

December 31, 2024

At 9:00 AM, on Tuesday, December 31, 2024, 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, Brian Braun and Jeff Veerkamp, along with Lay Board Members DeeAnn Gieseke and Vicki Sieve, County Administrator Sam Hansen and Human Services Director Anne Broskoff. Commissioner Scott Windschitl excused.

#### **Agenda Review**

1. Chairman Veerkamp convened the Regular Meeting at 9:00 AM. A motion was offered by Commissioner Braun, and was seconded by Commissioner Berg, to accept the printed agenda. This motion carried unanimously.

#### **Consent Agenda Review**

2. Previous Meeting's Official Proceedings and Synopsis Approval

3. General Government Claims

In accordance with MS 375.12, the following claims exceed \$2,000: Aladtec Inc \$4,274.00; Assn of MN Counties \$4,075.00; Brown Co Jail \$25,000.00; Cargill Inc \$8,019.00; Chuck Spaeth Ford Inc \$23,204.21; Geocomm Inc \$2,673.56; M-R SIGN CO INC \$28,585.68; Mathiowetz Enterprises Inc \$32,391.96; Minnesota Paving & Materials \$48,717.46; Safe Life Defense \$5,886.85; SEACHANGE \$5,357.15; Syntax Inc \$8,585.00; Tech Tronix, Inc. \$11,640.00; Uhl Company Inc \$6,780.00; University Of Minnesota \$24,428.77; 72 payments less than \$2,000 total \$28395.05. Final Total: \$ 268,013.69.

4. Human Services Claims Payments

In accordance with MS 375.12 the following claims exceed \$2,000; Bergys Handyman Service \$2,162.95; Ind School District 88 \$5,200.00; Four payments less than \$2,000 total \$3,535.39. Final total is \$10,898.34.

5. 2025 Federal Boating Safety Supplemental Equipment Grant

6. Accept Cash Gift Donation from Weelborg Chevrolet

7. STS / DNR (Flandrau State Park) Wood Bundle Bid

8. Drug Testing Scheduling Service Agreement

9. County Attorney Fraud Contract

10. 3.2 Liquor License for River Valley Snowmobile Club

11. Staffing Report

12. Updated Wellness Policy

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

#### **Recess Regular Meeting**

13. At 9:02 AM, Chairman Veerkamp recessed the Regular Meeting.

#### **Convene Public Hearing**

14. At 9:02 PM, Chairman Veerkamp convened the 2025 Fee Schedule Public Hearing.

At 9:07 AM, Chairman Veerkamp closed the Public Meeting, and reconvened the Regular Meeting.

A motion was offered by Commissioner Berg, and was seconded by Commissioner Braun, to accept by Resolution No. 2024-41 and adopt by Ordinance No. 2024-5, the 2025 Brown County Fee Schedule. This motion carried unanimously.

#### **New Business**

15. Sam Hansen, County Administrator, met with the County Board. A motion was offered by Commissioner Borchert, and was seconded by Commissioner Berg, to approve the 2025 Brown County Committee Appointments effective January 1st, 2025. According to Brown County Board of Commissioners Operating Rules & Guidelines, Brown County Committee Appointments are approved annually and updated by the County Board as needed throughout the year. This motion carried unanimously.

16. 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 internal posting for an over 30-hour transit driver position. This motion carried unanimously.

17. A motion was offered by Commissioner Berg, and was seconded by Commissioner Braun, to accept and order file the Human Services Monthly Update report. This motion carried unanimously.

18. Kelly Hotovec, Auditor-Treasurer, met with the County Board. A motion was offered by Commissioner Berg, and was seconded by Commissioner Veerkamp, to approve by Resolution No. 2024-43 authority to use electronic funds transfer to the Auditor-Treasurer in accordance with M.S. 471.38 As part of legal compliance, the County Board needs to delegate the authority to initiate Electronic Funds Transfers on an annual basis. This resolution will be submitted to the local bank to have on file as well in accordance with M.S. 471.38, Subd. 3a. This motion carried on a roll-call vote of 4-0.

19. 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 Borchert, to approve the following drainage repair request(s) and the payment of said repair(s):

| System       | Repair # | Order | Branch | Twp        | Section | Repair Type                      | Cost         |
|--------------|----------|-------|--------|------------|---------|----------------------------------|--------------|
| CD58         | 23-150   | 1     | 948    | Sigel      | 36      | Slough, Tile Outlet              | \$ 740.00    |
| CD58         | 23-151   | 1     | 948    | Sigel      | 36      | Slough                           | \$ 1,020.00  |
| CD58         | 23-152   | 1     | 948    | Sigel      | 36      | Slough                           | \$ 1,020.00  |
| CD63         | 24-086   | 1     | 953    | Linden     | 20      | Blowout                          | \$ 400.00    |
| CD70         | 24-115   | 1     | 959    | Cottonwood | 29      | Culvert/Crossing, Slough         | \$ 695.00    |
| CD70         | 24-118   | 1     | 959    | Cottonwood | 32      | Televiser                        | \$ 1,450.00  |
| CD71         | 21-013   | 1     | 960    | Cottonwood | 7       | Slough                           | \$ 1,825.00  |
| JD10<br>B_BE | 23-140   | 1     | 863    | Cottonwood | 36      | Slough, Tile Outlet              | \$ 595.00    |
| JD10<br>B_BE | 23-143   | 1     | 863    | Cottonwood | 35      | Slough, Tile Outlet              | \$ 1,160.00  |
| JD10<br>B_BE | 23-144   | 1     | 863    | Cottonwood | 35      | Slough, Blowout                  | \$ 1,160.00  |
| JD10<br>B_BE | 23-145   | 1     | 863    | Cottonwood | 36      | Slough, Tile Outlet              | \$ 1,160.00  |
| JD10<br>B_BE | 23-146   | 1     | 863    | Cottonwood | 36      | Slough                           | \$ 595.00    |
| JD10<br>B_BE | 23-147   | 1     | 863    | Cottonwood | 36      | Slough, Tile Outlet              | \$ 595.00    |
| JD10<br>B_BE | 24-017   | 4     | 863    | Linden     | 7       | Replacement, Televiser, Blockage | \$ 375.00    |
| JD14<br>B_W  | 23-060   | 1     | 866    | Linden     | 29      | Slough, Tile Outlet              | \$ 1,392.00  |
| JD14<br>B_W  | 24-113   | 1     | 866    | Linden     | 34      | Cleanout                         | \$ 935.00    |
| JD14<br>B_W  | 24-116   | 1     | 866    | Linden     | 31      | Cleanout                         | \$ 51,813.00 |
| CD28         | 23-068   | 2     | 925    | Mulligan   | 27      | Cleanout                         | \$ 1,462.16  |

| System       | Repair # | Order | Branch | Twp            | Section | Repair Type             | Cost         |
|--------------|----------|-------|--------|----------------|---------|-------------------------|--------------|
| JD05<br>B_W  | 24-117   | 1     | 855    | Albin          | 34      | Cleanout                | \$ 30,075.00 |
| JD10<br>B BE | 24-101   | 1     | 863    | Lake<br>Hanska | 11      | Slough, Bank<br>sloping | \$ 1,590.00  |
| JD10<br>B BE | 24-114   | 1     | 863    | Lake<br>Hanska | 15      | Cleanup                 | \$ 950.00    |

This motion carried unanimously.

20. A motion was offered by Commissioner Borchert, and was seconded by Commissioner Braun, to approve Resolution No. 2024-42 to act as sponsoring agency and fiscal agent for the City of Springfield for a Carbon Reduction Program (CRP) grant submittal. This motion carried on a roll-call vote of 4-0.

21. Amanda Lang, Assistant Zoning Administrator, met with the County Board. A motion was offered by Commissioner Berg, and was seconded by Commissioner Braun, to approve the PFAS treatment system proposal from GEI Consultants to make reasonable steps towards treatment of PFAS in leachate generated at the landfill. The GEI proposal includes research and assistance to the County and Mathiowetz Construction (Operator) in choosing an approved PFAS treatment system that will be effective and economical for the Brown County landfill and is not to exceed the amount of \$9,750. This motion carried unanimously.

22. Jesse Kral, Facilities Manager, and Paul Wesselmann, Assistant Facilities Manager, met with the County Board. A motion was offered by Commissioner Berg, and was seconded by Commissioner Veerkamp, to approve the purchase of 2020 Ford F150 4x4 from Chuck Spaeth Ford in the amount of \$25,500, with current 2007 F150 as a trade in for a \$2,500 value totaling \$23,000, and approve Tommy gate conversion at Crysteel, Inc. in the amount of \$1,624, for a grand total change of \$24,624. Other quotes received. This motion carried unanimously.

#### Break

23. Mary Priebe, HR Director, met with the County Board. A motion was offered by Commissioner Braun, and was seconded by Commissioner Borchert, to approved Personnel Policy updates for 2025. Additional updates may be necessary pending attorney review and legislation updates. This motion carried unanimously.

24. Sam Hansen, County Administrator, met with the County Board. A motion was offered by Commissioner Borchert, and was seconded by Commissioner Berg, to approve MOU with AFSCME 65 Highway Union to increase the insurance contribution and HSA amounts in 2025. This motion carried unanimously.

25. A motion was offered by Commissioner Berg, and was seconded by Commissioner Braun, to approve MOU with AFSCME 65 Courthouse Union to increase the insurance contribution and HSA amounts in 2025. This motion carried unanimously.

26. A motion was offered by Commissioner Borchert, and was seconded by Commissioner Braun, to approve MOU with LELS 94 Licensed Union to increase the insurance contribution and HSA amounts in 2025. This motion carried unanimously.

27. A motion was offered by Commissioner Braun, and was seconded by Commissioner Berg, to approve MOU with LELS 98 Non-Licensed Union to increase the insurance contribution and HSA amounts in 2025. This motion carried unanimously.

#### Other Business

28. Commissioner Committee Reports: Commissioner Borchert reported on the CHB meeting, and CD 74 meeting; Commissioner Berg reported on JD 8 meeting, CD 74 meeting, and CHB meeting; Commissioner Braun reported on the CHB meeting; and Commissioner Veerkamp reported on the JD 8 meeting, and CHB meeting.

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

#### Adjournment

There being no further business, Chairman Veerkamp declared the Meeting adjourned at 10:37 AM.

#### Notice

*County Board Workshop regarding Cannabis Ordinance and Drainage Manual took place following the Board Meeting.*

December 31, 2024

  
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Jeff Veerkamp, Chair  
Board of Brown County Commissioners  
Brown County, Minnesota

ATTEST:

  
Sam Hansen  
Brown County Administrator  
Brown County, Minnesota