

M A N I T O B A) Order No. 83/11
)
THE PUBLIC UTILITIES BOARD ACT) June 16, 2011

BEFORE: Graham Lane, CA, Chairman
 Susan Proven, P.H.Ec., Member
 Monica Girouard, CGA, Member

THE RURAL MUNICIPALITY OF RHINELAND
INTERIM SEWER RATES
EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2011

WHEREAS, the Rural Municipality of Rhineland (RM) applied to the Public Utilities Board (Board) for approval of revised water and sewer rates as set out in the RM's By-law No. 2011-3;

AND WHEREAS, in 2010, a low pressure sewer system was constructed providing sewer services to 12 customers along PTH 30 and in Old Altona;

AND WHEREAS this low pressure sewer system is connected to a shared lagoon in the Town of Altona, a lagoon that is available for use by all residents in the RM;

AND WHEREAS the RM is seeking approval from the Board to charge customers an initial sewer rate and revised water rates;

AND WHEREAS the RM proposes an initial sewer rate of \$4.90 per 1,000 gallons (\$1.10 per m³) for 2011, and proposes increases for 2012 and 2013;

AND WHEREAS the Board has yet to declare this sewer system a public utility pursuant to subsection 2(6) of *The Public Utilities Board Act*;

AND WHEREAS the Board deems it in the public interest to declare the sewer system a public utility and to set initial rates on an interim *ex parte* basis to avoid the development of operating deficits;

AND WHEREAS the Board will review the RM's application for additional increases and revised water rates in more detail, and will provide notice of a public hearing process to take place in late summer or early fall of 2011.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED THAT:

1. The Public Utilities Board HEREBY DECLARES the sewer system, including lagoon services provided by and in the Rural Municipality of Rhineland to be a public utility.
2. The sewer rate of \$4.90 per 1,000 gallons as set out in the Rural Municipality of Rhineland's By-law No. 2011-3 for 2011 BE AND IS HEREBY APPROVED on an interim basis *ex parte* basis effective July 1, 2011.
3. The Rural Municipality of Rhineland prepare a sewer rate by-law setting out the rate approved herein and provide a copy to the Public Utilities Board after it has received third and final reading.
4. The Rural Municipality of Rhineland shall provide immediate notice to customers of the sewer utility, with a copy to the Public Utilities Board, of the interim rate increases and the rationale.

Fees payable upon this order - \$150.00

THE PUBLIC UTILITIES BOARD

"GRAHAM LANE, CA"

Chairman

"KRISTINE SHIELDS"

Acting Secretary

Certified a true copy of Order No.
83/11 issued by The Public
Utilities Board

Acting Secretary

Board decisions may be appealed (in accordance with the provisions of Section 58 of *The Public Utilities Board Act*), or reviewed (in accordance with section 36 of the Board's Rules of Practice and Procedure, available on the Board's website www.pub.gov.mb.ca).