

SANTA FE COUNTY
PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT
REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS (RFP)



**Comprehensive Water and Wastewater Rate
Study**

**NM Commodity Code(s): 92596, 92597,
92695, 95895, 96892, 96895, 96896**

RFP NO. 2026-0262-PW

April, 2026

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**I. ADVERTISEMENT
SANTA FE COUNTY
Comprehensive Water and Wastewater Rate Study
2026-0262-PW**

Santa Fe County requests proposals from qualified vendors or firms to provide a comprehensive water and wastewater rate study. All proposals submitted shall be valid for ninety (90) days subject to action by the County. Santa Fe County reserves the right to reject any and all proposals in part or in whole. A completed proposal shall be submitted in a sealed container indicating the proposal title and number along with the Offeror's name and address clearly marked on the outside of the container. All proposals must be received by **2:00PM on Thursday May, 7 2026 at the Santa Fe County Purchasing Division, 102 Grant Avenue, (First Floor), Santa Fe, NM 87501**. The submission of Proposals **will also be accepted electronically** utilizing a DropBox. Please utilize this link to upload your proposal submission. <https://www.dropbox.com/request/CwDA4uzdCzFoaERHqqFG> Log into dropbox to obtain a link for vendors to upload proposals.

By submitting a proposal for the requested services each Offeror is certifying that it is a qualified firm and its proposal complies with the requirements stated within the Request for Proposals.

A Pre-Proposal Conference will be held at 10am on Wednesday April, 22 2026 online via Microsoft Teams at the following link: <https://teams.microsoft.com/meet/21329143500433?p=Q8XCwCH29APSrEFoUF> or in person in the Lamy Conference Room 102 Grant Ave., First Floor, Santa Fe, NM 87501. The Pre-Proposal Conference is not mandatory but is highly recommended.

EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY: All qualified Offerors will receive consideration of contract(s) without regard to race, color, religion, sex or national origin, ancestry, age, physical and mental handicap, serious medical condition, disability, spousal affiliation, sexual orientation or gender identity.

Request for Proposals will be available by contacting Ben McCormack, Procurement Specialist Sr., 102 Grant Avenue, (First Floor) Santa Fe, New Mexico 87501, or by telephone at (505) 986-6337 , or by email at dmccormack@santafecountynm.gov or on our website at <http://www.santafecountynm.gov/finance/purchasing-division/current-bid-solicitations>.

PROPOSALS RECEIVED AFTER THE DATE AND TIME SPECIFIED ABOVE WILL NOT BE CONSIDERED AND WILL BE REJECTED BY SANTA FE COUNTY.

Santa Fe County
Published April 5 and 6, 2026

II. INTRODUCTION

A. PURPOSE AND BACKGROUND

The Utilities Division of the Santa Fe County (SFC) Public works Department is seeking proposals from qualified firms to conduct a comprehensive cost of service analysis and rate study for its water and wastewater utility systems. SFC's long-term objective is to operate its water and wastewater services as a sustainable enterprise fund, fully independent of the SFC's General Fund. The previous SFC Cost of Service Study (2018) and subsequent comments on the City of Santa Fe's 2021 study have identified the need for a detailed financial plan and a multi-year rate schedule to achieve this goal. Through this effort, we would also like to address aging infrastructure and ensure equitable rates for all customer classes. The firm will be expected to build upon previous studies, incorporating new data and addressing prior recommendations.

Currently, nine Master Meters convey and deliver SFC water through the City of Santa Fe's water transmission and distribution system, at an average rate of 1225 AFY. Once water is delivered to SFC, SFC provides potable water to over 4,000 residential users, 100 commercial users and the communities of Agua Fria, Cañoncito, Eldorado and Las Campanas. The SFC Utilities Division also operates a 24-hour Automated Bulk Water Dispensing Facility "Ojo de Agua" Convenience Center, the new Turquoise Trail Bulk Water Station, and the under-design Hondo Bulk Water Station. Approximately 1/3 of these customers are also served by the Quill wastewater treatment plant. Current demand sits at annual average and peak of approximately 34 Million Gallons (MG), 63 MG, 3.8 MG, 4.5 MG for water/wastewater respectively. Furthermore, planned development with some areas already under construction, in the SFC Sustainable Development Area One (SDA-1) is expected to require an additional 1273 AFY. Existing and future water demand may be supplemented by an interconnect with the Pojoaque Basin Regional Water System (PBRWS) currently under construction. The interconnect is estimated to provide 1,000 AFY per year to the SFC water utility system.

B. PROJECT OBJECTIVES

The Purpose of this Request for Proposal is to accomplish five main objectives:

1. **Establish a Multi-Year Financial Plan:** Develop a five-year financial model that forecasts revenue requirements, operational expenses, and capital needs to ensure the financial viability of the utility enterprise funds. The selected firm will also review relevant County planning documents (e.g., the Water Utility master Plan and Effluent Management Plan) and the County's current list of active/planned water and wastewater projects underway with timelines.
2. **Conduct a Comprehensive Cost of Service Analysis:** Perform a detailed analysis to accurately determine the costs of providing service to each customer class (e.g., residential, commercial, wholesale) and meter size.

3. **Develop a Transparent Rate Structure:** Design a multi-year rate schedule that is equitable, easy for customers to understand, and aligns with the SFC's long-standing water conservation policies, such as the increasing block rate design. Additionally, the firm shall evaluate the existing tiered rate structure and develop two additional rate structure options, including pros/cons and associated revenues over time.
4. **Establish Appropriate Utility Reserve Accounts:** Provide a clear framework for establishing and managing a rate stabilization fund and a capital replacement fund, with a plan for an initial reserve transfer from the General Fund and a strategy for future funding from utility revenues. Furthermore, a clear Year 1 baseline Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) funding level with growth-based CIP funding escalation (e.g., percent increases tied to projected customer growth) to support future infrastructure needs shall be identified.
5. **Benchmark Regional Rates:** Include a detailed comparison of SFC's proposed rates with other regional utility providers to ensure competitiveness and affordability.

C. SCOPE OF WORK

The Project will be executed in a phased approach for both water and wastewater utilities. The selected firm's scope of work shall include, but is not limited to, the following tasks:

Phase 1: Financial & Data Review

1. Review all relevant financial records, including recent financial statements, audits, and budgets for the water and wastewater utilities.
2. Analyze the current five-year Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) and other capital project documentation.
3. Obtain and review customer billing data, including consumption patterns by customer class, to inform the cost allocation process.
4. Evaluate the current fixed and variable components of the rate structure and their effectiveness.

Phase 2: Cost of Service Analysis & Financial Modeling

1. Calculate the total revenue requirement needed to cover all operational costs, debt service, and capital funding.
2. Utilize the industry-standard methodologies to allocate costs to customer classes based on their unique usage patterns and demands on the system's infrastructure.
3. Develop a rate model that allows SFC to test and evaluate various rate design scenarios and forecast future revenue sufficiency.

Phase 3: Rate Design & Implementation Plan

1. Propose a revised rate structure for each utility (water and wastewater) that recovers the allocated cost of service. This shall include a multi-year schedule of increases to avoid rate shock to customers.
2. Provide a regional rate comparison of a typical residential bill (e.g., 6,000 gallons per month) with at least three other New Mexico counties or municipalities, such as Los Alamos, Bernalillo, and Dona Ana counties. We also request that the firm utilize our current average consumption value based on a normalization approach (e.g., typical bills at multiple usage levels and/or meter sizes).
3. Outline a detailed public outreach and education plan to communicate the purpose and necessity of the rate adjustments to the public. If directed by the County, including explicit conservation-oriented pricing objectives would support the notion that our rates drive conservation.

Phase 4: Utility Reserve Account Project

1. Develop a formal policy and framework for the creation and purpose of utility reserve accounts, including the rate stabilization fund and capital replacement fund.
2. Calculate the necessary funding targets for each reserve account and provide a detailed plan for initial funding and ongoing contributions.
3. Develop a strategy for transitioning the utilities to a financially self-sustaining enterprise fund and for phasing out reliance on the General Fund.

Deliverables

The selected firm will be expected to provide the following deliverables:

1. **Project Kick-Off Meeting and Work Plan:** A detailed work plan and timeline presented to the SFC Utilities Division.
2. **Draft & Final Cost of Service Analysis and Rate Study Reports:** Comprehensive reports detailing the analysis, findings, and proposed multi-year rate schedule.
3. **Rate Model:** A functional financial model that can be updated and used by SFC staff for future financial planning and rate analysis. This model shall be provided in a transparent, non-proprietary format that is exportable to (and preferably native

in) Excel.

4. **Public Presentation Materials:** Clear and concise presentation materials for public forums, meetings with the Board of County Commissioners, participating in working sessions, coordinating with the Water Policy Advisory Committee, and supporting a feedback process.
5. **Reserve Account Policy Recommendation:** A formal document outlining the recommended policies and funding strategies for the utility reserve accounts. The firm shall also recommend a sustainable phase-in period (e.g., 2-5 years as appropriate) with quantified annual bill and revenue impacts.

D. INSURANCE REQUIREMENTS

The insurance required by Offeror are listed below.

1. General Conditions. Contractor shall submit evidence of insurance as is required herein. Policies of insurance shall be written by companies authorized to write such insurance in New Mexico.
2. General Liability Insurance, Including Automobile. Contractor shall procure and maintain during the life of this Agreement a comprehensive general liability and automobile insurance policy with liability limits in amounts not less than \$1,000,000 combined single limits of liability for bodily injury, including death, and property damage for any one occurrence. Said policies of insurance shall include coverage for all operations performed for County by Contractor; coverage for the use of all owned, non-owned, hired automobiles, vehicles and other equipment, both on and off work; and contractual liability coverage under which this Agreement is an insured contract. County of Santa Fe shall be a named additional insured on the policy.
3. Workers' Compensation Insurance. Contractor shall comply with the provisions of the Workers' Compensation Act.
4. Professional Liability Insurance. The Contractor shall procure and maintain during the life of this Agreement a Professional Liability Insurance.
5. Increased Limits. If, during the life of this Agreement, the Legislature of the State of New Mexico increases the maximum limits of liability under the Tort Claims Act (NMSA 1978, Sections 41-4-1 through 41-4-29, as amended), Contractor shall increase the maximum limits of any insurance required herein.

E. DESIGNATED PROCUREMENT SPECIALIST

The County has designated a Procurement Specialist who is responsible for the conduct of this procurement whose name, address and telephone number is listed below. All deliveries via express carrier should be addressed as follows:

Ben McCormack, Procurement Specialist Senior
 Santa Fe County Purchasing Division
 102 Grant Avenue, First Floor
 Santa Fe, NM 87501
 Phone: (505)986-6337
 Email: dmccormack@santafecountynm.gov

Any inquiries or requests regarding this procurement should be submitted to the Procurement Specialist in writing. **Offerors may ONLY contact the Procurement**

Specialist listed above regarding the procurement. Other County employees do not have the authority to respond on behalf of the County.

F. DEFINITION OF TERMINOLOGY

This section contains definitions and abbreviations that are used throughout this procurement document.

“BCC” means the Santa Fe County Board of County Commissioners

“Close of Business” means 5:00 PM Mountain Standard Time or Mountain Daylight Time, whichever is in effect on the date given.

“Contract” or “Agreement” means a written agreement for the procurement of items of tangible personal property or services.

“Contractor” means a successful offeror who enters into a binding contract.

“County” means Santa Fe County.

“Determination” means the written documentation of a decision by the Procurement Manager including findings of fact supporting a decision. A determination becomes part of the procurement file.

“Desirable” The terms “may”, “can”, “should”, “preferably”, or “prefers” to identify a desirable or discretionary item or factor (as opposed to “mandatory”).

“Evaluation Committee” means a body appointed by the County management to perform the evaluation of offeror proposals.

“Finalist” is defined as an offeror who meets all the mandatory specifications of this Request for Proposals and whose score on evaluation factors is sufficiently high to merit further consideration by the Evaluation Committee.

“Mandatory” The terms “must”, “shall”, “will”, “is required”, or “are required”, identify a mandatory item or factor (as opposed to “desirable”). Failure to meet a mandatory item or factor will result in the rejection of the offeror’s proposal.

“Offeror” is any person, corporation, or partnership who chooses to submit a proposal.

“Procurement Manager” means the person or designee authorized by the County and the State of New Mexico to make all procurement determinations pursuant to NMSA 1978, Chapter 13 of the State Procurement Code and County Purchasing Regulations and Policies.

“Purchasing Division” means the Santa Fe County Purchasing Division, County Manager Department.

“Procurement Specialist” means the person or designee authorized by the Procurement Manager to administer and manage the procurement.

“Request for Proposals” or “RFP” means all documents, including those attached or incorporated by reference, used for soliciting proposals.

“Responsible Offeror” means an offeror who submits a responsive proposal and who has furnished, when required, information and data to prove that its financial resources, production or service facilities, personnel, service reputation and experience are adequate to make satisfactory delivery of the services or items of tangible personal property described in the RFP.

“Responsive Offer” or “Responsive Proposal” means an offer or proposal which conforms in all material respects to the requirements set forth in the request for proposals. Material respects of a request for proposals include, but are not limited to, price, quality, quantity or delivery requirements.

III. CONDITIONS GOVERNING THE PROCUREMENT

This section of the RFP contains the schedule for the procurement, describes the major procurement events and the conditions governing the procurement.

A. SEQUENCE OF EVENTS

The Procurement Manager will make every effort to adhere to the following schedule:

<u>Action</u>	<u>Responsibility</u>	<u>Date</u>
1. Issuance of RFP	Purchasing Division	04/05 & 04/06/2026
2. Pre-Proposal Conference	Owner/Offerors/ Purchasing	04/22/2026
3. Acknowledgement of Receipt Form	Offerors	04/23/2026
4. Deadline to Submit Additional Questions	Offerors	04/28/2026
5. Response to Written Questions	Purchasing Division	05/04/2026
6. Submission of Proposal (2:00 PM)	Offerors	05/07/2026
7. Proposal Evaluation Review	Evaluation Committee	05/21/2026
8. Selection of Finalist	Evaluation Committee	05/22/2026
9. Oral Presentation by Finalists (if applicable)	Offeror	TBD
10. Contract Negotiations	County, Offeror	TBD
11. Contract Award	Purchasing Division	TBD

Note: *If the Evaluation Committee makes a selection at the Selection of Finalists, event 9 will not occur.*

B. EXPLANATION OF EVENTS

The following paragraphs describe the activities listed in the sequence of events shown in Section III, Paragraph A.

1. Issuance of RFP

This RFP is being issued by the Santa Fe County Public Works Department and the Purchasing Division.

2. Pre-Proposal Conference

A Pre-Proposal Conference and Site Visit are scheduled to occur on the date indicated in the Sequence of Events at Section III.A. Questions may be submitted at the Pre-Proposal Conference and until the date indicated in the Sequence of Events at Section III.A. **All questions must be in writing and e-mailed to dmccormack@santafecountynm.gov.** A public log will be kept of the names of potential offerors who attended the Pre-Proposal Conference and the Site Visit.

3. Acknowledgement of Receipt Form

Potential offerors should hand-deliver, return by facsimile or e-mail the Acknowledgement of Receipt Form provided as Appendix A to have its name and firm placed on the procurement distribution list. The form should be signed by an authorized representative of the organization, dated and returned by close of business on *Thursday April 23, 2026*.

The procurement distribution list will be used for the distribution of written responses to questions and any RFP addenda.

4. Deadline to Submit Additional Written Questions

Potential offerors may submit written questions regarding this RFP until the close of business on the date indicated in the Sequence of Events at Section III.A. All written questions must be addressed to the Procurement Specialist, listed in Section II.E and sent via facsimile or e-mail. ***Any contact with any other County staff member or persons other than the Procurement Specialist named in this solicitation may be grounds for disqualification.***

5. Response to Written Questions

Written responses to written questions and any RFP addenda will be distributed on the date indicated in the Sequence of Events at Section III.A, to all potential offerors whose names appear on the procurement distribution list.

Additional written requests for clarification of distributed answers or addenda must be received by the Procurement Specialist no later than one (1) day after the answers or addenda were issued.

6. **Submission of Proposal**

ALL OFFEROR PROPOSALS MUST BE RECEIVED FOR REVIEW AND EVALUATION BY THE PROCUREMENT MANAGER OR DESIGNEE NO LATER THAN 2:00 PM, Thursday May, 7, 2026. Proposals received after this deadline will not be accepted. The date and time of receipt will be recorded on each proposal. Proposals must be addressed and delivered to the Procurement Specialist at the address listed in Section II.E. Proposals must be sealed and labeled on the outside of the package to clearly indicate that they are in response to the County's Request for Proposals No. 2026-0262-PW. **Proposals may also be submitted electronically via Dropbox at the link provided below.** <https://www.dropbox.com/request/CwDA4uzdCzFoaERHqqFG>

Proposals must be delivered to:

Ben McCormack, Procurement Specialist Senior
Santa Fe County Purchasing Division
102 Grant Avenue (First Floor)
Santa Fe, New Mexico 87501

A public log will be kept of the names of all offeror's who submitted proposals. Pursuant to NMSA 1978, Section 13-1-116, the contents of any proposal shall not be disclosed so as to be available to competing offerors during the negotiation process.

7. **Proposal Evaluation**

The evaluation of proposals will be performed by an Evaluation Committee appointed by the Procurement Specialist. This process will take place during the timeframe indicated in the Sequence of Events at III.A. During this time, the Procurement Specialist may initiate discussions with offerors who submit responsive or potentially responsive proposals for the purpose of clarifying aspects of the proposals, but proposals may be accepted and evaluated without such discussion. **Discussions SHALL NOT be initiated by the offerors.**

8. **Selection of Finalists (If Applicable)**

The Evaluation Committee may select and the Procurement Specialist may notify the finalist offerors on the date indicated in the Sequence of Events at Section III.A. Only finalists will be invited to participate in the subsequent steps of the procurement if the finalist process is used.

9. **Best and Final Offers from Finalists (If Applicable)**

Finalist offerors may be asked to submit revisions to their proposals for the purpose of obtaining best and final offers by the date indicated in the Sequence of Events at Section III.A.

10. **Oral Presentation by Finalists (If Applicable)**

Finalist offerors may be required to present their proposals to the Evaluation Committee. The Procurement Specialist will schedule the time for each offeror presentation. All finalist offerors will be contacted to schedule presentations providing a location and instructions for the Oral presentations. Each presentation will be limited to one (1) hour in duration.

11. **Contract Negotiations**

The contract will be finalized with the most advantageous offeror during the timeframe indicated in the Sequence of Events at Section III.A. In the event that mutually agreeable terms cannot be reached within the time specified, the County reserves the right to finalize a contract with the next most advantageous offeror without undertaking a new procurement process.

12. **Contract Award**

The County anticipates awarding the contract on the date in the Sequence of Events at Section III.A. These dates are subject to change at the discretion of the Santa Fe County Purchasing Specialist or Procurement Manager. The County reserves the right to issue a multiple award pursuant to NMSA 1978 13-1-153.

The contract shall be awarded to the offeror or offerors whose proposal is most advantageous to the County, taking into consideration the evaluation factors set forth in the RFP. The most advantageous proposal may or may not have received the most points.

13. **Right to Protest**

Any protest by an offeror must be in writing and submitted timely, pursuant to NMSA 1978, Section 13-1-172 and applicable procurement regulations. Protests must be written and must include the name and address of the protestor and the request for proposals number. It must also contain a statement of grounds for protest including appropriate supporting exhibits. The protests must be delivered to the Santa Fe County Purchasing Division:

Santa Fe County Procurement Office
Attn: Bill Taylor, CPO/ Procurement Manager
P.O. Box 276
Santa Fe, New Mexico 87504

Protests will not be accepted by facsimile or other electronic means.
Protests received after the deadline will not be accepted.

C. **GENERAL REQUIREMENTS**

This procurement will be conducted in accordance with Chapter 13, NMSA 1978, NMAC 1.4.1 and the Santa Fe County Procurement Regulations.

1. **Acceptance of Conditions Governing the Procurement**

Offerors must indicate their acceptance of the Conditions Governing the Procurement section in the letter of transmittal. Submission of a proposal constitutes acceptance of the terms and conditions of the contract template attached hereto as Appendix E.

2. **Incurring Cost**

Any cost incurred by the offeror in preparation, transmittal, presentation of any proposal or material submitted in response to this RFP shall be borne solely by the offeror.

3. **Prime Contractor Responsibility**

Any contract that may result from this RFP shall specify that the prime contractor is solely responsible for fulfillment of the contract with the County. The County will make contract payments to only the prime contractor.

4. **Subcontractors**

Use of subcontractors must be clearly explained in the proposal, and major subcontractors must be identified by name. The prime contractor shall be wholly

responsible for the performance of the contract with the County whether or not subcontractors are used.

5. Amended Proposals

An offeror may submit an amended proposal before the deadline for receipt of proposals. Such amended proposal must be a complete replacement of the previously submitted proposal and must be clearly identified as such in the transmittal letter. County personnel will not merge, collate, or assemble proposal materials.

6. Offerors' Rights to Withdraw Proposal

Offerors will be allowed to withdraw their proposals at any time prior to the deadline for receipt of proposals. The offeror must submit a written withdrawal request signed by the offeror's duly authorized representative addressed to the Procurement Specialist. The approval or denial of withdrawal requests received after the deadline for receipt of the proposals is governed by the applicable procurement regulations.

7. Proposal Offer Firm

Responses to this RFP, including proposal prices, will be considered firm for 90 days after the due date for receipt of proposals or 90 days after receipt of a best and final offer if one is submitted.

8. Disclosure of Proposal Contents

Proposals shall not be opened publicly and shall not be open to public inspection until after an offeror has been selected for award of a contract.

An offeror may request in writing non-disclosure of confidential data. Proprietary or confidential data shall be readily separable from the proposal in order to facilitate eventual public inspection of the non-confidential portion of the proposal. Confidential data is normally restricted to confidential financial information concerning the offeror's organization and data that qualifies as a trade secret in accordance with the Uniform Trade Secrets Act, 57-3A-1 to 57-3A-7, NMSA 1978. The price of products offered or the cost of services proposed shall not be designated as proprietary or confidential information.

If a request is received for disclosure of data for which an offeror has made a written request for confidentiality, the Santa Fe County Procurement Manager shall examine the offeror's request and make a written determination that specifies which portions of the proposal should be disclosed. Unless the offeror takes legal action to prevent the disclosure, the proposal will be so disclosed. The proposal shall be open to public inspection subject to any continuing prohibition on the disclosure of confidential data.

9. **No Obligation**

This procurement in no manner obligates Santa Fe County or any of its departments to the use of any proposed professional services until a valid written contract is awarded and approved by the appropriate authorities.

10. **Termination**

This RFP may be canceled at any time and any and all proposals may be rejected in whole or in part when the County determines such action to be in the best interest of the County

11. **Sufficient Appropriation**

Any contract awarded as a result of this RFP process may be terminated if sufficient appropriations or authorizations do not exist. Such termination will be effected by sending written notice to the contractor. The County's decision as to whether sufficient appropriations and authorizations are available will be accepted by the contractor as final.

12. **Legal Review**

The County requires that all offerors agree to be bound by the General Requirements contained in this RFP. Any offeror concerns must be promptly brought to the attention of the Procurement Specialist.

13. **Governing Law**

This procurement and any agreement with offerors that may result shall be governed by the laws of the State of New Mexico.

14. **Basis for Proposal**

Only information supplied by the County in writing through the Procurement Specialist or in this RFP should be used as the basis for the preparation of offeror proposals.

15. **Contract Terms and Conditions**

The contract between the County and the Contractor will follow the format specified by the County and contain the terms and conditions set forth in Appendix E.

16. Contract Deviations

Any additional terms and conditions, which may be the subject of negotiation, will be discussed only between the County and the selected offeror and shall not be deemed an opportunity to amend the proposal.

17. Offeror Qualifications

The Evaluation Committee may make such investigations as necessary to determine the ability of the offeror to adhere to the requirements specified within this RFP. The Evaluation Committee will reject the proposal of any offeror who is not a responsible offeror or fails to submit a responsive offer as defined in Sections 13-1-83 and 13-1-85 NMSA, 1978, subject to Procurement Manager approval.

18. Right to Waive Minor Irregularities

The Evaluation Committee reserves the right to waive minor technical irregularities. This right is at the sole discretion of the Evaluation Committee subject to the Procurement Manager approval.

19. Change in Contractor Representatives

The County reserves the right to require a change in contractor representatives if the assigned representatives are not, in the opinion of the County, meeting the County's needs adequately. Any change in contractor representative must receive prior County approval.

20. Notice

The Procurement Code, Sections 13-1-28 through 13-1-199, NMSA 1978, imposes civil and misdemeanor criminal penalties for its violation. In addition, the New Mexico criminal statutes impose felony penalties for bribes, gratuities and kick-backs.

21. County Rights

The County reserves the right to accept all or a portion of an offeror's proposal.

22. Right to Publish

Throughout the duration of this procurement process and contract term, potential offerors and contractors must secure from the County written approval prior to the release of any information that pertains to the potential work or activities covered by

this procurement or the subsequent contract. Failure to adhere to this requirement may result in disqualification of the offeror's proposal or termination of the contract.

23. Ownership of Proposals

All documents submitted in response to this Request for Proposals shall become the property of the County. However, any technical or user documentation submitted with the proposals of non-selected offerors shall be returned after the expiration of the protest period.

24. Electronic Mail Address Recommended

A large part of the communication regarding this procurement will be conducted by electronic mail (e-mail). It is recommended that the offeror should have a valid e-mail address to receive e-mail correspondence.

25. Preferences in Procurement by Santa Fe County

a. *New Mexico In-state Preference.*

New Mexico law, Section 13-4-2 NMSA 1978, provides a preference in the award of a public works contract for an “**in-state resident contractor**” or “**native American resident contractor**”. Application of a resident or native American contractor preference for any Offeror requires the Offeror to provide a copy of a valid and current certificate as a resident or native American resident contractor. Certificates are issued by the state taxation and revenue department.

If an Offeror submits with its proposal a copy of a valid and current in-state resident or native American resident contractor certificate, 8% of the total weight of all evaluation factors used in the evaluation of proposals may be awarded or added to the Offerors score.

Certification by the department of taxation and revenue for the resident or native American resident contractor takes into consideration such activities as the business’ payment of property taxes or rent in the state and payment of unemployment insurance on employees who are residents of the state.

OR

b. *New Mexico Resident Veteran or Native American Resident Veteran Preference.*

New Mexico law, Section 13-4-2 NMSA 1978, provides a preference in the award of a public works contract for a “**resident veteran contractor**” or

“native American resident veteran contractor”. Certification by the department of taxation and revenue for the resident veteran business and native American resident veteran requires the Offeror to provide evidence of annual revenue and other evidence of veteran and native American status.

An Offeror who wants the veteran or native American veteran contractor preference to be applied to its proposal is required to submit with its proposal the certification from the department of taxation and revenue and the sworn affidavit attached hereto as Appendix C.

If an Offeror submits with its proposal a copy of a valid and current veteran resident contractor certificate, 10%, of the total weight of all the evaluation factors used in the evaluation of proposals may be awarded or added to the Offeror’s score.

The resident or native American resident contractor preference is not cumulative with the resident veteran or native American resident veteran contractor preference.

AND

c. **Santa Fe County Business Preference**

Santa Fe County Ordinance 2012-4 provides for a **County preference** for a “Santa Fe County business.” Application of the County preference in procurement requires an Offeror to obtain and provide a Santa Fe County Business Certificate issued by the Santa Fe County Procurement Manager. Certification by the Procurement Manager takes into consideration the business’ corporate standing in the state, business licensure or registration, the duration of the business’ primary office location and the payment of taxes.

If an Offeror submits with its proposal a copy of its Santa Fe County Business Certificate issued by the Purchasing Manager, 5% of the total weight of all the evaluation factors used in the evaluation of proposals may be awarded to the Offerors score.

The Resident Business, Resident Veteran Business or Santa Fe County Business preferences do not apply to procurement of services or goods involving federal funds or federal grant funds.

26. Double-Sided Documents

All submitted bids/proposal documents shall be double-sided, pursuant to Santa Fe County Resolution 2013-7, Adopting Sustainable Resource Management Principles, Section 2. A. Waste Reduction and Reuse...” all documents are to be double-sided, including those that are generated by outside entities using County funds and by consultants and contractors doing business with the County”.

27. Living Wage

Contractor shall comply with the requirements of Santa Fe County Ordinance No. 2014-1 (Establishing a Living Wage).

IV. RESPONSE FORMAT AND ORGANIZATION

A. NUMBER OF RESPONSES

Offerors shall submit only one response to this RFP.

B. NUMBER OF COPIES

Offerors shall deliver one (1) original and four (4) identical copies of their proposal to the location specified in Section II, Paragraph E on or **before** the closing date and time for receipt of proposals. If submitting responses electronically via Dropbox, please submit two (2) separate files: one file for the proposal response and a separate file the Appendix D Proposed Fee Schedule.

C. PROPOSAL FORMAT

All proposals shall be limited to twenty five (25) pages, with exception to professional licenses and certifications, which shall be added as appendices. The document shall be typewritten on standard 8 1/2 x 11 paper, with a font **no smaller than 12 pt. pitch**, with nominal 1” margins and normal line spacing. Proposals shall be bound with tabs delineating each section.

To combat the spread of the recent COVID-19 illness, the submission of Proposals **will be accepted electronically** utilizing a DropBox. Please utilize this link to upload your proposal submission. <https://www.dropbox.com/request/CwDA4uzdCzFoaERHqqFG>

1. Proposal Organization

The proposal must be organized and indexed in the following format and must contain, as a minimum, all listed items in the sequence indicated.

- a) Letter of Transmittal
- b) Response to County Terms and Conditions
- c) Table of Contents (optional)
- d) Response to Specifications – Evaluation Factors
- e) Copy of insurance certificate
- f) Cost Proposal (**One in a separate sealed envelope with the original proposal submission only, if submitting electronically submit as a separate file**)
- g) Campaign Contribution Disclosure Statement

Within each section of their proposal, offerors should address the items in the order in which they appear in this RFP under Section V.B. EVALUATION FACTORS. All forms provided in the RFP must be thoroughly completed and included in the appropriate section of the proposal.

Any proposal that does not adhere to these requirements may be deemed non-responsive and rejected on that basis.

The **proposal summary** may be included by offerors to provide the Evaluation Committee with an overview of the technical and business features of the proposal; however, this material will not be used in the evaluation process unless specifically referenced from other portions of the offeror's proposal.

Offerors may attach other materials that they feel may improve the quality of their responses. However, these materials should be included as items in a separate appendix.

2. Letter of Transmittal

Each proposal must be accompanied by a letter of transmittal. The letter of transmittal MUST:

- a) Identify the submitting person or organization;
- b) Identify the name and title of the person authorized by the organization to contractually obligate the organization;
- c) Identify the name, title and telephone number of the person authorized to negotiate the contract on behalf of the organization;
- d) Identify the names, titles and telephone numbers of persons to be contacted for clarification;
- e) **Explicitly** indicate Acceptance of the Conditions Governing the Procurement stated in Section III, Paragraph C.1;
- f) Be signed by the person authorized to contractually obligate the organization;
- g) Acknowledge receipt of any and all amendments to this RFP;
- h) Acknowledge and acceptance of the terms and conditions of the Agreement attached as Appendix E.

THIS SECTION LEFT INTENTIONALLY BLANK

V. SPECIFICATIONS

Offerors should respond in the form of a thorough narrative to each mandatory specification. The narratives along with required supporting materials will be evaluated and awarded points accordingly.

A. INFORMATION

Time Frame

The contract is scheduled to begin May, 2026. Santa Fe County intends on awarding a contract with an initial term of four years.

B. EVALUATION CRITERIA

A brief explanation of each mandatory specification is listed below. Offerors are encouraged to fully address each category completely, as points are assigned for responses to each.

1. Introduction

- Describe the vendors vision/mission and business philosophy.
- Provide an overview of the firm, including years in business, highlighting experience with running utilities rate studies.

2. Technical Competence and Specialized Experience

- Provide information about the offeror's specific technical experience with providing services comparable to the Scope of Work required in this RFP.
- Include years of experience providing consultation services for similar government entities of comparable size and complexity.
- Provide information regarding the ability to successfully perform the requirements of the scope.
- Indicate the relevance of previous service contracts to the scope of work, including any specialized experience.

3. Evidence of Understanding Scope of Work and Project Approach

- Provide an in-depth response and understanding of the requested scope of work.
- Include an itemized description of services to be provided that correlates to the scope of work. Include information regarding a work plan.
- Specify how your services will meet and exceed the requirements of Santa Fe County Public Works Department.
- Discuss challenges that might be expected based on this service, including existing conditions, location, site or any other factors.
- Identify any limitations or restrictions in providing the required services.

- Include information for any subcontractor or consultant that the Offeror has indicated to be part of the project team including what areas of work they will perform.
- Any services that cannot be provided as required shall be noted.

4. Capacity and Capability

- Provide information about your firm’s current workload and describe how your firm will meet the project schedule.
- Include information for any subcontractor or consultant that the Offeror has indicated to be part of the project team including what areas of work they will perform.
- Include your team’s organization, identify the project team that will be assigned to this County project and working relationships. Provide resumes of project teas as a separate appendix.

C. COST PROPOSAL (Appendix D) - provide in a separate sealed envelope with the original proposal ONLY (do not include in each of the four additional copies, if submitting electronically, please submit in a separate file in Dropbox).

Offeror shall propose its cost for the tasks listed in the scope of work. A cost sheet is provided as Appendix D.

VI. EVALUATION

A. EVALUATION SCORING

The County will evaluate responsive proposals and assign a numerical score in each category, not to exceed the maximum allowed score for that category, as determined through the Offeror’s attention to the factor detailed in the following sections. The amount of discussion to be applied to each listed topic is an individual choice of the Offeror; however, discussion should be detailed enough to inform and educate the Evaluation Committee Members.

Proposals will be scored based upon a comparison of the information submitted by each Offeror against the evaluation factors outlined below. Each Evaluation Factor is assigned the following points:

1.	Introduction	100 points
2.	Technical Competence & Specialized Experience	300 points
3.	Evidence of Understanding Scope and Project Approach.....	300 points
4.	Capacity & Capability.....	300 points
	TOTAL POINTS	1000 points

PREFERENCES

If a proposal contains an In-State Resident Business Certificate or Resident Veterans Business Certificate and/or Santa Fe County Business Certificate, the applicable preference will be applied.

- 5. Proposal contains a valid N.M. Resident or native American Resident Business Certificate.....**80 points**

OR

- 6. Proposal contains a valid Resident Veteran or native American Veteran Business Certificate..... **100 points**

AND

- 7. Proposal contains a valid Santa Fe County Business Certificate.....**50 points**

B. EVALUATION PROCESS

The evaluation process will follow the steps listed below:

- 1. All proposals will be reviewed for compliance with the mandatory specifications stated within the RFP. Proposals deemed non-responsive will be eliminated from further consideration.
- 2. The Procurement Specialist may contact the Offeror for clarification of the response as specified in Section III, Paragraph B.7.
- 3. The Evaluation Committee may use other sources of information to perform the evaluation as specified in Section III, Paragraph C.18.
- 4. Responsive proposals will be evaluated using the factors in Section V. The responsible Offerors with the highest scores will be selected as finalist Offerors based upon the proposals submitted. Finalist Offerors who are asked or choose to submit revised proposals for the purpose of obtaining best and final offers will have their points recalculated accordingly. The responsible Offeror whose proposal is most advantageous to the County, taking into consideration the evaluation factors in Section VI, will be recommended for contract award as specified in Section III, Paragraph B.12. Please note, however, that a serious deficiency in the response to any one factor may be grounds for rejection regardless of overall score.
- 5. Past performance in a project for the County (See Section V.C.3 above) is a significant consideration of the evaluation and poor performance on a prior County project may

result in a lower number of points awarded to a proposal for this element of the evaluation.

APPENDIX A

**ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF RECEIPT FORM
Comprehensive Water and Wastewater Rate Study
2026-0262-PW**

In acknowledgement of receipt of this Request for Proposal the undersigned agrees that he/she has received a complete copy, beginning with the title page and table of contents, and ending with Appendix E.

The acknowledgement of receipt should be signed and returned to the Procurement Specialist no later than close of business on **(enter date due)**. Only potential Offerors who elect to return this form completed with the indicated intention of submitting a proposal will receive copies of all Offeror written questions and the County's written responses to those questions as well as RFP amendments, if any are issued.

FIRM: _____

REPRESENTED BY: _____

TITLE: _____ PHONE NO.: _____

E-MAIL: _____ FAX NO.: _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY: _____ STATE: _____ ZIP CODE: _____

SIGNATURE: _____ DATE: _____

This name and address will be used for all correspondence related to the Request for Proposal.

Firm does/does not (**circle one**) intend to respond to this Request for Proposals.

Ben McCormack, Procurement Specialist Senior
Santa Fe County Purchasing Division
102 Grant Avenue (First Floor)
Santa Fe, New Mexico 87501
Phone: (505) 986-6337
Email: dmccormack@santafecountynm.gov

APPENDIX B

CAMPAIGN CONTRIBUTION DISCLOSURE FORM

Pursuant to NMSA 1978, § 13-1-191.1 (2006), any person seeking to enter into a contract with any state agency or local public body **for professional services, a design and build project delivery system, or the design and installation of measures the primary purpose of which is to conserve natural resources** must file this form with that state agency or local public body. This form must be filed even if the contract qualifies as a small purchase or a sole source contract. The prospective contractor must disclose whether they, a family member or a representative of the prospective contractor has made a campaign contribution to an applicable public official of the state or a local public body during the two years prior to the date on which the contractor submits a proposal or, in the case of a sole source or small purchase contract, the two years prior to the date the contractor signs the contract, if the aggregate total of contributions given by the prospective contractor, a family member or a representative of the prospective contractor to the public official exceeds two hundred and fifty dollars (\$250) over the two year period.

Furthermore, the state agency or local public body shall void an executed contract or cancel a solicitation or proposed award for a proposed contract if: 1) a prospective contractor, a family member of the prospective contractor, or a representative of the prospective contractor gives a campaign contribution or other thing of value to an applicable public official or the applicable public official's employees during the pendency of the procurement process or 2) a prospective contractor fails to submit a fully completed disclosure statement pursuant to the law.

THIS FORM MUST BE FILED BY ANY PROSPECTIVE CONTRACTOR WHETHER OR NOT THEY, THEIR FAMILY MEMBER, OR THEIR REPRESENTATIVE HAS MADE ANY CONTRIBUTIONS SUBJECT TO DISCLOSURE.

The following definitions apply:

“Applicable public official” means a person elected to an office or a person appointed to complete a term of an elected office, who has the authority to award or influence the award of the contract for which the prospective contractor is submitting a competitive sealed proposal or who has the authority to negotiate a sole source or small purchase contract that may be awarded without submission of a sealed competitive proposal.

“Campaign Contribution” means a gift, subscription, loan, advance or deposit of money or other thing of value, including the estimated value of an in-kind contribution, that is made to or received by an applicable public official or any person authorized to raise, collect or expend contributions on that official's behalf for the purpose of electing the official to either statewide or local office. “Campaign Contribution” includes the payment of a debt incurred in an election campaign, but does not include the value of services provided without compensation or unreimbursed travel or other personal expenses of individuals who volunteer a portion or all of their time on behalf of a candidate or political

committee, nor does it include the administrative or solicitation expenses of a political committee that are paid by an organization that sponsors the committee.

“Family member” means spouse, father, mother, child, father-in-law, mother-in-law, daughter-in-law or son-in-law.

“Pendency of the procurement process” means the time period commencing with the public notice of the request for proposals and ending with the award of the contract or the cancellation of the request for proposals.

“Person” means any corporation, partnership, individual, joint venture, association or any other private legal entity.

“Prospective contractor” means a person who is subject to the competitive sealed proposal process set forth in the Procurement Code or is not required to submit a competitive sealed proposal because that person qualifies for a sole source or a small purchase contract.

“Representative of a prospective contractor” means an officer or director of a corporation, a member or manager of a limited liability corporation, a partner of a partnership or a trustee of a trust of the prospective contractor.

DISCLOSURE OF CONTRIBUTIONS:

Contribution Made By: _____

Relation to Prospective Contractor: _____

Name of Applicable Public Official: _____

Date Contribution(s) Made: _____

Amount(s) of Contribution(s) _____

Nature of Contribution(s) _____

Purpose of Contribution(s) _____

(Attach extra pages if necessary)

Signature

Date

Title (position)

--OR--

NO CONTRIBUTIONS IN THE AGGREGATE TOTAL OVER TWO HUNDRED FIFTY DOLLARS (\$250) WERE MADE to an applicable public official by me, a family member or representative.

Signature

Date

**APPENDIX C
RESIDENT VETERANS PREFERENCE CERTIFICATION**

_____ (NAME OF CONTRACTOR) hereby certifies the following in regard to application of the resident veterans’ preference to this procurement.

Please check one box only:

I declare under penalty of perjury that my business prior year revenue starting January 1 ending December 31 is less than \$1M allowing me the 10% preference discount on this solicitation. I understand that knowingly giving false or misleading information about this fact constitutes a crime.

“I agree to submit a report or reports to the State Purchasing Division of the General Services Department declaring under penalty of perjury that during the last calendar year starting January 1 and ending on December 31, the following to be true and accurate:

“In conjunction with this procurement and the requirements of this business application for a Resident Veteran Business Preference/Resident Veteran Contractor Preference under Sections 13-1-21 or 13-1-22 NMSA 1978, which awarded a contract which was on the basis of having such veterans preference, I agree to report to the State Purchasing Division of the General Services Department the awarded amount involved. I will indicate in the report the award amount as a purchase from a public body or as a public works contract from a public body as the case may be.”

“I understand that knowingly giving false or misleading information on this report constitutes a crime”.

I declare under penalty of perjury that this statement is true to the best of my knowledge. I understand that giving false or misleading statements about material fact regarding this matter constitutes a crime.

(Signature of Business Representative)*

(Date)

*Must be an authorized signatory of the Business.

The representations made in checking the boxes constitutes a material representation by the business that is subject to protest and may result in denial of an award or un-award of the procurement involved if the statements are proven to be incorrect.

SIGNED AND SEALED THIS _____ DAY OF _____, 2020.

NOTARY PUBLIC

My Commission Expires:

APPENDIX D

COST PROPOSAL

(APPENDIX D IS TO BE SUBMITTED WITH THE ORIGINAL PROPOSAL ONLY OR IF SUBMITTING ELECTRONICALLY VIA DROPBOX, SEND IN A SEPARATE FILE NAMED PROPOSED FEE SCHEDULE)

Vendor Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone Number: _____

Email: _____

Offerors must propose one firm, fixed, fully-loaded hourly rate. The proposed fully-loaded hourly rates must include travel, per diem, fringe benefits, insurance, profit and overhead costs for contractor and personnel, as well as subcontractor personnel if appropriate. New Mexico gross receipts taxes are excluded from the proposed maximum hourly rates. They shall be shown separately on the invoice.

APPENDIX E
SAMPLE AGREEMENT
SERVICE AGREEMENT
BETWEEN SANTA FE COUNTY AND

This Agreement is entered into this _____ day of _____ 2025, between Santa Fe County, a political subdivision of the state of New Mexico (the “County”), and _____, [ADDRESS] (the “Contractor”).

Background

WHEREAS, pursuant to [PROCUREMENT DELIVERY METHOD USED PURSUANT TO PROCUREMENT CODE, COUNTY PURCHASING REGULATIONS/POLICIES]; and

WHEREAS, the [BACKGROUND OR DESCRIPTION OF THE COUNTY’S NEEDS AND REQUIREMENTS]; and

WHEREAS, the [BACKGROUND/BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE CONTRACTOR’S ABILITIES/QUALIFICATIONS]; and

WHEREAS, [GENERAL PURPOSE OF THIS AGREEMENT]; and

WHEREAS, the County requires the services of the Contractor and the Contractor is willing to provide these services and both parties wish to enter into this Agreement.

NOW, THEREFORE, the parties agree as follows:

Agreement

1. CONTRACTOR’S SERVICES

The Contractor shall provide, without limitation, the following services.

(Scope of Work from RFP)

2. ADDITIONAL SERVICES

A. The parties agree that all tasks in section 1 (Contractor’s Services) will be completed to the County’s satisfaction and for the amount stated section 3 (Compensation, Invoicing and Set-off).

B. The County may request changes in the Contractor's Services. Any changes to the Contractor's services must be made by written amendment.

3. COMPENSATION, INVOICING AND SET-OFF

A. The Contractor will be compensated as follows.

B. The Contractor must submit a written request for payment to the County when payment is due. Upon the County's receipt of the written request, the County will issue a written certification of complete or partial acceptance or rejection of the services for which payment is sought. The County will not make a payment until the County issues a written certification accepting the services.

- 1) The County's representative for certification of acceptance or rejection of contractual items and services is _____, or other individual as may be designated by the County.
- 2) Within 30 days of the issuance of the certification accepting the services, the County will make payment for the services. If the County does not issue payment for accepted services within 30 days of the certification by the County, the County will pay a late payment fee of 1.5% per month until the amount due is paid in full.

C. If the Contractor breaches this Agreement, the County may, without penalty, withhold payments due the Contractor for the purpose of set-off until the County determines the exact amount of damages it suffered as a result of the breach.

D. The County's payment to Contractor will not foreclose the County's right to recover excessive or illegal payment.

4. EFFECTIVE DATE AND TERM

This Agreement will become effective on the date of last signature by the parties and will terminate one year from that date, unless earlier terminated under section 5 (Termination) or 6 (Appropriations and Authorizations). The parties may agree to extend the term by written amendment.

5. TERMINATION

A. Termination for Cause. Either party may terminate this Agreement based upon a breach by the other party. The non-breaching party must give the breaching party written notice of termination stating the specific grounds for the termination. The termination will be effective 30 days from the breaching party's receipt of the notice, during which time the breaching party may cure the breach. If the breach cannot with due diligence be cured within 30 days, the breaching party will have a reasonable time to cure the breach, provided that, within the 30-day period, the

breaching party began to cure the breach and advised the non-breaching party in writing that it intended to cure.

B. Termination for Convenience of the County. The County may terminate this Agreement at any time for any reason or no reason, by giving the Contractor written notice of termination. The notice must state the effective date of termination, which must not be less than 15 days from the Contractor's receipt of the notice. The County will pay the Contractor for acceptable services performed before the effective date of termination. The County will not be liable for any services performed by the Contractor after the date of termination.

6. APPROPRIATIONS AND AUTHORIZATIONS

The County's performance of the obligations under this Agreement is contingent upon sufficient appropriations and authorizations by the Board of County Commissioners of Santa Fe County, and if state funds are involved, the Legislature of the State of New Mexico. If sufficient appropriations and/ or authorizations are not made in this or future fiscal years, this Agreement must terminate upon written notice by the County to the Contractor. A termination for non-appropriations or lack of authority will be without penalty to the County, and the County will not be required to reimburse the Contractor for expenditures made in the performance of this Agreement. The County is not committed to the expenditure of any funds until such time as they are programmed, budgeted, encumbered and approved for expenditure by the County. The County's decision regarding appropriations and authorization will be final and will not be subject to challenge by the Contractor in any way, or forum, including a lawsuit.

7. INDEPENDENT CONTRACTOR

The parties intend that the Contractor and its agents and employees will be independent contractors and not employees or agents of the County. Accordingly, the Contractor and its agents and employees will not accrue leave, participate in retirement plans, insurance plans, or liability bonding, use County vehicles, or participate in any other benefits afforded to County employees. Except as may be authorized in this Agreement, the Contractor has no authority to bind, represent, or otherwise act on behalf of the County.

8. ASSIGNMENT AND SUBCONTRACTING BY THE CONTRACTOR

A. The Contractor must not assign or transfer any interest in this Agreement or assign any claims for money due under this Agreement without the advance written approval of the County. Any attempted assignment or transfer in violation of this Agreement will be void.

B. The Contractor must not subcontract or delegate any portion of the services without the advance written approval of the County. Any attempted subcontract or delegation by the Contractor to a non-party in violation of this Agreement will be void.

9. CONTRACTOR'S PERSONNEL

A. The services in section 1 (Contractor's Services) must be performed by the Contractor or under its supervision.

B. The Contractor states that it has, or will secure at the Contractor's expense, all personnel required to perform the services and obligations under this Agreement. Such personnel must not be employees of or have any contractual relationship with the County, and must be qualified and licensed by federal, state and local law to perform the services.

10. RELEASE

The Contractor's receipt of payments due under this Agreement serves as a release of the County, its elected officials, officers, agents and employees from all liabilities, claims, and obligations arising from this Agreement.

11. CONFIDENTIALITY

Any confidential information provided to or developed by the Contractor in the performance of this Agreement will be kept confidential and will not be made available to any individual or organization by the Contractor without the prior written approval of the County.

12. PUBLICATION, REPRODUCTION, AND USE OF MATERIAL; COPYRIGHT

A. The County has the unrestricted right to publish, disclose, distribute and otherwise use, in whole or in part, any reports, data, or other material prepared under or pursuant to this Agreement.

B. The Contractor acknowledges and agrees that any material produced in whole or in part under or pursuant to this Agreement is a work made for hire. Accordingly, to the extent that any such material is copyrightable in the United States or in any other country, the County will own any such copyright.

13. CONFLICT OF INTEREST

The Contractor states that it does not have any interest that would conflict in any manner with the performance of the services and obligations under this Agreement.

14. AMENDMENT

This Agreement may not be modified, altered, changed, or amended orally. To be valid any amendment to this Agreement must be in writing signed by the parties.

15. ENTIRE AGREEMENT; INTEGRATION

This Agreement incorporates all the agreements and understandings between the parties and all agreements and understandings are merged into this Agreement. No prior or contemporaneous agreements or understandings, verbal or otherwise, of the parties will be valid or enforceable unless embodied in this Agreement.

16. NOTICE OF PENALTIES

The Procurement Code, NMSA 1978, Sections 13-1-28, imposes civil and criminal penalties for its violation. In addition, New Mexico criminal statutes impose felony penalties for bribes, gratuities, and kickbacks.

17. EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY COMPLIANCE

A. The Contractor agrees to abide by federal, state, local laws, ordinances, and rules and regulations pertaining to equal employment opportunity and unlawful discrimination. The Contractor must not discriminate against any person with regard to employment with the Contractor or participation in any program or activity offered pursuant to this Agreement on the grounds of race, age, religion, color, national origin, ancestry, sex, physical or mental handicap, serious medical condition, spousal affiliation, sexual orientation, or gender identity.

B. The Contractor acknowledges that failure to comply with this section will constitute a breach of this Agreement.

18. GOVERNING LAW

A. The Contractor will comply with all applicable laws, ordinances, and regulations, including Santa Fe County Ordinance 2014-1 (Establishing a Living Wage).

B. This Agreement will be construed in accordance the laws of the State of New Mexico without regard to its choice of law rules. The Contractor acknowledges that the exclusive forum for any litigation related to this Agreement will be state district courts of New Mexico, located in Santa Fe County.

19. RECORDS AND INSPECTIONS

A. To the extent its books and records relate to (i) its performance of this Agreement or any subcontract entered into pursuant to it or (ii) cost or pricing data (if any) set forth in this Agreement or that was required to be submitted to the County as part of the procurement process, the Contractor agrees to (i) maintain such books and records for a period of six years from the date of final payment under this Agreement; (ii) allow the County or its designee to audit such books and records at reasonable times and upon reasonable notice; and (iii) to keep such books and records in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles (GAAP).

B. To the extent its books and records relate to (i) its performance of this Agreement or any subcontract entered into pursuant to it or (ii) cost or pricing data (if any) set forth in this Agreement or that was required to be submitted to County as part of the procurement process, the Contractor also agrees to require any subcontractor it may hire to perform its obligations under this Agreement to (i) maintain such books and records during the term of this Agreement and for a period of six years from the date of final payment under the subcontract; (ii) to allow the County or its designee to audit such books and records at reasonable times and upon reasonable notice; and (iii) to keep such books and records in accordance with GAAP.

20. INDEMNIFICATION

A. The Contractor shall indemnify the County and its elected officials, agents, and employees from any liabilities, damages, demands, suits, costs or expenses, including court costs and legal fees, resulting from the Contractor's performance or non-performance of its obligations under this Agreement.

B. The County may control and participate in the defense of any demand, suit, or cause of action that relate to the County. No matter will be settled without the County's consent. Consent must not be unreasonably withheld.

C. The Contractor's obligations under this indemnification section will not be limited by the terms of the insurance policy the Contractor is required to maintain under this Agreement.

21. SEVERABILITY

If any provision of this Agreement is held invalid or non-enforceable by a court of competent jurisdiction, other provisions will not be affected and will remain valid and enforceable.

22. NOTICE

Notice required to be given to either party must be in writing and delivered in person, by courier service or by U.S. mail, either first class or certified, return receipt requested, postage prepaid, to:

The County:

The Contractor:

23. CONTRACTOR REPRESENTATIONS

The Contractor represents that:

A. This Agreement is duly authorized by the Contractor, the person signing this Agreement has authority to do so, and, once signed by the Contractor, this Agreement will constitute a binding obligation of the Contractor.

B. The terms of this Agreement do not conflict with Contractor's corporate agreement or any statement that may be filed with the New Mexico Secretary of State.

C. The Contractor is legally registered and is properly licensed by the State of New Mexico to provide the services and will maintain such registration and licensure for the term of this Agreement.

24. FAX OR ELECTRONIC SIGNATURE

A fax or electronic signature will have the same force and effect as an original signature.

25. NO THIRD PARTY BENEFICIARIES

The parties do not intend by this Agreement to create any rights in any non-parties.

26. CONTRACTOR'S INSURANCE

A. General. The Contractor must submit evidence of insurance as is required in this section. The Contractor's policies of insurance must be written by a company authorized to provide insurance in the state of New Mexico.

B. Liability Insurance, Including Automobile. The Contractor must maintain a comprehensive general liability and automobile insurance policy with liability limits in amounts not less than \$1,000,000.00 combined single limits of liability for bodily injury, including death, and property damage for any one occurrence. Contractor's insurance must include coverage for all services and work performed for the County under this Agreement; coverage for the use of all owned, non-owned, hired automobiles, vehicles and other equipment, both on and off work; and contractual liability coverage under which this Agreement is an insured contract. Santa Fe County must be a named an additional insured on the Contractor's policy.

C. Increased Limits. If the Legislature of the State of New Mexico increases the maximum limits of liability under the New Mexico Tort Claims Act, the Contractor must increase the maximum limits of any insurance required under this Agreement.

27. PERMITS AND FEES

Contractor will procure all permits, licenses, and pay all fees associated with the performance of the services and the Contractor's obligations under this Agreement.

28. NEW MEXICO TORT CLAIMS ACT

No provision of this Agreement will modify or waive the sovereign immunity or limitation of liability enjoyed by County or its “public employees” at common law or under the New Mexico Tort Claims Act, NMSA 1978, Section 41-4-1.

29. CAMPAIGN CONTRIBUTION DISCLOSURE

The Contractor must complete and submit simultaneous with signing this Agreement, the Santa Fe County Campaign Contribution Disclosure form.

30. CONTRACTOR’S AGENT FOR SERVICE OF PROCESS

The Contractor appoints _____, as its agent for service of process. The Contractor acknowledges that service on the agent will have the same effect as though the Contractor were personally served within the state of New Mexico.

31. SURVIVAL

The provisions of the following paragraphs will survive termination of this Agreement: Indemnification, Records and Inspection; Release; Confidentiality; and Choice of Law.

The parties execute this Agreement as of the date of last signature by the parties.

SANTA FE COUNTY

Gregory S. Shaffer
County Manager

Date

Approved as to form:

Walker Boyd
Santa Fe County Attorney

Date

CONTRACTOR -

Signature

Date

Print name and title