



IOWA VETERANS HOME

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Kim Reynolds, Governor
Adam Gregg, Lt. Governor
State of Iowa
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March 22, 2019

Janet Phipps, Director
Iowa Dept. of Administrative Services
Hoover Building, 3rd Floor
Des Moines, IA 50319

Dear Director Phipps:

The Iowa Veterans Home (IVH) requests a waiver under DAS Administrative Rule 11-118.16 (8A) of the application of DAS Administrative Rule 11-118.11 (3) concerning the duration of services contracts. The latter rule states "A service contract, including all optional renewals, shall not exceed a term of six years." IVH is requesting a waiver with respect to the following contract:

Master Agreement 4379C with Softwriters Inc. provides pharmacy software to the Iowa Veterans Home. This software is vital because it allows medication distribution to the residents of Iowa Veterans Home.

The aforementioned contract expires on May 31, 2019. Two competitive solicitations have been completed for the pharmacy software without a qualified respondent. IVH is in the development stage for an RFP to acquire a new electronic health record (EHR) that would tie into the pharmacy software and is a certified healthcare IT product. The current vendor for this system is currently not certified. The RFP will be done in approximately 4-6 weeks. IVH hopes to have selected a vendor within 6 months and go live in early 2020. After the vendor has been selected, IVH would be able to post another solicitation for a pharmacy software vendor that would have the ability to interface with the anticipated EHR. This may allow for additional potential respondents to the competitive solicitation. For that reason, IVH is requesting a waiver to continue with Softwriters, Inc. until a new EHR vendor has been selected. To allow time for the selection of the new EHR vendor and the solicitation for the new pharmacy software, IVH is requesting a one year extension to the current contract. The new proposed expiration date will be May 31, 2020.

Thank you for your time and consideration of this request for waiver.

Sincerely,

Karen Connell
Operations Division Administrator

Approval: /s/ Janet E. Phipps, Director
IA Dept. of Administrative Services

Date: 03/25/2019