

Mekoryuk Activity Report

General Information:

The last trip by Paul Chimiugak, RUBA staff in the Bethel office, and Kimberly Judge, from the Ketchikan office, was in May 1999 to do an audit/assessment of the City's accounts. Kimberly analyzed the computerized accounting data and she trained the Clerk/Bookkeeper on how to make the accounting entries. The Clerk/Bookkeeper said that she is satisfied with the system.

The City Administrator reported that they are in the discussion stages of creating an Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) with the local Tribal Council. Jim Sanders, Regional Office Manager, has conducted a teleconference with the City, Tribal Council, and Village Corporation on this issue. He will be going to Mekoryuk in November to continue this discussion. He is advising a 'go slow' approach. The first phase would be contracting the Flush Tank & Haul System to the Tribal government.

The City Administrator reported that the City accounts are greatly improved and there have been no changes in the financial situation of the City. The Flush Tank & Haul System customers are making payments. As expected in any business, there are a couple of customers that make very late payments.

Observations and Recommendations:

Finances — Jobe Weston, City Administrator said that the City does not have any accounts payable and their City deficit is now \$20,000 down from when he first started. He expects the deficit to be wiped out by June of 2000.

Accounting Systems — Jobe Weston, City Administrator, feels that Mona David is very comfortable with the computer system now. Their computerized accounting system was "fixed" this summer. He reports that most of the customers are paying their bills.

Tax Problems — They are keeping up with their payroll taxes. They continue to wait for the IRS to process their 1991 amended returns.

Personnel System — They City still has not amended and adopted a personnel policy provided to them by RUBA staff over 2 years ago.

Organizational Management — Jobe Weston, City Administrator likes the City Council that was elected in early October and reports they are very supportive. The City is exploring the possibility of a Memorandum of Agreement with the Tribal Council for the Flush Tank & Haul System operation.

Leadership/Governance — With a new Council in place it is hoped that there will be more cooperation between the Administrator and the Council.

Operation of Utility — There has been no change in the operation of the utility. The flat rate is still \$22.50 per haul per month. According to the utility assessment done in May they did not have any extra funds to replace equipment even though the rate is suppose to generate a reserve fund. It appears that the rate needs to be revised, something that has been recommended for the past 3 years by the RUBA staff, but the Council has been very reluctant to do. Perhaps the newly elected Council will take up this issue.

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	