

Buffalo Trail Water Association
Case No. 2021-00205
Commission Staff's Second Request for Information

Witnesses

Lori Johnson: Items 1-8

Adam Scott: Item 9

1. Identify the number of new water connections that Buffalo Trail Water installed in calendar year 2020.

Response: 29 new water connections were installed in 2020

2. Provide the method and amount of labor and materials recorded for each new water connection used during calendar year 2020.

Response: Labor, Contract labor with Tilton Excavating - \$13,675

Materials, Core & Main - \$14,755.78

3. Provide cost justification sheets for 5/8" x 3/4" Meter Connection Tap-On Charge.

Response: Buffalo Trail Water is providing two Average Meter Connection Expense Cost Justifications. All meters installed in 2020 were manual read meters. Buffalo Trail Water is currently in the process of upgrading to radio read meters. Therefore, Manual Read Meter Cost Justification refers to meters set in 2020. Radio Read Meter Cost Justification is a cost justification Buffalo Trail Water has been in the process of completing to submit to Commission Staff.

See Files: RadioReadCostJustification
ManualReadCostJustification

4. Refer to tariff currently on file with the Commission for Buffalo Trail Water. Provide copies of cost justification sheets as requested.

Response: Please see files listed below pertaining to charges as specified. The following charges no longer pertain to Buffalo Trail Water, therefore no cost justification has been submitted and Buffalo Trail Water would request to remove them from their tariff: Meter Re-Setting Charge, Service Line Inspection Charge, Service Trip Field Collection Charge. In regards to Late Payment Penalty, Buffalo Trail Water does not feel as though this pertains to a cost justification calculation. The Association has charged a 10% penalty for late payments for the last known years and continues to do so. However, due to Covid, the association temporarily ceased penalties beginning March 2020 and as of to date, penalties have not resumed. The Association is monthly weighing the decision as to when to resume late penalties.

See files:

MeterTurnOnCharge
MeterTestCharge
MeterReReadCharge
ServiceCall_InvestigationCharge
ReconnectionCharge
ReturnCheckCharge
LockRemovalCharge

5. Provide a schedule listing each late payment penalty that Buffalo Trail Water billed and collected in the calendar year 2020.

Response: See files:

LateFeeReport_Jan2020
LateFeeReport_Feb2020

6. Provide the number of occurrences in the test year that Buffalo Trail Water adjusted a customer's bill due to a leak.

Response: Buffalo Trail Water adjusted 36 customer's bills due to a leak in 2020.

6a. Provide the dollar amount customer's bills were adjusted due to a leak for the test year.

Response: Customer's bills were adjusted a total of \$3,466.89 for leaks in 2020.

6b. Provide the gallons of water for the test year that was billed at the leak adjustment rate.

Response: 1,329,820 gallons of water were billed at the leak adjustment rate in 2020.

7. Provide the number of occurrences in the test year that a meter was misread and provide the individual amounts of the bill adjustments.

Response: See files:

2020ReadingError

8. Provide the number of occurrences of billing errors and the dollar amount of the adjustment.

Response: See files:

2020BillingError

9. Confirm that USDA/RD requires that Buffalo Trail Water charge rates that produce net revenues that are at least 110 percent of its average annual debt payments.

Response: Buffalo Trail Water recognizes that USDA/RD requires rates charged to produce net revenues that are at least **120 percent** of its average annual debt payments. Attached files reflect corrected calculations based on this.

See Files:

UpdatedCurrent_ProposedRates

UpdatedRevRequCalc