

**Order No. 112/22**

**TOWN OF MINNEDOSA  
MINNEDOSA WATER AND WASTEWATER UTILITY REVISED RATES  
EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2022**

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**OCTOBER 17, 2022**

BEFORE: Irene Hamilton, K.C., Panel Chair  
Shawn McCutcheon, Panel Member

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## 1.0 Executive Summary

By this Order, the Public Utilities Board (Board) approves the revised water and wastewater rates for the Town of Minnedosa (Town), Minnedosa Water and Wastewater Utility (Utility), effective October 1, 2022 and October 1, 2023.

The approved rates are as follows:

	Current Rates	October 1, 2022	October 1, 2023
Quarterly Service Charge	\$17.00	\$27.49	\$28.62
Domestic Water – First 500 m <sup>3</sup> (per cubic meter)	\$3.77	\$4.66	\$5.00
Wholesale Water – m <sup>3</sup> Over 500 (per cubic meter)	\$0.64	\$0.78	\$0.79
Wastewater (per cubic meter)	\$0.61	\$1.04	\$1.04
Minimum Quarterly Charge*	\$78.32	\$107.29	\$113.18
Minimum Quarterly Charge – Unmetered**	\$398.06	-	-
Bulk Water (per cubic meter)	\$4.00	\$5.10	\$5.45
Deficit Recovery Rate Riders			
2017 Deficit***	\$0.20	-	-
2018 Deficit****	\$0.07	\$0.07	\$0.07
2019 Deficit*****	\$0.09	\$0.09	\$0.09

\*Based on 14 cubic meters

\*\*Based on 87 cubic meters

\*\*\*Approved for three years from all customers except Husky Energy Inc. and the RM of Minto-Odanah – Odanah Water Utility. Expires September 30, 2022 (As per Board Order No. 13/20)

\*\*\*\*Approved for five years from all customers. Expires December 31, 2026 (As per Board Order No. 138/21)

\*\*\*\*\*Approved for five years from all customers except Husky Energy Inc. and the RM of Minto-Odanah – Odanah Water Utility. Expires December 31, 2026 (As per Board Order No. 138/21)

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

Rationale for the Board's decisions may be found under the heading Board Findings below.

## 2.0 Background

The Utility provides water and wastewater services to 1,091 water and wastewater customers and 12 wastewater only customers (or a total of 1,103 customers). The Town's two largest customers, Husky Energy Ltd. (Husky) and the Rural Municipality of Minto-Odanah (Minto-Odanah), are billed monthly and all other customers are billed quarterly. Husky Oil is charged the wastewater rate for 25% of its water purchases, as the Town forecasts approximately 25% of water purchased is not returned to the wastewater system.

Rates were last approved for the Utility in 2019 in Board Order No. 116/19, with the last increase occurring October 1, 2019. In the Order, the Board also approved the recovery of a 2017 actual operating deficit of \$133,450 through a rate rider of \$0.20 per cubic meter over a period of two years. Husky was exempted from the rate rider. Board Order No. 13/20 varied the deficit rate rider of \$0.20 to be recovered over a period of 3 years and exempted Minto-Odanah.

### Water Supply/Distribution

The system consists of two water treatment plants utilizing four municipal wells to draw raw water for treatment. Water treatment plant 1 was constructed in 1961 and had major upgrades and expansion in 1998. New piping, distribution pumps with variable frequency drives, and a dry chemical treatment process was installed in 2007/08. Water treatment plant 2 was constructed in 1967 and underwent major upgrades and expansion in 2007.

The water distribution system was installed in 1952 using cast iron water mains. All new water main installations since 1980 have incorporated polyvinyl chloride (PVC) pipes.

## **Wastewater Collection/Treatment**

The wastewater collection system was installed in 1952 and is composed primarily of concrete wastewater pipe. Some asbestos cement and clay tile pipe was used in the late 1960's. Beginning in 1980, all new wastewater line installations used PVC pipe. Due to topography, low lying areas are difficult to service with a gravity wastewater system depending upon the amount of water used.

Wastewater is treated at an aerated two-cell stabilization pond. The facility has a year round, continuous discharge to the Little Saskatchewan River with discharges meeting the facility's license requirements.

## **Unaccounted for Water**

The acceptable percentage of unaccounted for water is 10%, based on industry standards. If the percentage is above this amount, the applicant is to explain why and provide a plan to remedy.

As at 2019, unaccounted water for the Utility is 19.88%. The rate study notes there are 60 "bleeder" lines used during winter months to prevent service line freezing. "Bleeder" lines are located before water meters and therefore water volume flowing at these points is unmetered. Water loss from these lines is estimated at 8.81%, based on five months of forecasted use. If lines are not properly turned off in spring, water lost due to these lines may be understated.

The Town is in the process of removing approximately 50 "bleeder" lines and reconfiguring the remaining ten lines so water flows through the lines after the water meter to ensure water volumes are properly tracked and recorded.

A water line located on Centennial Drive was replaced over 2020 and 2021. It had a high risk of water loss because it was situated in a gravelly soil adjacent to a low lying drainage area.

### 3.0 Application

On November 30, 2021, the Town applied for revised water and wastewater rates for the Utility. The application was accompanied by a rate study prepared by the Town's consultant, By-Law No. 2577, having had first reading on June 22, 2021, and Council Resolution #2021 210.

A Public Notice of Application was issued on December 29, 2021 allowing for any questions or comments with respect to the proposed rate increases to the Board and/or the Town on or before January 28, 2022. No responses to the Notice were received.

When reviewing an application the Board can either: hold a public hearing at which the applicant can present its case and customers can present their concerns; or where it is deemed to be in the best interests of a utility and its customers, the Board can review the application using a paper review process without holding a public hearing. The paper review process considers all written materials submitted by the Utility and the public, as well as any information requests and responses between the Board and the Utility. This process may reduce regulatory costs to the Utility.

A public hearing process allows the Utility and the public the opportunity to review the application and address any concerns with the Board present.

Whenever reasonable, the Board will review the application using a paper review process, which saves the cost of a public hearing process. The Board has chosen a paper review process for the Town's application.

The rates were calculated based on the following projections using an annual inflation rate of 3% in all calculations:

<b>Schedule of Utility Rate Requirements</b>			
<b>Town of Minnedosa – Minnedosa Water and Wastewater Utility</b>			
<b>2021 to 2023 Budget Forecasts (\$)</b>			
	<b>2021</b>	<b>2022</b>	<b>2023</b>
	<b>Forecast</b>		
<b>General Expenses</b>			
Administration	99,017	101,988	105,048
Billing and Collection	6,000	6,180	6,365
Working Capital Surcharge	15,736	16,211	18,040
Total General Expenses	120,753	124,379	129,453
<b>Revenue</b>			
Penalties	3,000	3,090	3,183
Total General Revenues	3,000	3,090	3,183
<b>Net Costs General</b>	<b>117,753</b>	<b>121,289</b>	<b>126,270</b>
<b>Water Expenses</b>			
Staffing	42,034	44,136	46,343
Purification and Treatment	358,913	369,680	380,770
Transmission and Distribution	572,658	589,838	607,533
Other Water Supply Costs	28,715	29,576	30,463
Amortization	299,161	319,561	383,494
Interest on Long-Term Debt	33,277	27,139	20,753
Minor Capital Upgrades	27,000	27,810	28,644
Contingency – Water Production	45,666	47,120	48,622
Contingency – Water Transmission Reserve	-	-	-
Total Water Expenses	1,464,690	1,513,844	1,607,375
<b>Revenue</b>			
Hydrant Rentals	20,700	20,700	20,700
Bulk Water Sales	30,300	30,300	30,300
Total Water Revenue	51,000	51,000	51,000
<b>Net Water Costs</b>	<b>1,414,690</b>	<b>1,462,844</b>	<b>1,556,375</b>
<b>Wastewater Expenses</b>			
Collection System	26,965	27,774	28,607
Lift Station	59,781	61,574	68,421
Treatment and Disposal	76,192	78,478	80,832
Amortization	39,333	103,266	103,266
Interest on Long-Term Debt	-	76,950	76,950

	Contingency Reserve	17,786	17,786	17,786
		-	-	-
	Total Wastewater Expenses	220,060	365,828	375,862
<b>Revenue</b>	Tipping Fees	6,790	6,994	7,204
	Total Wastewater Revenue	6,790	6,994	7,204
	<b>Net Wastewater Costs</b>	<b>213,270</b>	<b>358,834</b>	<b>368,658</b>
	<b>Net Operating Costs</b>	<b>1,745,713</b>	<b>1,942,967</b>	<b>2,051,303</b>

The proposed Utility rate increases are primarily required to provide for increases in water and wastewater amortization expenses, interest related to wastewater debt, minor capital upgrades related to water, increased water production expenses, and a working capital surcharge to eliminate the current working capital deficit.

### Contingency Allowance and Utility Reserves

As per the Board's Water and Wastewater Rate Application Guidelines, a yearly allowance equal to 10% of the variable operating costs is recommended for a contingency allowance.

The Town has included a contingency allowance of \$102,932 for 2021, \$106,104 for 2022, and \$109,375 for 2023 for water and \$16,294 for 2021, \$16,783 for 2022, and \$17,786 for 2023 wastewater or a total contingency allowance of \$119,226 for 2021, \$122,887 for 2022, and \$127,161 for 2023.

The Town has not included an annual reserve allowance in its application.

### Working Capital Surplus/Deficit

Board Order No. 93/09 established that utilities should maintain a minimum working capital surplus, in an amount equal to 20% of annual expenses. The working capital surplus/deficit is defined as the Utility fund balance, excluding any capital related items plus Utility reserves.

As per the 2020 Audited Financial Statements, the most recent information available, the working capital deficit for the Utility at December 31, 2020 was:



	2020
Utility Fund Surplus/Deficit	\$3,744,436
Deduct: Tangible Capital Assets	5,110,000
Add: Long-Term Debt	821,646
Add: Utility Reserves	148,966
<b>Equals Working Capital Surplus (Deficit)</b>	<b>\$(394,952)</b>
Operating Expenses	1,435,850
<b>20% of Operating Expenses (Target)</b>	<b>\$287,170</b>

The Utility does not meet the Board minimum working capital surplus of 20%.

### Cost Allocation Methodology

The Board requires all municipal governments to review the costs shared between its general operations and the Utility, and to allocate appropriate and reasonable costs to the Utility, based on a policy known as a Cost Allocation Methodology. This allocation must be submitted to the Board for approval and cannot be changed without receiving approval from the Board. The Board's requirements regarding cost allocation methodologies can be found in Board Order No. 93/09.

The Town's allocation plan for shared costs is as follows:

<b>Town of Minnedosa Minnedosa Water and Wastewater Utility Allocation Plan for Non-Direct Shared Services (see Note 1) as at June, 2021</b>			
Category	Sub-category	Options	
1.0 Administrative Staff			16.0% of general legislative expenses excluding assessment and grant expenses
	1.1 Billing services – meter reading to receipting and collection.		Meter reading – N/A; receipting and collection part of admin. staff allocation
	1.2 Accounting/ auditing/ including bylaw making and enforcement.		16.0% of audit costs
	1.3 Common office space		16.0% of office costs, utilities

	1.4 Office overheads (telephone, photocopier, computer, etc.)		16.0% of printing, postage, and stationary
2.0 Operating, construction and maintenance costs			
	2.1 Vehicle – fuel, maintenance, lease costs, capital costs		The Utility owns its own vehicles and pays fuel and repairs.
	2.2 Labor – full time, part time, on call, sick time, vacation (see Note 2)		Utility staff wages and benefits are charged to the Utility.
	2.3 Public works building and property.		Utility staff have offices in the water treatment plant and therefore there is no additional cost.
	2.4 Road repairs and alike (see Note 3)	Based on actual costs	-
3.0 Major projects			
	Interest/ financing		N/A
	Labor	Based on actual costs	-
	External costs	Direct charge (dedicated consulting)	-

Note 1 – Allocation must be updated periodically to reflect impacts of inflation.

Note 2 – Including salaries and benefits.

Note 3 – If a project involves work benefitting both the Utility and general operations the costs may be shared (i.e. If reconstructing a road and replacing services at the same time, a portion of the roadwork costs may be allocated to the Utility.)

## 4.0 Board Findings

The Board has reviewed the application and the projections for utility rates presented by the Town in its rate study and finds them to be acceptable. The Board approves the revised rates as applied for by the Town, but varies the effective dates to October 1, 2022 and October 1, 2023.

The Board approves the Town's revised Cost Allocation Methodology and reminds the Town the methodology must be used consistently; any changes to the Cost Allocation Methodology require Board approval.

The Board requires the Town to review its water and wastewater rates for the Utility for adequacy and file a report with the Public Utilities Board, as well as an application for revised rates (if required) on or before September 30, 2024.

The Board continues to be concerned regarding the Utility's high level of unaccounted for water. Subsequent to the rate study, the Town advises the plan to address unaccounted for water levels identified in the rate study has shown little improvement to unaccounted for water levels. The Town also advises it intends to address the issue by undertaking another review of water bleeder lines to find lines not yet identified and take appropriate action to ensure water from these lines is properly metered and accounted for. The Town will also be utilizing cameras and other equipment to identify breaks and potential trouble spots in the infrastructure.

The Board commends the Town on its efforts to identify previously unaccounted for water related to "bleeder" lines and its continued work in this area, as well as its completion of recommended work and repairs in recent water treatment plant assessments. The Board, however, recommends the Town continue to review, assess, and analyze the cost-benefits of all options of reducing system water losses. The Board notes that implementation of measures to reduce unaccounted for water often reduces requirements for water rate increases to customers and in the case of this Utility, could stabilize domestic water rates.

The Board directs the Town to continually monitor its water produced and sold and to submit annual reports on unaccounted for water to the Board providing the volumes of water produced and sold, updated unaccounted for water levels, and any updated plans to address the issue. Reports are due February 1, 2023 and February 1, 2024.

The Board has not received the Town's 2021 Audited Financial Statements and reminds the Town audited financial statements are to be reported to the Board no later than June 30 of the following year.

## **5.0 IT IS HEREBY ORDERED THAT:**

1. The revised water and wastewater rates for the Town of Minnedosa, Minnedosa Water and Wastewater Utility, BE AND ARE HEREBY VARIED in accordance with the attached Schedule A, effective October 1, 2022 and October 1, 2023.
2. The Shared Cost Allocation Methodology for the Town of Minnedosa BE AND IS HEREBY APPROVED.
3. The Town of Minnedosa is to provide a notice of the decisions found in this Order to its customers as soon as possible, with a copy provided to the Public Utilities Board.
4. The Town of Minnedosa amend its water and wastewater rate By-Law to reflect the decisions in this Order and submit a copy to the Board once it has received third and final reading.
5. The Town of Minnedosa review its water and wastewater rates for the Minnedosa Water and Wastewater Utility for adequacy and file a report with the Public Utilities Board, as well as an application for revised rates if required, by no later than September 30, 2024.
6. The Town of Minnedosa submit an annual update to the Board on unaccounted for water levels and any revised plans to address by February 1, 2023 and February 1, 2024.
7. The Town of Minnedosa submit its 2021 Audited Financial Statements as soon as they are received.

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 (Rules). The Board's Rules may be viewed on the Board's website at [www.pubmanitoba.ca](http://www.pubmanitoba.ca).

Fees payable upon this Order - \$500.00

THE PUBLIC UTILITIES BOARD

"Irene Hamilton"

Panel Chair

"Frederick Mykytyshyn"

Assistant Associate Secretary

Certified a true copy of Order No. 112/22  
Issued by The Public Utilities Board



Assistant Associate Secretary

## SCHEDULE A

### TOWN OF MINNEDOSA MINNEDOSA WATER AND WASTEWATER UTILITY WATER AND WASTEWATER UTILITY RATES BY-LAW NO. 2577 SCHEDULE OF QUARTERLY RATES

1. Schedule of Commodity Rates & Quarterly Service Charge

October 1, 2022

	<u>Water</u>	<u>Wastewater</u>	<u>Water &amp; Wastewater</u>
Domestic – First 500 Cubic Meters	\$4.66	\$1.04	\$5.70
Wholesale – Over 500 Cubic Meters	\$0.78	\$1.04	\$1.82
Quarterly Service Charge	\$27.49		

Deficit Rate Rider, effective October 1, 2021 to September 30, 2026, all customers - to recover 2018 deficit - \$0.07 per cubic meter of water sold.

Deficit Rate Rider, effective October 1, 2021 to September 30, 2026, all customers except for Husky Oil/Cenovus ethanol plant and the Rural Municipality of Minto-Odanah - Odanah Water Utility - to recover 2019 deficit - \$0.09 per cubic meter of water sold.

2. Minimum Charges per Quarter

Notwithstanding the rates set forth in paragraph 1, all customers will pay the applicable minimum charges per quarter set out below, which includes the water allowance as listed.

**a) Water & Wastewater Customers**

Meter Size	Group Capacity Ratio	Water Included Cubic Meters	Customer Service Charge	Water Commodity Charge	Wastewater Commodity Charge	Water & Wastewater Total Quarterly Minimum
16mm- 5/8"	1	14	\$27.49	\$65.24	\$14.56	\$107.29
19mm - 3/4"	2	28	\$27.49	\$130.48	\$29.12	\$187.09
25mm - 1"	4	56	\$27.49	\$260.96	\$58.24	\$346.69
38mm - 1 1/2"	10	140	\$27.49	\$652.40	\$145.60	\$825.49
50mm - 2"	25	350	\$27.49	\$1,631.00	\$364.00	\$2,022.49
75mm – 3"	45	630	\$27.49	\$2,431.40	\$655.20	\$3,114.09

100mm – 4"	90	1,260	\$27.49	\$2,922.80	\$1,310.40	\$4,260.69
150mm - 6"	170	2,380	\$27.49	\$3,796.40	\$2,475.20	\$6,299.09
200mm – 8"	300	4,200	\$27.49	\$5,216.00	\$4,368.00	\$9,611.49

**b) Water Only Customers**

The minimum charge will be the same for each meter size as shown above but the Wastewater Commodity Charge will be excluded.

**c) Cenovus - Husky Wastewater Charges**

Notwithstanding the Wastewater Commodity Rates and Charges set forth above, the Cenovus Husky ethanol plant shall be charged for wastewater service at the following rate:

Wastewater Rate calculation - At the wastewater rate set forth above to be applied to 25% of the actual water consumption of the plant.

**d) Bulk Water Sales**

All water sold in bulk by the Utility will be charged at the rate of \$5.10 per cubic meter.

**1. Schedule of Commodity Rates & Quarterly Service Charge**

**October 1, 2023**

	<u>Water</u>	<u>Wastewater</u>	<u>Water &amp; Wastewater</u>
Domestic – First 500 Cubic Meters	\$5.00	\$1.04	\$6.04
Wholesale – Over 500 Cubic Meters	\$0.79	\$1.04	\$1.83
Quarterly Service Charge	\$28.62		

Deficit Rate Rider, effective October 1, 2021 to September 30, 2026, all customers - to recover 2018 deficit - \$0.07 per cubic meter of water sold.

Deficit Rate Rider, effective October 1, 2021 to September 30, 2026, all customers except for Husky Oil/Cenovus ethanol plant and the Rural Municipality of Minto-Odanah - Odanah Water Utility - to recover 2019 deficit - \$0.09 per cubic meter of water sold.

## 2. Minimum Charges per Quarter

Notwithstanding the rates set forth in paragraph 1, all customers will pay the applicable minimum charges per quarter set out below, which includes the water allowance as listed.

### a) **Water & Wastewater Customers**

	Group Capacity	Water Included Cubic Meters	Customer Service Charge	Water Commodity Charge	Wastewater Commodity Charge	Water & Wastewater Total Quarterly Minimum
16mm- 5/8"	1	14	\$28.62	\$70.00	\$14.56	\$113.18
19mm - 3/4"	2	28	\$28.62	\$140.00	\$29.12	\$197.74
25mm - 1"	4	56	\$28.62	\$280.00	\$58.24	\$366.86
38mm - 1 1/2"	10	140	\$28.62	\$700.00	\$145.60	\$874.22
50mm - 2"	25	350	\$28.62	\$1,750.00	\$364.00	\$2,142.62
75mm - 3"	45	630	\$28.62	\$2,602.70	\$655.20	\$3,286.52
100mm - 4"	90	1,260	\$28.62	\$3,100.40	\$1,310.40	\$4,439.42
150mm - 6"	170	2,380	\$28.62	\$3,985.20	\$2,475.20	\$6,489.02
200mm - 8"	300	4,200	\$28.62	\$5,423.00	\$4,368.00	\$9,819.62

### b) **Water Only Customers**

The minimum charge will be the same for each meter size as shown above but the Wastewater Commodity Charge will be excluded.

### c) **Cenovus - Husky Wastewater Charges**

Notwithstanding the Wastewater Commodity Rates and Charges set forth above, the Cenovus Husky ethanol plant shall be charged for wastewater service at the following rate:

Wastewater Rate calculation - At the wastewater rate set forth above to be applied to 25% of the actual water consumption of the plant.

### d) **Bulk Water Sales**

All water sold in bulk by the Utility will be charged at the rate of \$5.45 per cubic meter.



**The following clauses take effect October 1, 2022:****3. Service To Customers Outside Utility's Limits**

The Council of the Town of Minnedosa may sign Agreements with customers for the provision of water and wastewater services to properties located outside the boundaries of the Town. Such Agreements shall provide for payment of the appropriate rates set out in the Schedule, as well as a surcharge, set by Resolution of Council, which shall be equivalent to the frontage levy, general taxes, and special taxes for the Utility purposes in effect at the time or may be in effect from time to time, and which would be levied on the property concerned if it were within Town of Minnedosa boundaries. In addition, all costs of connecting to the Utility's mains, and installing and maintaining service connections, will be paid by the customer.

**4. Billings And Penalties**

Accounts shall be billed quarterly except in the case of large volume consumers with usage over 4,000 cubic meters per month which may be billed monthly, and shall be due and payable 14 days after date of billing.

A late payment charge of 1.25% per month shall be charged on the dollar amount owing after the billing due date.

**5. Disconnection**

The Public Utilities Board has approved the Conditions Precedent to be followed by the Town with respect to disconnection of service for non-payment including such matters as notice and the right to appeal such action to The Public Utilities Board. A copy of the conditions precedent is available for inspection at the Town's office.

**6. Reconnection**

Any service disconnected, whether due to non-payment of account or for any other reason mutually agreed to by the customer and the Town (ie. repairs necessitated by negligence of the customer, changes in tenant, vacancy for an extended period of time, etc.) shall not be reconnected until all arrears and penalties and a reconnection fee of \$50.00 have been paid.

7. Outstanding Bills

Pursuant to Section 252(2) of *The Municipal Act*, the amount of all outstanding charges for water and wastewater services are a lien and charge upon the land serviced and shall be collected in the same manner in which ordinary taxes upon the land are collectible, and with like remedies.

8. Hydrant Charges

The Town of Minnedosa, or any other hydrant owner, will pay to the Utility an annual fee of \$150.00 for each hydrant connected to the system which shall include the cost of water used for firefighting.

9. Water Allowance Due To Line Freezing

That in any case where, at the request of the CAO or Manager of Operations or their designate, a customer turns on a water line bleeder and allows water to run continuously to prevent the water lines in the water system from freezing, the customer shall be credited 11.784 cubic meters of water per day for each day that the water bleeder line is turned on as authorized by the Town.

10. Water Meters

- a. The Town shall supply an appropriate size water meter and remote read touch pad. Each customer shall be required to pay in advance a \$50.00 refundable meter deposit. This deposit will be refunded without interest upon termination of service, less any outstanding charges for water and wastewater service. Meter deposits may be transferred from one premises to another in the Town.
- b. The meter and touch pad shall be installed by a registered plumber and the costs shall be the responsibility of the property owner. The remote touch pad shall be located at a point easily accessible at all times and approved by the Town.
- c. The meter shall be installed 75 centimeters above the floor or as approved by the Town.
- d. The meter shall be located as close as practical to the point of entry of the water line. Ample room must be provided for access to the meter and main valve at all times.

- e. The meter shall be in a horizontal position with the main shut off valve immediately before the meter. Another valve shall be installed downstream of the meter before any distribution piping or ports.
- f. No distribution piping or ports shall be allowed before the meter.
- g. The meter shall be protected from any type of damage including freezing.
- h. Costs for any damage and labour for repairs to the water meter and associated equipment shall be the responsibility of the property owner.

11. Lagoon Tipping Fee

The lagoon tipping fee for septic trucks shall be \$20.00 per load for septage hauled from customers in the Town of Minnedosa and \$30.00 per load for septage hauled from customers outside the corporate boundaries of the Town of Minnedosa.

12. Wastewater Surcharges

- a) There may be levied annually, in addition to the rates set forth above, a special surcharge on sewage having a Biochemical Oxygen Demand in excess of 300 parts per million, to be set by Resolution of Council.
- b) A special surcharge for substances requiring special treatment shall be charged based on the actual costs of treatment required for the particular sewage or industrial waste.

13. Meter Testing

That in any case where a utility customer requests that a meter be tested for accuracy, the customer will provide the Town with a deposit of \$200.00. The Town will then remove the subject meter and send it to an independent lab for testing. If the meter is found to be faulty, all costs associated with the testing process will be borne by the Town and the deposit will be refunded to the customer and the customer's account will be adjusted for the preceding four (4) months. If the meter is found to be in proper working order, all costs associated with the testing process will be borne by the customer and the customer will be billed or refunded any balance owing.

14. Cross Connections

No customer or person shall connect, cause to be connected or allow to remain connected any piping, fixture, fitting, container or appliance in a manner which under any circumstances may allow water, wastewater or any harmful liquid or substance to enter the Town's water system.

If a condition is found to exist which, in the opinion of the Town, is contrary to the aforesaid, the Town may either:

Shut off the service or services; or

Give notice to the customer to correct the fault at his or her own expense within a specified time period.

15. Conditions of Disrepair

In the event that there are conditions of disrepair in the Wastewater and water works on a property that detrimentally affects the system as a whole and, upon the failure of the owner of the property to correct the condition within a reasonable time, the Town, or its agents, may enter the property, effect repairs and charge the cost thereof against the subject property as ordinary taxes.

16. Authorization For Officer To Enter Upon Premises

The Manager of Operations, or other employee authorized by the Town in the absence of the Manager of Operations, shall be authorized to enter upon any premise for the purpose of:

Affixing to any pipe, wire or apparatus connected with any such utility, a meter or any other measuring or testing device; or taking readings from, repairing, inspecting or removing any meter or apparatus belonging to the Town.