

## **EWEB Board Consent Calendar Request**

*For Contract Awards, Renewals, and Increases*

The Board is being asked to approve an information technology services agreement with **VEPO CrossConnex** to **Plan and Implement a Comprehensive Backflow Database solution.**

Board Meeting Date: April 5, 2022  
Project Name/Contract #: Backflow Database Replacement Contract 21-148-PSC  
Primary Contact: Karen Kelley Ext. 7153

### **Contract Amount:**

Original Contract Amount: \$550,000  
Additional \$ Previously Approved: \$0  
Invoices over last approval: \$0  
Amount this Request: \$0  
Percentage over last approval: NA  
Resulting Cumulative Total: **\$550,000 (Over 5 years)**

### **Contracting Method:**

Method of Solicitation: Formal Request for Proposals  
If applicable, basis for exemption: N/A  
Term of Agreement: 5 years (approx. 6 months implementation, followed by monthly hosting fees)  
Option to Renew? No  
Approval for purchases "as needed"  
for the life of the Contract: Yes  No   
Proposals/Bids Received (Range): 6 - (4 responsive/responsible - \$155,350 - \$957,200)  
Selection Basis: Highest Ranked Proposer  
Narrative:

### Operational Requirement and Alignment with Strategic Plan

EWEB is required by Oregon Administrative Rules governing Public Water Systems to maintain a cross connection control program to protect our drinking water from backflow and back siphonage from non-potable water sources, such as residential irrigation systems. Central to this program, staff use a legacy backflow database to track testing, maintenance and condition of customer cross connection control devices. This legacy system is 10+ years old and was written in-house by a staff member no longer at EWEB and can no longer be upgraded or maintained. The goal of this project is to replace this system with a modern, supportable application that meets our business needs and will ensure we remain in compliance with cross connection control regulations. This project aligns with the Strategic Plan by both replacing a legacy system and ensuring resilient compliant drinking water delivery.

### Contracted Goods or Services

Vendor hosted application, database and services related to implementation.

Purchasing Process

On September 9, 2021, in accordance with Oregon public procurement rules, EWEB initiated a Request for Proposals (RFP) using the formal Request for Proposals process for personal services for planning and implementation of a comprehensive Backflow Database solution. The RFP was advertised on the OregonBuys bid site for the state of Oregon. Proposals were received from six firms. Four firms were responsive and responsible.

The proposals were evaluated by an EWEB evaluation team. The maximum number of possible points for responses was 100 using the following sub-criteria and maximum number of points for each: Minimum Qualifications (Pass / No Pass – Not scored); Background and Experience (5 points); Implementation Methodology and Availability of Experienced Staff (10 points); Functional Capability (50 points); Technical Capability (25 points); and Pricing (10 points).

After completing the evaluation of the proposals, the three highest ranked firms were invited to conduct product demonstrations. After demonstrations were completed, VEPO CrossConnex was selected as the most qualified consultant, offering the best overall value of experience and approach.

Proposals Received

Vendor Name	City, State	Offered Price	Ranking
VEPO CrossConnex	Elmsford, NY	\$541,400	1
SwiftComply	Pleasanton, CA	\$330,700	2
AIQUEOUS	Austin, TX	\$957,200	3
Watts Regulatory Co.	Beaverton, OR	\$155,350	4

Prior Contract Activities

NA

**ACTION REQUESTED:**

Management requests the Board approve an information technology services agreement with VEPO CrossConnex to plan and implement a comprehensive Backflow Database solution. This work will be completed under the 2022 Water Utility Capital Budget for Type 1 work which totals approximately \$10 million. Variances will be managed within the budget process and Board policy.