TENNESSEE PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION



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MEMORANDUM

TO: Docket File 23-00058

FROM: Michelle Mairs, Deputy Director

Utilities Division

DATE: July 11, 2024

SUBJECT: DSH & Associates, LLC, Emergency Request to Utilize Escrow Funds Pursuant

to Commission Rule 1220-4-13-.07(7)

On August 9, 2023, DSH & Associates, LLC, ("DSH" or "Company") submitted an emergency request to use escrow funds to make a pump replacement in one of the system's booster stations that needed immediate attention and repair. DSH estimated the cost of the pump replacement to be \$7,000.

On August 11, 2023, Chairman Hilliard replied to the Company's request in accordance with Commission Rule 1220-4-13-.07(7). The Chairman found that DSH's request for the proposed pump replacement is a necessary capital project that is reasonable and prudent and that DSH has sufficient escrow funds to fund the estimated cost of the project. The Chairman approved the Company's emergency request to spend up to \$7,000 of escrow funds for the proposed pump replacement and instructed DSH to file a final accounting of the project with Commission Staff.

On August 24, 2023, DSH filed a final accounting of the pump replacement project as directed by Chairman Hilliard. The final accounting, which is supported by a third-party invoice, reported the requested pump replacement occurred August 14 - 18, 2023, at a total cost of \$5,960, which was paid on August 21, 2023. Staff's review of the final accounting indicates that the cost of the pump replacement project is reasonable, sufficiently documented, and within the amount authorized for the project by the Chairman.

Accordingly, Staff concludes that DSH's emergency request to spend escrow funds for the pump replacement project complies with the Commission's escrow rule and requests that this docket be administratively closed.

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¹ Commission Rule 1220-4-13-.07(7) states: "Reserve/escrow accounts established by a public wastewater utility shall be limited to paying for or reimbursing the utility for extraordinary expenses of the utility or for necessary capital projects, unless otherwise permitted -by the Commission. Extraordinary expenses are those resulting from events which are infrequent and unusual in nature, and unrelated to the utilities' routine service or business activities. The utility must first receive authorization from the Commission via approved petition or, in emergency situations, authorization in writing from the Chairman of the Commission upon written request by a representative of the utility to use such funds."