

May 19, 2026

At 9:00 AM, on Tuesday, May 19, 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 Veerkamp, 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 \$2,085.83; ALPHA WIRELESS COMMUNICATIONS \$4,268.00; Avenu Insights & Analytics \$8,254.71; Central United Cooperative \$2,648.84; Consolidated Correctional Foodservice \$11,924.30; OPG-3 INC \$26,476.35; ORBIS \$2,429.10; PHYSICIANS GROUP OF NEW ULM LTD \$2,000.00; R.D. Partners, Inc \$2,448.20; River Bend Leasing \$2,312.52; Saw Works Construction \$4,432.25; Smith & Johnson \$12,000.00; WEELBORG CHEVROLET LLC \$2,867.96; Zarnoth Brush Works Inc \$2,635.20; 106 payments less than \$2,000 total \$34,732.14. Final Total: \$121,515.40.

5. Human Services Claims Payments

In accordance with MS 375.12 the following claims exceed \$2,000: Brown Co Probation Dept \$2500.00; Brown Co Public Health \$3000.00; MN Human Services \$117,164.43; MN Valley Funeral Home \$3,337.60; Pro Kinship for Kids \$2,275.00; Sleepy Eye Repair \$8,554.85; Client Confidential \$2,313.55; Client Confidential \$2,081.40; Client Confidential \$2615.67. 153 payments less than \$2,000 total \$55,211.77. Final Total: \$199,054.27.

6. Searles Baseball Association Off-site Gambling Application

7. Staffing Report

A motion was offered by Commissioner Borchert, and was seconded by Commissioner Berg, to approve said Consent Agenda items with the addition of addresses for public comment speakers to Previous Meeting's Official Proceedings and Synopsis. This motion duly carried.

New Business

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

9. Kelly Hotovec, Auditor-Treasurer, met with the County Board. A motion was offered by Commissioner Berg, and was seconded by Commissioner Borchert, to accept by Resolution No. 2026-15, the appointment of Auditor-Treasurer, Kelly Hotovec, as the Brown County License Agent and Deputy Registrar in accordance with Minnesota Statutes 168.33, 171.061, 373.32 to 373.38, and MN Rules Chapter 7404. This motion carried on a roll-call vote of 5-0.

10. 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
CD05	26-013	1	Prairieville	14	Surface Intake	\$2,836.00
CD18	20-071	2	Stark	7	Replacement, Blockage	\$1,500.00

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JD 30 R_B	23-015	1	Prairieville	36	Slough, Tile Outlet	\$4,505.00
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This motion duly carried.

11. Andrew Lang, Engineer, met with the County Board. A motion was offered by Commissioner Berg, and was seconded by Commissioner Veerkamp, to approve the CD 16/CSAH 5 tile crossing project (open trench) to M.R. Paving & Excavating for the amount of \$71,067.00. Quotes were requested by 5 contractors and the bids are as follows:

Company	Total Bid Price
M.R. Paving & Excavating	\$71,067.00
Ellingson Drainage	\$119,894.50
Engineer's Estimate	\$91,223.00

This motion duly carried.

12. A motion was offered by Commissioner Braun, and was seconded by Commissioner Berg, to award the contract for 2026 Highway maintenance striping of approximately 160 miles of bituminous roadways with estimated latex paint quantities of 1350 gallons yellow and 5200 gallons white to Sir Lines-A-Lot for \$136,895.00. This motion duly carried.

13. A motion was offered by Commissioner Braun, and was seconded by Commissioner Windschitl, to award the contract for aggregate screening at the Alfred's Pit to Timm's Trucking Inc. with a low bid of \$278,000.00. This motion duly carried.

14. Mary Priebe, HR Director, met with the County Board. A motion was offered by Commissioner Borchert, and was seconded by Commissioner Veerkamp, to ratify the four-year appointment of Andrew Lang as Brown County Highway Engineer, effective 05/1/2026, in accordance with Minnesota Statutes 163.07. This motion duly carried.

15. Nathan Beran, IT Director, met with the County Board. A motion was offered by Commissioner Braun, and was seconded by Commissioner Windschitl, to approve the purchase of cybersecurity insurance with Coalition Insurance Solutions, Inc. in the amount of \$22,256.64 and authorize the IT Director to sign. This motion carried on a roll-call vote of 4-1, with Commissioner Borchert dissenting.

16. A motion was offered by Commissioner Borchert, and was seconded by Commissioner Braun, to approve the purchase of Keeper Password Manager from CIT Solutions in the total amount of \$52,814.92, to be paid in annual installments over a three-year period; and authorize the IT Director to sign. 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 Veerkamp, and was seconded by Commissioner Berg, to approve Interim Use Permit application APP-I-0029 filed by Cooper Scheffler of L&S Construction on the property owned by Joseph Groebner & Groebner Farms Partnership described as the SE ¼, Section 29, Township 109 North, Range 35 West, North Star Township, and the NE ¼ Except the Railroad Right of Way, Section 32, Township 109 North, Range 35 West North Star Township, Brown County, Minnesota. Application for an Interim Use Permit is to allow the use of a gravel mine, to 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 & keep in good standing all required permits & shall submit copies of like to Brown County Planning and Zoning Office.
2. Owner/Operator shall enter into an agreement with North Star Township to establish a haul route for trucks and provide a copy to the Planning and Zoning Office

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3. Owner/Operator shall enter into an agreement with North Star Township to establish a noise, dust, and maintenance agreement for the route agreed upon and provide a copy to the Planning and Zoning Office.
4. Hauling hours shall be from 7:00 AM to 7:00 PM Monday through Friday and 7:00 AM to 12:00 PM on Saturday. No Sunday Hauling. That means that trucks will not be out of the pit before 7:00 AM and they will be back parked by 7:00 PM.
5. 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 carried on a roll-call vote of 5-0.

A motion was offered by Commissioner Berg, and was seconded by Commissioner Veerkamp, to approve Interim Use Permit application APP-I-0030 filed by Cooper Scheffler of L&S Construction on the property owned by L&S Construction described as part of the SW 1/4, and the South 40 acres of the SW 1/4 all in Section 29 Township 109 North, Range 35 West, North Star Township, Brown County, Minnesota. Application for an Interim Use Permit is to allow the use of the property as a gravel mine, to 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 & keep in good standing all required permits & shall submit copies of like to Brown County Planning and Zoning Office.
2. Owner/Operator shall enter into an agreement with North Star Township to establish a haul route for trucks and provide a copy to the Planning and Zoning Office
3. Owner/Operator shall enter into an agreement with North Star Township to establish a noise, dust, and maintenance agreement for the route agreed upon and provide a copy to the Planning and Zoning Office.
4. Hauling hours shall be from 7:00 AM to 7:00 PM Monday through Friday and 7:00 AM to 12:00 PM on Saturday. No Sunday Hauling. That means that trucks will not be out of the pit before 7:00 AM and they will be back parked by 7:00 PM.
5. 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 on a roll-call vote of 5-0.

A motion was offered by Commissioner Braun, and was seconded by Commissioner Berg, to approve Interim Use Permit application APP-I-0031 filed by Brian Aschenbrenner on the property owned by Brian & Teresa Aschenbrenner described as SW ¼ of the NE 1/4, excepting there from that part lying North of the Little Cottonwood River, said excepted part containing 1.4 acres, more or less, and Lot A of Government Lot 2 Section 32, Township 109 North, Range 32 West, and Government Lot 1, excepting Lots A and B thereof and also excepting 24.8 acres being that part of Government Lot 1 lying North of the Little Cottonwood River: part of the Balance of the NE ¼ if the NE ¼, lying South of the Little Cottonwood River; SE ¼ of NE ¼, excepting the Southerly one rod, but excepting from said Southerly one Rod, the westerly one rod, all Section 32, Township 109 North, Range 32 West, Brown County, Minnesota. Application for an Interim Use Permit is to allow the use the property as a gravel mine, to include gravel extraction, screening, and 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 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-0175 filed by Greg Bartz on the property owned by Beverly Bartz ETAL known as Bartz Subdivision Lot 1, Block 1 (59.52 acres), Lot 2, Block 1 (17.39 acres) described as Lot A, of GL 4, Lot A of GL 5, Lot Y of Lakebed Lot, Section 19, Township 110 North, Range 32 West, Home Township, Brown County, Minnesota. Application is to split the parcel into two parcels. This motion duly carried.

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A motion was offered by Commissioner Veerkamp, and was seconded by Commissioner Braun, to approve Final Plat application APP-P-0176 filed by Dylan Jackson on the property owned by Jeffrey Bussler known as Jackson Subdivision Lot 1, Block 1, (6.76 acres) described as Lots 7, 10, 11, 12 of the SE 1/4, except .60 acres in the SE corner of Lot 14, all in Section 26, Township 111 North, 32 Range West, Home Township, Brown County, Minnesota. Application is to split building site from tillable. This motion duly carried.

A motion was offered by Commissioner Braun, and was seconded by Commissioner Veerkamp, to approve Preliminary Plat Application APP-P-0178 filed by Scott Vogel on the property owned by Scott Vogel known as Vogel's 9th Subdivision Lot 1 (9.12 Acres) described as Block 1, Lot 1 Vogel's Seventh Subdivision and that part of the Northwest Quarter of the Northwest Quarter of Section 11, Township 109 North, Range 34 West, Brown County, Minnesota, described as follows: Commencing at the Northwest corner of said Section 11; thence on an assumed bearing of South 89 degrees 45 minutes 50 seconds East, along the north line of said section, a distance of 575.00 feet to the northeast corner of Lot 1, Block 1, Vogel's Seventh Subdivision, according to the recorded plat thereof, said northeast corner being the point of beginning of the tract to be described; thence continuing South 89 degrees 45 minutes 54 seconds East, along said north line, a distance of 470.00 feet to a survey monument; thence South 0 degrees 04 minutes 10 seconds East a distance of 380.00 feet to an iron monument; thence North 89 degrees 45 minutes 50 seconds West a distance of 470.00 feet to the southeast corner of said Lot 1; thence North 0 degrees 04 minutes 10 seconds West, along the east line of said Lot 1, a distance of 380.00 feet to the point of beginning, containing 4.10 acres. Section 19, Township 110 North, Range 32 West, Home Township, Brown County, Minnesota. Application is to add more acreage to grain bin site. This motion duly carried.

A motion was offered by Commissioner Berg, and was seconded by Commissioner Borchert, to approve Preliminary Plat APP-P-0179 filed by Timothy Lipetzky on the property owned by Timothy & Hyon Hui Lipetzky known as Lipetzky Second Subdivision Lot 1 (3.53 Acres) described as Part of the SE 1/4 of the NE 1/4, Section 24, Township 109 North, Range 35 West, North Star Township, Brown County, Minnesota. Application is to split the building site from the tillable land. This motion duly carried.

18. A motion was offered by Commissioner Veerkamp, and was seconded by Commissioner Windschitl, to approve low bid from GK Drone services in the amount of \$64/acre using Grazon for spraying. This motion duly carried.

19. A motion was offered by Commissioner Braun, and was seconded by Commissioner Borchert, to deny Park Commission recommendation of Sandgren Trucking and Excavating bid in the amount of \$7,817 to salvage the existing 36" culvert and replace the three cement culverts in the Altermatt Lake Outlet at Treml Park and rebid the project to replace south culvert and repair box culvert. This motion carried on a roll-call vote of 4-1, with Commissioner Veerkamp dissenting.

David Feirer, 32991 170th St. W., Springfield, MN; and Pat Sturm, 16360 340th Ave., Springfield, MN; and David Hillesheim, 32226 CR 100, Springfield, MN, provided comments regarding the Altermatt Lake Outlet at Treml Park.

20. A motion was offered by Commissioner Veerkamp, and was seconded by Commissioner Berg, to accept by Resolution No. 2026-14, the support of Regional Park and Trails Designation Application with the Greater Minnesota Regional Park and Trails Commission for Lake Hanska County Park. This motion duly carried.

21. Charles Hanson, County Attorney, met with the County Board. A motion was offered by Commissioner Braun, and was seconded by Commissioner Veerkamp, to approve Westlaw Subscription 3-year Contract. This motion duly carried.

22. Sam Hansen, County Administrator, met with the County Board. A motion was offered by Commissioner Braun, and was seconded by Commissioner Veerkamp, to accept and order file the April 2026 Budget Report (Modified Accrual and Unaudited) which reflects activity at 33.33% of the budget year as follows: revenues of \$7,133,734 or 15.0%, and expenditures of \$13,549,560 or 28.4%; and the April 2026 Supplemental Budget Report noting revenues of \$437,678 or 19.0% and expenditures of \$420,231 or 17.0% of annual budget activity. This motion duly carried.

23. A motion was offered by Commissioner Braun, and was seconded by Commissioner Borchert, to approve Year 2027 Brown County Budget Policy. This motion duly carried.

24. A motion was offered by Commissioner Berg, and was seconded by Commissioner Windschitl, to approve the Year 2027 Budget Guidelines, including a 3.25% salary plan adjustment for non-union employees for budgeting

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purposes, subject to final approval. This motion duly carried.

25. A motion was offered by Commissioner Borchert, and was seconded by Commissioner Braun, to approve August 12–14, 2026, as the Budget Review Session dates to review the proposed 2027 budget with Department Heads and Appropriation Agencies. This motion duly carried.

A motion was offered by Commissioner Braun, and was seconded by Commissioner Windschitl, to approve August 19, 2026, as the Budget Review Session backup date. This motion duly carried.

Closed Session

26. 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 Braun, and was seconded by Commissioner Veerkamp, to authorize payment of Social Services claims in the amount of \$250,011.63. In accordance with MS 375.12 the following claims exceed \$2,000: Brown Co Evaluation Ctr \$10,985.00; Counseling Services of S. MN Inc \$2,660.00; DHS-MSOP \$27,480.50; DHS St Peter RTC-472 \$15,274.40; ELAN Financial Services \$6,039.72; EON Inc \$2,282.40; Families First Collaborative \$41,455.00; Gerard Nexus Inc \$25,580.40; Confidential Client \$5,294.40; Hoffmann Counseling Services \$2,882.99; Hutchinson Health \$9,847.60; LSSMN \$5,468.70; Lutheran Social Services of MN \$3,090.57; MBW Company SILS Program \$2,076.68; Nexus - Mille Lacs Family Healing \$27,151.12; Perala/Samantha Jo \$2,760.00; Prairie Lakes Youth Programs \$50,149.05; Village Ranch Inc \$9,533.10; 32 payments less than \$2,000 total \$20,339.81. Final Total: \$270,351.44. 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

27. Correspondence:

Public Comment Data

28. Commissioner Committee Reports: Commissioner Borchert reported on the Family Resource Center and MVAC meeting; Commissioner Berg reported on the GBERBA meeting; Commissioner Windschitl reported on the Ent. N. Meeting, Community Corrections meeting, SCHA meeting, and Community Health meeting; Commissioner Braun reported on the Brown County Soil & Water meeting and Family Resource Center meeting; and Commissioner Veerkamp reported on the RCRCA meeting and MRC meeting.

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

Adjournment

There being no further business, Chairman Windschitl declared the Meeting adjourned at 12:33 PM.


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

ATTEST:


Sam Hansen
Brown County Administrator
Brown County, Minnesota

Resolution No 2026-15
Brown County Resolution

Appointment of Brown County Deputy Registrar and Driver's License Agent

The following Resolution was offered by Commissioner Berg and moved for adoption at a regular board meeting held on May 19th, 2026, at the Brown County Courthouse, New Ulm, MN:

WHEREAS, Minnesota Statutes 168.33, 171.061, 373.32 to 373.38, and MN Rules Chapter 7404 provides for the appointment of a County Deputy Registrar and Driver's License Agent to fulfill the duties of the office; and

WHEREAS, Jennifer L Wenisch, the former License Bureau Supervisor, resigned her position as of May 7, 2026; and

WHEREAS, Kelly L Hotovec, County Auditor-Treasurer, will be overseeing the daily functions of the License Bureau; and

WHEREAS, the Commissioner of Public Safety may appoint the County Auditor of each County as a Deputy Registrar, or a designee, if the County Auditor chooses not to accept the appointment; and

WHEREAS, the Commissioner of Public Safety is requesting the Brown County Board of Commissioners to recommend and approve the appropriate designee to fulfill the duties of the vacated office.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT, the Board of Brown County Commissioners in and for the county of Brown, Minnesota, that pursuant to Minnesota Statutes 168.33, 171.061, 373.32 to 373.38, and MN Rules Chapter 7404, and any other applicable Minnesota Statutes and Rules, appoints Kelly L Hotovec as the Brown County Deputy Registrar and Driver's License Agent, and asks the Commissioner of Public Safety to do the same.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT, certified copies of this Resolution be forwarded to the County Auditor-Treasurer, the Minnesota Department of Public Safety Deputy Registrar section, and the Minnesota Department of Public Safety Drivers Services Coordination Department for action and approval by the Commissioner of Public Safety.

Seconded by Commissioner Borchert 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 19h day of May 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 19th day of May, 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 19th day of May 2026.

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

Sam Hansen

County Administrator

Resolution No 2026-14
Brown County Resolution

Resolution Supporting Regional Park or Trail Designation Application in Greater Minnesota:

Park Name: Lake Hanska County Park

Location: Brown County, Minnesota

The following Resolution was offered by Commissioner Veerkamp and moved for adoption at a regular board meeting held on May 19th, 2026, at the Brown County Courthouse, New Ulm, MN:

BE IT RESOLVED, that Brown County as lead applicant, has the authority to act as legal public sponsor for the application described in the Request for Designation as a Regional Park or Trail in Greater Minnesota.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that as lead applicant we are fully aware of the information provided in the application and associated responsibilities, including long-term commitments as defined in the application and related master plan and supporting information as submitted.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that, should Lake Hanska County Park receive formal designation as a Regional park or trail in Greater Minnesota by the Commission, that as the lead applicant we have the legal authority to enter into formal designation and funding agreements with the Commission for the referenced park or trail.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that listed applicant certify they will comply with all applicable laws and regulations associated with regional designation and any future grant funding for their respective portions of any project.

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 19th day of May 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 19th day of May, 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 19th day of May 2026.


Sam Hansen
County Administrator