

Order No. 128/17

**THE MUNICIPALITY OF PEMBINA
TOWN OF MANITOU WATER and WASTE COLLECTION SYSTEMS
APPROVAL TO WITHDRAW RATE APPLICATION**

November 23, 2017

BEFORE: Shawn McCutcheon, Panel Chair
Allan Morin, B.A., (Econ), ICD.D, Member

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1.0 Executive Summary

By this Order, the Public Utilities Board (Board) approves a request to withdraw the current rate application made by the Municipality of Pembina (Municipality), for the Town of Manitou Water and Waste Collection Systems (Utility).

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

2.0 Application

In 2014, the Municipality of Pembina joined with the Municipality of Louise to form the South Central District Water Co-op (Co-op). The extensive repairs and replacement of equipment in both Water Treatment Plants brought Pilot Mound and the Town of Manitou together to improve the potable water system for those living in their communities.

In April 21, 2016, the Municipality advised the Board that it is not a position to file rate study due to many unknowns in terms of costs related to the Co-op. The Municipality requested to file a rate study in 2018. The Board approved the Municipality's request and directed that a rate study for the Town of Manitou be submitted by no later than June 1, 2018.

The Board approved the recovery of a budgeted \$39,000 deficit for the Utility from the Utility's Accumulated Surplus Fund on April 18, 2017.

On August 15, 2017, the Municipality submitted a rate application to the Board for rates to be effective January 1, 2018.

The Co-op held a board meeting on November 7, 2017 and set a base water rate that is not within the projections submitted by the Municipality in its rate application, as it was not known at the time of the application.

As a result of this, the Municipality requires the rate study to be up dated and intends to resubmit by April 30, 2018 based on the new information and financials from the Co-op.

On November 17, 2017, the Municipality sent an email to the Board accompanied by Resolution No. 211/2017 stating its intent to formally withdraw the rate application.

3.0 Board Findings

The Board approves the Municipality's request to withdraw the rate application as it finds the rationale reasonable. The Board also finds the submission date of April 30, 2018 acceptable for a new rate application.

Board decisions may be appealed in accordance with 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. The Board's Rules may be viewed on the Board's website at www.pubmanitoba.ca.

4.0 IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED THAT:

1. The Municipality of Pembina's request for withdrawal of the rate application for the Town of Manitou Water and Waste Collection Utility, is HEREBY APPROVED.
2. The Municipality of Pembina, Town of Manitou Water and Waste Collection Systems Utility, file a report and application for revised water and wastewater rates, by no later than April 30, 2018.

Fees payable upon this Order - \$150.00

THE PUBLIC UTILITIES BOARD

"Shawn McCutcheon"

Panel Chair

"Rachel McMillin, B.Sc."

Acting Secretary

Certified a true copy of Order No. 128/17
issued by The Public Utilities Board

Acting Secretary