

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 - Air Handling System Installation

State Funding Requested: \$100,000**House District: 7 / D**

Future Funding May Be Requested

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

Funding Plan:

Total Project Cost:	\$350,000
Funding Already Secured:	(\$100,000)
FY2012 State Funding Request:	(\$100,000)
Project Deficit:	\$150,000

Funding Details:

The FY11 Capital Budget contained a \$100,000 appropriation for the air handling system. This request will allow the club to continue working to complete the system.

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.

Project Details: The ventilation system will be a "state of the art" air handling and filtration system. It has been designed by a local mechanical engineering and heating/ventilation contractor to meet current standards for the facility. Air will be directed past each shooting position in such volume that all lead and propellant residue will be carried down range. Air will be collected at the target area and carried thru ducts to a system of filters and vents in the mezzanine area. Air will be filtered and mixed with fresh preheated outside air in this area and redirected past the shooting positions. Mechanical features will consist of air diffusers, duct work, several fans, filtration units consisting of at least three grades of air filters, mixing chambers for fresh air make-up, heating coils and boilers. In summer, air can be cleaned and recirculated with minimal heating, but winter air will require substantial heating of the fresh air prior to mixing with cleaned air from inside the building.

The project is ongoing. We began new construction within months of the fire and have a facility currently usable for most of

our programs with the exception of actual firearms usage. In fact, three area high school rifle teams and our own "Midnight Sun Sharpshooters" junior rifle club used the range for air rifle practice this winter. This took some of the pressure off the State's Hunter Education Range which for the last three years has struggled to make practice time available for local junior programs. We hope to complete the ventilation system in one range bay this year, but as we are unsure of funding, cannot give a definite completion date. Our contractor has agreed to work with us and provide as much of the system as we can afford, then pause until additional funding materializes.

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
Title: President
Address: PO Box 70669
Fairbanks, Alaska 99707
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

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

Midnight Sun Sharpshooters
Junior Club

Dear President Lewis,

The Tanana Valley Sportsmen's Association and The Tanana Valley Rifle and Pistol Club has sponsored and supported a youth shooting program since the 1950's. In the 1960's our junior club won the National Indoor Smallbore Rifle Championship. In addition to our own junior club we have supported many scholastic junior clubs and teams that originated in our senior and junior high schools.

The TVSA has been the "corner stone" for junior shooting programs as junior high schools have become middle schools and both middle and senior high schools have increased in number from one junior high (Ryan) and two senior high schools (Lathrop and Monroe). TVSA's junior shooting has also grown over time. In 1988 our junior club members elected to call themselves "The Midnight Sun Sharpshooters." We exceeded our capacity two years in a row with over 70 members each year. We had to wait until after the scholastic season was over so our club could start. With our current limited capacity we will have supported about 130 to 150 juniors on our partially completed ranges by 9/31/2011. In addition we support Randy Smith Middle School and North Pole High School. We also will support more Junior shooters at outdoor ranges for the Youth Hunter Education Challenge, Fish and Game Hunting and Fishing Day and other outdoor shooting activities. Our youth shooting activities will increase substantially when our indoor ranges are completed.

Because TVSA and TVR&P have been the corner stone of youth shooting activities in the Interior of Alaska we have seen an increase of shooting unlike other regions of the United States. We can thank the many officers, volunteers and supporters of TVSA and TVR&P for keeping our youth programs active and growing with the community.

I am looking toward to the completion of our clubhouse and ranges so we can continue to expand our indoor and outdoor activities.



Oliver "Bud" Burris
Leader, Midnight Sun Sharpshooters

Legislative Capital Budget Request

Requestor: Tanana Valley Sportsmen's Foundation, Inc.

Federal Tax ID Number:

Project Title: Tanana Valley Sportsmen's Association, Inc. (TVSA), new shooting range ventilation system

This is a project, undertaken by the TVSA, to replace the clubhouse and shooting range which was lost to a fire in March 2007. To date we have constructed a new building with classrooms, meeting area and shooting range bays. The structure is complete, but we have a lot of finish work to do as well as installation of an air handling/ventilation system for lead abatement. No public review or approval is required. Fire marshal and Department of Labor requirements have been met.

This portion of the Clubhouse/Range project consists of design, fabrication and installation of an air handling/ventilation system for the new building. Air will be circulated past the firing line, collected down-range, filtered, mixed with fresh air from outside which requires preheating, and recirculated. The objective is to have clean, lead free air in the shooting range and the entire building, so that our range users, most of whom consist of junior shooters, are not exposed to lead contaminated air.

Total cost of the entire new facility will be approximately \$3.5 million. This portion, the ventilation system, is estimated to cost \$350,000. We secured a \$100,000 State grant last year and have applied for grants from other sources. Other requests totaling approximately \$20,000 have been submitted, but are pending. These funds have allowed us to begin the design and ordering of some of the equipment needed for the ventilation system.

We are respectfully requesting a \$100,000 State grant for this year. This will allow for continuation of the ventilation system project. Club treasury is very limited at present; all available funds are being designated to the total building project. Approximately \$250,000 in additional funding will be required to complete the ventilation system.

TVSA is committed to providing a safe shooting facility for use by the residents of Interior Alaska and the continuation of historical decades of educating the Interior's youth in the safe handling and enjoyment of firearms. Funding received now will expedite this process and allow for full usage of the facility earlier rather than at some later date.

Future funding requests will depend on availability of additional funding from other sources. We hope to finish this project in the coming year, but if we are unsuccessful in other fund raising efforts we may request additional grants in the coming years.

Project Details: The ventilation system will be a “state of the art” air handling and filtration system. It has been designed by a local mechanical engineering and heating/ventilation contractor to meet current standards for the facility. Air will be directed past each shooting position in such volume that all lead and propellant residue will be carried down range. Air will be collected at the target area and carried thru ducts to a system of filters and vents in the mezzanine area. Air will be filtered and mixed with fresh preheated outside air in this area and redirected past the shooting positions. Mechanical features will consist of air diffusers, duct work, several fans, filtration units consisting of at least three grades of air filters, mixing chambers for fresh air make-up, heating coils and boilers. In summer, air can be cleaned and recirculated with minimal heating, but winter air will require substantial heating of the fresh air prior to mixing with cleaned air from inside the building.

The project is ongoing. We began new construction within months of the fire and have a facility currently usable for most of our programs with the exception of actual firearms’ usage. In fact, three area high school rifle teams and our own “Midnight Sun Sharpshooters” junior rifle club used the range for air rifle practice this winter. This took some of the pressure off the State’s Hunter Education Range which for the last three years has struggled to make practice time available for local junior programs. We hope to complete the ventilation system in one range bay this year, but as we are unsure of funding, cannot give a definite completion date. Our contractor has agreed to work with us and provide as much of the system as we can afford, then pause until additional funding materializes.

Funding for our project has come from many sources during the last three+ years. We have sold land belonging to TVSA, held various fundraisers, solicited grants and donations from organizations and individuals Statewide, as well as requesting State grants. TVSA still has some land to sell, but today’s market is not very vigorous. Monies derived from any and all sources are dedicated to construction and maintenance of the new facility. Much of the work to date has been done by volunteer members of the Club and others who have just “wanted to give a helping hand.” Where necessary due to lack of skills and expertise, or to comply with regulations, we have engaged local contractors. In this way we have been able to keep costs down and move the project along to its current state. The ventilation system is beyond our volunteers’ expertise, but the contractor has agreed to work with us so that some of the “grunt work” can be done with volunteer efforts, thus getting the most for our dollars.

Maintenance of the facility will be the responsibility of TVSA. Range fees will be charged, of necessity, and our ongoing fundraising activities will continue so that utilities and routine maintenance can be paid. We will not ask for grants for these items in the future.

TVSA President Grant L. Lewis will be responsible for the administration of this grant. He can be reached at (907)488-2884 or by mail at P.O. Box 70669, Fairbanks AK 99707.