

Agency: Commerce, Community and Economic Development

Grants to Named Recipients (AS 37.05.316)

Grant Recipient: Tanana Valley Sportsmen's Foundation

Federal Tax ID: 26-1832485

Project Title:

Project Type: Equipment and Materials

Tanana Valley Sportsmen's Foundation - Installation of an Air Handling System

State Funding Requested: \$100,000

House District: 7 / D

One-Time Need

Brief Project Description:

Tanana Valley Sportmen's Association (TVSA) is short of funds to complete its rebuilding of a rifle range and classroom facility after a fire destroyed the historical TVSA buidling in 2007. The capital request will aid TVSA in the purchase and installation of an air handling system. Estimated air system cost: \$350K - \$400K

Funding Plan:

Total Cost of Project: \$350,000

	<u>Funding Secured</u>		<u>Other Pending Requests</u>		<u>Anticipated Future Need</u>	
	<i>Amount</i>	<i>FY</i>	<i>Amount</i>	<i>FY</i>	<i>Amount</i>	<i>FY</i>
State Funds	\$135,000	FY09				
Total	\$135,000					

Explanation of Other Funds:

Tanana Valley Sportsmen's Association received \$135,000 in FY09 through two capital budget appropriations: \$25,000 and \$110,000. Unfortunately, an additional \$110,000 was vetoed. This request helps fund the original proposal.

Detailed Project Description and Justification:

Due to a terrible fire the Tanana Valley Sportsmen's Association had to rebuild its rifle range and classroom facility in Fairbanks adjacent to the old TVSA building. With monetary help form land sales, generous donors and State grants, TVSA has been able to construct the shell of a new facility. The building is almost entirely insulated at this point. All labor has been by volunteer efforts, with the exceptions of exterior framing, plumbing, mechanical and electrical work.

TVSA still needs to obtain grants to finish the construction which includes: buying sheetrock and framing supplies for the classrooms and purchase of an air handling system so that TVSA can begin shooting smallbore in the range.

TVSA has already opened their doors to youth groups in the Interior, despite the rough inside conditions of the building. The Lathrop High School rifle team started practicing (air rifles only) in the building in October 2009. Also, last fall the junior Midnight Sun Sharpshooters club began and will continue through the end of March. TVSA will eventually bring back most of the high school and junior high school shooting teams and clubs once they can begin shooting smallbore again. The teams have suffered in the past three years due to lack of enough practice time in the only other indoor range in Fairbanks that belongs to the Dept. of Fish and Game.

\$100,000
Approved

The TVSA mission is to provide Interior Alaska's youth education and safety in the handling of firearms. They also hold adult classes and ladies' personal protection classes. And the range will become available to the public once completed.

Project Timeline:

TVSA hopes to complete the purchase and installation of the air handling system in the next 18 months.

Entity Responsible for the Ongoing Operation and Maintenance of this Project:

Tanana Valley Sportsmen's Association

Grant Recipient Contact Information:

Name: Grant Lewis
Address: 6101 Chena Hot Springs Road
Fairbanks, AK 99712
Phone Number: (907)488-2884
Email: grantandpamlewis@alaska.net

Has this project been through a public review process at the local level and is it a community priority? Yes No

For use by Co-chair Staff Only:

6:26 PM 5/4/2010

Sheila Peterson

From: Grant, Pam or Layne Lewis [grantandpamlewis@alaska.net]
Sent: Friday, December 18, 2009 1:18 PM
To: Rep. Mike Kelly
Subject: TVSA Help

Hello. Once again, the Tanana Valley Sportsmen's Association (TVSA) in Fairbanks is requesting your help in securing a State grant for the rebuilding of the TVSA classroom and indoor shooting range facility.

As you may recall, the 60-year old+ former building was destroyed by fire in March 2007. Since then, with monetary help from land sales, generous donors and State grants, we have been able to construct the shell of an entirely new facility. We almost have the whole building insulated at this point. All of the labor has been by volunteer efforts, with exceptions of exterior framing, plumbing, mechanical and electrical work. We are now down to about our last dollar.

We most greatly appreciate your assistance in helping TVSA obtain grants to finish the construction; we need to buy sheetrock and framing supplies for the classrooms. Most importantly, we need to buy a very expensive air handling system so that we can begin shooting smallbore in the range. This system will conservatively cost \$350,000.

We have already opened our doors to youth groups in the Interior, despite the rough inside conditions of the building. The Lathrop High School rifle team started practicing (air rifles only) in the building in October 2009. Last week we held our first (since 2007) junior Midnight Sun Sharpshooters class that will continue weekly through the end of March 2010. We expect to eventually bring back most of the high school and junior high school shooting teams and clubs to TVSA once we can begin shooting smallbore again. These teams have suffered in the past three years due to lack of enough practice time in the only other indoor range in Fairbanks that belongs to the Dept. of Fish and Game.

The TVSA's mission is to provide Interior Alaska's youth education and safety in the handling of firearms. We also hold adult classes and ladies' personal protection classes. And the range will become available to the public once completed.

By granting TVSA financial support in 2008 for help in constructing the building's shell, the State of Alaska has acknowledged the importance of this facility to our Interior communities. Remember, many of the world class shooters have come from the University of Alaska Nanooks Rifle Team and many of these team members started their formal training through the TVSA programs. Further State support will enable TVSA to continue to provide a much needed facility for our educational programs. Over the years, numerous high school seniors from various Interior high schools have received valuable college scholarships due to their shooting skills learned through TVSA.

Thank you for your assistance. Please feel free to contact me for more information.

Grant L. Lewis, President
Tanana Valley Sportsmen's Association
P.O. Box 70669
Fairbanks, AK 99707
(907) 488-2884; cell: (907) 388-3462
e-mail: grantandpamlewis@alaska.net



**Tanana Valley Sportsmen's
Foundation, Inc.**
P.O. Box 70669, Fairbanks, Alaska 99707

February 10, 2010

Re: TVSA Building

Senator Joe Thomas
Alaska State Legislature
State Capitol
Juneau, AK 99801

Attention: Mr. Joe Hardenbrook

Dear Senator Thomas:

Enclosed are letters of support and on-line grant information we hope you will introduce on behalf of the Tanana Valley Sportsmen's Foundation, Inc. We greatly appreciate any assistance the State can give to TVSA. This organization can trace its roots to 1916 and has been incorporated as a non-profit organization for over seven decades providing a facility for, primarily, youth groups to receive education in the safe handling of firearms.

You may have seen the 1/31/2010 Fairbanks Daily News-Miner article that depicts some of the progress we have made in constructing the new facility. Just about all labor is being performed by volunteers and we are far short on funding to make the range function at its best capacity.

Please give me a call at (907) 488-2884 if I can provide additional information. Again, thank you for your efforts.

Sincerely,

Grant L. Lewis
President

Faxed
2.10.10

Project Title: Tanana Valley Sportsmen's Foundation, Inc. purchase of an air-handling system for a new shooting range facility in Fairbanks

State Funding Requested: \$400,000.00

Brief Project Description: Purchase of an air-handling system for the new Tanana Valley Sportsmen's Association building that houses classrooms and shooting bays. The air-handling system must be purchased and installed prior to the range being used for smallbore rifles. Only air guns can be used at this time.

Funding Plan:

Total Cost of Project: \$400,000.00

Detailed Project Description and Justification: The Fairbanks area's only non-government owned public indoor shooting range/classroom facility burned down in 2007. Since then, the Tanana Valley Sportsmen's Association, Inc. (TVSA), a non-profit organization, has been constructing a new facility to house classrooms and shooting bays. For over 60 years, the TVSA has been promoting youth education programs for the safe handling of firearms. Almost all of the junior and senior high schools in the Interior have used TVSA for decades for their clubs and teams' education and rifle practice sessions.

The building is far from complete; however, enough interior construction, completed mostly by volunteers, has allowed some youth programs to start using the new facility for education and hands on practice with air guns. The biggest limitation of the new building is the lack of an air-handling exchange system that will help preclude problems with any lead dispersed in the air from smallbore shooting. The Tanana Valley Sportsmen's Foundation, Inc., a non-profit foundation, was created to receive funds for future construction needs, such as purchase of an air-handling system. Currently, there is no money for having an air-handling system designed, constructed and installed. Therefore, the building is severely limited in its offerings to the public and schools for educational shooting programs.

Due to its long history in the Interior, there have been numerous individuals who started their firearms training at the TVSA and gone on to compete in national and international matches. Many of these students received valuable college scholarships and placements on the top ranked university rifle teams. Some of the current members of the University of Alaska Nanooks ten-time NCAA champions started their training at TVSA.

The only other indoor shooting range in Fairbanks that is open to the public is the AK Dept. of Fish and Game's Hunter Education Building. This facility is so well used that it is difficult to get enough range time for the area high school rifle teams to practice for their matches. During the past three years, the high school teams have suffered greatly from the lack of sufficient time for practicing. A few students have lost opportunities for college scholarships due primarily to the lack of facilities for needed practice times.

Project Timeline: FY'10-'11

Entity Responsible for the Ongoing Operation and Maintenance of this Project: Tanana Valley Sportsmen's Association, Inc., a non-profit organization

Grant Recipient Contact Information:

Contact Name: Grant L. Lewis, President, TVSA, Inc. and TVSF, Inc.

Phone Number: (907)488-2884 or (907)388-4359

Address: P.O. Box 70669, Fairbanks, AK 99707

Email: grantandpamlewis@alaska.net