

THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF OHIO

**IN THE MATTER OF THE COMPLAINT OF
JEFF EDELSTEIN,**

COMPLAINANT,

CASE NO. 21-232-WS-CSS

v.

AQUA OHIO, INC.,

RESPONDENT.

ENTRY

Entered in the Journal on August 25, 2021

I. SUMMARY

{¶ 1} The Commission grants the joint motion to dismiss this complaint case because the parties have reached a settlement resolving all issues raised.

II. DISCUSSION

{¶ 2} Pursuant to R.C. 4905.26, the Commission has authority to consider written complaints filed against a public utility by any person or corporation regarding any rate, service, regulation, or practice relating to any service furnished by the public utility that is in any respect unjust, unreasonable, insufficient, or unjustly discriminatory.

{¶ 3} Respondent, Aqua Ohio, Inc. (Aqua), is a public utility as defined in R.C. 4905.02 and, as such, is subject to the jurisdiction of this Commission.

{¶ 4} On March 10, 2021, Jeff Edelstein (Complainant) filed a complaint against Aqua. The complaint alleges, among other things, that Aqua charged two of his accounts unreasonably at different points in 2020. Specifically, Complainant disputes sewer charges found on his bills for both of his accounts, occurring in March and May for one account, and in June, July, and August of 2020 for the other.

{¶ 5} On March 30, 2021, Aqua filed its answer to the complaint. In its answer, Aqua admits Jeff Edelstein is a customer receiving water and sewer usage at the premises named

in the complaint. In its answer, Aqua admits some and denies others of the complaint's allegations and sets forth several affirmative defenses. Among other things, Aqua specifically avers that, in an attempt to resolve this dispute, on January 6, 2021, and again on January 13, 2021, its customer service representatives spoke with Mr. Edelstein to discuss the bills and charges. Additionally, Aqua avers that it has reviewed for accuracy Complainant's accounts and has not identified any billing errors.

{¶ 6} On May 21, 2021, the attorney examiner, by Entry, scheduled a prehearing settlement conference to occur on June 10, 2021, the purpose of which was to explore the parties' willingness to negotiate a resolution of the complaint in lieu of an evidentiary hearing.

{¶ 7} On August 4, 2021, the parties filed a joint motion to dismiss the case owing to the parties reaching a settlement resolving all issues raised, and requesting, on that basis, that the Commission should dismiss this case.

{¶ 8} The Commission finds that the joint motion for case dismissal should be granted and that this case should be dismissed.

III. ORDER

{¶ 9} It is, therefore,

{¶ 10} ORDERED, That the joint motion for dismissal be granted, and that Case No. 21-232-WS-CSS be dismissed and closed of record. It is, further,

{¶ 11} ORDERED, That a copy of this Entry be served upon all parties of record.

COMMISSIONERS:

Approving:

Jenifer French, Chair

M. Beth Trombold

Lawrence K. Friedeman

Daniel R. Conway

Dennis P. Deters

JMD/mef

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Case No(s). 21-0232-WS-CSS

Summary: Entry granting the joint motion to dismiss this complaint case because the parties have reached a settlement resolving all issues raised. electronically filed by Ms. Mary E. Fischer on behalf of Public Utilities Commission of Ohio