

February 17, 2026

At 9:00 AM, on Tuesday, February 17, 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, Scott Windschitl, Brian Braun and Jeff Veerkamp, along with County Administrator Sam Hansen and County Attorney Charles Hanson. Commissioner Anton Berg excused.

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 Veerkamp, 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: Albin/Town Of \$30,469.03; ALPHA WIRELESS COMMUNICATIONS \$3,743.00; B Harris, Inc. \$2,448.20; Bashaw/Town Of \$28,660.32; Blue Earth Co Finance Dept \$61,311.54; Bolton & Menk Inc \$9,699.00; Burnstown/Town Of \$29,154.60; Cargill Inc \$3,239.04; Computer Information Systems \$48,185.59; Consolidated Correctional Foodservice \$11,659.21; Cottonwood/Town Of \$54,292.91; Eckberg Lammers, P.C. \$9,000.00; Eden/Town Of \$31,105.73; Grafix Shoppe \$2,120.00; Home/Town Of \$43,081.74; JADD SEPPMANN & SONS INC \$17,302.00; Lake Hanska/Town Of \$31,538.61; Leavenworth/Town Of \$29,433.65; Linden/Town Of \$30,953.54; Milford/Town Of \$49,018.47; MN Counties Computer Cooperative \$25,650.00; Mulligan/Town Of \$27,476.74; New Ulm/City Of \$19,063.44; NORTH STAR/TOWN OF \$30,641.15; PHYSICIANS GROUP OF NEW ULM LTD \$2,000.00; Prairieville/Town Of \$26,660.02; Ramsey County (Medical Examiner) \$5,148.00; River Bend Leasing \$2,312.52; Sigel/Town Of \$31,363.82; Sleepy Eye/City Of \$27,042.13; Smith & Johnson \$12,000.00; South Central College \$4,040.10; Springfield/City Of \$6,710.30; Stark/Town Of \$27,431.81; Stately/Town Of \$25,734.84; 89 payments less than \$2,000 total \$39,053.00. Final Total: \$838,744.05.

5. Human Services Claims Payments

In accordance with MS 375.12 the following claims exceed \$2,000; Brown Co Public Health Nursing \$4,012.06, Confidential Client \$2,906.20, Chuck Spaeth Ford Inc \$4,706.74, Midwest Monitoring & Surveillance 3,407.46, MN Counties Computer Cooperative \$11,300.00, MN Human Services \$429,270.87, MN Valley Funeral Home \$3,125.00, Pro Kinship for Kids \$2,275.00, Superior Mobility \$2,724.19; 117 less than \$2,000 total \$29,038.91. Final Total: \$492,766.43.

6. Fifth Judicial District Treatment Court Program Cooperative Agreement for Reconnect Services

7. Sheriff's Office Forfeited & Abandoned Vehicle Surplus Declaration

8. Park Commission Appointment

9. Annual Interest Distribution

10. 2025 Year End Ditch Cash Transfers

11. Staffing Report

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

New Business

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

13. Evonn Westcott, Probation Director, met with the County Board. A motion was offered by Commissioner Braun, and was seconded by Commissioner Veerkamp, to accept by Resolution No. 2026-9 renewing the Joint Powers and Court Data Services Subscriber Agreements with the State of Minnesota acting through its Department of Public Safety, Bureau of Criminal Apprehension and Brown County on behalf of its Community Corrections Department. This motion carried on a roll-call vote of 4-0, with Commissioner Berg absent.

14. Andrew Lang, Engineer, Alexandra Davis, Assistant Engineer, and Nick Breu, General Foreman, met with the

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County Board. A motion was offered by Commissioner Veerkamp, and was seconded by Commissioner Windschitl, to approve the purchase of a Case IH Farmall 90C mowing tractor from Miller-Sellner in the amount of \$75,000.00.

Quotes from Kibble Equipment, Miller-Sellner and Ziegler Ag Equipment received.

Company	Equipment Model & Spec.	Equipment Price	Trade-in Value	Total Price
Ziegler Ag Equipment	2026 Fendt FT211; 105 Eng HP, Adj. to 105 PTO HP, 540/1000 PTO, CVT Trans, MFWD	\$154,888.00	-\$15,500.00	\$139,388.00
Miller-Sellner	2026 Case IH Farmall 90C; 99 Eng HP, 85 PTO HP, 540/1000 PTO, 24 Sp Hi-Lo Power Shuttle Trans, MFWD	\$128,182.00	-\$15,500.00 + -\$37,682.00 (Dealership Discount)	\$75,000.00
Kibble Equipment	2025 John Deere 5095M; 95 Eng HP, 85 PTO HP, 540 PTO, 16 sp Power Quad Plus Trans, MFWD	\$83,900.00 + \$5,658.23 (Warranty & Fender Kit)	-\$14,000.00	\$75,558.23

This motion carried on a roll-call vote of 4-0, with Commissioner Berg absent.

15. A motion was offered by Commissioner Braun, and was seconded by Commissioner Borchert, to table the purchase of a SIDUMP'R side dump trailer from Titan Machinery in the amount \$85,700.00 plus tax and registration/title fees.

Quotes from Titan Machinery, Ziegler, and SmithCo received.

Company	Equipment Model & Spec.	Total Price
Titan Machinery	SIDUMP'R SDR 342-49; Tri-Axle, 36' Tub, Air Ride, Electric Tarp, Single Ram	\$85,700.00 + tax & registration/title fees
Ziegler CAT	Side Dump Industries SDI-426-3; Tri-Axle, 35' Tub, Air Ride, Electric Tarp, Twin Ram	\$73,415.00 + tax & registration/title fees
SmithCo	SmithCo SX3-4234; Tri-Axle, 34' Tub, Air Ride, Electric Tarp, Twin Ram	\$75,619.50 + tax & registration/title fees

This motion duly carried.

16. A motion was offered by Commissioner Borchert, and was seconded by Commissioner Windschitl, to approve the purchase of ten (10) Samsara Telematic units for an additional \$184.80 annual license fee per unit to be installed on motor graders and tractors allowing GPS tracking of the equipment, real-time engine/vehicle data monitoring, and interactive map on the County website for public to view plow route statuses. This motion carried on a roll-call vote of 4-0, with Commissioner Berg absent.

17. A motion was offered by Commissioner Borchert, and was seconded by Commissioner Veerkamp, to approve the 2026 farm lease to Mark and Alan Kuehn for the tillable acres at the Milford Pit with rent at \$100 per acre. This motion duly carried.

18. A motion was offered by Commissioner Braun, and was seconded by Commissioner Veerkamp, to approve the revised drainage agreement between the Milford Pit property and the Kuehn property. This motion duly carried.

19. Robert Santaella, Planning and Zoning Director, met with the County Board. A motion was offered by Commissioner Veerkamp, and was seconded by Commissioner Braun, to accept the high bid for a 3-year Landfill Farm Lease from Eric and Ryan Pierson at \$160 per acre (\$8,000 total). This motion duly carried.

20. Sam Hansen, County Administrator, met with the County Board. A motion was offered by Commissioner Borchert, and was seconded by Commissioner Veerkamp, to approve the Collective Bargaining Agreement (CBA) with the Law Enforcement Labor Services, Inc. (LELS) Union 94 (Licensed) for the term 2026-2028. Notable

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changes include, but are not limited to: updated language, updating the vacation accrual schedule to reflect the existing MOU, an increase in Health Savings Account (HSA) contributions of \$100, and a 3% general wage adjustment in 2026, 3.25% in 2027, 3.25% in 2028, and an increase in the shift differential by \$.25 to \$1.25/hour. This motion duly carried.

21. A motion was offered by Commissioner Braun, and was seconded by Commissioner Windschitl, to approve the 2026-2028 CBA with LELS 98 (Non-Licensed) Union. Notable changes include, but are not limited to: updated language, updating the vacation accrual schedule to reflect the existing MOU, an increase in HSA contributions of \$100, and a 3% general wage adjustment in 2026, 3.25% in 2027, 3.25% in 2028, and an increase in the shift differential by \$.25 to \$1.25/hour. This motion duly carried.

22. A motion was offered by Commissioner Borchert, and was seconded by Commissioner Veerkamp, to accept and order file the 2025 Coroner Annual Statistics Report as presented in a letter by Dr. Kelly Mills, River Valley Forensics Services and Brown County Coroner, providing a summary of the 2025 medical examiner statistics. This motion duly carried.

23. A motion was offered by Commissioner Braun, and was seconded by Commissioner Windschitl, to accept and order file the Q4 2025 Budget Report (Modified Accrual and Unaudited) which reflects activity at 100% of the budget year as follows: expenditures of \$43,670,688 or 95.2%, and revenues of \$44,180,853 or 96.3%; and the Q4 2025 Supplemental Budget Report noting expenditures of \$2,752,512 or 117.4% and revenues of \$3,133,337 or 135.3% of annual budget activity. This motion duly carried.

Break

24. Wes Saunders-Pearce, DNR Lead Hydrologist, met with the County Board. A motion was offered by Commissioner Veerkamp, and was seconded by Commissioner Borchert, to accept and order file the Public Waters Inventory (PWI) update as presented. This motion duly carried.

25. Anne Broskoff, Human Services Director, and Patrick LaCourse, Heartland Express Manager, met with the County Board. A motion was offered by Commissioner Borchert, and was seconded by Commissioner Windschitl, to approve an up to 29 hours/week bus driver position for Heartland/Hermann Express due to several factors where staff are unable to fill the hours scheduled for routes. This motion duly carried.

Closed Session

26. A motion was offered by Commissioner Braun, 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.

A motion was offered by Commissioner Veerkamp, and was seconded by Commissioner Borchert, to authorize payment of Social Services claims in the amount of \$219,831.15. In accordance with MS 375.12, the following claims exceed \$2,000: \$189,528.06; Brown Co Evaluation Ctr \$12,065.31; Dept of Human Services BHF \$2,366.34; DHS – Anoka Metro RTC \$9,968.00; DHS – MSOP \$13,965.50; DHS St Peter RTC – 472 \$7,762.40; ELAN Financial Services \$3,905.07; EON Inc \$2,358.48; Gerard Nexus Inc \$52,017.42; Confidential Client \$2,644.58; Heartland Girls Ranch \$13,016.90; Hudson/Michael & Lyndi \$3,305.71; LSSMN \$5,119.09; MBW Company SILS Program \$2,055.16; Nexus - Mille Lacs Family Healing \$20,241.76; Perala/Samantha Jo \$2,463.27; Prairie Lakes Youth Programs \$33,623.07; Wings Guardianship Services \$2,650.00. 39 payments less than \$2,000 total \$30,303.09. Final Total: \$219,831.15. This motion duly carried.

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

Other Business

27. Correspondence:

A Highway Committee Meeting was held on February 3, 2026, following County Board meeting; Minutes attached to Agenda Packet.

28. Commissioner Committee Reports: Commissioner Borchert reported on a R9 Legislative meeting; Commissioner Windschitl reported on the Highway Committee, SCHA JP meeting, SCHA compliance committee, and BCHS meeting; Commissioner Braun reported on the MN GO meeting, BC SWCD meeting, and Land Use plan steering committee; and Commissioner Veerkamp reported on the RCRCA meeting.

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

Adjournment

There being no further business, Chairman Windschitl declared the Meeting adjourned at 11:17 AM.



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

ATTEST:



Sam Hansen
Brown County Administrator
Brown County, Minnesota

**Resolution No 2026-9
Brown County Resolution**

**Approving State of Minnesota Joint Powers Agreements with the County of Brown on
Behalf of Its Probation Office**

The following Resolution was offered by Commissioner Braun and moved for adoption at a regular board meeting held on February 17, 2026, at the Brown County Courthouse, New Ulm, MN:

WHEREAS, the County of Brown on behalf of its Probation Office desires to enter into Joint Powers Agreements with the State of Minnesota, Department of Public Safety, Bureau of Criminal Apprehension to use systems and tools available over the State's criminal justice data communications network for which the County is eligible. The Joint Powers Agreements further provide the County with the ability to add, modify and delete connectivity, systems and tools over the five year life of the agreement and obligates the County to pay the costs for the network connection.

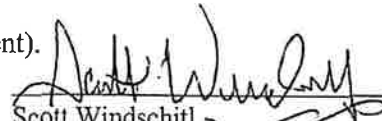
NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the County Board of Brown, Minnesota as follows:

1. That the State of Minnesota Joint Powers Agreements by and between the State of Minnesota acting through its Department of Public Safety, Bureau of Criminal Apprehension and the County of Brown on behalf of its Probation Office are hereby approved.
2. That the Director, Evonn Westcott, or his or her successor, is designated the Authorized Representative for the Probation Office. The Authorized Representative is also authorized to sign any subsequent amendment or agreement that may be required by the State of Minnesota to maintain the County's connection to the systems and tools offered by the State.
3. That Scott Windschitl, the Chair of the County of Brown, and Sam Hansen, the County Board Clerk, are authorized to sign the State of Minnesota Joint Powers Agreements.

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 4 Nays 0 (Berg absent).

Dated this 17th day of February 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 17th day of February, 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 17th day of February 2026.


Sam Hansen
County Administrator