

Alakanuk Activity Report

General Information:

During the middle part of July, the City Clerk called Leroy Seppilu, RUBA staff, and asked for assistance to prepare for the municipal elections. A calendar of important election dates was set up and discussed with her.

The city office administration was forced to move to a smaller area of the city office building after Alakanuk Traditional Council informed the City Council that the building belongs to the Traditional Council and that it wanted the larger area of the offices to meet its growing needs. Apparently, the Traditional Council let the City use the building in late eighties and nineties because it could not afford to operate and maintain the building.

Phase 4 of the Alakanuk Water & Sewer Project is in near-completion stages. Several residential homes were moved from the projected erosion area to safer locations and the process of hooking them up to w/s was started. 25 homes have been moved or are in the process of moving. The funding to move them comes from DCED's CDBG and Alakanuk Traditional Council housing grant. The next phase is to hook up houses down river.

Observations and Recommendations:

Finances — The City submitted a budget that was too reliant on revenues from state grants. Apparently, according to State Revenue Sharing (SRS) Program Manager, the expenditures were more than the locally generated revenues. RUBA staff was reviewing this with the City Administrator to make corrections before staff had to go home to attend to personal tragedy. A review and a visit are planned for the future.

Accounting Systems — The City obtained Quickbooks Pro software program for finances. During a visit there, RUBA staff was told that only the program's checking account is used. The City is still using BDS program for employee pay records because it ordered a couple of thousand checks for this program and is trying to finish them off before ordering checks for Quickbooks program. It looks like they still need training on the billing system and purchase orders.

Tax Problems — The City currently does not have tax problems. Quarterly and annual tax reports are submitted on timely manner.

Personnel System — The City Clerk and Bookkeeper will need training with Quickbooks Pro program since only the checking account in the program is used. The Bookkeeper has adjusted very well to her job.

Organizational Management — The City and Traditional Councils are at odds with each other over the ownership of the City office. It looks like the Traditional Council has won this

round as it has forced the City office to move to another part of the building. The City Clerk told RUBA staff that the Tribal Administrator is confrontational.

Leadership/Governance — The City has been preparing for new elections. It has been a long time since a City Clerk called and ask for assistance in preparing for election this early (July 1999). There are at least 3 vacant City Council positions open when municipal elections are held in early October.

Operation of Utility — Several more houses were connected to Alakanuk’s water & sewer utility system. There should be at least 25 more new homes that are or will be benefiting from phase 4 of the project.

Ranking

1 = Inadequate

4 = Adequate to meet minimum requirements

7 = Exceeds requirements

Category	1	4	7
Finances		X	
Accounting Systems			X
Tax Problems			X
Personnel System			X
Organizational Management		X	
Leadership/Governance			X
Operation of Utility			X