

**BEFORE THE IDAHO PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION**

**IN THE MATTER OF TETON WATER & SEWER COMPANY'S APPLICATION FOR APPROVAL OF USE OF EMERGENCY RESERVE FUND MONIES** ) **CASE NO. TTS-W-19-01**  
)  
) **NOTICE OF APPLICATION**  
)  
) **NOTICE OF**  
) **MODIFIED PROCEDURE**  
)  
) **ORDER NO. 34518**

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On November 22, 2019, Teton Water & Sewer Company ("Teton Water" or "Company") applied to the Commission for approval of \$18,044.80 in expenses to be reimbursed from Teton's emergency reserve fund ("Fund").

The Commission now issues this Notice of Application and Notice of Modified Procedure setting comment and reply deadlines.

**NOTICE OF APPLICATION**

YOU ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED that the Commission authorized Teton Water to establish the Fund in Order No. 30718. The Fund is only to be used "for emergencies and major unplanned capital expenditures," such as plant maintenance, repair, or replacement. Order No. 30718 at 12. While Teton Water may immediately access the Fund, it must "establish an auditable paper trail and provide the Commission with contemporaneous written notice of the Company's use of the [Fund] for an allegedly permitted purpose with emergency details and related invoices." *Id.* at 13. After the emergency use of Fund monies, the Company must file an application requesting the Commission determine whether the Fund withdrawal(s) meet the Commission's eligibility requirements.

YOU ARE FURTHER NOTIFIED that Teton Water states it spent \$18,044.80 to purchase a backup well pump, transformer, and associated materials during summer 2019. The Company states Well #1 and Well #2 were running almost continuously in mid-June, but failing to maintain minimum reservoir levels during peak demand periods. The Company estimated that if Well # 1 failed the Company would have only 8-12 hours to repair the well before its reservoir would be emptied. The Company determined it would be wise to have a replacement pump, motor, and transformer on hand in case of failure.

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YOU ARE FURTHER NOTIFIED that the Company states it began consulting with Buchanan Well Drilling, Inc. (“Buchanan”) and Rendezvous Engineering on June 18, 2019 about pump replacement parts. On June 27, 2019, the Company requested Buchanan order a Goulds pump, a Franklin motor, 310 feet of pump cable, two check valves, and 42 feet of galvanized steel pipe. The total cost of this purchase was \$16,864.80. The Company also ordered around this time a replacement transformer for \$1,180.00.

YOU ARE FURTHER NOTIFIED that the Company states that even though the water system did not fail during summer 2019, the length of time required to get replacement parts shows the Company could not have fixed a well before its reservoir was depleted.

YOU ARE FURTHER NOTIFIED that the Company requests the Commission authorize the Company to use the Fund to cover these expenses, and requests its case be processed by Modified Procedure.

YOU ARE FURTHER NOTIFIED that the Application is available for public inspection during regular business hours at the Commission’s office. These documents are also available on the Commission’s web site at [www.puc.idaho.gov](http://www.puc.idaho.gov). Click on the “File Room” tab at the top of the page, scroll down to “Open Water Cases,” and then click on the case number shown in the caption to this document.

YOU ARE FURTHER NOTIFIED that all proceedings in this case will be held pursuant to the Commission’s jurisdiction under Title 61 of the Idaho Code and specifically *Idaho Code* §§ 61-501, 61-502, and 61-503.

YOU ARE FURTHER NOTIFIED that all proceedings in this matter will be conducted pursuant to the Commission’s Rules of Procedure, IDAPA 31.01.01.000 *et seq.*

#### **NOTICE OF MODIFIED PROCEDURE**

YOU ARE FURTHER NOTIFIED that the Commission has determined that the public interest may not require a formal hearing in this matter, and that it will proceed under Modified Procedure pursuant to Rules 201 through 204 of the Commission’s Rules of Procedure, IDAPA 31.01.01.201 through .204. The Commission notes that Modified Procedure and written comments have proven to be an effective means for obtaining public input and participation.

YOU ARE FURTHER NOTIFIED that any person desiring to state a position on this Application **must file a written comment in support or opposition with the Commission by February 26, 2020.** The comment must contain a statement of reasons supporting the comment. Persons desiring a hearing must specifically request a hearing in their written comments. Written comments concerning this Application shall be mailed to the Commission and the Company at the addresses reflected below:

**For the Idaho Public Utilities  
Commission**

Commission Secretary  
Idaho Public Utilities Commission  
PO Box 83720  
Boise, ID 83720-0074

**For Teton Water:**

Jon Pinardi  
Teton Water & Sewer Company  
PO Box 786  
Driggs, ID 83422

Street Address for Express Mail:

11331 W. Chinden Blvd.  
Building 8, Suite 201-A  
Boise, Idaho 83714

These comments should contain the case caption and case number shown on the first page of this document. Persons desiring to submit comments via e-mail may do so by accessing the Commission's home page located at [www.puc.idaho.gov](http://www.puc.idaho.gov). Click the "Consumers" tab then click the "Case Comment or Question Form" and complete the comment form using the case number as it appears on the front of this document.

YOU ARE FURTHER NOTIFIED that the Company must file any reply comments **by March 4, 2020.**

YOU ARE FURTHER NOTIFIED that if no written comments or protests are received within the time limit set, the Commission will consider this matter on its merits and enter its Order without a formal hearing. If written comments are received within the time limit set, the Commission will consider them and, in its discretion, may set the same for formal hearing.

**ORDER**

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that the Company's Application be processed by Modified Procedure, Rule 201-204 (IDAPA 31.01.01.201-.204). Persons interested in submitting written comments must do so by February 26, 2020. The Company must file any reply comments by March 4, 2020.

DONE by Order of the Idaho Public Utilities Commission at Boise, Idaho this 26<sup>th</sup> day of December, 2019.



PAUL KJELLANDER, PRESIDENT



KRISTINE RAPER, COMMISSIONER



ERIC ANDERSON, COMMISSIONER

ATTEST:



Diane M. Hanian  
Commission Secretary

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