

October 7, 2025

At 9:03 AM, on Tuesday, October 7, 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 County Administrator Sam Hansen and County Attorney Charles Hanson.

Call to Order

1. Chairman Windschitl called to order the Regular Meeting at 9:03 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 with the removal of agenda item #14, DDA Proposal 2026 — Cost Estimates. 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 Drainage Systems Inc \$6,812.28; ALPHA WIRELESS COMMUNICATIONS \$2,375.00; Brown Co Agricultural Society \$16,000.00; Brown Co Historical Society \$54,785.50; Brown Co Humane Society \$6,000.00; Brown Co Library Board \$48,376.50; BROWN CO SOIL & WATER CONS DIST \$63,363.50; CLIFTON LARSON ALLEN LLP \$24,202.50; Consolidated Correctional Foodservice \$12,035.57; DELL MARKETING LP \$12,768.16; Guardian Fleet Safety \$22,217.94; HOUSTON ENGINEERING INC \$4,000.00; Klassen Mechanical Inc \$2,027.66; Metal Culverts Inc \$5,799.40; Miller Dunwiddie Architecture \$2,457.76; Mn Dept Of Agriculture \$12,979.00; MN Valley Action Council \$3,317.00; PHYSICIANS GROUP OF NEW ULM LTD \$4,000.00; Ramy Turf Products \$2,098.00; River Bend-Kemske Business Products \$2,125.60; SHI INTERNATIONAL CORP \$6,450.00; Sir Lines-A-Lot \$232,401.82; SP Custom Carpentry and Window \$17,186.30; Squires, Waldspurger and Mace, P.A. \$3,006.00; VIKING AUTOMATIC SPRINKLER CO. \$6,443.00; 87 payments less than \$2,000 total \$26,543.32. Final Total: \$599,771.81.

5. Families First Grant Application

6. 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

7. Kelly Hotovec, Auditor-Treasurer, and Alexandra Davis, Assistant 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
CD71	25-069	1	Cottonwood	7	Blowout	\$842.50

This motion duly carried.

8. Alexandra Davis, Assistant Engineer, met with the County Board. A motion was offered by Commissioner Berg, and was seconded by Commissioner Windschitl, to accept and order file the Highway Department Monthly Update for Construction and Maintenance Projects. This motion duly carried.

9. Madeline Clarke, Extension Educator, met with the County Board. A motion was offered by Commissioner Berg, and was seconded by Commissioner Veerkamp, to accept by Resolution No. 2025-17 the Proclamation of National 4-H Week from October 5-11, 2025. This motion duly carried.

10. Nathan Beran, IT Director, met with the County Board. A motion was offered by Commissioner Braun, and was seconded by Commissioner Borchert, to approve the low bid Cyber Security Program 3-year engagement proposal from FR Secure in the amount of \$53,775 for strategic planning and cybersecurity improvement services; and approve the IT Director to sign. This motion carried on a roll-call vote of 5-0. Other bids received.

11. Robert Santaella, Planning and Zoning Director, and Amanda Lang, Assistant Zoning Administrator, met with

October 7, 2025

the County Board. A motion was offered by Commissioner Borchert, and was seconded by Commissioner Braun, to approve the purchase of a 2025 Ford Ranger in the amount of \$42,104.75 from Chuck Spaeth Ford utilizing the County Feedlot Program account, 2024-2025 grant dollars and performance credit funds. This motion carried on a roll-call vote of 5-0.

12. Charles Hanson, County Attorney, met with the County Board. A motion was offered by Commissioner Borchert, and was seconded by Commissioner Braun, to approve the Legal Services Agreement between Brown County and Jenna M. Peterson, Attorney at Law, to alleviate a staffing shortage in the Brown County Attorney's Office due to an active employee deployment with the Minnesota Army National Guard. This motion duly carried.

13. 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 August 2025 Budget Report (Modified Accrual and Unaudited) which reflects activity at 66.7% of the budget year as follows: expenditures of \$25,703,064 or 56%, and revenues of \$29,031,948 or 63.3%; and the August 2025 Supplemental Budget Report noting expenditures of \$1,540,716 or 65.7% and revenues of \$1,878,539 or 81.1% of annual budget activity. This motion duly carried.

Break

14. Agenda item #14, DDA Proposal 2026 — Cost Estimates, removed from agenda.

15. Mary Priebe, HR Director, met with the County Board. A motion was offered by Commissioner Braun, and was seconded by Commissioner Borchert, to approve 2026 benefit plan recommendations by the Insurance Committee; Life Insurance –Minnesota Life/Securian; Long Term Disability (LTD) –National Insurance Company; Short Term Disability (STD) –MetLife Financial: Voluntary STD renewed with MetLife as part of Minnesota Paid Leave (MPL) 2nd lines of business agreement; NIS: Employer paid STD (max of \$60) discontinued due to MPL; Discontinued STD offering through AFLAC; Dental –MetLife Dental: Guaranteed renewal increase of 8% renewal rate guaranteed part of MPL 2nd line of business agreement; Vision –VSP Care: renewal rate decrease; Voluntary Benefits –AFLAC: Accident, Cancer, Critical Illness, Hospital & Life; Minnesota Paid Leave (MPL) –Offered through MetLife (private plan) at .79% tax rate, tax rate (premiums) split 50/50 between Brown County and employees; Health Insurance– Medica: Continue with the same four Passport (open network) plans with Medica's 9.5% premium increase, offer one additional Elect (limited) network high-deductible \$6650 plan offering single coverage at no cost to employee and family coverage at \$79.06 per month with a Narrow Network ONLY plan with Primary Care Physicians at Allina Health in New Ulm and limited Primary Care Facilities in network. This motion carried on a roll-call vote 3-2, with Commissioners Berg and Windschitl opposed.

16. Mary Priebe, HR Director, and Anne Broskoff, Human Services Director, met with the County Board. A motion was offered by Commissioner Veerkamp, and was seconded by Commissioner Borchert, to table the elimination of the Human Services Licensed Alcohol and Drug Counselor (LADC) position until a meeting including impacted County partners can be arranged. This motion duly carried.

Other Business

17. Commissioner Committee Reports: Commissioner Borchert reported on Teleworkshop, EMS Taskforce meeting, EM Communication meeting, and MRCI board meeting; Commissioner Berg reported on the Teleworkshop, Help Me Grow meeting, and the AMC Drainage work group; Commissioner Windschitl reported on the Teleworkshop, Insurance committee meeting, SCHA meeting, and the JP LEC meeting; Commissioner Braun reported on the Teleworkshop, Personnel Committee meeting, EM Communication meeting, Insurance committee, and BC Comprehensive meeting; and Commissioner Veerkamp reported on the Teleworkshop and MRC meeting.

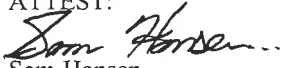
18. Calendars were coordinated for the next two-week period.

Adjournment

There being no further business, Chairman Windschitl declared the Meeting adjourned at 11:53 AM.


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

ATTEST:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Sam Hansen". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Sam Hansen

Brown County Administrator

Brown County, Minnesota