

Water District #1 of Jo Co Governing Board At-Large 2021

Response ID:8 Data

1. Candidate Information

1. Candidate Name

Jill Westra

2. Candidate for Board Seat

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3. Address

City/State/Zip : WESTWOOD, KS 66205

4. Phone Number

5. Email Address

jill@jillwestrawaterone.com

6. Campaign Website

www.jillwestrawaterone.com

2. Candidate Background

7. Occupation/Work History (last 5 years - 25 words or less)

Environmental scientist with 20 year career in environmental consulting, environmental health and safety, and corporate ESG/sustainability management.

8. If you are or have been affiliated with a chamber of commerce or other business organization, please list which organization(s) and any leadership positions you have held.

9. Other recent political/community experience (50 words or less)

3. Issues and Policy

10. As a candidate, what are your top three policy issues regarding the Water District? (100 words or less)

1) Maintaining low water prices for rate payers, 2) Safeguarding our high quality water supply and 3) Putting sustainable water management practices and resiliency planning into place to ensure the previous two issues are viable for the future. Overall, each of these policy issues corresponds to an important pillar of Sustainability, be it environmental, social or financial. As a practicing environmental and Sustainability professional, it is my aim to participate in guiding the direction of our Water District's sustainability journey, ensuring that the highest quality water supply, service and value extends far into the future.

11. Why are you seeking to serve on the Water District Board? (100 words or less)

In looking for ways to serve my community, I feel this opportunity presents a great match for my professional skillset. My knowledge and expertise in the fields of environment, health & safety, sustainability, water conservation, public utilities and infrastructure make me very comfortable serving in this capacity. Having lived and worked in some of the most water-stressed parts of the planet, (e.g. the Kalahari desert in southern Africa) I understand the critical importance and value of clean, available water supplies and am committed to using my experience, perspective and passion to see to it that we protect what we have.

12. What do you believe makes you uniquely qualified to serve on the Board and most distinguishes you from your opponent(s) in this race? (100 words or less)

As an environmental scientist with over 20 years of experience in environmental consulting and sustainability management, I am very familiar with how water utilities operate. I am extremely knowledgeable regarding the challenges that our water district faces in terms of environment, social and governance issues. I have a unique perspective having worked on water infrastructure projects, professionally, around the world alongside civil engineers and project managers in some of the most water-stressed parts of the globe, and I am confident I can bring a valuable professional perspective to the Board as well as my personal passion for water stewardship.