

# Frisco West Board of Directors Election 2024

## Voter Guide

Election Day is May 4, 2024

This voter guide is intended for the residents of Frisco West, a Water District in Denton County, Texas. The author of this voter guide is Patrick F. Larue, General Manager of the District, with the approval of the Board. In publishing this voter guide, I believe that voting is the core essence of democratic governance, and that in order to most effectively vote, residents should be well-informed on the candidates. I will also attest that I hold no bias towards or against any individual candidate, and that this questionnaire was provided to all three candidates. **Each of the candidates have been provided a questionnaire, based on the *Dallas Morning News* standard questionnaire provided to candidates during the 2024 election cycle for local offices, with some modifications to wording.** No candidate was coerced into responding, and all responses were solicited voluntarily. Their responses are below, with no editing. All errors in this document are mine. Candidates who responded are listed in alphabetical order.

### **About the District**

The District is governed by an elected Board of Directors, who serve four-year terms of office. Water Districts, and the Boards of Directors who govern them, are proscribed certain powers by the State of Texas. Water districts are overseen by the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality and by Denton County.

### **Power of the Directors**

The Board of Directors have the ability to incur debt through the issuance of bonds, may levy taxes, enter into contracts, provide water and sewage services, obtain easements and condemn property. They currently manage annual revenue of over \$9 million through property taxes and provided services.

### **About This Election**

On May 4, 2024, two Board positions are being contested. One position is currently held by Billy Logsdon, and one position is held by Jenifer Robison. **On the ballot, voters will have the choice of selecting zero, one, or two of the candidates below.**

# Billy Logsdon

1. What is your occupation or primary source of income?  
- Land Surveyor
2. What is your educational background? (Please include all post-secondary degrees)  
- BS Survey Technology minor in Business
3. How long have you lived in the District?  
- since 2015
4. How many of the past 6 monthly Board meetings have you attended?  
- All
5. Please include a list of up to 10 past and/or current civic and volunteer accomplishments.  
Youth baseball and softball coach for over 20 years.  
Youth and HS baseball umpire for over 15 years.  
HOA Board of Frisco Hills  
Society of Professional Surveyors Director  
Volunteer during Hurricane Katrina DFW Shelter Volunteer 2005  
Have been a regular blood donor since 1998
6. Directors have the responsibility to maintain the public trust. Considering this, have you ever been arrested or involved in any criminal proceedings? If so, please explain.  
- No. Being a licensed professional in Surveying in 8 states, we must maintain a spotless record and take yearly ethics classes.
7. Directors have the unique responsibility to help set and manage public taxpayer funds and ensure the financial health of the District. Considering this, have you ever been part of any personal or business declarations of bankruptcy? If so, please explain.  
- No. Having grown up very poor and at times homeless in my youth, I have a keen understanding of the importance of managing your means that has guided me throughout my life.
8. What is an example of how you have led a team towards an important goal?  
- Being a youth coach there are numerous examples of leading teams to victory, but the most important goal I have tried to lead all of those teams to was growing up being good human beings.
9. What do you believe is the most important issue facing District residents over the next four years? How do you plan to address it?  
- Definitely the biggest issue facing this district is aging infrastructure, especially in the Frisco Ranch side of the district. The current Board has been putting together a

phased approach to identify the most critical infrastructure needs and repair those in an order that enables use to keep our yearly budget balanced and not need to look for additional finances. The current tax revenue generated should be more than enough to maintain our infrastructure if it is managed properly.

10. What is your stance on property tax rates in the District?

- Property tax probably where they need to be and we as a Board have actually lowered them ever year since I have been on this Board. The real issue that a lot of homeowners do not realize is that governments do not usually raise your taxes to generate more revenue, they simple raise the appraised value of your home. I try to educate homeowners I know on the importance of protesting the raised value of your home each year. Some homeowners I have talked to did not know that was an option and then others think that this will somehow decrease the amount you will be able to sell your home for, which both of these are not true.

11. Why are you running for this office?

- I originally was going to let me term expire and go back to being a Frisco West resident, but after thought and reflection I felt it would still be important to have someone with the experience I have (6 years on the Board) to stay on one more term to help navigate the infrastructure replacements that I spoke of above.

Additionally I think the current makeup of the Board (3 Frisco Hills residents and 2 Frisco Ranch residents) is reflective of the makeup of our District, as Frisco Hills is 50% larger than Frisco Ranch. I think I am a good balance on the Board as I am very fiscally conservative and hate spending money on anything that is not absolutely essential to the operations of this District. I have this mindset because this is not the Board's money, this is the residents money and we must always first ask ourselves " Is this spend absolutely vital to the operations of the District" and "How is this spend going to benefit the most amount of resident possible?"

There have been proposals in the past that I argued against such as the district buying the peach orchard across the street, which had a good amount of Board support. My position was that it was not vital to the operations of the District and it would not benefit the maximum amount of residents because having it over on the Frisco Hills side of the District the opportunities of Frisco Ranch residents to use it would be diminished and there was also a cost that would be associated with maintenance and upkeep, further maximizing the chance we would need to generate more revenue (Taxes) to own it. This was my position even though I am a Frisco Hills resident that is a short walking distance from this property.

I also argued against a park being built within the floodplain area in Frisco Ranch. We have been in the planning and design phases to rehab the large tract in the middle of Frisco Ranch to finally fix all of the erosion and stabilizes all 3 ponds. There was several options from our engineers, one of which included adding a flat grass area with potential benches and perhaps soccer goals. The problem is that knowing how floodplain areas work from my time in land development I know that about every 5-10 years we will get a rain event that could potentially damage the vegetation and equipment, especially if it was a well traffic piece of property and this would be a reoccurring expense the Board would have to build into our budget. The bigger issue with that park was the fact that there was no place to park nearby and resident would have to walk a significant distance across the floodplain to access this park. Again was this vital to the operation of the district and would it get the maximum amount of resident use. The answer again to both was no. It would have in fact raised the cost of the project by close to \$100K, which I could not justify to you the resident.

12. Why should voters choose you over your opponents?

- Experience sets me apart. I have experience on the Board (6 years) and I have experience in the land development and construction industry (28 years). This is vital, because I know what the issues in the District are(aging infrastructure) and am familiar with the processes to fix them.

## **Jenifer Robison**

1. What is your occupation or primary source of income?

- Mary Kay Consultant

2. What is your educational background? (Please include all post-secondary degrees)

- Broadcasting Degree

3. How long have you lived in the District?

- 12 years

4. How many of the past 6 monthly Board meetings have you attended?

- I think all. I may have missed one or two because of strep throat. I can't remember if that was in the last 6 months

5. Please include a list of up to 10 past and/or current civic and volunteer accomplishments.

I volunteer at my child's school, Legacy Christian Academy, at my church with AWANA, former VP of the Republican Women of Greater North Texas, Mary Kay

Ash Foundation Ambassador, volunteered with Animal Luv and SPCA, was president of local chapter of LeTip and president of my chapter of Beta Sigma Phi, former VP of Frisco Ranch HOA Board.

6. Directors have the responsibility to maintain the public trust. Considering this, have you ever been arrested or involved in any criminal proceedings? If so, please explain.  
- No.
7. Directors have the unique responsibility to help set and manage public taxpayer funds and ensure the financial health of the District. Considering this, have you ever been part of any personal or business declarations of bankruptcy? If so, please explain.  
- No.
8. What is an example of how you have led a team towards an important goal?  
- I trained and motivated my Mary Kay team to the top 2% in the company, earning a car and becoming a MK Director
9. What do you believe is the most important issue facing District residents over the next four years? How do you plan to address it?  
- Our aging facilities is an issue now and will continue to be over the next four years. We have already done a study and prioritized the jobs to be done. I intend to see it through and make sure we stay on budget.
10. What is your stance on property tax rates in the District?  
- I am dedicated to keeping the tax rate low and the quality of services high. I'm proud to say Frisco West has one of the lowest tax rates around. I have voted to lower taxes every year.
11. Why are you running for this office?  
- I truly care about the district. I enjoy being part of the process that solves the problems of the residents and makes Frisco West a better place to live.
12. Why should voters choose you over your opponents?  
- I strive to be accessible to every resident and communicate well. My strong points are people and leadership skills. Being the district president, gets you pats on the back in the good times, but you also get to shoulder all the responsibility when things are bad. I can do that without losing my temper, placing blame on others, making excuses or hiding behind my computer. I will always make decisions that are financially best for the Frisco West residents.

# Jason Shipley

1. What is your occupation or primary source of income?  
- Systems Administrator
2. What is your educational background? (Please include all post-secondary degrees)  
- BAAS from University of North Texas
3. How long have you lived in the District?  
- 15 years
4. How many of the past 6 monthly Board meetings have you attended?  
- 3
5. Please include a list of up to 10 past and/or current civic and volunteer accomplishments.  
- Soccer coach, Director DFWSO 8-A
6. Directors have the responsibility to maintain the public trust. Considering this, have you ever been arrested or involved in any criminal proceedings? If so, please explain.  
- NA
7. Directors have the unique responsibility to help set and manage public taxpayer funds and ensure the financial health of the District. Considering this, have you ever been part of any personal or business declarations of bankruptcy? If so, please explain.  
- NA
8. What is an example of how you have led a team towards an important goal?  
- I have led several projects in my professional life and worked with other departments including globally. Some of these projects had tight timelines that would have cost the company additional money if they were not completed on time.
9. What do you believe is the most important issue facing District residents over the next four years? How do you plan to address it?  
- Providing consistent water service to the residents of the system as there have had some issues with the water service in the past. We need determine a cost-effective way to keep the water on.
10. What is your stance on property tax rates in the District?  
- I think that our tax rate is fair, but always open to finding ways to reduce.
11. Why are you running for this office?  
- I have a good background in how water districts operate and want to use the knowledge I have acquired to help my community.

12. Why should voters choose you over your opponents?

- I previously served as a director for Denton County Fresh Water Supply District 8-A for over 20 years. During that time, I have seen various issues come up, and how we developed solutions to help solve them in a cost-effective ways.