September 23, 2025

At 9:06 AM, on Tuesday, September 23, 2025, 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 Lay Board Members DeeAnn Gieseke and Vicki Sieve, County Administrator Sam Hansen and Human Services Director Anne Broskoff.

Call to Order

1. Chairman Windschitl called to order the Regular Meeting at 9:06 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. Human Services Claims Payments
In accordance with MS 375.12 the following claims exceed $2,000; Mikes Collision & Tire $2,635.01; Mn Human Services $2,920.50; Verizon Wireless $3,053.29; Seven payments less than $2,000 total $4,413.85. Final total is $13,022.65.

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

New Business

6. Kelly Hotovec, Auditor-Treasurer, met with the County Board. A motion was offered by Commissioner Veerkamp, and was seconded by Commissioner Braun, to adopt the Findings and Order in the preliminary hearing for the proposed improvement of Brown County Ditch 16 and authorize the Board Chair and County Auditor-Treasurer to sign the Preliminary Hearing Order and Auditor's Orders appointing viewers. This motion carried on a roll-call vote of 5-0.

Recess Regular Meeting
At 9:09 AM, Chairman Windschitl recessed the Regular Meeting to convene the Public Hearing on the Public Health Nuisance Ordinance.

Convene Public Hearing

7. At 9:09 AM, Chairman Windschitl convened the Nuisance Ordinance Public Hearing in the Brown County Courthouse Commissioners Room #204 located in New Ulm, Minnesota. Jaimee Brand, Public Health Director, met with the County Board to give an overview of proposed Ordinance 2025-3. Chairman Windschitl solicited public comment three times. No public comment was received.

At 9:12 AM, Chairman Windschitl closed the Public Hearing and reconvened the Regular Meeting.

A motion was offered by Commissioner Berg, and was seconded by Commissioner Veerkamp, to adopt the Public Health Nuisance Ordinance. This motion carried on a roll-call vote of 5-0.

8. A motion was offered by Commissioner Braun, and was seconded by Commissioner Berg, to approve the Brown County Public Health Policies as reviewed in 2025. This motion duly carried.

9. Laura Whittington, Office Service Supervisor, Stephanie Lingle, Office Support Specialist, and Anne Broskoff, Human Services Director, met with the County Board. A motion was offered by Commissioner Berg, and was seconded by Commissioner Braun, to accept and order file of the Camping Program report. This motion duly carried.

10. A motion was offered by Veerkamp, and was seconded by Windschitl, to approve the 2026-2027 Child Care Assistance Programs Fund Plan beginning January 1, 2026, through December 31, 2027, and the submission of the biennial Child Care Fund Plan to the Department of Children, Youth and Families (DCYF). This motion duly carried.

11. A motion was offered by Commissioner Braun, and was seconded by Commissioner Berg, to accept and order file the Prevention Support Outreach Program (PSOP) Update. This motion duly carried.

12. A motion was offered by Commissioner Braun, and was seconded by Commissioner Veerkamp, to approve the 2026 Brown County Evaluation Center Contract, with a "member county" daily rate increase of $387 to $475, and a "non-member county" daily rate increase of $475 to $500. This motion duly carried.

13. A motion was offered by Commissioner Berg, and was seconded by Commissioner Veerkamp, to accept and order file the Human Services Monthly Update Report. This motion duly carried.

Break

14. Kelly Hotovec, Auditor-Treasurer, and Andrew Lang, Engineer, met with the County Board. A motion was offered by Commissioner Veerkamp, and was seconded by Commissioner Berg, to award the contract for the CD 16 Tile Replacement Repair Project to the appropriate bidder, Lohrenz Excavating, with a low bid of $26,306.65. The repair is scheduled to begin on or before October 13, 2025, and to be completed by April 30, 2026. This motion duly carried.

15. A motion was offered by Commissioner Braun, and was seconded by Commissioner Veerkamp, to award the contract for the CD 44 Tile Replacement Repair Project to the appropriate bidder, Lohrenz Excavating, with a low bid of $11,430. The repair is scheduled to begin on or before October 13, 2025, and to be completed by April 30, 2026. This motion duly carried.

16. Engineer Lang reported no bids were received for the CD 62 tile replacement repair. Bids will be solicited again come Spring of 2026.

17. Andrew Lang, Engineer, and Alexandra Davis, Assistant Engineer, met with the County Board. A motion was offered by Commissioner Braun, and was seconded by Commissioner Borchert, to approve MnDOT Acceptance of Partnership Agreement No.1059832 for Federal participation in County Road Safety Plan; and designate the Board Chair and County Administrator as the approved authority for the agreement. This motion duly carried.

A motion was offered by Commissioner Braun, and was seconded by Commissioner Berg, to approve Resolution 2025-16 accepting the MnDOT Acceptance of Partnership Agreement No. 1059832. This motion carried on a roll-call vote 5-0.

18. 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 Park Commission recommendation for Camping Reservation System of Resnexus. This motion duly carried.

19. Mary Priebe, HR Director, and Tessia Melvin, DDA, met with the County Board. A motion was offered by Commissioner Borchert, and was seconded by Commissioner Berg, to receive and order file the wage report, and table the change suggestions when they receive the cost impact of the proposed changes. This motion duly carried.

20. Sam Hansen, County Administrator, met with the County Board. A motion was offered by Commissioner Braun to establish the 2026 preliminary levy at 10.99% over the 2025 levy. This motion failed due to a lack of a second.

A motion was offered by Commissioner Veerkamp, and was seconded by Commissioner Berg, to establish the proposed 2026 tax levy for certification to the County Auditor-Treasurer in the amount of $19,594,261 which represents a 9.99% increase over the total 2025 certified levy and is based on a draft county budget of $47,756,176. This motion duly carried.

21. A motion was offered by Commissioner Berg, and was seconded by Commissioner Veerkamp, to schedule a public meeting on the proposed 2026 County budget and levy for 6:00 PM on Tuesday, December 2, 2025, in the District Courtroom located on the 3rd floor of the Brown County Courthouse and revise the start time of the December 2, 2025, regular County Board meeting to 4:30 PM. This motion duly carried.

Other Business

22. Commissioner Committee Reports: Commissioner Borchert reported on CD 16, CD 74, Legislative meeting, MRCI meeting, and Region 9 meeting; Commissioner Berg reported on CD 16, CD 74, Woodlake meeting, and GBERBA meeting; Commissioner Windschitl reported on CD 16, CD 74, and Safety Committee meeting; Commissioner Braun reported on CD 16 meeting, CD 74 meeting, and Woodlake meeting; and Commissioner

Veerkamp reported on the Ag Society meeting, JD 5, CD 16, and CD 74 meeting.

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

Adjournment

There being no further business, Chairman Windschitl declared the Meeting adjourned at 11:48 AM.

Notice

County Board Workshop regarding Telework Policies place following the Board Meeting.

Ditch Meeting(s):

- ***8:30 a.m. - Redwood & Brown Counties JD 5 Drainage Authority Virtual Meeting for Review & Discussion of Financing Agreement. Attending: Commissioners Braun and Veerkamp.***

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

ATTEST
Sam Hansen
Brown County Administrator
Brown County, Minnesota