
New Hampshire

Department of Agriculture,
Markets, and Food

Shawn N. Jasper, Commissioner

August 27, 2025

Her Excellency, Governor Kelly A. Ayotte
and The Honorable Council
State House
Concord, New Hampshire 03301

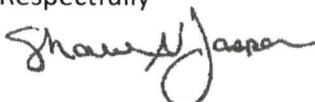
REQUESTED ACTION

Pursuant to RSA 436:7 and RSA 94:6, the Department of Agriculture, Markets and Food, seeks approval to appoint Dr. Mark Prescott (Position # 9U033, Appropriation #02-18-18-182010-27000000-011-500126) as Director of Division of Animal Industry, State Veterinarian at a salary level of \$129,583 (LG II Step 5), effective October 3, 2025 upon Governor and Council approval. 100% General Funds.

EXPLANATION

Dr. Prescott was interviewed on August 14, 2025. Dr. Prescott earned a Doctorate Degree in Veterinary Medicine from Tufts University, in Grafton, Massachusetts in 1999. He is a Licensed Veterinarian (License No: 1438) with the State of New Hampshire with over twenty-six (26) years of experience. Dr. Prescott is a New Hampshire native with extensive professional experience in many roles in private practice and within the United States Department of Agriculture. He has served domestically and abroad as a Supervisory Medical Officer and Agricultural Science Officer. His previous experience includes responsibilities for USDA Veterinary Services activities for the State of New Hampshire. Dr. Prescott's qualifications and experience in New Hampshire's animal agriculture sector will be a valuable addition to the New Hampshire Department of Agriculture, Markets, and Food.

Respectfully



Shawn N. Jasper
Commissioner

Mark C. Prescott, DVM

Education:

B.A., English/Forestry, University of California at Berkeley.
December, 1991.

DVM, Tufts University School of Veterinary Medicine. May, 1999.
Executive Leadership Program, Federal Executive Institute, April 2016.

Work Experience:

USDA APHIS VS, Agricultural Science Officer, Full time. August 2024- present, Acting Director, Office of International Affairs, Veterinary Services. Responsible for advising the Deputy Administrator, Veterinary Services (USA Chief Veterinary Officer), on matters related to international animal health. Recommended positions and advised on United States Government positions related to animal health. Collaborated across the United State Government with other regulatory agencies including the FDA, CDC, NOAA and EPA to harmonize US positions. Worked with US stakeholders to create strategies to align international animal health requirements with US positions. Liaised with foreign Chief Veterinary Officers and Staff on international standards and formed coalitions to promote the US position. Served as a subject matter expert and advisor to the World Organisation of Animal Health (WOAH) on the basic text committee. Conducted meetings of the Global Framework for Transboundary Animal Diseases of the Americas (GF-TADS) as a board member to determine emergency responses of the Americas to transboundary animal diseases. Supervised and managed staff organizing bilateral and multilateral international meetings. Deployed on HPAI response teams as surveillance team leader, disease reporting officer and lead epidemiologist, as well as USDA liaison to the State.

USDA APHIS VS, Agricultural Science Officer, Full time. July 2022- August 2024, Trade Policy Advisor, Veterinary Services. Created strategies for the expansion and access of US animals and animal products into foreign countries. Negotiated protocols with stakeholders, both foreign and domestic, that maximized US markets and access. Advised exporter stakeholders on requirements for export. Negotiated with foreign counterparts to have held shipments released. Liaised with other USG trade agencies, including FSIS, FDA, CDC, NOAA, and EPA to produce a comprehensive trade agenda that involved agriculture as a key player. Worked internally to develop consensus for agency-wide regulatory trade strategies and plans for implementing said strategies. Briefed trade USDA, commodity trade organizations, and the public on regulatory trade policy and trade wins. Provided briefings on international standards, foreign countries' regulations to government and non-government stakeholders Drafted memos, press briefings and press releases for the legislative and public affairs to publish. Served as a reviewer of cooperative grant proposals and provided recommendations. Served as a mentor to junior trade staff veterinarians.

USDA APHIS IS, Agricultural Science Officer, Full time. July 2021- July 2022, Regional Manager for North America. Supervised 15 USDA offices and over 300 personnel conducting plant and animal health activities. Developed, prepared, and implemented a \$16 million budget for the region. Was responsible for trade, animal, and plant health portfolios for the largest agricultural trading relationship in the world. Oversaw pest and disease eradication efforts, trade negotiations, and import and export programs. Accompanied the US Secretary of Agriculture, and Assistant Secretary, to negotiations as negotiator, advisor, and technical support. Led negotiations with Mexican counterparts on expansion of US markets including poultry and animal products. Briefed the US Ambassador and staff as well as numerous members of Congress on USDA programs, the status of the export of US agricultural products, and animal health programs. Sat on the North American Animal Health Committee for the US.

USDA APHIS IS, Agricultural Science Officer, Full time. July 2017-July 2021, Brussels, Belgium. Regional Manager for Europe, Africa, and the Middle East. Responsible for APHIS activities throughout Europe, Africa, and the Middle East including 8 offices, 56 countries, and 7 time zones. Developed and managed a \$6 million budget while overseeing approximately 30 staff. Opened over 60 new markets in 19 countries for US animal and animal product commodities. Served as the USDA lead for APHIS on the EU trade policy committee developing overall trade policy for the US. As a member of the U.S. Embassy country team, worked all cabinet agencies to determine overall U.S. Government policy to the EU advocating for U.S. agriculture. Supervised Veterinary Services staff seconded to the UN Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) and the World Organisation of Animal Health (WOAH). Served as a committee member of the FAO steering committee on Emergency Management Committee for animal health as well as an advisor to WOA for their General Fund. Escorted the Secretary and Undersecretary on visits to the EU, FAO and WOA as a technical advisor and host.

USDA APHIS IS, Agricultural Science Officer, Full time. July 2013-July 2017, Riverdale, MD. Director of the International Regulatory Capacity Building staff. Responsible for planning, tracking, and funding all capacity building activities across APHIS. Supervised staff of 8 employees, including 2 veterinarians, who designed and implemented capacity building in to over 80 countries. Worked across USDA and within the Interagency (Department of Defense, Department of State, USAID) process to raise over \$12 million per year to deliver international capacity building. Helped instruct courses on foreign animal disease, emergency response, biosecurity, risk assessments among others. Served as the Deputy Administrator for International Services when requested. Served as a technical advisor to the National Security Council on Sanitary and Phytosanitary issues.

USDA APHIS IS, Agricultural Science Officer, Full time. July 2009-July 2013, Brasilia, Brazil. Responsible for multi-agency coordination of APHIS issues within United States Mission to Brazil. Managed the budget for the three APHIS offices in Brazil. Negotiated agricultural protocols and work plans with Brazil's Ministry of Agriculture. Liaised with

FAS, USTR, and the Department of State to make certain APHIS met its obligations under the WTO cotton framework agreement. Represented the USDA APHIS at the U.S./Brazil Consultative Committee on Agriculture (CCA). Developed a coalition of foreign government agricultural representatives and governments to respond to proposed inconsistent Brazilian legislation. Led multiple disease evaluation visits for the evaluation of Brazil's current animal disease status. Planned, organized, and taught at the South American Emergency Response Workshop that was cofounded by the government of Brazil and had the participation of all countries in South America except for Venezuela. Managed and developed grant funded capacity building activities for activities in South America. Managed Brazil's Preclearance and system approach activities for the export of mangoes and papayas to the US. Member of US Embassy Brazil's multiagency committee to meet the President's export initiative goals. Chairperson of the Embassy's ICASS committee in charge of Brazil's approximately \$35 million ICASS budget. Ambassador's representative to the school board of the American School of Brasilia.

USDA APHIS IS, Agricultural Science Officer, Full time. July 2006-July 2009, Tokyo Japan. Responsible for APHIS plant and animal activities in relation to the United States Mission to Japan. Negotiated protocols for the export of U.S. commodities ranging from beef, blood products for feeding, gelatin, and pet food to cherries, chipping potatoes, and citrus products. Negotiated the release of retained U.S. animal and plant health products for entry into Japan. Managed Preclearance programs and staff for the export of apples, citrus and pears to the U.S. Supervised local professional and administrative staff.

USDA APHIS VS, Supervisory Medical Officer, Full time. March 2002-July 2006. Responsible for Veterinary Services activities for the State of New Hampshire as well as parts of Maine and Massachusetts. Conducted flock inspections, did public outreach activities, and did animal disease investigations as a foreign animal disease diagnostician (FADDL). Conducted animal and animal product export certification activities. Completed select agent facility inspections.

USDA FSIS, Supervisory Medical Officer, Full time. September 2001- March 2002. In charge of relief meat inspection for the Northeastern United States. Conducted meat inspection activities of slaughter and meat product facilities throughout the Northeastern U.S. Supervised meat inspectors in red meat facilities, egg facilities, and meat product facilities.

Clinical Veterinarian, Stratham-Newfields Veterinary Hospital, Newfields, NH. August 1999-August 2001. Full time. Responsible for veterinary clinical medicine and surgery. Utilized diagnostic ultrasound as well as many other diagnostic modalities for the determination of treatment for domestic animals.

Researcher, Tufts University School of Veterinary Medicine, Grafton, MA. June 1997-August 1998. NIH and Dodge Foundation funded project developing a filter paper based cELISA for the determination of rinderpest antibodies. Part time. Conducted a field trial of said technology in Southern Sudan on a USAID/UN grant during the summer of 1998.

Peace Corps Volunteer, Agricultural Extensionist, The Kingdom of Lesotho, April 1993- December 1994. Full time. Organized and planned a community outreach program. Taught gardening, nutrition, and hygiene in local schools, as well as, to adult groups. Established community run seed bank, orchard, and marketing contacts. Conducted numerous workshops on agricultural, technical, and cultural topics.

Language Scores: Portuguese 3/3, Japanese 1+/1+, French 2+/3

Awards, Citations, Special Assignments:

2022: APHIS Administrator's Group Award
2021: Individual Achievement Award
2019: Individual Cash Award (performance)
2019: Meritorious Service Increase (MSI)
2018-2019: Special Assignment: ICASS Budget Committee Chair, US Embassy Brussels
2018: Meritorious Service Increase (MSI)
2017: Individual Performance Award – Superior Performance
2016: Individual Cash Award
2016: APHIS Administrator Award
2014-2015: Special Assignment: APHIS IS Global Health Security Working Group Representative
2014-2015: Special Assignment: APHIS Management Team (AMT) IS Field Representative
2010-2013: Special Assignment: U.S. Ambassador's Representative to the Board of the American School of Brasilia
2012: Individual Cash Award
2010-2012: Special Assignment: ICASS chairperson for US Mission Brazil
2011: Meritorious Service Increase (MSI)
2012- APHIS Leadership Development Program
2012 – Member of Exotic Newcastle Disease Evaluation Team for Brazil
2011- Lecturer for ENDESA, Brazil's National Veterinary Assembly
2011- Instructor in Avian Influenza for South American Emergency Responders
2009 – Special Act Award
2009 – Certificate of Merit for Exemplary Performance
2009 – FSI Intermediate Leadership
2008 – Meritorious Service Award
2007 – OIE Asia/Pacific USDA representative
2007 – Instructor High Pathology Avian Influenza Epidemiology Course, Bali, Indonesia
2007 – FAO/USDA High Pathology Avian Influenza Rapid Responder
2007 – Moderator APEC AFAS training
2007 – Nominated for the Secretary's award for implementation of the Asian Gypsy Moth Program

NIH research fellow, Dodge Fellow, George R. Westman scholar.