

**Best Practices Score
Ekwok
Spring 2026**

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	10	System Classification: No public water system Primary Operator: <i>No certified operator required</i> Certification Level: <i>N/A</i> Backup Operator: <i>No certified operator required</i> Certification Level: <i>N/A</i> No certified operator required	N/A	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	15	The utility is not performing the required maintenance or isn't keeping records of maintenance.	To receive the full points in this category, the operator must have a Preventative Maintenance plan that they follow and the completed plan must be submitted to your assigned RMW each quarter.	Jeff Fonkert BBAHC RMW 843-0665
		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 2025. The community does not operate a public water system.		ADEC Drinking Water Program
		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	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	Coleen Nicoli attended Financial Management for Rural Utilities training on 9/8/2025.	To maintain the full points, 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	5	Minutes were provided for all 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	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	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.	Iura Leahu DCRA RUBA Program 465-4814
		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	20	Financial reports show utility revenue is sufficient to cover expenses and a dedicated repair and replacement account is adequately funded.	Full points have been awarded. Keep up the great work.	
		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	2	Current coverage for utility owner was confirmed on 12/31/25, but the insurance provider reported a break in coverage from 09/7/24 to 09/13/24.	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					
Payroll Liability Compliance	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	27			TOTAL SCORE	87		