

January 20, 2026

At 9:00 AM, on Tuesday, January 20, 2026, 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 County Attorney Charles Hanson.

**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 Braun, and was seconded by Commissioner Borchert, to accept the printed agenda. This motion duly carried.

**Consent Agenda Review**

3. Previous Meeting's Official Proceedings and Synopsis Approval

4. General Government Claims

In accordance with MS 375.12, the following claims exceed \$2,000: ALLINA HEALTH SYSTEM \$2,359.60; American Engineering Testing \$6,115.50; AREA II MN RIVER BASIN PROJECTS \$13,766.00; Assn of MN Counties \$4,692.00; B Harris, Inc. \$2,448.20; Brown Co Economic Dev Partners Inc \$20,000.00; Brown Co Historical Society \$3,565.00; Cargill Inc \$13,986.56; DLT Solutions LLC \$12,462.55; Full Service Electric Inc \$4,057.72; JOURNAL INC/THE \$2,036.48; Klassen Mechanical Inc \$2,964.00; MADDEN GALANTER HANSEN, LLP \$11,515.15; Midstates Equipment & Supply \$2,570.40; Mn Co Attorneys Assn \$5,454.00; Mn Transportation Alliance \$2,576.00; MN UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE \$2,546.86; Nelson Oyen Torvik, P.L.L.P. \$3,757.50; River Bend Leasing \$2,208.61; River Bend-Kemske Business Products \$2,166.32; SCHNEIDER GEOSPATIAL \$16,892.40; SHI INTERNATIONAL CORP \$5,920.00; Smith & Johnson \$12,000.00; Zoho Corporation \$16,267.55. 72 payments less than \$2,000 total \$18,614.89. Final Total: \$190,943.29.

5. Human Services Claims Payments

In accordance with MS 375.12 the following claims exceed \$2,000; Amherst H Wilder Foundation \$68,673.20; Assn of MN Counties \$3,271.00; Brown Co Probation Dept \$5,925.00; Esser Brothers Construction LLC \$8,352.15; Confidential Client \$2,258.44; Mn Human Services \$5,907.16; Northview Cremation Service \$3,055.00; Nozco Inc \$8,963.00; Pumps Tire Service Inc \$2,706.78; Pro Kinship For Kids \$2,275.00; Southern MN Crisis Nursery \$7,500.00; Superior Mobility \$2,535.43; Two hundred two payments less than \$2,000 total \$76,438.19. Final total is \$197,860.35.

6. Public Health Out of State Travel Request for the Montana Institute

7. BCEDP Committee Appointment

8. Staffing Report

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

**New Business**

9. Jason Seidl, County Sheriff, and Andrew Konechne, Chief Deputy, met with the County Board. A motion was offered by Commissioner Borchert, and was seconded by Commissioner Braun, to accept and order file the Sheriff's Office December Monthly Report of Activity. This motion duly carried.

10. A motion was offered by Commissioner Braun, and was seconded by Commissioner Veerkamp, to accept and order file the Sheriff's Department 911 Annual Report. This motion duly carried.

11. Jaimee Brand, Public Health Director, met with the County Board. A motion was offered by Commissioner Berg, and was seconded by Commissioner Borchert, to approve the First Amendment to the 2025 South County Health Alliance Delegation Agreement. This motion duly carried.

12. Jaimee Brand, Public Health Director, met with the County Board. A motion was offered by Commissioner Veerkamp, and was seconded by Commissioner Borchert, to accept and order file Brown County Public Health Quarter 4 Update. This motion duly carried.

13. Kelly Hotovec, Auditor-Treasurer, and Alexandra Davis, Assistant Engineer, met with the County Board. A motion was offered by Commissioner Braun, and was seconded by Commissioner Berg, to approve the following

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drainage repair request(s) and the payment of said repair(s):

| System | Repair | Order | TWP        | Section | Repair Type      | Cost       |
|--------|--------|-------|------------|---------|------------------|------------|
| CD01   | 18-013 | 2     | Milford    | 30      | Slough           | \$4,523.50 |
| CD58   | 25-006 | 1     | Cottonwood | 31      | Culvert/Crossing | \$9,088.77 |

This motion duly carried.

14. A motion was offered by Commissioner Berg, and was seconded by Commissioner Borchert, to set bid letting date for 2026 Highway Seal Coat Oil for February 18, 2026, at 10:00 AM at the Highway Department Office, 1901 N Jefferson St, New Ulm, MN 56073; an estimated 894 tons (210,000 gallons) of seal coat oil is needed, and maintenance funds will be used. This motion duly carried.

15. A motion was offered by Commissioner Veerkamp, and was seconded by Commissioner Berg, to approve final acceptance and accept by Resolution No. 2026-7 the Linden Township Bridge Replacement (Box Culvert) project of SAP 008-599-061 funded by Town Bridge Funds and \$10,000 of Local Linden Township funds as shown in the 10-Year Road & Bridge Construction Program. This motion carried on a roll-call vote of 5-0.

16. Charles Hanson, County Attorney, met with the County Board. A motion was offered by Commissioner Borchert, and was seconded by Commissioner Veerkamp, to approve and sign Agreement for Prosecution Services between the City of Hanska and the Brown County Attorney's Office; and the parties' agreement of a \$5,000 paid annually to the Brown County Attorney's Office for prosecution services. This motion carried on a roll-call vote of 5-0.

#### **Break**

17. Planning Commission Recommendations:

Robert Santaella, Planning and Zoning Director, met with the County Board. A motion was offered by Commissioner Berg, and was seconded by Commissioner Veerkamp, to approve Final Plat application APP-P-0174 filed by Darren Berle on the property owned by David J Berle known as Tommy's Subdivision Lot 1, Block 1 (60 acres), Lot 2, Block 1 (79.26 acres) described as Lot A of the Plat of the SE ¼, and the E ½ of the NE ¼, all in Section 10, Township 109 North, Range 32 West, Stark Township, Brown County, Minnesota. Application is to replat existing platted lots. This motion carried on a roll-call vote of 5-0.

A motion was offered by Commissioner Braun, and was seconded by Commissioner Berg, to approve Conditional Use Permit (CUP) application APP-C-0187 filed by Taylor Rose of Rose Farm Kennel on the property owned by Scott R Rose described as Lot 1, Block 1 W. Rose Addition, Section 31, Township 111 North, Range 33 West, Eden Township, Brown County, Minnesota. Application for CUP to allow a dog kennel with up to a maximum of 18 dogs, all located in the A-1 Agricultural Protectin Zoning District. This motion carried on a roll-call vote of 5-0.

18. A motion was offered by Commissioner Berg, and was seconded by Commissioner Veerkamp, to approve 2026 GEI Proposal for Professional Services at an estimated fee of \$48,100, including the 2025 annual report; completing the 2026 environmental reporting, which includes reviewing and submitting quarterly reports to the MPCA; and completing the air and emissions reporting maintaining compliance with our air permit. This motion duly carried.

19. Mary Priebe, HR Director, met with the County Board. A motion was offered by Commissioner Borchert, and was seconded by Commissioner Veerkamp, to approve the 2026 Brown County Personnel Policy updates including applicable legislative changes and the omission of the City of New Ulm and Sleepy Eye reference from the proposed policy. This motion carried on a roll-call vote of 4-1, with Commissioner Braun opposed.

20. Anne Broskoff, Human Services Director, met with the County Board. A motion was offered by Commissioner Braun, and was seconded by Commissioner Borchert, to approve the continuation of (2) temporary workers at 10 hours per week at \$27.08/hour (3% COLA from 2025 rate) plus an administrative rate charged by Express Personnel due to staffing shortages until (3) full-time Brown County employees are hired and providing services for Human Services Income Maintenance Programs. This motion duly carried.

#### **Closed Session**

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

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A motion was offered by Commissioner Berg, and was seconded by Commissioner Braun, to authorize payment of Social Services claims in the amount \$224,156.87. In accordance with MS 375.12 the following claims exceed \$2,000: Aim High Construction LLC \$4,180.16; Brown Co Evaluation Ctr \$6,262.93; Children Youth & Families Dept \$2,368.00; DHS – Anoka Metro RTC \$24,920.00; DHS – MSOP \$13,965.50; DHS St Peter RTC – 472 \$7,762.40; ELAN Financial Services \$2,326.53; EON Inc \$2,358.48; Gerard Nexus Inc \$70,312.20; Confidential Client \$2,728.62; Heartland Girls Ranch \$11,139.23; Hudson/Michael & Lyndi \$3,528.74; LSSMN \$2,916.17; Lutheran Social Services of Minnesota \$3,103.00; MBW Company SILS Program \$2,410.24; MRCI \$8,500.60; Nexus - Mille Lacs Family Healing \$18,401.60; Prairie Lakes Youth Programs \$28,423.07; Prairie Support Services LLC \$3,012.50; Southern Mn Independent Living \$3,024.80; Wings Guardianship Services \$2,512.10. 30 payments less than \$2,000 total \$24,659.51; Final Total \$248,816.38. This motion duly carried.

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

#### **Other Business**

##### **22. Correspondence:**

City of Sleepy Eye Public Utilities Notice attached to Agenda Packet.

23. Commissioner Committee Reports: Commissioner Borchert reported on the complete streets meeting, the SCHA meeting, the Detox board meeting, EM Steering committee meeting, Region 9 meeting, JD 9, and JD 36 meeting; Commissioner Berg reported on the Planning and Zoning committee, and JD 9 & 36; Commissioner Windschitl reported on the Enterprise North meeting; Commissioner Braun reported on Brown County Soil & Water committee; and Commissioner Veerkamp reported on the legislator town hall meeting.

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

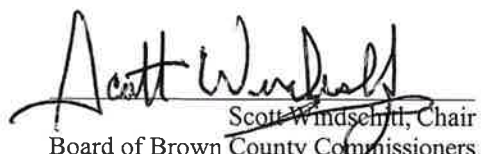
#### **Adjournment**

There being no further business, Chairman Windschitl declared the Meeting adjourned at 11:53 AM.

#### **Notice**

*Ditch Notices - 8:30 a.m. | Attending: Commissioners Berg and Borchert*

- *Brown & Blue Earth Counties JD 9 Drainage Authority Virtual Meeting to appoint joint legal counsel, Rinke Noonan*
- *Blue Earth & Brown Counties JD 36, Branch 9, Lateral H, Repair Estimate (2)*

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

ATTEST:

  
Sam Hansen  
Brown County Administrator  
Brown County, Minnesota

**Resolution No 2026-7**  
**Brown County Resolution**  
**County Board Acknowledgement**  
**Certificate of Final Acceptance**

The following Resolution was offered by Commissioner Veerkamp and moved for adoption at a regular board meeting held on January 20, 2026, at the Brown County Courthouse, New Ulm, MN:

**WHEREAS**, Project Number SAP 008-599-061 has in all things been completed, and the County Board being fully advised in the premises;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, hat we do hereby accept the completed project for and in behalf of the County of Brown as specified herein.

Seconded by Commissioner Berg 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 20th day of January 2026.

  
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 20<sup>th</sup> day of January, 2026, 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 20<sup>th</sup> day of January 2026.

  
Sam Hansen  
County Administrator