

Tuntutuliak Activity Report

Community Overview

Lead RUBA Staff: Johnny Evan, Bethel Office

2001 Population: 370

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 75 homes in 2000, including bathroom plumbing. The utility organization received an additional funding on FY 2001 to complete installation to those interested in the flush haul system. The community received BIA Funds to renovate the community boardwalk system, and a feasibility study is projected before construction begins. The school has its own well and sewage lagoon, and is currently planning to connect to the community’s flush haul system.

RUBA Activity This Reporting Period

Plans to train the new bookkeeper did not materialize as the utility organization hired an experienced bookkeeper. A new RUBA assessment needs to be conducted, and renew the RUBA Agreement.

Capacity Indicators

Finances

Essential Indicators

- | Yes | No | |
|-------------------------------------|--------------------------|--|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input 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: The user fees still barely cover the operation & maintenance costs due to low collection rate, but they manage to have a reserve account for any future discrepancies.

Accounting Systems

Essential Indicators

Yes	No	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input 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 type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" 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: The payables are paid upon receipt of invoice, and they manually calculate the payroll tax liabilities. The utility organization manage their accounting activities manually, but they are currently looking at whether they should computerize their accounting system.

Tax Problems

Essential Indicators

Yes	No	NA	
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" 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 type="checkbox"/>	<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: with a new bookkeeper, the organization now is doing its payroll taxes on time. The utility organization had no problem paying the past tax liabilities as they have reserve accounts for such discrepancies.

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 checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	The utility has an adequate written hiring process.
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input 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: The utility organization now has a fulltime bookkeeper who should ensure that the filing system is accurate.

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 checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	The policy making body is active in policy making of the utility.
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	The policy making body enforces utility policy.
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	The utility has a adequately trained manager.
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	The utility has a adequately trained bookkeeper.
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	The utility has a adequately trained operator(s).
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	The policy making body meets as required.
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	The utility complies with the open meetings act for all meetings.

Organizational Management Comments: The utility board is proactive in all aspects of the utility organization.

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.

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"/>	Utility facilities have not suffered any major problems/outages due to management issues that are still unresolved.
<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 type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	The utility has completed and distributed its <u>Community Confidence Report (CCR)</u> .
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	The utility is not on the <u>Significant Non-Compliance (SNC)</u> list.
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	The utility maintains an inventory control list.
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	The utility maintains a critical spare parts list.

Operation of Utility Comments: Operator checklists are provided to the utility manager on a daily basis. The utility organization has never participated in the CCR.

RUBA Activities For The Coming Quarter

The goal for the coming quarter is to conduct a new utility assessment, and send the RUBA Agreement for consideration.