

Tuntutuliak Activity Report

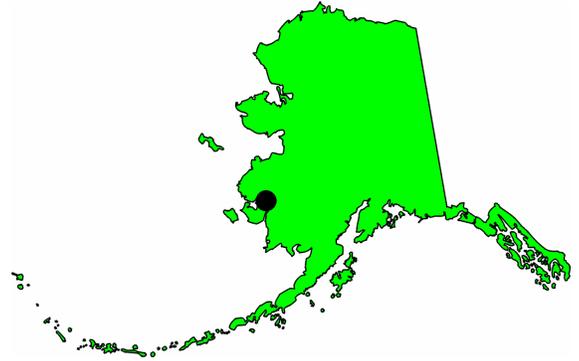
Community Overview

Lead RUBA Staff: Marita Hanson, Bethel Office

2003 Population: 381

Region: Lower Kuskokwim

Local Governments: Traditional Council



Tuntutuliak Community Services Association (Utility Organization) operates the electrical services, washeteria, water treatment plant, flush tank haul system, landfill/lagoon site, and garbage collection services. A flush/haul system was completed for 68 homes in 2000, including bathroom plumbing. The utility organization received additional funding in FY 01 to complete installation to those interested in the flush haul system, but is on hold until the engineering and environmental reports are done. The community received BIA Funds to renovate the community boardwalk system. Kuskokwim Architect Services is designing the renovation plan for the community. The school has its own well and sewage lagoon and is currently planning to upgrade their sewage disposal system.

RUBA Activity This Reporting Period

RUBA has worked with this community through phone, fax and regular mail when necessary in meeting the capacity indicators after the assessment was completed. This quarter the Tuntutuliak Community Services Association (TCSA) continues to experience financial hardship. All employee work hours are half time. Currently with salmon subsistence and commercial fishing in affect, the Utility Manager is working only part-time. Tax liens are still in effect as of June 2006. Mr. Moss, IRS continues working with the Manager to resolve tax issues. RUBA continues to remind the Utility Manager the importance of addressing these indicators. TCSA Manager had proposed to the board to temporarily shut down the washeteria for three months in efforts to reduce expenses. This organization does not have enough fuel to provide the washeteria operation. However, the board did not agree with his proposal. There have been three worksessions by the board on the business plan this quarter per the manager. Chairman Lincoln Enoch has resigned effective June 10th, 2006. Douglas Kernak is now the Acting Chairman. TCSA has been trying to hold a public meeting on the Utility Ordinance. However, each time the scheduled date has arrived, they end up having to reschedule to another time. A quorum to hold meetings is still a problem.

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 type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | The utility has adopted a balanced realistic budget. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Monthly financial reports are prepared and submitted to the policy making body. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | The utility is current in paying all water/wastewater electric bills. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | The utility has on hand a year's adequate fuel supply or it has financial plan to purchase an adequate. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" 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. This was not in Johnny' table. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | YTD revenues are at a level equal to or above those budgeted. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | YTD expenditures are at a level equal to or below those budgeted. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | A monthly manager's report is prepared. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Budget amendments are completed and adopted as necessary. |

Finances Comments:

Essentials are not met. A budget and monthly financial report continue to be non-existent for this organization. Roger Burleigh, Village Safe Water Engineer, has obtained a QuickBook's Pro software with project funds for this organization. However this has not yet been installed. Financial hardship continues for this entity. The fuel for this organization continues to be a problem. The manager has informed RUBA that currently they do not have enough fuel to keep the washeteria operational. They have yet to obtain enough fuel for the winter.

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 type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" 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 type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Monthly bank reconciliation's have been completed for all utility accounts. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" 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:

Essentials are not yet met. The Utility ordinance has not yet been adopted. TCSA was finally having a public meeting on June 28 and RUBA has not yet been notified whether the Utility Ordinance was passed.

Tax Problems**Essential Indicators**

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

Tax Problems Comments:

Essentials are not met. TCSA continues to make efforts to address the recommendations for IRS. It has been a very slow process. Copies of the IRS forms and deposits as well as Department of Labor contribution reports have been received by RUBA.

Personnel System**Essential Indicators**

- | Yes | No | |
|-------------------------------------|--------------------------|--|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | The utility has a posted workers compensation insurance policy in effect. |
-

Sustainable Indicators

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

Personnel System Comments:

Essential is met. The utility's worker's compensation insurance coverage is from 3/8/06 to 3/8/07.

Organizational Management

Essential Indicators

- | Yes | No | |
|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|--|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | The entity that owns the utility is known and the entity that will operate the utility is set. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | The policy making body is active in policy making of the utility. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | The policy making body enforces utility policy. |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | The utility has an adequately trained manager. |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | The utility has an adequately trained bookkeeper. |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | The utility has an adequately trained operator(s). |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | The utility has adopted the necessary ordinances (or rules and regulations) necessary to give it the authority to operate. |

Sustainable Indicators

- | | | |
|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|--|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | The utility has adopted an organizational chart that reflects the current structure. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | The policy making body meets as required. |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | The utility complies with the open meeting act for all meetings. |

Organizational Management Comments:

TCSA is still having problems with Council meeting quorums. The Utility ordinance has been the only policy the board has reviewed. Adopting this ordinance has been dormant for most of this year. Scheduled public meeting for June 28 was set. RUBA has not received confirmation that this took place.

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 type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | The utility has a preventative maintenance plan developed for the existing sanitation facilities. |

Sustainable Indicators

- | | | |
|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" 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 type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | The utility has a safety manual and holds safety meetings. |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Utility facilities have not suffered any major problems/outages due to management issues that are still unresolved. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" 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>Community Confidence Report</u> (CCR). |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | The utility is not on the <u>Significant Non-Compliance</u> (SNC) 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:

Essentials still not met. John Daniel was scheduled to attend the Operator in Training (OIT) training in Bethel April 2006. RUBA has not yet been notified that this took place and whether he passed the test.

RUBA Activities For The Coming Quarter

RUBA will continue to monitor the essential/sustainable indicators and provide technical assistance to this community.

