

**Best Practices Score  
Russian Mission  
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: Small Untreated Primary Operator: <i>James Housler</i> Certification Level: <i>Small Treated</i> Backup Operator: <i>Paul Larson</i> Certification Level: <i>Operator holds no current certification</i>	The primary operator should continue to pursue the required continuing education and be prepared to renew certifications when necessary. The backup operator needs to take and pass 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	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.	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	10	The utility had 0 Drinking Water Monitoring and Reporting violations in 2025. Excellent job - keep up the good work!		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	Agnes Housler attended Personnel Management for Rural Utilities training on 10/20/2025.	To maintain the full points, consider sending someone to one of the free RUBA trainings each year.	
	<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 10 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 utility owner and contractor have both adopted overall realistic and balanced budgets, and monthly financial reports for both 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.	Nicholas Martinez DCRA RUBA Program 543-3475
		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	20	Revenues surpass expenses and a reasonable 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				
	<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	5	Continuous coverage for the utility owner was confirmed by a Department of Labor and Workforce Development database query on 12/31/25.	Full points have been awarded. The utility owner must maintain an active workers' 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					
<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	25			<b>TOTAL SCORE</b>	85		