

Koyukuk Activity Report

John Fischer, LGS/RUBA, Fairbanks Regional Office

General Information:

There are continued problems getting the city council to meet. These are very probably related to the personnel problems and to the problems with the election. John Fischer, RUBA staff in the Fairbanks office, received a fax regarding a council meeting that evidently took place to take care of passing resolutions dealing with the Certified Financial Statement (CFS) and the budget. Some of the submitted paperwork was returned to get originals, rather than photocopies. These were done and submitted. The election was rescheduled and held.

Received a fax regarding attendance at a council meeting which was to take place the following week. John already had other plans and could not attend. As is turned out, the council did not meet. There were enough members present in the community but not enough showed up to establish a quorum. According to the administrator, the Power Cost Equalization (PCE) reports are done. The administrator wanted to know when John would be able to come out. John will be able to when they were able to get the council together and have staff there. The last time John tried to get out there, the administrator decided she was going to be out of town.

The Alaska Native Tribal Health Consortium (ANTHC) engineer has been working with the administrator on the school agreement. Faxed sample agreement to the engineer for his review. Last word is the administrator plans on resigning (again).

Observations and Recommendations:

Finances — Struggling as always. As reported last quarter, financial statements and budget were brought current through the 3rd quarter of 1999. Contact has been sporadic this quarter and the community continues to have problems.

Accounting Systems — To repeat from last quarter & the quarter before that—**Still inadequate**. More centralization needed. Community needs to work with the hand (MFRKS) system before any additional attempts are made to computerize the system. Staff still fails to see the relevancy between the various components of the accounting system. It is unlikely that significant improvement will be seen in this area with current staffing and Council attitudes.

Tax Problems — Yes, per the IRS, there are problems developing and this quarter saw no attempt to face them even though they knew about it last quarter.

Personnel System — A lot of time expended this quarter but little progress made. To repeat from last quarter: at some point the community needs to accept some responsibility for

its actions. Repeated training of personnel and the drawing of organizational charts have yielded very little benefit to date.

Organizational Management — Very poor and inconsistent which is the same assessment as last time.

Leadership/Governance — Continue to declined during the quarter as it did last quarter. The community has seen its share of tragedies and grief but the Council members have either been out of town or slow to act on the issues at hand.

Operation of Utility — As reported last quarter, thanks in large part to the Remote Maintenance Worker (RMW), the system is still running. There continues to be some progress towards a school agreement, however slow.

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