

November 18, 2025

At 9:00 AM, on Tuesday, November 18, 2025, the Brown County Board of Commissioners met in Room #204 of the Brown County Courthouse located in New Ulm, Minnesota, 56073. Commissioners present were David Borchert, Anton Berg, Scott Windschitl, Brian Braun and Jeff Veerkamp, along with County Administrator Sam Hansen and Assistant County Attorney Jill Green.

Call to Order

1. Chairman Windschitl called to order the Regular Meeting at 9:00 AM. All present said the Pledge of Allegiance.

Agenda Review

2. A motion was offered by Commissioner Berg, and was seconded by Commissioner Borchert, to accept the printed agenda, with the removal of the 2026 Budget Board Workshop. This motion duly carried.

Consent Agenda Review

3. Previous Meeting's Official Proceedings and Synopsis Approval

4. General Government Claims

Updated audit list: River Bend-Kemske invoice in the amount of \$825.00 for Human Services was removed from the original claims amount of \$161,933.92.

In accordance with MS 375.12, the following claims exceed \$2,000: Advanced Correctional Healthcare Inc \$2,704.50; ALPHA WIRELESS COMMUNICATIONS \$3,743.00; Consolidated Correctional Foodservice \$11,572.82; DELL MARKETING LP \$5,632.21; I & S Group Inc \$10,212.53; Klassen Mechanical Inc \$2,573.36; MN Counties Computer Cooperative \$3,905.35; MOTOROLA SOLUTIONS INC \$34,271.72; OPG-3 INC \$23,054.89; River Bend Leasing \$2,208.61; SHI INTERNATIONAL CORP \$2,988.39; Syntax Inc \$12,750.00; Tech Tronix, Inc. \$4,000.00; Valley Asphalt Products Inc \$2,447.75; WEELBORG CHEVROLET LLC \$2,323.07; Ziegler Inc \$2,992.62; 93 payments less than \$2,000 total \$33,728.10. Final Total: \$161,108.92.

5. Human Services Claims Payments

In accordance with MS 375.12 the following claims exceed \$2,000; Brown Co Public Health Nursing \$2,510.00; Confidential Client \$3,262.00; Confidential Client \$2,081.38; Mn Human Services \$26,288.63; Superior Mobility \$3,951.26; One hundred fifty-nine payments less than \$2,000 total \$53,207.06. Final Total: \$91,300.33.

6. BCPH Families First Collaborative Grant Award

7. FY 2026/2027 NRBG Agreement

8. Staffing Report

A motion was offered by Commissioner Braun, and was seconded by Commissioner Veerkamp, to approve said Consent Agenda items. This motion duly carried.

New Business

9. Kelly Hotovec, Auditor-Treasurer, met with the County Board. A motion was offered by Commissioner Berg, and was seconded by Commissioner Windschitl, to dismiss the project proceedings in the matter of the Petition for the improvement of Brown County Ditch 74 determining the proposed project is not feasible based on the preliminary cost benefit ratio. This motion carried on a roll-call vote of 3-2, with Commissioners Braun and Borchert opposed.

10. Sarah Lanier, County Assessor, met with the County Board. A motion was offered by Commissioner Veerkamp, and was seconded by Commissioner Braun, to approve the proposed schedule and rates for the Joint Powers Agreement Three-year Contracts for 2026, 2027, and 2028 with the cities of New Ulm, Sleepy Eye, Springfield, Hanska, Cobden, Evan and the townships of North Star, Mulligan, Albin, Stately, Stark, and Home. This motion carried on a roll-call vote of 5-0.

11. David Schnobrich of the City of New Ulm, and Shannon Sweeney of DDA, met with the County Board. A motion was offered by Commissioner Berg, and was seconded by Commissioner Borchert, to set a public hearing to consider tax abatement for Rebound Real Estate for the Oak Hills Living Center Project for December 16, 2025, at 9:05 AM. This motion duly carried.

12. Kelly Hotovec, Auditor-Treasurer, met with the County Board. A motion was offered by Commissioner Veerkamp, and was seconded by Commissioner Berg, to approve the continuance of the Legal Services Agreement approved in 2021 with Rinke Noonan Law Firm for drainage consultation services with updated legal services hourly rates effective 01/01/2026. This motion duly carried.

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13. Kelly Hotovec, Auditor-Treasurer, and Andrew Lang, Engineer, met with the County Board. A motion was offered by Commissioner Braun, and was seconded by Commissioner Berg, to approve the following drainage repair request(s) and the payment of said repair(s):

System	Repair	Order	TWP	Section	Repair Type	Cost
CD72	25-087	1	Home	32	Surface Intake	\$827.50
CD68	25-017	1	Lake Hanska	2	Blowout	\$1,247.95

This motion duly carried.

14. Andrew Lang, Engineer, and Alexandra Davis, Assistant Engineer, met with the County Board. A motion was offered by Commissioner Veerkamp, and was seconded by Commissioner Borchert, to approve quoted services by Subsurface, Inc. to line a 36" RCP culvert on CSAH 3 and a 12" RCP tile line on CD 72 according to MnDOT specifications in the amount of \$135,935. This motion duly carried.

15. A motion was offered by Commissioner Berg, and was seconded by Commissioner Veerkamp, to accept by Resolution 2025-21 the agreement to act as a sponsor for Stately Township for a Local Road Improvement Program (LRIP) Project submittal. This motion carried on a roll-call vote of 5-0.

16. A motion was offered by Commissioner Borchert, and was seconded by Commissioner Braun, to accept by Resolution No. 2025-22 the agreement to act as sponsor for the City of Sleepy Eye for a Local Road Improvement Program (LRIP) Project submittal. This motion carried on a roll-call vote of 5-0.

17. A motion was offered by Commissioner Berg, and was seconded by Commissioner Veerkamp, to accept by Resolution No. 2025-23 the agreement to support an application for a Local Road Improvement Program (LRIP) Project on County Road 100. This motion carried on a roll-call vote of 5-0.

Break

18. Planning Commission Recommendations:

Robert Santaella, Planning and Zoning Director, met with the County Board. A motion was offered by Commissioner Braun, and was seconded by Commissioner Berg, to approve Rezoning Application APP-RZ-0008 filed by Nathan Gieseke of Central United Cooperative on the property owned by Central Region Cooperative located in the NW 1/4 of the SW 1/4, in Section 24, Home Township, of Brown County, Minnesota, consisting of a 25-acre lot. The application is to consider the rezoning of the property from A-1 Agricultural Protection Zoning District to I-1 Industrial Zoning District. This motion carried on a roll-call vote of 5-0.

A motion was offered by Commissioner Berg, and was seconded by Commissioner Veerkamp, to approve Final Plat Application APP-P-0172 filed by Daniel Vogel on the property owned by Daniel L & Connie M Vogel & Jeffrey & Courtney Kuehn known as Vogel 8th Subdivision Lot 1, Block 1 (3.86 Acres) described as Lot 1, Block 2 Vogel Fifth Subdivision and Lot 1-2-3-4-8-9-10-11 of the NE 1/4 of the NE 1/4 Subl B & C of Lot 7 of the NE 1/4; Lots 1-2-3-4-5-6 & 12 of the S 12/ of the NE 1/4; Exc Lot 1, Block 1, Vogel 5th Subdivision, Section 25, Township 109 North, Range 35 West, North Star Township, Brown County, Minnesota. Application is to add property to existing building site. This motion carried on a roll-call vote of 5-0.

A motion was offered by Commissioner Veerkamp, and was seconded by Commissioner Borchert, to approve Final Plat Application APP-P-0173 filed by Nick Finstad on the property owned by Sharon Williams known as Finstad 4th Subdivision Lot 1, Block 1 (2.52 acres) described as Government Lots 6,7, and 8 and the SW 1/4 of the SW 1/4, Section 15, Township 108 North, Range 31 West, Lake Hanska Township, Brown County, Minnesota. Application is to create a new building site. This motion carried on a roll-call vote of 5-0.

19. A motion was offered by Commissioner Berg, and was seconded by Commissioner Borchert, to approve the Independent Caretaker Maintenance Agreements as presented for the 2026 Park Season (April 15-October 15) with David Helget for Tremel County Park in the amount of \$6,000; Bruns Property Management for Lost Dog and Fox Hunters Park in the amount of \$5,700; and Gary Schenk for Mound Creek in the amount of \$15,759. This motion duly carried.

20. Jason Seidl, County Sheriff met with the County Board. A motion was offered by Commissioner Borchert, and was seconded by Commissioner Veerkamp, to accept and order file the Sheriff's Office October Monthly Report of Activity. This motion duly carried.

21. A motion was offered by Commissioner Veerkamp, and was seconded by Commissioner Windschitl, to

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approve ARMER Tower Battery Backup purchase in the amount of \$4,271.28 for the county-owned Sleepy Eye ARMER site. This motion duly carried.

22. Mary Priebe, HR Director, met with the County Board. A motion was offered by Commissioner Borchert, and was seconded by Commissioner Berg, to approve the Telework Policy changes and updated application and annual review forms to be effective 01/01/2026, per discussions during the workshop on 09/23/20205. This motion carried on a roll-call vote of 4-1, with Commissioner Braun opposed.

23. A motion was offered by Commissioner Veerkamp, and was seconded by Commissioner Windschitl, to approve and adopt the 2026 County Board meeting dates on 1st, 3rd and 4th Tuesdays of every month, except for the month of July with meetings to be held on the 1st and 3rd Tuesday, and a change to the Road and Park Tour to be held on September 10. This motion duly carried.

Closed Session

24. A motion was offered by Commissioner Berg, and was seconded by Commissioner Braun, to convene into closed session as permitted by Minnesota Statute § 13D.05, subd. 2 to consider Social Services Payments. This motion duly carried.

A motion was offered by Commissioner Berg, and was seconded by Commissioner Borchert, to authorize payment of Social Services claims in the amount of \$190,396.34. In accordance with MS 375.12 the following claims exceed \$2,000: 180 Degrees Inc \$13,589.52; Brown Co Evaluation Ctr \$12,626.80; ELAN Financial Services \$4,019.15; EON Inc \$2,358.48; Families First Collaborative \$32,426.00; Confidential Client \$2,691.32; Gerard Nexus Inc \$10,443.65; Heartland Girls Ranch \$7,905.26; Hudson/Michael & Lyndi \$3,656.76; LSSMN \$2,916.17; Lutheran Social Services of Minnesota \$2,772.40; MBW Company SILS Program \$2,829.88; MRCI INC \$8,500.60; Nexus - Mille Lacs Family Healing \$9,200.80; Prairie Lakes Youth Programs \$34,292.07; Scott County Treasurer \$15,764.00; Confidential Client \$3,273.70; 34 payments less than \$2,000 total \$21,129.78. Final Total: \$190,396.34. This motion duly carried.

A motion was offered by Commissioner Berg, and was seconded by Commissioner Windschitl, to cease closed session and reconvene the open session. This motion duly carried.

Other Business

25. Commissioner Committee Reports: Commissioner Borchert reported on the detox meeting, EMS meeting, MRCI meeting, and MVAC meeting; Commissioner Berg reported on the GBERBA meeting and SWAC meeting; Commissioner Windschitl reported on SCHA compliance and JP meeting, Labor Management meeting, AMC GIS training, Ent. N. meeting, and BCHS meeting; Commissioner Braun reported on MN Go advisory meeting, JD 5 meeting, and BC Extension meeting; and Commissioner Veerkamp reported on JD 5 meeting and BC Extension meeting.

26. Calendars were coordinated for the next two-week period.

Closed Session

27. A motion was offered by Commissioner Berg, and was seconded by Commissioner Veerkamp, to convene into closed session as permitted by Minnesota Statute § 13D.03 for Labor Negotiations Strategy. This motion duly carried.

A motion was offered by Commissioner Berg, and was seconded by Commissioner Veerkamp, to cease closed session and reconvene the open session. This motion duly carried.

Adjournment

There being no further business, Chairman Windschitl declared the Meeting adjourned at 1:08 PM.

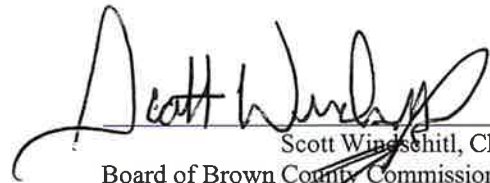
Notice

County Board Workshop regarding 2026 Budget following the Board Meeting was removed from the agenda.

County Board of Commissioners meeting will be held on December 2nd at 4:30 pm, followed by the Brown County Truth-in-Taxation Meeting on the 3rd floor of the Courthouse beginning at 6:00 pm.

County Board Workshop following the Truth-in-Taxation Meeting.

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Scott Wingschitt, Chair
Board of Brown County Commissioners
Brown County, Minnesota

ATTEST:


Sam Hansen
Brown County Administrator
Brown County, Minnesota

Resolution No 2025-21
Brown County Resolution

Resolution of Sponsorship from Sponsoring Agency

The following Resolution was offered by Commissioner Berg and moved for adoption at a regular board meeting held on November 18, 2025, at the Brown County Courthouse, New Ulm, MN:

WHEREAS, Stately Township would like to submit Local Road Improvement Program (LRIP) application; and

WHEREAS, Stately Township needs the County to sponsor their LRIP application; and

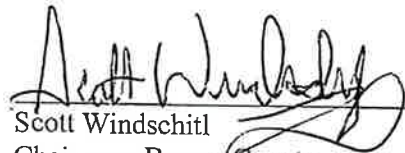
WHEREAS, Stately Township has requested Brown County be the sponsoring agency;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that Brown County, Minnesota agrees to act as sponsoring agency for LRIP Projects identified as **420th Avenue and 430th Avenue Texas Crossing Projects** and has reviewed and approved the project as proposed. Sponsorship includes a willingness to secure and guarantee the local share of costs associated with this project and responsibility for seeing this project through to its completion, with compliance of all applicable laws, rules and regulations;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that Andrew Lang-Highway Engineer is hereby authorized to act as agent on behalf of this applicant.

Seconded by Commissioner Veerkamp and the same being put to a vote was duly carried.
This Resolution shall become effective immediately and without publication.

Adopted by the following vote: Ayes 5 Nays 0.
Dated this 18th day of November 2025.


Scott Windschitl
Chairman, Brown County

CERTIFICATION

State of Minnesota
County of Brown

I, Sam Hansen, duly appointed, qualified and acting County Administrator for the County of Brown, State of Minnesota, do hereby certify that I have compared the foregoing copy of a Resolution with the original minutes of the proceedings of the Board of County Commissioners, Brown County, Minnesota, at their session held on the 18th day of November, 2025, now on file in my office, and have found the same to be a true and correct copy thereof.

Witness my hand and official seal at New Ulm, Minnesota, this 18th day of November 2025.


Sam Hansen
County Administrator

Resolution No 2025-22
Brown County Resolution

Resolution of Sponsorship from Sponsoring Agency

The following Resolution was offered by Commissioner Borchert and moved for adoption at a regular board meeting held on November 18, 2025, at the Brown County Courthouse, New Ulm, MN:

WHEREAS, the City of Sleepy Eye would like to submit Local Road Improvement Program (LRIP) applications; and

WHEREAS, the City of Sleepy Eye needs the County to sponsor their LRIP applications; and

WHEREAS, the City of Sleepy Eye has requested Brown County be the sponsoring agency;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that Brown County, Minnesota agrees to act as sponsoring agency for LRIP Projects identified as **School Street Improvements** and has reviewed and approved the projects as proposed. Sponsorship includes a willingness to secure and guarantee the local share of costs associated with this project and responsibility for seeing this project through to its completion, with compliance of all applicable laws, rules and regulations;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that Andrew Lang-Highway Engineer is hereby authorized to act as agent on behalf of this applicant.

Seconded by Commissioner Braun and the same being put to a vote was duly carried.
This Resolution shall become effective immediately and without publication.

Adopted by the following vote: Ayes 5 Nays 0.
Dated this 18th day of November 2025.


Scott Windschitl
Chairman, Brown County

CERTIFICATION

State of Minnesota
County of Brown

I, Sam Hansen, duly appointed, qualified and acting County Administrator for the County of Brown, State of Minnesota, do hereby certify that I have compared the foregoing copy of a Resolution with the original minutes of the proceedings of the Board of County Commissioners, Brown County, Minnesota, at their session held on the 18th day of November, 2025, now on file in my office, and have found the same to be a true and correct copy thereof.

Witness my hand and official seal at New Ulm, Minnesota, this 18th day of November 2025.


Sam Hansen
County Administrator

Resolution No 2025-23
Brown County Resolution

Resolution of Support for County Road Reconstruction

The following Resolution was offered by Commissioner Berg and moved for adoption at a regular board meeting held on November 18, 2025, at the Brown County Courthouse, New Ulm, MN:

WHEREAS, the Local Road Improvement Program (LRIP) was created in 2002 to assist local agencies for construction and/or reconstruction of local roads with funds appropriated based on Minnesota Statutes 174.52; and

WHEREAS, a Route of Regional Significance account is part of the LRIP fund; and

WHEREAS, Counties may submit highway projects for LRIP funding that have statewide or regional significance; and

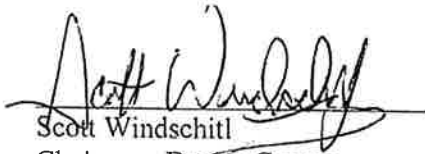
WHEREAS, the Brown County Highway Department would like to submit a Local Road Improvement Program (LRIP) application; and

WHEREAS, the Department needs the County Board of Commissioners to approve the project and support the LRIP application;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Brown County, Minnesota, Board of Commissioners hereby supports the application for the LRIP Project identified as **County Road 100** Surfacing and has reviewed and approved the project as proposed by the Highway Engineer.

Seconded by Commissioner Veerkamp and the same being put to a vote was duly carried. This Resolution shall become effective immediately and without publication.

Adopted by the following vote: Ayes 5 Nays 0.
Dated this 18th day of November 2025.


Scott Windschitl
Chairman, Brown County

CERTIFICATION

State of Minnesota
County of Brown

I, Sam Hansen, duly appointed, qualified and acting County Administrator for the County of Brown, State of Minnesota, do hereby certify that I have compared the foregoing copy of a Resolution with the original minutes of the proceedings of the Board of County Commissioners, Brown County, Minnesota, at their session held on the 18th day of November, 2025, now on file in my office, and have found the same to be a true and correct copy thereof.

Witness my hand and official seal at New Ulm, Minnesota, this 18th day of November 2025.


Sam Hansen
County Administrator