



## CITY OF NORMAN, OK STAFF REPORT

---

**MEETING DATE:** 6/09/2026

**REQUESTER:** Kenneth J. Giannone, PE

**PRESENTER:** Kenneth J. Giannone, PE, Capital Projects Engineer

**ITEM TITLE:** CONSIDERATION OF APPROVAL, REJECTION, AMENDMENT AND/OR POSTPONEMENT OF CHANGE ORDER TWO TO CONTRACT K-2324-66: BY AND BETWEEN THE NORMAN UTILITIES AUTHORITY AND CROSSLAND HEAVY CONTRACTORS, INC. INCREASING THE CONTRACT BY \$223,240.60 FOR A REVISED CONTRACT AMOUNT OF \$3,613,310.68 FOR NORMAN WATER RECLAMATION FACILITY (WRF) DEWATERING IMPROVEMENTS PROJECT (WARD 6)

---

### **BACKGROUND:**

The biosolids process at the Norman Water Reclamation Facility (WRF) uses sludge pumps to pump treated biosolids from digesters to the dewatering building where large centrifuges reduce the liquid content of the biosolids. Once the centrifuges have sufficiently dried the biosolids, a series of screw conveyors transport the biosolids from the individual centrifuges to a central conveyor that, in turn, carries it out of the building to a loading area where it is loaded directly into a waiting truck for hauling and disposal.

In 2020, staff determined that the existing centrifuges at the Norman WRF were approaching the end of their useful lives. As a result, Norman Utilities Authority (NUA) approved Contract K-2021-50 with Garver, L.L.C., on December 8, 2020, to prepare a design to replace the existing centrifuges with state-of-the-art dewatering equipment that would be sized to meet both current and projected future demand.

During design of the project, Garver evaluated the existing sludge pumps and the existing conveyor system and both appeared to be in reasonably good condition and, based on available data, both appeared to have ample capacity to service the proposed higher-capacity centrifuges. For these reasons and in order to minimize project costs, Garver's design only covered replacement of the centrifuges and those segments of the screw conveyors that would connect directly to the new centrifuges.

Norman WRF Dewatering Improvements (Project WW0326) was advertised and bid in the Fall of 2023. Crossland Heavy Contractors, Inc. (CHC) was deemed the lowest and best bidder, and, on November 28, 2023, Contract K-2324-66 in the amount of \$3,320,000.00 was approved by the NUA and awarded to CHC. Notice to proceed was issued in January 2024. After an extended procurement phase, the new centrifuges were delivered in January 2025, and phased installation followed by testing and commissioning commenced immediately

thereafter. The new centrifuges were deemed complete as of November 19, 2025, and staff at the Norman WRF took beneficial possession the centrifuges and appurtenant equipment as of that date and have been operating the system as intended since then.

Change Order No. 1 to the contract, in the amount of \$67,070.00 for a revised contract amount of \$3,387,070.00 was approved by City Council on January 13, 2026. Change Order No. 1 also extended the Contract Completion Date to December 24, 2025.

**DISCUSSION:**

The final testing process for the new centrifuges included a requirement that the equipment be operated through the full range of its rated capacity. During this process, it became apparent that, while the new centrifuges were operating as intended, at higher operating ranges there were two unanticipated “bottlenecks” in the biosolids process. Due to their age, the sludge pumps were no longer able to operate at the high end of their rated capacity and thus could not feed the centrifuges at the high end of their operating range. Similarly, a segment of the existing screw conveyor was no longer able to run at the highest end of its designed operating range, and consequently, it could not handle the volume of dewatered biosolids produced by the new centrifuges at their maximum operating rates. CHC was able to take some temporary steps that made it possible to complete the testing process as required. However, NUA determined that, in order to obtain the full benefit of the new centrifuges, it would be necessary to eliminate these bottlenecks.

For the above reason, staff negotiated Amendment No. 1 with Garver to investigate and create a design to replace the sludge pumps and conveyor segment in the Norman WRF biosolids process, and, on March 24, 2026, NUA approved Amendment No. 1 to cover this additional engineering effort.

In May 2026, CHC submitted cost proposals for the additional work, and the following costs were negotiated:

**Change Order No. 2**

<b>Description</b>	<b>Cost</b>
Furnish and Install New Conveyor No. 5	\$221,584.00
Install New Sludge Pumps (Pumps to be Furnished by Norman Utilities)	28,913.00
<b>Total for Proposed Change Order No. 2 =</b>	<b>\$250,497.00</b>

Both NUA staff and Garver have reviewed these costs and deemed them to be fair and reasonable to complete this critical work.

While preparing their cost estimate, CHC determined that the lead time on the new pumps and conveyor segment would be approximately 10 months. Because of the long lead time, CHC’s cost proposal included a request that they be paid in full for work performed under the original contract and Change Order No. 1. Since that work is now complete and the

furnished equipment is being used for its intended purpose, Staff deemed this request to be reasonable.

Change Order No. 2 also includes the following two amendment items, reducing the quantity of two line items in the contract to match the quantity actually used during construction to date:

**Change Order No. 2 – Amendment Items**

Line Item No.	Description	Units	Unit Price	Original Qty	Original Cost
21 00	Owner’s Contingency No. 1	LS	\$100,000.00	1.00	\$100,000.00
22 00	Owner’s Contingency No. 2	LS	\$10,000.00	1.00	10,000.00

**Change Order No. 2 – Amendment Items (Continued)**

Line Item No.	Description	Actual Qty Used	Difference in Qty	Cost Difference
21 00	Owner’s Contingency No. 1	0.86	-0.14	-\$14,256.32
22 00	Owner’s Contingency No. 2	0.00	-1.00	-\$10,000.00
<b>Total Cost of Amendment Items in Change Order No. 2 =</b>				<b>-\$24,256.32</b>

This results in a net change order amount of \$226,240.60, 6.8% of the original contract, and total revised contract amount of \$3,613,310.68. Combined Change Order Nos. 1 and 2 increase the contract amount by 8.8%. To fund this extra work, staff proposes using funds already in the project construction budget (Project WW0326, Account No. 32999911-46101) which has an available balance of \$939,623.98.

As noted, the lead time on the new equipment will be approximately 10 months, which would extend the contract to April 2027. Since the current contract completion date is December 24, 2025, Change Order No. 2 also includes a proposed time extension of 492 calendar days to extend the Contract Completion date to April 30, 2027.

**RECOMMENDATION:**

Staff recommends that NUA approve Change Order 2 to Contract K-2324-66, by and between Norman Utilities Authority and Crossland Heavy Contractors, Inc., increasing the contract by \$226,240.60 for a revised contract amount of \$3,613,310.68.