

March 17, 2026

At 9:00 AM, on Tuesday, March 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, 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 Berg, and was seconded by Commissioner Braun, 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: Advanced Correctional Healthcare Inc \$2,893.83; ALLINA HEALTH SYSTEM - NW 7710 \$2,400.00; Alpha Emergence Behavioral Health \$2,000.00; ALPHA WIRELESS COMMUNICATIONS \$3,743.00; Bolton & Menk Inc \$10,323.00; CivicPlus, LLC \$5,505.25; CLIFTON LARSON ALLEN LLP \$2,625.00; Consolidated Correctional Foodservice \$11,681.30; DHS-DCT-ARC-476 \$3,071.25; Geocomm Inc \$2,673.56; GIRARD'S BUSINESS SOLUTIONS, INC \$5,145.00; H & S TILING LLC \$2,400.00; Hollinger/Sarah \$5,453.10; I & S Group Inc \$2,625.00; Kluver Law Office & Mediation Center PLL \$2,370.00; Konechne/Andrew \$3,501.16; MN ASSN OF CVSO \$2,100.00; Mn Dept Of Agriculture \$13,188.90; Moove NA Distribution LLC \$3,662.25; New Ulm Body Shop \$4,935.99; North Country GM \$167,505.36; PHYSICIANS GROUP OF NEW ULM LTD \$2,000.00; Pumps Tire Service Inc \$3,386.42; Redwood Co Auditor-Treasurer \$3,000.88; River Bend Leasing \$2,312.52; Smith & Johnson \$12,000.00; Streicher's \$3,189.99; Trimin Government Solutions \$30,786.00; TSG SERVER AND STORAGE \$14,640.00; Watonwan Co Auditor \$10,690.32; WEELBORG CHEVROLET LLC \$2,322.31; 86 payments less than \$2,000 total \$29,773.22. Final Total: \$373,904.61.

5. Human Services Claims Payments

In accordance with MS 375.12 the following claims exceed \$2,000; Brown Co Public Health Nursing \$3,000.00, MN Counties Intergovernmental Trust \$10,000.00, MN Human Services \$2,616.00, MN Valley Funeral Home \$2,895.50, Pro Kinship for Kids \$2,275.00, Sturm Funeral Home \$3,380.00; One hundred thirty-nine less than \$2,000 for a total of \$46,145.78. Final total is \$70,312.28.

6. Daycare Consultation Agreement between BCPH and Little Rascals

7. IT Surplus Equipment

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

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

9. Anna Smieja, Elections & Property Resources Specialist, met with the County Board. A motion was offered by Commissioner Berg, and was seconded by Commissioner Braun, to ratify the Preliminary Hearing Findings and Order reflecting the Board's action November 18, 2025, in the matter of the Petition for the Improvement of Brown County Ditch 74. This motion duly carried.

10. 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 2025 Agency Evaluation. This motion duly carried.

11. Evonn Westcott, Probation Director, and Randy Baker, Assistant Probation Director, met with the County Board. A motion was offered by Commissioner Berg, and was seconded by Commissioner Borchert, to accept and order file Probation's 2025 Comprehensive Report. This motion duly carried.

Break

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12. 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 Interim Use Permit application APP-I-0023 Application filed by Arland Roiger on the property owned by Arland Roiger described as part of the NE 1/2, Section 5, Township 108 North, Range 35 West, Stately Township, Brown County, Minnesota. Application for an Interim Use Permit is to allow the use of a gravel mine, including gravel extraction, screening, and processing, all located in the A-1 Agricultural Protection Zoning District with the following conditions:

1. The Owner/Operator must comply with all applicable Federal, State, and County statutes, rules, and ordinances. Obtain and keep in good standing all required permits and shall submit copies of like to Brown County Planning and Zoning Office.
2. Owner/operator must provide adequate noise and dust control.
3. The IUP is effective for a period of three (3) years from the date of issuance, if there is a change in ownership of this site, at any time, the new owner must apply for a new IUP.

This motion duly carried.

A motion was offered by Commissioner Veerkamp, and was seconded by Commissioner Berg, to approve Interim Use Permit application APP-I-0024 Application filed by Keith Olson of Mathiowetz Construction Co. on the property owned by The Mathiowetz Construction Co., described as part of the SE ¼ of the NE ¼ and Lot B of the NE ¼ of the NE ¼, Section 13, Township 109 North, Range 33 West, Brown County, Minnesota. Application for an Interim Use Permit to allow the use of a gravel mine, to include gravel extraction, screening, processing, and to allow a hot-mix plant, all located in the A-1 Agricultural Protection Zoning District with the following conditions:

1. The Owner/Operator must comply with all applicable Federal, State, and County statutes, rules, and ordinances. Obtain and keep in good standing all required permits and shall submit copies of like to Brown County Planning and Zoning Office.
2. Owner/operator must provide adequate noise and dust control.
3. The IUP is effective for a period of three (3) years from the date of issuance. If there is a change in ownership of this site, at any time, the new owner must apply for a new IUP.

This motion duly carried.

A motion was offered by Commissioner Braun, and was seconded by Commissioner Veerkamp, to approve Interim Use Permit application APP-I-0025 Application filed by James Schindele on the property owned by James W & Beverly A Schindele described as part of the part of the E ½ of the NW ¼ and part of Lot 2 of NE ¼ of the SW ¼, Section 33, Township 112 North, Range 33 West Eden Township, Brown Count, Minnesota. Application for an Interim Use Permit is to allow the use of a gravel mine include gravel extraction, screening, and processing, all located in the A-1 Agricultural Protection Zoning District with the following conditions:

1. The Owner/Operator must comply with all applicable Federal, State, and County statutes, rules, and ordinances. Obtain and keep in good standing all required permits and shall submit copies of like to Brown County Planning and Zoning Office.
2. Owner/operator must provide adequate noise and dust control.
3. The IUP is effective for a period of three (3) years from the date of issuance, if there is a change in ownership of this site, at any time, the new owner must apply for a new IUP.

This motion duly carried.

13. Robert Santaella, Planning and Zoning Director, and Tom Schmitz, Brown County Park Commission Chair, met with the County Board. A motion was offered by Commissioner Veerkamp, and was seconded by Commissioner Windschitl, to approve HKGI proposal for Lake Hanska Park Master Plan in the amount of \$80,000, as recommended by the Brown County Park Commission; noting HKGi demonstrated proven success working with cities and counties reaching their goal(s) to have parks designated as having regional significance. Quotes as follows:

Proposal received from	Cost
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HKGi	\$80,000
Bolton & Menk	\$79,970
ISG	\$85,900
Widseth	\$80,000

This motion carried on a roll-call vote of 5-0.

14. Andrew Lang, Engineer, Alexandra Davis, Assistant Engineer, and Nick Breu, General Foreman, met with the County Board. A motion was offered by Commissioner Braun, and was seconded by Commissioner Windschitl, to approve the purchase of a SIDUMP'R side dump trailer from Titan Machinery in the amount \$85,700.00 plus tax and registration/title fees selected due to it being the largest tub and only model with single center hydraulic dumping ram to avoid torsion. Quotes as follows:

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 carried on a roll-call vote of 5-0.

15. Andrew Lang, Engineer, Alexandra Davis, Assistant Engineer, Nick Breu, met with the County Board. A motion was offered by Commissioner Braun, and was seconded by Commissioner Borchert, to approve the purchase of a new Morbark BVR13 wood chipper from Trenchers Plus in the amount of \$58,975.00 plus tax and registration title fees and declare U-66 as excess property to list on MinnBid. Quotes as follows:

Company	Equipment Model & Spec.	Total Price
Trenchers Plus Burnsville, MN	2026 Morbark BVR 13; 14" throat, 133 hp	\$58,975.00 + tax & registration fees
	2026 Morbark BVR 16; 17" throat, 174 hp	\$69,890.00 + tax & registration fees
Lano Equipment Inc. Shakopee, MN	2019 Bandit 15 XP; 15" throat, 165 hp, 1288 hours	\$55,900.00 + tax & registration fees
	2024 Bandit 18 XP; 18" throat, 174 hp, 524 hours	\$84,500 + tax & registration fees
	2026 Bandit 18 XP; 18" throat, 173 hp	\$98,071.60 + tax & registration fees

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 Berg, to accept by Resolution No. 2026-11 the State of Minnesota Joint Powers Agreements and Court Amendments and authorize Charles Hanson and Jason Seidl to sign on behalf of their respective departments. This motion duly carried.

17. A motion was offered by Commissioner Borchert, and was seconded by Commissioner Berg, to approve Ordinance 2026-1 to regulate deer hunting firearms to shotguns only within the boundaries of Brown County. This motion carried on a roll-call vote of 5-0.

18. A motion was offered by Commissioner Berg, and was seconded by Commissioner Braun, to accept and order file the February 2026 Budget Report (Modified Accrual and Unaudited) which reflects activity at 16.7% of the

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budget year as follows: revenues of \$3,906,071 or 8.2%, and expenditures of \$7,162,910 or 15%; and the February 2026 Supplemental Budget Report noting revenues of \$133,135 or 5.8% and expenditures of \$152,494 or 6.2% of annual budget activity. This motion duly carried.

Closed Session

19. 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.

A motion was offered by Commissioner Berg, and was seconded by Commissioner Borchert, to authorize payment of Social Services claims in the amount of \$212,216.92. In accordance with MS 375.12 the following claims exceed \$2,000: Brown Co Evaluation Ctr \$5,847.21; Counseling Services of S. MN Inc \$2,100.00; Dept of Human Services BHF \$3,770.09; DHS – Anoka Metro RTC \$9,968.00; DHS – MSOP \$12,614.00; DHS St Peter RTC – 472 \$7,011.20; ELAN Financial Services \$6,512.24; EON Inc \$2,130.24; Families First Collaborative \$46,647.00; Gerard Nexus Inc \$42,817.20; Confidential Client \$2,464.56; Heartland Girls Ranch \$5,038.80; Hoffmann Counseling Services \$2,905.08; Hudson/Michael & Lyndi \$3,191.72; LSSMN \$6,776.47; Lutheran Social Services of MN \$2,978.71; MN Valley Action Council \$10,927.33; MRCI Inc \$4,335.23; Nexus - Mille Lacs Family Healing \$10,773.84; Perala/Samantha Jo \$2,576.00; Prairie Lakes Youth Programs \$30,800.00. 39 payments less than \$2,000 total \$24,153.88; Final Total \$236,370.80. 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.

20. A motion was offered by Commissioner Berg, and was seconded by Commissioner Borchert, to convene closed session pursuant to Minnesota Statute § 13D.05, subd. 3(b) for litigation strategy planning. This motion duly carried.

A motion was offered by Commissioner Borchert, and was seconded by Commissioner Braun, to pursue civil action initiated by DNR and report findings. This motion duly carried.

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

Other Business

21. Commissioner Committee Reports: Commissioner Borchert reported on the Shotgun PH, Detox meeting, and MRCI meeting; Commissioner Berg reported on the Shotgun PH, Public Health Advisory meeting, AMC River Basin meeting, SCHAC meeting, and JD 24 meeting; Commissioner Windschitl reported on the Shotgun PH, BCHS meeting, AMC Public Safety meeting; Commissioner Braun reported on the BCSW meeting, and Shotgun PH; and Commissioner Veerkamp reported on the Shotgun PH, RCRCA meeting, Park plan evaluation meeting, and Woodlake/CD 28 meeting.

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

Adjournment

There being no further business, Chairman Windschitl declared the Meeting adjourned at 12:43 PM.

Notice


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

ATTEST:


Sam Hansen
Brown County Administrator
Brown County, Minnesota

Resolution No 2026-11
Brown County Resolution

**Approving State of Minnesota Joint Powers Agreements with the County of Brown on
Behalf of Its County Attorney and Sheriff**

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

WHEREAS, the County of Brown on behalf of its County Attorney and Sheriff 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 County, 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 County Attorney and Sheriff are hereby approved.
2. That the Brown County Sheriff, Jason Seidl, or his successor, is designated the Authorized Representative for the Sheriff. 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 the Brown County Attorney, Charles Hanson, or his successor, is designated the Authorized Representative for the County Attorney. 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.
4. That Charles Hanson, the County Attorney of the County of Brown, and Jason Seidl, the County Sheriff of the County of Brown, are authorized to sign the State of Minnesota Joint Powers Agreements.

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 17th day of March 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 March 2026.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Sam Hansen", written over a horizontal line.

Sam Hansen
County Administrator

**COUNTY OF BROWN
STATE OF MINNESOTA**

ORDINANCE No.: 2026-1

**AN ORDINANCE OF THE COUNTY OF BROWN, MINNESOTA,
TO REGULATE DEER HUNTING FIREARMS TO SHOTGUN ONLY**

THE BROWN COUNTY COMMISSIONERS HEREBY ORDAIN AS FOLLOWS:

WHEREAS, since 1942, the State of Minnesota had restricted the types of firearms used to hunt deer due to concerns with landowner rights, hunter and public safety, and deer population management.

WHEREAS, during the 2025 session, the Minnesota Legislature adopted, and the Governor signed an act to repeal Minnesota Statutes § 97B.318, which designated Brown County as part of the shotgun-only use deer hunting area, effective for the firearms deer hunting season; and

WHEREAS, that same act added Minnesota Statutes § 97B.031, subdivision 7, which permits a County Board of Commissioners to adopt an ordinance after notice and public hearing to limit the types of firearms that may be used to hunt deer within a county, including restrictions of the same scope and type previously allowed by the former Minnesota Statutes § 97B.318; and

WHEREAS, the Brown County Board of Commissioners finds the extent of firearms limitations contained in the former Minnesota Statutes § 97B.318 promotes safety, mitigates potential trespassing, and responsibly manages the deer population; and

WHEREAS, the Brown County Board of Commissioners is authorized by Minnesota Statute § 97B.031, subd. 7, to maintain such firearms limitations as were contained in the former Minnesota Statutes § 97B.318 through the adoption of an ordinance after due notice and public hearing; and

WHEREAS, having now held the noticed public hearing required by law on March 11, 2026, and considering the comments offered by the public, the Brown County Board of Commissioners finds preservation of the shotgun use area for firearms deer hunting season in Brown County to be appropriate.

NOW, THEREFORE, the Brown County Board of Commissioner does hereby ordain:

**AN ORDINANCE LIMITING FIREARMS ALLOWED FOR
DEER HUNTING IN BROWN COUNTY**

Section 1. SHOTGUN USE AREA AND FIREARMS LIMITATIONS

- 1.1 The "shotgun use area" for purposes of this Ordinance is defined as the entire territory within the boundaries of Brown County, State of Minnesota.
- 1.2 During the regular firearms deer hunting season in the shotgun use area, only legal shotguns loaded with single-slug shotgun shells, legal muzzle-loading long guns, and legal handguns may be used for taking deer. Legal shotguns include those with rifled barrels.
- 1.3 Unlawful firearms. It is unlawful to use a firearm other than those described in 1.2 to take deer in the County.

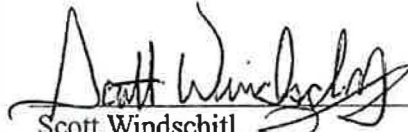
Section 2. PENALTIES AND ENFORCEMENT

- 1.1. Enforcement. Minnesota Law Enforcement Officers and Minnesota Department of Natural Resources Conservation Officers have the authority to enforce the provisions of this ordinance.
- 1.2. Penalties. A person who violates this ordinance shall be guilty of a misdemeanor and shall be punishable as defined by law.

Section 3. EFFECTIVE DATE AND DURATION

This ordinance shall be in full force and effect from and after March 17, 2026, and shall continue in full force and effect after its passage and publication in accordance with the law.

ADOPTED by the Brown County Board of Commissioners this 17th day of March, 2026.



Scott Windschitl,
Brown County Board Chair

Attest: 

Sam Hansen,
Brown County Administrator