



# City of Norman, OK

Municipal Building  
Council Chambers  
201 West Gray  
Norman, OK 73069

## Master

**File Number: K-1415-75**

**File ID:** K-1415-75

**Type:** Contract

**Status:** Consent Item

**Version:** 2

**Reference:** Item No. 18

**In Control:** City Council

**Department:** Utilities Department

**Cost:** \$40,000.00

**File Created:** 10/09/2014

**File Name:** Backflow Prevention Program

**Final Action:**

**Title:** CONTRACT NO. K-1415-75: A CONTRACT BY AND BETWEEN THE NORMAN UTILITIES AUTHORITY AND HARDIN & ASSOCIATES CONSULTING, L.L.C., IN THE AMOUNT OF \$40,000 TO PROVIDE CONSULTING SERVICES TO IMPLEMENT A BACKFLOW PREVENTION/CROSS CONNECTION CONTROL PROGRAM .

**Notes:** ACTION NEEDED: Acting as the Norman Utilities Authority, motion to approve or reject Contract No. K-1415-75 with Hardin & Associates Consulting, L.L.C., in the amount of \$40,000; and, if approved, authorize the execution thereof.

ACTION TAKEN: \_\_\_\_\_

**Agenda Date:** 11/25/2014

**Agenda Number:** 18

**Attachments:** Text File K-1415-75.pdf, Hardin Contract.pdf, PR Hardin.pdf

**Project Manager:** Geri Wellborn, Laboratory Manager

**Entered by:** chris.mattingly@normanok.gov

**Effective Date:**

### History of Legislative File

| Ver-<br>sion: | Acting Body: | Date:      | Action: | Sent To: | Due Date: | Return<br>Date: | Result: |
|---------------|--------------|------------|---------|----------|-----------|-----------------|---------|
| 2             | City Council | 11/25/2014 |         |          |           |                 |         |

### Text of Legislative File K-1415-75

Body

**BACKGROUND:** The United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) established national standards for safe drinking water under the provisions of the Safe Drinking Water Act of 1974. Each delegated state is required to enforce the various regulations of the Safe Drinking Water Act related to sources of drinking water as well as the supervision of public water supply systems. There have been numerous instances nationwide and in Oklahoma where potable water is contaminated via improper connections resulting in public health concerns.

To protect the public health, the Oklahoma Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) requires the public water supplier to determine potential and actual cross-connection hazards to the potable water supply. If a hazard exists at a customer's public water supply service connection, then appropriate backflow protection is required to be installed and maintained at the meter and/or at the source of the hazard. DEQ Regulation OAC 252:631-3-17(2) generally requires the Norman Utilities Authority (NUA) to protect the potable water by not allowing connections to any device or system that poses a health threat unless:

1. it is equipped with an air gap of at least 6 inches above the overflow or drain pipe; or
2. an approved and properly maintained backflow prevention device is installed.

Additionally, the City of Norman has adopted the International Plumbing Code which requires the installation and the annual testing of backflow prevention devices. City staff has been working to develop a backflow prevention/cross-connection control program for several years. After researching the options regarding development of an ordinance and the expertise involved, staff decided to seek the services of a qualified professional to help establish an ordinance and monitoring program.

**DISCUSSION:** In order to ensure compliance with federal and state rules and regulations, the NUA will develop a comprehensive Cross-Connection Control Program that will be supported by a newly developed city ordinance. The Water Treatment Division issued a Request for Proposal (RFP) 1314-25 in August 2013 soliciting the services of a professional consultant to guide the NUA through the process of developing a backflow prevention/cross-connection control program.

Two proposals were received and the four-member review committee chose Hardin & Associates Consulting, L.L.C., of Irving, Texas, to work with staff to develop a backflow prevention/cross connection control ordinance and monitoring program. Hardin & Associates has worked with numerous cities to develop this type of ordinance and program. Staff has negotiated a contract with Hardin & Associates for \$40,000. Funds are available in Design (account 031-9395-462.62-01; project WA0201).

It is expected that a committee, with representation from all city departments, would draft an ordinance as well as establish an ongoing monitoring program. We anticipate that the committee will meet once a month for the first few meetings and then will be called upon as needed towards the end of the ordinance development, in about 12 months.

**RECOMMENDATION:** Staff recommends the NUA approve Contract No. K-1415-75 with Hardin & Associates Consulting, LLC of Irving, Texas for \$40,000.