

Cooper, Jeff

From: Cooper, Jeff
Sent: Thursday, December 27, 2012 2:46 PM
To: 'wd36a@northrim.net'; 'Kevin Lakey'; 'sdbennion@peoplepc.com'; 'sandrah5469@gmail.com'; 'oakcanal@pmt.org'; 'Brian Higgs'; Yenter, Cindy; 'armand@safelink.net'
Subject: Water District Forms
Attachments: Petition_for_Watermaster_Services.pdf; Watermasters_Report.pdf; Watermasters_Proposed_Budget.pdf; Adopted_Budget_&_Resolutions.pdf

Watermaster,

In accordance with §42-614, IDAHO CODE, the watermaster of each district is required to submit an annual report to the Department. Please be certain the entire report is complete.

There are also some recent changes in the statutes which relate to what is required to be filed with the Department.

In the past, the Department has required a proposed budget to be submitted to the Department, which was pursuant to §42-615, IDAHO CODE. This statute was amended during the 2011 Legislative Session, and **you are no longer required to submit the Proposed Budget to the Department**. This statute now reads as follows:

Each watermaster shall, at least fourteen (14) days prior to the annual meeting of the water users of the water district, also prepare a proposed budget for the succeeding year, together with a distribution of the amount of the budget to the respective water users, using the actual deliveries for the past irrigation season or seasons, as the basis for distribution. The proposed budget and distribution shall be submitted to the water users for consideration and approval at the next annual water meeting.

Historically, the Department has also required a written request by an authorized water user for the watermaster to begin his services to be submitted prior to their appointment (§42-608, IDAHO CODE). During the 2011 Legislative Session this statute was amended so that a written document does not need to be submitted to the Department calling on the watermaster's services. However, as per the amended §42-608, IDAHO CODE, a call for services is still required to begin work **(unless the users have adopted a resolution that the watermaster serve year round)**:

A watermaster shall not begin work for the distribution and control of water required under section [42-607](#), Idaho Code, until called upon by one (1) or more owners or managers of ditches or persons controlling ditches or other diversion facilities in the district stating that there is a necessity for the distribution and control of the waters of the district.

We have enclosed sufficient forms for making out the Watermaster's Report, Proposed Budget, Adopted Budget, and Petition for Watermaster's Services. Please let the Department know if you have any questions regarding how to properly fill out these forms. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Jeffrey S. Cooper
Sr. Water Resource Agent