

MANITOBA) **Order No. 127/15**
)
THE PUBLIC UTILITIES BOARD ACT) **November 30, 2015**

BEFORE: Susan Proven, P.H.Ec., Acting Chair
The Hon. Anita Neville, P.C., B.A. (Hons.), Member

RURAL MUNICIPALITY OF RIDING MOUNTAIN WEST
LOCAL URBAN DISTRICT OF ANGUSVILLE
WATER AND WASTEWATER UTILITY
INTERIM RATES

Summary

By this Order, the Public Utilities Board (Board) approves, on an interim *ex parte* basis, water and wastewater rates applied for by the Rural Municipality of Riding Mountain West for the Local Urban District of Angusville water and wastewater utility (Utility).

The new rates are to be effective retroactive to October 1, 2015. The approved rates are shown below.

	Current By-law 97-03	Approved By-law 2014-01 October 1, 2015	Increase/ Decrease	Approved By-law 2014-01 January 1, 2016	Increase/ Decrease	Approved By-law 2014-01 January 1, 2017	Increase/ Decrease
Quarterly Service Charge	\$10.70	\$7.17	-33%	\$7.01	-2.23%	\$6.85	-2.28%
Water \$/per 1,000 gallons	\$21.35	\$34.03	59.39%	\$35.29	3.70%	\$37.35	5.84%
Sewer \$/per 1,000 gallons	\$0.00	\$1.20	N/A	\$1.20	0.00%	\$1.20	0.00%
Quarterly-Water and Sewer*	\$74.75	\$112.86	51%	\$116.48	3.21%	\$122.50	5.17%
Bulk Water \$/per 1,000 gallons	\$14.00	\$42.97	206.93%	\$44.23	2.93%	\$46.28	4.63%
Reconnection Fee	\$20.00	\$20.00	0.00%	\$20.00	0.00%	\$20.00	0.00%
Hydrant Rental (Annual)	\$75.00	\$100.00	33.33%	\$100.00	0.00%	\$100.00	0.00%
*Based on 3,000 gallons							

Details of other rates may be found in the attached Schedule "A".

Application

The former Rural Municipality of Silver Creek (RM) applied on September 22, 2014 for revised water and wastewater rates for the Utility. The application was accompanied by a rate study prepared by the RM and By-law No. 2014-01 having received 1st reading on June 10, 2014.

In January of 2015, the RM of Silver Creek amalgamated with the RM of Shellmouth-Boulton and formed the newly named Rural Municipality of Riding Mountain West.

When reviewing an application, the Board has at its disposal several approaches. It can hold a public oral hearing at which the applicant can present its case and customers can present their concerns. In other cases, where it is deemed to be in the best interest of the Utility and its customers, the Board may review the application using a paper review process. In some cases, the Board can also establish interim *ex parte* rates, which are rates that are subject to review following a more complete process.

A Notice of the Application was issued on October 27, 2014. There were no stakeholder responses to the Notice.

Board Findings

The Board will, on an interim *ex parte* basis, approve water and wastewater rates as applied for by the RM effective October 1, 2015. Generally, the Board is hesitant to approve retroactive rate changes; the Board has deemed this to be appropriate in this case.

The Board makes this interim rate decision due to the urgent need to avoid any further deficits. Current rates were last set in 1997.

A Notice of the Application was issued on October 27, 2014. There were no stakeholder responses to the Notice. The Board determined it was in the best interest of all stakeholders to use a paper review process for the application.

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.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED THAT:

1. The Rural Municipality of Riding Mountain West By-law No. 2014-01 BE AND IS HEREBY APPROVED on an interim *ex parte* basis, with the water and wastewater rates to be effective October 1, 2015.
2. The Rural Municipality of Riding Mountain West file a copy of By-law No. 2014-01, once it has received third and final reading.

Fees payable upon this Order – \$150.00

THE PUBLIC UTILITIES BOARD

“SUSAN PROVEN, P.H.Ec.”

Acting Chair

“JENNIFER DUBOIS, CPA, CMA”

Acting Secretary

Certified a true copy of Order No.
127/15 issued by The Public Utilities
Board

Acting Secretary

*BY-LAW #2014-01
 WATER & SEWER RATES
 SCHEDULE "A"*

Year 1 – October 1st, 2015

1.0 – SCHEDULE OF QUARTERLY RATES

A schedule of rates per quarter

Commodity Rates	Water	Sewer	Water & Sewer
Domestic per 1000 gallons	34.03	1.20	35.23

2.0 – MINIMUM QUARTERLY CHARGES

Notwithstanding the Commodity Rates set forth in paragraph 1.0 hereof, all customers will pay the applicable minimum charges set out below, which will include the water allowances indicated:

Year 1

Meter Size (Inches)	Group Capacity Ratio	Minimum Quarterly Consumption	Service Charge	Water	Sewer	Minimum Quarterly Charges
5/8	1	3,000	\$7.17	\$102.10	\$3.61	\$112.88
3/4	2	6,000	\$7.17	\$204.19	\$7.22	\$218.59
1	4	12,000	\$7.17	\$408.39	\$14.44	\$430.01
1 1/4	10	30,000	\$7.17	\$1,020.97	\$36.11	\$1,064.25
2	25	75,000	\$7.17	\$2,552.42	\$90.28	\$2,649.88
3	45	135,000	\$7.17	\$4,594.36	\$162.51	\$4,764.04
4	90	270,000	\$7.17	\$9,188.73	\$325.01	\$9,520.91
6	170	510,000	\$7.17	\$17,356.48	\$613.91	\$17,977.56

Water Only Customers:

Total Quarterly Minimum charges will be the same as shown above for each meter size; however, the sewer commodity charge will be excluded.

Sewer Only Customers:

The quarterly commodity charge, based on the average residential water consumption, plus service charge, shall be \$7.17.

3.0 – BULK WATER

Bulk water sales will be charged at the net rate of \$42.97 per 1000 gallons.

Year 2 – January 1st, 2016

1.0 – SCHEDULE OF QUARTERLY RATES

A schedule of rates per quarter

Commodity Rates	Water	Sewer	Water & Sewer
Domestic per 1000 gallons	35.29	1.20	36.49

2.0 – MINIMUM QUARTERLY CHARGES

Notwithstanding the Commodity Rates set forth in paragraph 1.0 hereof, all customers will pay the applicable minimum charges set out below, which will include the water allowances indicated:

Year 2

Meter Size (Inches)	Group Capacity Ratio	Minimum Quarterly Consumption	Service Charge	Water	Sewer	Minimum Quarterly Charges
5/8	1	3,000	\$7.01	\$105.87	\$3.61	\$116.48
¾	2	6,000	\$7.01	\$211.73	\$7.22	\$225.96
1	4	12,000	\$7.01	\$423.46	\$14.44	\$444.92
1 ¼	10	30,000	\$7.01	\$1,058.66	\$36.11	\$1,101.78
2	25	75,000	\$7.01	\$2,646.65	\$90.28	\$2,743.93
3	45	135,000	\$7.01	\$4,763.96	\$162.51	\$4,933.47
4	90	270,000	\$7.01	\$9,527.92	\$325.01	\$9,859.94
6	170	510,000	\$7.01	\$17,997.19	\$613.91	\$18,618.11

Water Only Customers:

Total Quarterly Minimum charges will be the same as shown above for each meter size; however, the sewer commodity charge will be excluded.

Sewer Only Customers:

The quarterly commodity charge, based on the average residential water consumption, plus service charge, shall be \$7.01.

3.0 – BULK WATER

Bulk water sales will be charged at the net rate of \$44.23 per 1000 gallons.

Year 3 – January 1st, 2017

1.0 – SCHEDULE OF QUARTERLY RATES

A schedule of rates per quarter

Commodity Rates	Water	Sewer	Water & Sewer
Domestic per 1000 gallons	37.35	1.20	38.55

2.0 – MINIMUM QUARTERLY CHARGES

Notwithstanding the Commodity Rates set forth in paragraph 1.0 hereof, all customers will pay the applicable minimum charges set out below, which will include the water allowances indicated:

Year 3

Meter Size (Inches)	Group Capacity Ratio	Minimum Quarterly Consumption	Service Charge	Water	Sewer	Minimum Quarterly Charges
5/8	1	3,000	\$6.85	\$112.06	\$3.61	\$118.90
3/4	2	6,000	\$6.85	\$224.12	\$7.22	\$238.19
1	4	12,000	\$6.85	\$448.23	\$14.44	\$469.52
1 1/4	10	30,000	\$6.85	\$1,120.58	\$36.11	\$1,163.54
2	25	75,000	\$6.85	\$2,801.44	\$90.28	\$2,898.57
3	45	135,000	\$6.85	\$5,042.60	\$162.51	\$5,211.95
4	90	270,000	\$6.85	\$10,085.19	\$325.01	\$10,417.05
6	170	510,000	\$6.85	\$19,049.81	\$613.91	\$19,670.57

Water Only Customers:

Total Quarterly Minimum charges will be the same as shown above for each meter size; however, the sewer commodity charge will be excluded.

Sewer Only Customers:

The quarterly commodity charge, based on the average residential water consumption, plus service charge, shall be \$6.85.

3.0 – BULK WATER

Bulk water sales will be charged at the net rate of \$46.28 per 1000 gallons.

Clauses 4 through 12 are effective January 1st, 2015.

4. *Billings & Penalties*

Accounts shall be billed quarterly, and shall be due and payable 30 days after billing. A penalty of 10% of the amount of the bill shall be added if not paid by the due date.

5. *Disconnection*

Service may be disconnected and discontinued immediately and without further notice in the event of non-payment of the account within 30 days after the due date.

6. *Re-Connection*

Any service disconnected due to non-payment of account shall not be re-connected until all arrears, penalties and a re-connection fee of \$20.00 have been paid.

7. *Outstanding Bills*

Pursuant to Section 236(1) (b) (iii) of the Municipal Act: In the event that an account remains outstanding, the account may be added to taxes of the property in respect of which the water account is unpaid, to be collected as ordinary taxes.

8. *Hydrant Rentals*

The LUD of Angusville will pay to the Utility an annual rental of \$100.00 for each hydrant connected to the system.

9. *Water Allowance Due to Line Freezing*

That in any case where, at the request of Council, a customer allows water to run continuously for any period of time to prevent the water lines in the water system from freezing, the charge to that customer for the current quarter shall be average of the billings for the last two previous quarters

10. *Serviced but Otherwise Empty Lots*

Lots that have water/sewer connections but have no active water meter shall pay an annual fee of one quarterly payment.

11. *Hook up fees*

All new connections are at the customer's own expense and will be charged as per the following formula:

$\$146.25 \times (2026 - y)$ where 'y' is the year of connection to recover costs on the water plant.