strategy where I have been on the cutting edge leading efforts to incorporate human/social aspects into resource planning and management. This expertise is documented in our book Inspiring Action for Nonpoint Source Pollution Control where I am the lead author. I've also managed a number of innovative projects such as the Vermillion River Temperature Trading Study, and the Sand Creek watershed implementation partnership that resulted in water body impairment delistings and documented runoff yield reductions.
2. Understanding how to inspire action at the local and individual level not just for nonpoint pollution control but for other environmental issues as well. This will be important for effectively implementing the Work Plan element under EQB strategy 5 dealing with efforts to support local climate action. I have spent over half my career at the local government level, and have expertise building community and individual capacity to act. In fact, I am currently volunteering with a network in Delano to foster local climate action.
3. Understanding the Environmental Review (ER) process and supporting permitting programs. I have completed Minnesota ER documents (EAW, AUAR, and EIS) as a project proposer, third party contractor and as the Responsible Governmental Unit. I have also worked on federal ER documents. This is complemented by my experience obtaining permits and administering permitting programs at the local level.

Finally, I bring a rich mix of experience. The early part of my career, as demonstrated in my resume, focused on water resources and conservation. After I was asked to combine and manage the Natural Resources and Environmental Health programs in Scott County I also developed expertise in solid and hazardous waste.

I have recently retired and do not have any conflicts of interest. If you have any questions, I can be reached at the number or e-mail listed above. Thank you for your consideration.

Paul Nelson
Enclosures: Resume

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President of the Senate

PAUL NELSON

6743 County Line Road, SE ✦ Delano, Minnesota 55328
763-334-3757 ✦ pnnelspa@gmail.com

EXECUTIVE PROFILE

Accomplished Water Resources Professional with 30+ years of success leading watershed management, pollution prevention, environmental outreach, and aquatic ecosystem restoration programs. Strong project and program management experience with a rich mix of solution identification, consensus building, and policy development expertise to support water resource improvement.

Highly respected for communicating effectively, leading high-performing organizations, and building cross-functional teams. Skilled at building relationships with internal and external partners. *Core competencies include:*

- Budget Development/Administration
- Grant Writing/Fundraising
- Visioning and Motivating

- Water monitoring and applied research
- Staff Leadership/Development
- Aquatic Systems Restoration

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CAREER HIGHLIGHTS

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- Lead Author of recently published book – *Inspiring Action for Nonpoint Source Pollution Control*
<https://freshwater.org/inspiring-action/>
- Led watershed management efforts resulting in the removal of the Credit River, McMahon and O'Dowd Lakes from the USEPA impaired waters list.
- Directed the implementation of 800+ water quality practices on private and public land.
- Secured and managed \$5+ million in grants over the past few years for watershed management.
- Developed plans in all sectors of water management including Greenway, Watershed Management, Stormwater Management, Wastewater Master, Flood Damage Reduction, Lake Management, Water Supply Protection, and Aquatic Invasive Species Management.
- Secured buy-in and consensus among groups on complex water resource issues for high dollar value initiatives.
- Completed monitoring and/or studies of over 100 lakes and dozens of river systems across the country.
- Effective communicator, and sought after speaker, able to translate complex technical subjects into information understandable by local Boards and lay-person audiences.
- Managed organizations, programs, and interdisciplinary teams recognized as "well run" and "high performing" by others.
- Acted as a mentor for a number of wonderful professionals.

President of the Senate

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

SCOTT COUNTY, Shakopee, Minnesota

2014 - 2019

Department Manager, Environmental Services

In August 2014 was asked to combine and lead the Environmental Health and Natural Resources Programs as one department. Direct hazardous waste, household hazardous waste collection, solid waste and septic system programs in addition to the natural resources programs described below. Develop and administer an annual budget of \$5 to \$6 million, directly manage a team of 14 and indirectly lead a second team of 11. Member of the Senior Leadership Team.

SCOTT COUNTY, Shakopee, Minnesota

2006 - 2014

Program Manager, Natural Resources

Direct natural resource initiatives county-wide, including Watershed Management Organizations, reporting to the County Board and the Watershed Planning Commission. Develop and administer annual program budgets, ensuring objectives are met. Led a staff of two and team of 10, addressing water resource issues.

- Oversee a payment-for-environmental services program, enabling the execution of 800+ watershed conservation projects with land owner approval.
- Manage natural resource capital improvements and upland ecosystem restorations projects with budgets up to \$2 million.
- Direct a water monitoring and inventory program; implement a public education and outreach program; complete studies and draft TMDLs; and develop policies.
- Led and implemented special projects, including the \$1 million Market Based Temperature Study for the Vermillion River, the Sand Creek Watershed Impaired Waters Study, and the Scott County Natural Area Corridors Program.
- Led disaster mitigation coordination and legislative efforts following the 2014 Presidential Disaster Declaration.

HDR ENGINEERING, Golden Valley, Minnesota

2004 - 2006

Water Resources Scientist

- Facilitated the development of a common strategic vision for the Minnehaha Creek Watershed District, aligning environmental, recreational, aesthetic, flooding and private property interests.
- Developed standards and regulations for the Scott Watershed Management Organization and the Vermillion River Watershed Joint Powers Organization; led a fish impingement study for a Midwest power company.
- Evaluated fisheries and water quality for an EIS to assess increased waste water discharge and additional water intake.
- Partnered with the Vadnais Lakes Watershed Management Organization to create a draft comprehensive Watershed Management Plan, supporting lake management and drinking water supply protection.
- Identified and developed solutions addressing water resource planning issues for the Chicago Lakes Improvement District.

WENCK AND ASSOCIATES, Maple Plain, Minnesota

2003 - 2004

Project Manager/Marketing

Provided guidance and advice on a variety of water resource projects.

- Conducted an Alternative Urban Area-Wide Review guiding land use decisions affecting Caribou Lake.
- Drafted an Aquatic Plant Management Plan for the Sauk River Watershed District, to control invasive aquatic plants.
- Provided water resources planning, policy development and regulatory program development assistance to the Prior Lake Spring Lake and Minnehaha Creek Watershed Districts, and the Vermillion River Watershed Management Organization.

PRIOR LAKE - SPRING LAKE WATERSHED DISTRICT, Prior Lake, Minnesota

1999 - 2003

Administrator, Part-Time

Administered and tracked a \$500,000 operating budget, ensuring implementation of the District's Watershed Management Plan. Managed all aspects of facility operations and supervised 2-district employees, and directed the attorney, engineer, and accountant. Built strong working relationships with internal and external business partners, including community members by implementing public outreach programs.

- Managed a water quality improvement and permitting program, supporting new and re-development initiatives.
- Oversaw a pay for environmental services program implementing conservation practices on private land.
- Developed rules for regulatory permitting program.
- Managed studies and planning efforts for the long term management of lake levels and outlet channels.
- Spearheaded the implementation of an invasive aquatic plant control effort for Spring Lake.
- Teamed with the Minnesota DNR and local Soil and Water Conservation district to install conservation practices.

SUSTAINABLE WATERSHED STRATEGIES, INC., Delano, Minnesota

1999 - 2003

Owner and President

Founded a watershed planning, support, and management services company charged with managing all phases of various high-profile projects.

- Worked with the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency in developing a Volunteer Surface Water Monitoring Guide.
- Facilitated public involvement for the Metropolitan Council Empire Waste Water Treatment Plan Master Plan.
- Assisted with the completion of a Watershed Plan for the Vermillion River Watershed Joint Powers Organization.
- Led decision-making and stakeholder communication, supporting the \$4.4 million Doan Brook Watershed planning initiative in Cleveland, Ohio.

Early Career History: Montgomery Watson Americas, Water Quality Scientist/Project Manager; Barrett Kays and Associates, Hydrologic Scientist; and City of Raleigh, Conservation Engineer.

EDUCATION

NORTH CAROLINA STATE UNIVERSITY, Raleigh, North Carolina

Master of Science in Forestry ~ with minor in Agricultural and Biological Engineering (1986)

Additional course work completed in Storm Water Engineering

CENTRAL MICHIGAN UNIVERSITY, Mt. Pleasant, Michigan

Bachelor of Science in Biology (1981)

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PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT & AFFILIATIONS

Professional Development: Group Facilitation Methods, Institute of Cultural Affairs (2004); Secrets of Facilitating Implementation, Institute of Cultural Affairs (2005); Water Quality Trading Workshop, Conservation Technology Information Center (2008); Transformational Community Development, Life Waters (2011); Story Telling for Leaders, Arthur-Maxwell (2013); Achieving Collective Impact: How Partnerships Change Community Outcomes (2016)
Leadership and Performance Management training as part of the Senior Leadership Team, Scott County (2006 – 2019)
Chair: Nigeria Water Team (2010 – 2017)
Advisor: Global Health Ministries, WASH Efforts for Pilot Community Based Health Projects, Nigeria (2010)
Member: Synthesis Team, Minnesota Water Resources Sustainability Framework (2010 and 2011)

PUBLICATIONS

Inspiring Action for Nonpoint Source Pollution Control: A Manual for Water Resource Protection. Nelson, P.A., M. Davenport, and T. Kuphal. 2017. Freshwater Society. 110pages. <https://freshwater.org/inspiring-action/>
Increasing Voluntary Conservation Practice Adoption through Research and Relationship Building. Davenport, M., A. Pradhananga, and P. Nelson. March 2013. Water Resources IMPACT, Volume 15, Number 2.
Voter Attitudes on Flooding and Open Space: Support for Land Management. Nelson, P., C. Whiteford, and C. Gontarek. 2000. WEF Watershed 2000 Specialty Conference. July 2000. Vancouver, British Columbia.
Saturated Soil Hydraulic Conductivity in Loblolly Pine Plantations on Drained Sites. Nelson, P.A., and J.D. Gregory. 1988. Water Resources Bulletin 24(4):743-748.

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SELECTED SPEAKING ENGAGEMENTS

NOV 22 2021

Achieving Clean Water Through Relationship Building: A Social Scientist's Water Restoration and Protection Strategy. Pradhananga A., P. Nelson, and K. Musser. Keynote Presentation October 17, 2018 Minnesota Water Resources Conference. **President of the Senate**
Building Capacity and Confidence: It's Not All About Money. Nelson P., M. Davenport and T. Kupahl. Presented at the 2017 Minnesota Water Resources Conference.
Tale of Two Watersheds: Sand Creek & Credit River. Clean Water Land and Legacy Amendment - 5th Anniversary Celebration. Brookland Park, Minnesota. January 15, 2015.
Learning and Adapting: Using A Community Capacity Model for Watershed Program Assessment. Nelson P. and M. Davenport. Presented at the 2013 Minnesota Water Resources Conference.
Putting Targeting Into Practice: Understanding and Winning the Confidence of Landowners. Davenport M. and P. Nelson. Freshwater Foundation Precision Conservation Conference. March 2012.
What's Working Well Versus Not Well At the Local Level. Minnesota Clean Water Council. June 2011.
Beyond Random Acts of Conservation. Nelson P. Guest Speaker at the Minnesota Chapter of the North American Fisheries Society 2010 Annual Meeting.
Sand Creek Impaired Waters Study Converting Technical Information into Focused Policies and Programs. Nelson P., M. Bokman, L. Klement, J. Mocol. Presented at the 2010 Minnesota Water Resources Conference.
Vermillion River Market-Based Temperature Trading Study Findings and Recommendations. Nelson P., K. Carlson, K. Chapman, T. Nelson, B. Asleson, and W. Herb. Presented at the 2010 Minnesota Water Resources Conference.

HONORS AND AWARDS

Certificate of Recognition: Excellence in Performance. 2014. Scott County; Certificate of Recognition: Excellence in Collaboration. 2009. Scott County; Project Management Award. 1998. Montgomery Watson; Special Achievement Award. 1981. National Park Service

**Application for the position Public Member - 6th Congressional District Application Date:
3/17/2021 7:01:05 AM**

Part I: Position Sought

Agency Name: Mn Environmental Quality Board
Position: Public Member - 6th Congressional District

Part II: Applicant Information

Name: Mr Paul Nelson
Phone:
County: Wright
Mn House District: 29A
US House District: 6
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: No Answer

Part V: Signature

EVO PDF Tools Demo

Signature: Paul Nelson
Date: 3/17/2021 7:01:05 AM

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