

## **Utility Review Board Hearings: July 12,2016**

**Account:**     **Steve Markis (owner)**                     **2955 Sunset Blvd.**

**Dispute:**     Previous tenant, Tameka Ely vacated the property and did not pay her bill, which totaled \$396.04. Water service was turned off at the curb but the curb box didn't hold and there was water consumption at the property. The account was put into Mr. Markis's name as consumer and the bill accumulated to \$805.31. Mr. Markis argued that it wasn't his fault that the curb box was not turned off properly. He also stated that he did flush the toilet and it did not shut off causing the high bill.

**Decision:**     Credit of \$100 was given because Mr. Markis stated the toilet was running continuously and he did not know it because it was a rental.

**Account:**     **Dorisa Stinson**                                     **2811 Sunset Blvd.**

**Dispute:**     Dorisa moved from property in October, 2014. There was a bill left totaling \$182.25. She came in to sign up for new service at another address and was told she had a past due bill that needed paid before she could get the new service. The past due amount was her final bill plus a return trip fee of \$25.00 because the first time we tried to disconnect we could not gain access. Dorisa is arguing the return trip fee because she had moved and says it should be the landlord's responsibility.

**Decision:**     The return trip fee of \$25.00 was credited back to the customer because she did not know we needed access to the property to remove the meter.

**Account:**     **Matt Parise(owner)**                                     **157 McDowell**

**Dispute:** Mr. Parise is disputing the bill of \$1272.88. Previous tenant, Mary Jane Edwards, moved from property in May. At that time the bill was \$976.13. There was a leak at this address causing the bills to be high. Several leaks letters were sent to both the tenant and Mr. Parise. He is disputing the amount owed while Edwards still lived at the property. Mr. Parise claims he tried to go in to fix the leak but she would not let them in to investigate the problem. The water could not be turned off because there is not a workable curb box that Mr. Parise was not aware of. Also, when he first called the water office about this bill we asked to gain entry to pull the meter but he would not let us in because he said he was working there.

**Decision:** Mr. Parise is responsible for the entire bill. He was notified of the leaks and did nothing to try to resolve the issue.

**Account:** Rich Lucci (owner)                      833 Jeannette

**Dispute:** Mr Lucci is disputing a bill of \$384.12 left by previous tenant, Keeley Chaney that he had to pay to get new service at the property. He claims that the tenant was supposed to move on March 1<sup>st</sup>. He said he waited till mid-March and called the tenant and she said she was not living there. Mr. Lucci told the water department that she would bring the kids over to visit neighbors and was in and out of the house. The account was finalized in April, 2016. Mr. Lucci is disputing the minimum bills charged on the account. He states no one lived there and shouldn't have to pay. The usage that was charged on the account was actual usage and was not estimated. He would like the last bill waived.

**Decision:** No credit given because the usage was actual usage so someone was there to use the water.

**Account:** Teresa Comisso/Kasey Marino (Owners) 1329 Euclid Ave  
571 S. 4<sup>th</sup> St.  
567/571 S 4<sup>th</sup> St.

**Dispute:** These properties were owned by their father, Rocco Comisso who passed away July 9, 2015. These properties were inherited and they are trying to get all the amounts owed paid off. Payments have been made on them monthly and they would like to be able to continue the payments and not have a lien placed on the property.

**Decision:** Payment plan already set up on 1329 Euclid Ave and will continue. A 7 month payment plan was set up on 571 S. 4<sup>th</sup> St of \$50.00 per month. Total balance owed is \$350 .56. They can continue to make \$35.00 payments on 567/571 S 4<sup>th</sup> St. account until balance of \$407.35 is paid.

**Account:** Clyde Larsen 108 Negley Ave.

**Dispute:** Total bill owed is \$2148.32. There was a water line break in the house. Mr. Larsen claims he did not know until a neighbor called him. He said there was storm that knocked out the power but when it was restored the furnace did not kick back on causing the pipes to burst. He claims he called our office to inform us but we show no records of him contacting us. We tried several times to disconnect the service but no one was there to give us access. We tried to call but had the wrong contact information. Monthly bills were sent to his residence every month. We tried to turn service off at the curb but the curb box does not hold. Finally, in April, 2016 there was some guys working there and we were able to get in to pull the meter.

**Decision:** Credit was given of \$248.32 because he did have the water line break. Mr. Larsen is responsible to pay \$1900.00 of the bill. He can pay in 2 installments of \$950.00 on 09/18/2016 and the other on 09/25/2016.