

Best Practices Score  
Kotzebue  
Fall 2022

Category		O&M Scoring Criteria		Possible	Score	Explanation of Score	How to Improve Score	Contact	
Technical	Operator Certification	Utility has more than one operator certified to the level of the water system		10	7	System Classification: Water Treatment 3 Primary Operator: <i>Matthew Lazarus</i> Certification Level: <i>WT 4</i> Backup Operator: <i>Russell Ferguson</i> Certification Level: <i>WT 2</i> Matthew Lazarus is certified at the correct level. Russell Ferguson, Alan Allen and Gayle Ralston hold certification but not at the correct level.	Matthew Lazarus has the CEUs to renew WT 4 certification in 2023. Russell Ferguson needs 3.0 CEUs by 12/31/24 to renew in 2024. Russell has passed the WT 3 exam but additional CEUs to be eligible. Alan Allen needs 3.0 CEUs by 12/31/24 to renew in 2024, and needs to take and pass the WT 2 exam. Gayle Ralston has the CEUs to renew ST certification in 2024, has passed the WT P exam and should apply for certification now, and take and pass the WT 2 exam. Please see enclosed flyer with more information about certification.	ADEC Operator Certification Program 465-1139	
		Primary operator is certified to the level of the water system and the backup operator holds some level of certification in water treatment or distribution		7					
		Primary operator is certified to the level of the water system and the backup operator holds no certification or there is no backup operator		5					
		Utility has one or more operators certified at some level in water treatment or distribution		3					
		Utility has no certified operators		0					
	Preventive Maintenance Plan	Utility has a written PM plan; PM is performed on schedule; records of completion are submitted on a quarterly basis and have been verified		25	25	The operator is performing important maintenance on a regular basis and keeping records. Each month, the operator is submitting maintenance records to the assigned RMW.	Full points have been awarded in this category. Continue to perform maintenance according to the PM plan and send monthly records to the assigned RMW.	MHC RMW	
		Utility has a written PM plan; performance of PM and record keeping are not consistent		15					
		Utility has no PM plan or performs no PM		0					
	Compliance	Utility had no Monitoring and Reporting violations during the past year		10	10	The utility had 0 Drinking Water Monitoring and Reporting violations in 2022. Excellent job - keep up the good work!		Karen Garland ADEC Drinking Water Program 451-2137	
		Utility had up to five Monitoring and Reporting violation during the past year		5					
Utility had more than five Monitoring and Reporting violation during the last year		0							
Managerial	Utility Management Training	A person who holds a position of responsibility for management of the utility has completed a DCRA approved Utility Management course or other utility management training course within the last five years		5	5	Chelsea Sieh attended Financial Management for Rural Utilities training on 4/11/2022.	To maintain the full points in this category, consider sending someone to one of the free RUBA trainings each year.		
	Meetings of the Governing Body	The utility owner's governing body meets routinely consistent with the local ordinance/bylaw requirements and receives a current report from the operator		5	2	Minutes were provided for the following months during this reporting period: January, February, March, April, and May 2022. The water operator report was not consistently included in the meeting minutes.	To receive additional points, the governing body needs to meet according to local ordinance/bylaw and submit meeting minutes to RUBA. The minutes should document that a report to the council was made by the operator. Contact your assigned LGS for assistance.		
		The utility owner's governing body meets routinely consistent with the local ordinance/bylaw requirements		2					
		The utility owner's governing body does not meet		0					
Financial	Budget	Utility owner and the Utility have each adopted a realistic budget and budget amendments are adopted as needed; Accurate monthly budget reports are prepared and submitted to the governing body		15	0	The overall budget submitted by the utility owner is not balanced.	The utility owner needs to adopt a balanced and realistic budget. Contact your LGS for advice and assistance.	Lydia Mielke DCRA RUBA Program 269-4547	
		Either the Utility or the Utility owner has adopted and implemented a budget, the other has not		13					
		Either the Utility or the Utility owner has adopted a budget, but it is not being implemented		10					
		Utility owner and the Utility have not adopted a budget		0					
	Revenue	Utility is collecting revenue sufficient to cover the Utility's operating expenses and to contribute to a repair and replacement account		20	15	The financial reports show the utility is collecting sufficient revenue to cover expenses but the utility does not contribute to a repair and replacement account.	To received additional points, the utility must establish a utility repair and replacement account and make regular contributions to be prepared for future needs.		
		Utility is collecting revenue sufficient to cover expenses		15					
		Utility has a fee schedule and a collection policy that is followed		5					
		Utility has no fee structure or collection policy		0					
	Worker's Compensation Insurance	Utility has had a worker's compensation policy for all employees for the past two years and has a current policy in place		5	5	Continuous coverage for the utility owner was confirmed by a Department of Labor and Workforce Development database query on 06/30/22.	Full points have been awarded. The utility owner must maintain an active worker's compensation policy to continue receiving these points.		
		Utility has a current worker's compensation policy in place for all employees		2					
		Utility has no worker's compensation policy		0					
	Payroll Liability Compliance	Utility has no past due tax liabilities and is current with all tax obligations		5	0	The utility owner is not current with state or federal tax filings and/or payment obligations.	To receive additional points, the utility must either become current on all outstanding tax liabilities and filings, or enter into a repayment agreement for outstanding liabilities and remain current on payments.		
		Utility owes back taxes, but has a signed payment agreement, is current on that agreement, and is up-to-date with all other tax obligations		2					
Utility is not current with its tax obligations and/or does not have a signed repayment agreement for back taxes owed		0							
CIP O&M Score		9				TOTAL SCORE	69		