

**Best Practices Score  
Saint Mary's  
Spring 2026**

Category	O&M Scoring Criteria	Possible	Score	Explanation of Score	How to Improve Score	Contact	
Technical	<b>Operator Certification</b>	Utility has more than one operator certified to the level of the water system	10	5	System Classification: Water Treatment 2 Primary Operator: <i>Andrew Journey</i> Certification Level: <i>WT 3</i> Backup Operator: <i>No record of a backup operator</i> Certification Level: <i>N/A</i>	The primary operator should continue to pursue the required continuing education and be prepared to renew certifications when necessary. A backup operator needs to be identified and successfully complete the required certification exam.	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				
	<b>Preventive Maintenance Plan</b>	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.	Allan Paukan YKHC RMW 438-2024
		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				
	<b>Compliance</b>	Utility had no Monitoring and Reporting violations during the past year	10	0	The utility had 24 Drinking Water Monitoring and Reporting violations in 2025.	The Drinking Water Program provides you with an Annual Monitoring Summary with all of the required samples for your water system. All samples and reports must be collected and submitted in a timely manner.	Elizabeth Nakanishi ADEC Drinking Water Program 269-7619
		Utility had up to five Monitoring and Reporting violations during the past year	5				
Utility had more than five Monitoring and Reporting violations during the last year		0					
Managerial	<b>Utility Management Training</b>	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	Gertrude Paukan attended Financial Management for Rural Utilities training on 2/10/2025.	To maintain the full points, consider sending someone to one of the free RUBA trainings each year.	David Gardiner DCRA RUBA Program 207-9373
	<b>Meetings of the Governing Body</b>	The utility owner's governing body meets routinely consistent with the local ordinance/bylaw requirements and receives a current report from the operator	5	5	Minutes were provided for 7 out of 12 months during this reporting period. The water operator report was consistently included in the meeting minutes.	To maintain full points, the governing body must continue to meet according to local ordinance/bylaw and provide RUBA with meeting minutes.	
		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	<b>Budget</b>	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	15	The owner-managed utility has adopted an overall balanced and realistic budget; accurate monthly financial reports have been submitted and documented in the meeting minutes.	Full points have been awarded. Continue to provide RUBA accurate monthly financial reports that are submitted to the council and documented in the meeting minutes.	
		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				
	<b>Revenue</b>	Utility is collecting revenue sufficient to cover the Utility's operating expenses and to contribute to a repair and replacement account	20	5	Financial reports show the utility is not collecting sufficient revenue to cover expenses; a fee schedule or collection policy is on file with RUBA.	The utility needs to provide accurate monthly financial reports to RUBA and demonstrate sufficient revenue to cover the utility's expenses. Contact your assigned LGS for advice and assistance.	
		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				
	<b>Worker's Compensation Insurance</b>	Utility has had a worker's compensation policy for all employees for the past two years and has a current policy in place	5	2	Current coverage for utility owner was confirmed on 12/31/25, but the insurance provider reported a break in coverage in 05/30/25.	Full points can be awarded after the utility owner demonstrates that a workers' compensation policy has been in place for all employees for two full years.	
		Utility has a current worker's compensation policy in place for all employees	2				
Utility has no worker's compensation policy		0					
<b>Payroll Liability Compliance</b>	Utility has no past due tax liabilities and is current with all tax obligations	5	5	Utility owner has no past due State of Alaska payroll tax liabilities and is current with all ESC tax obligations.	Full points have been awarded. Continue to submit timely reports and payments to maintain these points.		
	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	7			<b>TOTAL SCORE</b>	67		