



CITY OF NORMAN, OK STAFF REPORT

MEETING DATE: 11/25/2025

REQUESTER: Norman Regional Hospital Authority

PRESENTER: Kathryn Walker, Assistant City Attorney

ITEM TITLE: CONSIDERATION OF ADOPTION, REJECTION, AMENDMENT AND/OR POSTPONEMENT OF ORDINANCE O-2526-23 UPON FIRST READING BY TITLE: AN ORDINANCE OF THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF NORMAN, OKLAHOMA AMENDING SECTIONS 2-301 AND 2-305 OF THE CODE OF ORDINANCES TO INCREASE THE NUMBER OF BOARD MEMBERS FOR NORMAN REGIONAL HOSPITAL AUTHORITY AND TO ALLOW A MAXIMUM OF TWO BOARD MEMBERS TO BE APPOINTED FROM ANOTHER COMMUNITY IN WHICH THE AUTHORITY OPERATES AT LEAST ONE FACILITY, CONSISTENT WITH ARTICLE X, SECTION 1 OF THE CITY CHARTER; AND PROVIDING FOR THE SEVERABILITY THEREOF. (CITY)

BACKGROUND:

Norman Regional Hospital Authority (the “Authority”) is a public trust operated for the benefit of the City of Norman. Authority operates the Norman Regional Health System, which has grown over the years to include facilities in six surrounding communities in addition to its facilities in Norman. Article X of the City’s Charter sets forth the process for appointing board members to the Authority Board; the Mayor, with the approval of the Council, appoints the board for a term of 3 years. Like other Boards, the Charter language and related Code provisions required that all board members be Norman residents.

In 2019, the Authority asked that the City’s Charter Review Commission consider changes to Article X that would increase the size of the Board of Directors from nine to eleven, and allow for a maximum of two board positions to be appointed from other communities in which the Authority operates facilities. Ultimately, Council sent the question of this Charter amendment to the voters in 2022 and it was adopted. Governor Stitt approved the changes to the Charter in 2023.

In order to fully effectuate this change, the Authority has prepared amendments to its Trust Indenture to increase the board size and amend the residency requirements consistent with the Charter. Resolution R-2526-82 approving the changes and accepting the beneficial interest in the trust will be on Council’s agenda on December 9, 2025. The last remaining step is to amend Sections 2-301 and 2-305 of the City’s code to ensure it is consistent with the Trust Indenture and the Charter provisions.

DISCUSSION:

Ordinance O-2526-23 amends Section 2-301 to increase the size of the Authority Board from nine to eleven board members. It also amends Section 2-305 to clarify that Norman residency is not required for a maximum of two of the Authority's board members.

RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommends approval of Ordinance O-2526-23 upon Second and Final Reading.