



CITY OF NORMAN, OK STAFF REPORT

MEETING DATE: March 28, 2023

REQUESTER: Nathan Madenwald, Utilities Engineer

PRESENTER: Nathan Madenwald, Utilities Engineer

ITEM TITLE: CONSIDERATION OF APPROVAL, ACCEPTANCE, REJECTION, AMENDMENT, AND/OR POSTPONEMENT OF CONTRACT K-2223-127: A CONTRACT BY AND BETWEEN THE NORMAN UTILITIES AUTHORITY AND RJN GROUP, INC., IN THE AMOUNT OF \$343,192 FOR WASTEWATER FLOW MONITORING SERVICES AND BUDGET TRANSFER AS OUTLINED IN THE STAFF REPORT.

BACKGROUND:

In March 2002, the Norman Utilities Authority (NUA) approved Contract K-0102-50 with RJN Group, Inc. (RJN) which began a program to measure wastewater flows from satellite collection systems. Satellite systems are privately owned wastewater collection systems that discharge into the NUA system. The program began with the installation of 10 flow meters at discharge points serving the University of Oklahoma (OU). The scope of services included metering equipment selection, installation, calibration and software for data collection and reporting, and meter maintenance. The contract was amended several times to authorize continued maintenance, data collection and reporting.

In 2007, a Request for Proposal (RFP) was forwarded to interested engineering firms. On August 28, 2007, Contract K-0708-42 for Permanent Wastewater Flow Metering services was awarded to RJN in an annual amount not to exceed \$150,000. Under Contract K-0708-42, additional unit prices were provided to perform meter maintenance, if necessary, and install a total of 19 meters. Additional meters were installed at discharges from several satellite systems such as mobile home parks and apartment complexes to determine if permanent meters were justified at these locations. Additional meters were installed to determine wastewater flows prior to and following improvements under the Sewer Maintenance Program (SMP) to determine the effectiveness of the sewer main replacements. The NUA has approved five amendments to Contract K-0708-42 extending RJN's services through August 27, 2014.

In 2014, Contract K-1415-34 was awarded to the RJN Group, Inc., due to their experience in working with our system and processes and lack of other available competitors for this work. Seven amendments were issued under this contract to operate and maintain the meters. The flows continue to be used to measure effectiveness of the SMP project, billing for OU, and overall flow measurements to be used to monitor system capacity and for future modeling purposes. Additionally, RJN developed a website management system for the data to provide easier access for staff. Lastly, this information was used to support efforts to measure virus loads in wastewater during the pandemic.

In 2022, Contract K-2223-46 was awarded to the RJN Group, Inc., due to their experience in working with our system and processes. The flows continue to be used to measure effectiveness of the SMP

project, billing for OU, and overall flow measurements to be used to monitor system capacity and for future modeling purposes. Rates and costs in the contract continue to be in line with industry standards and costs for this work.

DISCUSSION:

For Fiscal Year Ending 2023, City Council requested that staff develop a new comprehensive land use plan. As a component of this, updates to water, wastewater and sanitation plans (in addition to other City plans) are warranted to ensure that facilities can serve the proposed land use or required capital improvements to serve the proposed land use are determined. Specifically for the wastewater system, updated flow monitoring is necessary to measure current dry weather and wet weather flows to properly model and evaluate the capacity of the wastewater collection system. Current permanent flow meters provide long-term data for flows on key interceptors but more detailed data is necessary to better understand what is occurring further upstream within the sub-basins. The last detailed flow monitoring effort was completed by the RJN Group, Inc., in 2012 which is not recent enough to represent current flow conditions.

Due to their familiarity with the system resulting from the 2012 detailed flow monitoring and ongoing permanent flow metering, use of RJN Group, Inc., for the temporary flow monitoring is recommended by staff. Proposed Contract K-2223-127 is for 30 meters and 7 rain gauges for a period of 60 days with the City-option to extend the period by 30 days if necessary to measure flows during additional wet weather events. The contract amount for the initial 60-day period is \$280,108 and \$63,084 for the optional 30-day period for a total contract of \$343,192. This flow monitoring data will be provided to the consultant completing wastewater modeling effort required for the wastewater master plan update.

Funding for the project is proposed to be from a Budget Transfer from the Bishop Creek Interceptor Construction Account (32290048-46101 / WW0174-CONST2) into Wastewater Master Plan Design Account (32290048-46101 / WW0179-DESIGN) in the amount of \$350,000. Funding for the Bishop Creek Interceptor project could be restored once the project and sizing information is confirmed by the updated modeling effort.

The temporary flow monitoring work will be completed in 2023.

RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommends approval of Contract K-2223-127 with RJN Group, Inc. to perform temporary wastewater flow monitoring services in an amount not to exceed \$343,192, and budget transfer in the amount of \$350,000 from the Bishop Creek Interceptor, Construction (Account 32290048-46101; Project WW0174) into Wastewater Master Plan, Design (Account 32290048-46101; Project WW0179).