

## STAFF REPORT

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**Date:** December 9<sup>th</sup>, 2020

**To:** Mayor and City Council

**Thru:** Doug Thornley, City Manager

**Subject:** **Staff Report (For Possible Action): Approval of Consulting Agreement with Brown and Caldwell (B&C) for Engineering Services for the Truckee Meadows Water Reclamation Facility (TMWRF) Dewatering System Improvements Project in an amount of not to exceed \$584,698 with Reno's share being \$401,278.24 (Sewer Fund).**

**From:** Matt Smith, Associate Civil Engineer

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**Summary:** The attached scope of work with Brown and Caldwell will provide engineering services for the design phase of the Truckee Meadows Water Reclamation Facility (TMWRF) Dewatering System Improvements Project. This project consists of a three phase process for installation of additional dewatering equipment. A previous equipment piloting project was completed and the data from that project has informed TMWRF of the most appropriate equipment necessary for the improvements. The initial phase of work, included in this agreement, is to develop bidding documents for purchasing dewatering equipment. The second and third phase, also included in the agreement, includes a preliminary engineering report for polymer storage alternatives, and detailed design and preparation of bidding documents for the construction of the improvements. Staff recommends Council approve the Agreement with Brown and Caldwell for consultant engineering services as described in the attached proposal in an amount not to exceed \$584,698 with the City of Reno's portion being \$401,278.24 (Sewer Fund).

**Previous Council Actions:** On February 27<sup>th</sup>, 2019 Reno City Council approved an Agreement for Consultant Services with B&C for centrifuge and dewatering equipment pilot assistance in an amount not to exceed \$143,259 (Reno's share being \$98,318.65 from the Sewer Enterprise Fund).

**Background:** The Truckee Meadows Water Reclamation Facility (TMWRF) is jointly owned by the Cities of Reno and Sparks. The City of Reno oversees the Capital Improvement Program for TMWRF, while the City of Sparks manages operations.

The dewatering facility at TMWRF allows for removal and disposal of solids generated from the sewage treatment process. During the last couple of years it has become more difficult to efficiently dewater the solids, and there has been an increased amount of solids loading arriving at the facility from growth throughout the service area and as a result of new process improvements. This has impacted the efficiency of the existing equipment reducing the reliable capacity, increasing operational costs, and reduced centrate quality which increases operational

costs and negatively impacts other facility processes. In early 2019, Brown and Caldwell were engaged by the City to assist with dewatering technology screening and piloting assistance as a separate, but related project. Therefore, the intent of this project is to install a new centrifuge and cake pump which will improve operational efficiency, reduce treatment costs, increase reliability, and allow necessary redundancy for the dewatering system which is currently lacking.

**Discussion:** Based on the piloting project, and in concurrence with TMWRF staff review and input, key improvements in the dewatering facility were identified as being needed to maintain system reliability and redundancy. As detailed in the attached agreement, the work tasks include drafting purchasing specifications for dewatering equipment, a preliminary engineering report for the polymer storage and delivery system, and detailed design for bidding documents and bidding assistance for the identified improvements and purchased equipment. Brown and Caldwell was selected from the City’s approved list of engineering consultants and was recognized as the most qualified based on familiarity and previous work with TMWRF’s dewatering system.

**Financial Implications:** The City of Reno will administer the agreement and will be reimbursed for a portion of the costs by the City of Sparks through the current cost sharing agreement for TMWRF operation and maintenance. The City of Reno and the City of Sparks share the cost of this project as follows: 68.63% for Reno and 31.37% for Sparks, as shown in Table 1. Costs for the City of Reno are budgeted in the Sewer Fund. This project is included in the TMWRF Capital Improvement Plan that was approved by the Joint Coordinating Committee (JCC).

**Table 1 – Cost Sharing Between Reno and Sparks**

<b>Total Cost of Contract</b>	<b>Reno Share</b>	<b>Sparks Share</b>
\$584,698	\$401,278.24	\$183,419.76
<b>Percentages</b>	68.63%	31.37%

**Legal Implications:** Legal review has been completed for compliance with City procedures and Nevada Law.

**Recommendation:** Staff recommends Council approve the Agreement with Brown and Caldwell for consultant engineering services as described in the attached proposal in an amount not to exceed \$584,698 with the City of Reno's portion being \$401,278.24 (Sewer Fund), and authorize the Mayor to sign the attached Agreement.

**Proposed Motion:** I move to approve the staff recommendation.

**Attachments:**