

Beaver Activity Report

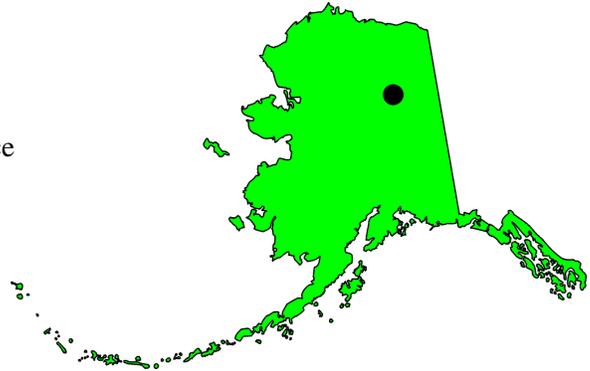
Community Overview

Lead RUBA Staff: Eileen Kozevnikoff, Fairbanks Office

2002 Population: 76

Region: Interior

Local Government: Village Council



The Village Council operates the one central watering point and the Electrical Company. The Village Council is the policy making body for the utilities. Most residents haul water from the new water treatment plant/washeteria and use honeybuckets or outhouses for sewage disposal. The school maintains their own well. A Business Plan is underway to determine costs for the improvements needed to provide a community system.

RUBA Activity This Reporting Period

Assistance was provided by RUBA staff this quarter by telephone and fax. The new bookkeeper attended and participated in the Personnel Management class in Fairbanks in September. The Business Plan has the first draft completed.

Capacity Indicators

Finances

Essential Indicators

- | Yes | No | |
|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | All revenue and expenses for the utility are listed in the utility budget. |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | The utility has adopted a balanced realistic budget. |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Monthly financial reports are prepared and submitted to the policy making body. |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | The utility is receiving revenues (user fees or other sources) sufficient to cover operating expenses. |

Sustainable Indicators

- | | | |
|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | The utility is receiving revenues (user fees or other sources) sufficient to cover operating expenses and Repair & Replacement (R&R) costs. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | YTD revenues are at a level equal to or above those budgeted. |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | YTD expenditures are at a level equal to or below those budgeted. |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | A monthly manager’s report is prepared. |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Budget amendments are completed and adopted as necessary. |

Finances Comments: Bills have been going out on a regular basis and the company now has the revenue to support the utility.

Accounting Systems

Essential Indicators

Yes	No	
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	The utility has adopted a collection policy and actively follows it.
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	The utility bills customers on a regular basis.
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	An accounts receivable system is in place which track customers and reports past due accounts and amounts.
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	An accounts payable system is in place.
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	The payroll system correctly calculates payroll and keeps records
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	A cash receipt system is in place that records incoming money and what it was for.
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	The Utility has a cash disbursement system that records how money was spent.

Sustainable Indicators

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	A chart of accounts is used that identifies categories in a reasonable, usable manner.
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Monthly bank reconciliations have been completed for all utility accounts.
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	The utility has a purchasing system that requires approval prior to purchase, and the approval process compares proposed purchases to budgeted amounts.

Accounting System Comments: Billing statements are now going out on a regular basis which is a plus for the tribe; a new bookkeeper was hired and she attended the Personnel Management workshop held in Fairbanks in September. They have a contract with a CPA firm in Fairbanks who is assisting in training the new bookkeeper. All payroll is put on a spreadsheet and faxed into the Fairbanks CPA firm to verify accuracy prior to cutting the checks.

Tax Problems

Essential Indicators

Yes	No	NA	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		The utility has a system to accurately calculate, track, and report payroll tax liabilities.
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		The utility is current on filing tax reports.
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		The utility is current on making tax deposits.
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		If there are any past tax liabilities, a repayment agreement has been signed and repayments are current.

Tax Problems Comments: The tribe no longer has any tax liabilities.

Personnel System

Essential Indicators

Yes No

- The utility has a posted workers compensation insurance policy in effect.**

Sustainable Indicators

- The utility has adopted and uses a Personnel Policy, which has been reviewed by an attorney, AML, or DCED for topics and language.
- The utility has adequate written job descriptions for all positions.
- The utility has adopted and follows a written personnel evaluation process that ties the job description to the evaluation.
- The utility has an adequate written hiring process.
- The utility has personnel folders on every employee that contain at least: I-9, Job Application and Letter of Acceptance.
- The utility has a probationary period for new hires that includes orientation, job-training/oversight, and evaluations.
- The utility provides training opportunities to staff as needed and available.

Personnel System Comments: The tribe has a Personnel Policy and uses it to a certain extent. The probationary period for new hires is now followed except for the evaluations.

Organizational Management

Essential Indicators

Yes No

- The entity that owns the utility is known and the entity that will operate the utility is set.**
- The policy making body is active in policy making of the utility.**
- The policy making body enforces utility policy.**
- The utility has an adequately trained manager.**
- The utility has an adequately trained bookkeeper.**
- The utility has an adequately trained operator(s).**
- The utility has adopted the necessary ordinances (or rules and regulations) necessary to give it the authority to operate.**

Sustainable Indicators

- The utility has adopted an organizational chart that reflects the current structure.
- The policy making body meets as required.
- The utility complies with the “Open Meetings Act” for all meetings.

Organizational Management Comments: The council is now enforcing the utility policy and the collection rate has increased. Another bookkeeper has been hired and is being trained by the CPA firm in Fairbanks.

Operation of Utility

Essential Indicators

- | Yes | No | |
|-------------------------------------|--------------------------|---|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | The utility operator(s) are actively working towards necessary certification. |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | The utility has a preventative maintenance plan developed for the existing sanitation facilities. |
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Sustainable Indicators

- | | | |
|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|---|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | The manager receives a monthly O&M report from the utility operator and routinely “spot checks” the facilities to see that the maintenance items are being completed. |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | The utility has a safety manual and holds safety meetings. |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | The utility is operating at the level of service that was proposed. |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | The operator provides status reports to the manager on a routine basis. |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | The utility has completed and distributed its <u>Consumer Confidence Report (CCR)</u> . |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | The utility is not on the <u>Significant Non-Compliance (SNC)</u> list. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | The utility maintains an inventory control list. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | The utility maintains a critical spare parts list. |

Operation of Utility Comments: The tribal administrator is now receiving reports from the operator in writing and verbally on a routine basis. She is also holding once a month safety meetings for all her staff. They have a critical spare parts list but don’t maintain the parts on hand. The tribe has three certified operators where work on two weeks on and two weeks off and the third is an alternate. It appears that there has been some serious improvement within the last quarter in all areas of the tribes operation however they are on the SNC List for bacteria and lead.

RUBA Activities For The Coming Quarter

Assisting the tribal administrator in training a new electric clerk; sending her another copy of a utility ordinance and finding information for the tribe to switch to a coin operated electrical system. The tribe has made major improvements in turning all operations around this last quarter.