

FARMERS & MERCHANTS BANCORP INC

Form 10-K

February 22, 2017

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**UNITED STATES**

**SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION**

**WASHINGTON, D.C. 20549**

**FORM 10-K**

**Annual Report Pursuant to Section 13 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934  
For the fiscal year ended December 31, 2016**

**or**

**Transition Report Pursuant to Section 13 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934  
For the transition period from \_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_**

**Commission File Number 0-14492**

**FARMERS & MERCHANTS BANCORP, INC.**

**OHIO**  
**(State or other jurisdiction of**  
**incorporation or organization)**

**34-1469491**  
**(IRS Employer**  
**Identification No.)**

**307 North Defiance Street**

**Archbold, Ohio**  
**(Address of principal Executive offices)**

**43502**  
**(Zip Code)**

**Registrant's telephone number, including area code (419) 446-2501**

**Securities registered pursuant to Section 12(b) of the Act:**

<b>Title of each class</b>	<b>Name of each exchange on which registered</b>
<b>None</b>	<b>None</b>

**Securities registered pursuant to Section 12(g) of the Act:**

**Common shares without par value**

**(Title of class)**

Indicate by check mark if the registrant is a well-known seasoned issuer, as defined in Rule 405 of the Securities Act. Yes  No

Indicate by check mark if the registrant is not required to file reports pursuant to Section 13 or Section 15(d) of the Exchange Act. Yes  No

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant (1) has filed all reports required to be filed by Section 13 or Section 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 during the preceding 12 months (or for such shorter period that the registrant was required to file such reports), and (2) has been subject to such filing requirements for the past 90 days. Yes  No

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant has submitted electronically and posted on its corporate Web site, if any, every Interactive Data File required to be submitted and posted pursuant to Rule 405 of Regulation S-T (§ 232.405 of this chapter) during the preceding 12 months (or for such shorter period that the registrant was required to submit and post such files). Yes  No

Indicate by check mark if disclosure of delinquent filers pursuant to Item 405 of Regulation S-K is not contained herein, and will not be contained, to the best of registrant's knowledge, in definitive proxy or information statements incorporated by reference in Part III of this Form 10-K or any amendment to this Form 10-K. Yes  No

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant is a large accelerated filer, an accelerated filer, a non-accelerated filer, or a smaller reporting company. See the definitions of large accelerated filer, accelerated filer, and smaller reporting company in Rule 12b-2 of the Exchange Act. (Check one):

Large accelerated filer

Accelerated filer

Non-accelerated filer (Do not check if a smaller reporting company)

Smaller reporting company

Indicated by check mark whether the registrant is a shell company (as defined in Rule 12b-2 of the Exchange Act). Yes No

As of June 30, 2016, the aggregate market value of the registrant's common stock held by non-affiliates of the registrant was \$131,027,442.

As of February 22, 2017, the Registrant had 5,200,000 shares of common stock issued of which 4,620,875 shares are outstanding.

### **DOCUMENTS INCORPORATED BY REFERENCE**

Part III of Form 10-K Portions of the definitive Proxy Statement for the 2017 Annual Meeting of Shareholders of Farmers & Merchants Bancorp, Inc.

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**Signatures**

Exhibit 21	Subsidiaries of Farmers & Merchants Bancorp, Inc.
Exhibit 31.	Certifications Under Section 302
Exhibit 32.	Certifications Under Section 906
Exhibit 101.INS	XBRL Instance Document (1)
Exhibit 101.SCH	XBRL Taxonomy Extension Schema Document (1)

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Exhibit 101.CAL	XBRL Taxonomy Extension Calculation Linkbase Document (1)
Exhibit 101.DEF	XBRL Taxonomy Extension Definition Linkbase Document (1)
Exhibit 101.LAB	XBRL Taxonomy Extension Label Linkbase Document (1)
Exhibit 101.PRE	XBRL Taxonomy Extension Presentation Linkbase Document (1)

\*\* The following materials from Farmers & Merchants Bancorp, Inc. on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2016, formatted in XBRL (Extensible Business Reporting Language): (i) the Consolidated Balance Sheets; (ii) the Consolidated Statements of Income and Comprehensive Income; (iii) the Consolidated Statements of Cash Flows and (iv) Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements, tagged as blocks of text.

Total Pages:

108

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### Forward Looking Statements

Statements contained in this portion of the Company's annual report may be forward-looking statements, as that term is defined in the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995. Forward-looking statements may be identified by the use of such words as intend, believe, expect, anticipate, should, planned, estimated, and potential. Such forward-looking statements are based on current expectations, but may differ materially from those currently anticipated due to a number of factors, which include, but are not limited to, factors discussed in documents filed by the Company with the Securities and Exchange Commission from time to time. Other factors which could have a material adverse effect on the operations of the Company and its subsidiaries which include, but are not limited to, changes in interest rates, general economic conditions, legislative and regulatory changes, monetary and fiscal policies of the U.S. Government, including policies of the U.S. Treasury and the Federal Reserve Board, the quality and composition of the loan or investment portfolios, demand for loan products, deposit flows, competition, demand for financial services in the Bank's market area, changes in relevant accounting principles and guidelines and other factors over which management has no control. The forward-looking statements are made as of the date of this report, and the Company assumes no obligation to update the forward-looking statements or to update the reasons why actual results could differ from those projected in the forward-looking statements.

### *PART 1.*

## **ITEM 1. BUSINESS**

### **General**

Farmers & Merchants Bancorp, Inc. (Company) is a bank holding company incorporated under the laws of Ohio in 1985 and elected to become a financial holding company under the Federal Reserve in 2014. Our primary subsidiary, The Farmers & Merchants State Bank (Bank) is a community bank operating in Northwest Ohio and Northeast Indiana since 1897. Our other subsidiary, Farmers & Merchants Risk Management (Captive) is a captive insurance company formed in December 2014 and located in Nevada. We report our financial condition and net income on a consolidated basis and we report only one segment.

Our executive offices are located at 307 North Defiance Street, Archbold, Ohio 43502, and our telephone number is (419) 446-2501.

For a discussion of the general development of the Company's business throughout 2016, please see the portion of Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations captioned 2016 in Review.

### **Nature of Activities**

The local economies of Northwest Ohio and Northeast Indiana continued to strengthen throughout 2016. Unemployment levels decreased throughout the year as businesses profits also improved in most industries. The agricultural industry continued to operate with lower commodity prices and most were still able to operate profitably. The farm community was better prepared to handle challenges in 2016 than it was in the 1980's. 2016 began with the first prime rate increase in seven years and ended with the second prime rate increase in December. Overall, the local economies should continue to improve while addressing the new challenges of a rising rate environment.



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The Farmers & Merchants State Bank engages in general commercial banking business. Its activities include commercial, agricultural and residential mortgage as well as consumer and credit card lending activities. Because the Bank's offices are located in Northwest Ohio and Northeast Indiana, a substantial amount of the loan portfolio is comprised of loans made to customers in the farming industry for such things as farm land, farm equipment, livestock and operating loans for seed, fertilizer, and feed. Other types of lending activities include loans for home improvements and loans for such items as autos, trucks, recreational vehicles and motorcycles. With the expansion into newer market areas, the most recent increases in loan activity have been in commercial real estate, providing operation lines of credit and machinery purchases.

The Bank also provides checking account services, as well as savings and time deposit services such as certificates of deposits. In addition, ATM's (automated teller machines) are provided at most branch locations along with other independent locations including major employers and hospitals in the market area. The Bank has custodial services for IRA's (Individual Retirement Accounts) and HSA's (Health Savings Accounts). The Bank provides on-line banking access for consumer and business customers. For consumers, this includes bill-pay and on-line statement opportunities. For business customers, it provides the option of electronic transaction origination such as wire and ACH file transmittal. In addition, the Bank offers remote deposit capture or electronic deposit processing. Mobile banking was added in 2012 and has been widely accepted and used by consumers.

In recent years, an expansion of services and products to prevent or identify fraud has been offered to both consumer and commercial account holders.

The Bank's underwriting policies, exercised through established procedures, facilitate operating in a safe and sound manner in accordance with supervisory and regulatory guidance. Within this sphere of safety and soundness, the Bank's practice has been to avoid promoting innovative, unproven credit products which may not be in the best interest of the Bank or its customers. The Bank does offer a hybrid loan. Hybrid loans are loans that start as a fixed rate mortgage but after a set number of years automatically adjust to an adjustable rate mortgage. The Bank offers a three year fixed rate mortgage after which the interest rate will adjust annually. The majority of the Bank's adjustable rate mortgages are of this type. In order to offer longer term fixed rate mortgages, the Bank does participate in the Freddie Mac, Farmer Mac and Small Business Lending programs. The Bank also retains the servicing on these partially or 100% sold loans. In order for the customer to participate in these programs, they must meet the requirements established by these agencies. The Bank's policies focus on initiating mainly qualified mortgages.

All loan requests are reviewed as to credit worthiness and are subject to the Bank's underwriting guidelines as to secured versus unsecured credit. Secured loans are in turn subject to loan to value (LTV) requirements based on collateral types as set forth in the Bank's Loan Policy. In addition, credit scores of principal borrowers are reviewed and an approved exception from an additional officer is required should a credit score not meet the Bank's Loan Policy guidelines.

### **Consumer Loans:**

Maximum loan to value (LTV) for cars, trucks and light trucks vary from 90% to 110% depending on whether direct or indirect. Loans above 100% are generally due to additional charges for extended warranties and/or insurance coverage periods of lost wages or death.

Boats, campers, motorcycles, RV's and Motor Coaches range from 80%-90% based on age of vehicle.

1<sup>st</sup> or 2<sup>nd</sup> mortgages on 1-4 family homes range from 75%-90% with in-house first real estate mortgages requiring private mortgage insurance on those exceeding 80% LTV.



Raw land LTV maximum ranges from 65%-75% depending on whether or not the property has been improved.

Commercial/Agriculture/Real Estate:

Maximum LTVs range from 70%-80% depending on type

Accounts Receivable:

Up to 80% LTV less retainages and greater than 90 days

Inventory:

Agriculture:

Livestock and grain up to 80% LTV, crops (insured) up to 75% and Warehouse Receipts up to 87%

Commercial:

Maximum LTV of 50% on raw and finished goods

Used vehicles, new recreational vehicles and manufactured homes not to exceed (NTE) 80% LTV

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### Equipment:

New not to exceed 80% of invoice, used NTE 50% of listed book or 75% of appraised market value

Restaurant equipment up to 35% of market value

Heavy trucks, titled trailers up to NTE 75% LTV and aircraft up to 75% of appraised value

F&M Investment Services, the brokerage department of the Bank, opened for business in April 1999. Securities are offered through Raymond James Financial Services, Inc.

In December of 2014, the Company became a financial holding company within the meaning of the Bank Holding Company Act of 1956 as amended, in order to provide the flexibility to take advantage of the expanded powers available to a financial holding company under the Act. Our subsidiary bank is in turn regulated and examined by the Ohio Division of Financial Institutions and the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation. The activities of our bank subsidiary are also subject to other federal and state laws and regulations. The Company also formed a Captive insurance company in December 2014. The Captive is located in Nevada and regulated by the State of Nevada Division of Insurance.

The Bank's primary market includes communities located in the Ohio counties of Defiance, Fulton, Henry, Lucas, Williams, Wood and in the Indiana counties of Allen, DeKalb and Steuben. In the first half of 2016, the Bank added the Indiana county of Allen to its service area with the opening of its newly constructed office in Fort Wayne. The commercial banking business in this market is highly competitive, with approximately 17 other depository institutions currently doing business in the Bank's primary market. In the fourth quarter 2016, we opened an office in Bowling Green, Ohio. The office is a leased property which was renovated to facilitate the Bank. Bowling Green was a natural extension to our existing markets. In our banking activities, we compete directly with other commercial banks, credit unions, farm credit services, and savings and loan institutions in each of our operating localities. In a number of our locations, we compete against entities which are much larger than us. The primary factors in competing for loans and deposits are the rates charged as well as location and quality of the services provided.

At December 31, 2016, we had 273 full time equivalent employees. The employees are not represented by a collective bargaining unit. We provide our employees with a comprehensive benefit program, some of which is contributory. We consider our employee relations to be good.

## **Supervision and Regulation**

### General

The Company is a corporation organized under the laws of the State of Ohio. The business in which the Company and its subsidiaries are engaged is subject to extensive supervision, regulation and examination by various bank regulatory authorities. The supervision, regulation and examination to which the Company and its subsidiaries are subject to are intended primarily for the protection of depositors and the deposit insurance funds that insure the deposits of banks, rather than for the protection of shareholders.

Several of the more significant regulatory provisions applicable to banks and bank holding companies to which the Company and its subsidiaries are subject to are discussed below along with certain regulatory matters concerning the Company and its subsidiaries. To the extent that the following information describes statutory or regulatory provisions, it is qualified in its entirety by reference to the particular statutory provisions. Any change in applicable

law or regulation may have a material effect on the business and prospects of the Company and its subsidiaries.

Regulatory Agencies

The Company is a financial holding company and is subject to inspection, examination and supervision by the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System (the Federal Reserve Board ) pursuant to the Bank Holding Company Act of 1956, as amended. As a financial holding company, the Company is still subject to all the bank holding company regulations.

The Bank is an Ohio chartered commercial bank. It is subject to regulation and examination by both the Ohio Division of Financial Institutions (ODFI) and the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (FDIC).

The Captive is an insurance company incorporated in Nevada and regulated by the State of Nevada, Division of Insurance.

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### Holding Company Activities

As a financial holding company incorporated and doing business within the State of Ohio, the Company is subject to regulation and supervision under the Bank Holding Act of 1956, as amended (the Act ). The Company is required to file with the Federal Reserve Board on quarterly basis information pursuant to the Act. The Federal Reserve Board may conduct examinations or inspections of the Company and its subsidiaries.

On November 12, 1999, the Gramm-Leach-Bliley Act (the GLB Act ) was enacted into law. The GLB Act made sweeping changes with respect to the permissible financial services which various types of financial institutions may now provide. The Glass-Steagall Act, which had generally prevented banks from affiliation with securities and insurance firms, was repealed. Pursuant to the GLB Act, bank holding companies may elect to become a financial holding company, provided that all of the depository institution subsidiaries of the bank holding company are well capitalized and well managed under applicable regulatory standards.

Under the GLB Act, a bank holding company that has elected to become a financial holding company may affiliate with securities firms and insurance companies and engage in other activities that are financial in nature. Activities that are financial in nature include securities underwriting, dealing and market-making, sponsoring mutual funds and investment companies, insurance underwriting and agency, merchant banking, and activities that the Federal Reserve Board has determined to be closely related to banking. Federal Reserve Board approval is not required for the Company to acquire a company, other than a bank holding company, bank or savings association, engaged in activities that are financial in nature or incidental to activities that are financial in nature, as determined by the Federal Reserve Board. Prior Federal Reserve Board approval is required before the Company may acquire the beneficial ownership or control of more than 5% of the voting shares, or substantially all of the assets, of a bank holding company, bank or savings association. If any subsidiary bank of the Company ceases to be well capitalized or well managed under applicable regulatory standards, the Federal Reserve Board may, among other actions, order the Company to divest the subsidiary bank. Alternatively, the Company may elect to conform its activities to those permissible for a bank holding company that is not also a financial holding company. If any subsidiary bank of the Company receives a rating under the Community Reinvestment Act of 1977 of less than satisfactory, the Company will be prohibited from engaging in new activities or acquiring companies other than bank holding companies, banks or savings associations.

### Affiliate Transactions

Various governmental requirements, including Sections 23A and 23B of the Federal Reserve Act and Regulation W promulgated thereunder limit borrowings by holding companies and non-bank subsidiaries from affiliated insured depository institutions, and also limit various other transactions between holding companies and their non-bank subsidiaries, on the one hand, and their affiliated insured depository institutions on the other. Section 23A of the Federal Reserve Act also generally requires that an insured depository institution's loan to its non-bank affiliates be secured, and Section 23B of the Federal Reserve Act generally requires that an insured depository institution's transactions with its non-bank affiliates be on arms-length terms.

### Interstate Banking and Branching

Under the Riegle-Neal Interstate Banking and Branching Efficiency Act ( Riegle-Neal ), subject to certain concentration limits and other requirements, adequately capitalized bank holding companies such as the Company are permitted to acquire banks and bank holding companies located in any state. Any bank that is a subsidiary of a bank holding company is permitted to receive deposits, renew time deposits, close loans, service loans and receive loan payments as an agent for any other bank subsidiary of that bank holding company. Banks are permitted to acquire

branch offices outside their home states by merging with out-of-state banks, purchasing branches in other states and establishing de novo branch offices in other states. The ability of banks to acquire branch offices is contingent, however, on the host state having adopted legislation opting in to those provisions of Riegle-Neal. In addition, the ability of a bank to merge with a bank located in another state is contingent on the host state not having adopted legislation opting out of that provision of Riegle-Neal. The Company could from time to time use Riegle-Neal to acquire banks in additional states.

#### Control Acquisitions

The Change in Bank Control Act prohibits a person or group of persons from acquiring control of a bank holding company, unless the Federal Reserve Board has been notified and has not objected to the transaction. Under the

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rebuttable presumption established by the Federal Reserve Board, the acquisition of 10% or more of a class of voting stock of a bank holding company with a class of securities registered under Section 12 of the Exchange Act, such as the Company, would, under the circumstances set forth in the presumption, constitute acquisition of control of the bank holding company. In addition, a company is required to obtain the approval of the Federal Reserve Board under the Bank Holding Company Act before acquiring 25% (5% in the case of an acquirer that is a bank holding company) or more of any class of outstanding voting stock of a bank holding company, or otherwise obtaining control or a controlling influence over that bank holding company.

## Liability for Banking Subsidiaries

Under the current Federal Reserve Board policy, a bank holding company is expected to act as a source of financial and managerial strength to each of its subsidiary banks and to maintain resources adequate to support each subsidiary bank. This support may be required at times when the bank holding company may not have the resources to provide it. In the event of a bank holding company's bankruptcy, any commitment by the bank holding company to a U.S. federal bank regulatory agency to maintain the capital of a subsidiary bank would be assumed by the bankruptcy trustee and entitled to priority of payment. Any depository institution insured by the FDIC can be held liable for any loss incurred, or reasonably expected to be incurred, by the FDIC in connection with (1) the default of a commonly controlled FDIC-insured depository institution; or (2) any assistance provided by the FDIC to both a commonly controlled FDIC-insured depository institution in danger of default. The Bank is an FDIC-insured depository institution. If a default occurred with respect to the Bank, any capital loans to the Bank from its parent holding company would be subordinate in right of payment to payment of the Bank's depositors and certain of its other obligations.

## Regulatory Capital Requirements

The Company is required by the various regulatory authorities to maintain certain capital levels. Bank holding companies are required to maintain minimum levels of capital in accordance with Federal Reserve Board capital adequacy guidelines. If capital falls below minimum guideline levels, a bank holding company, among other things, may be denied approval to acquire or establish additional banks or non-bank businesses. The required capital levels and the Company's capital position at December 31, 2016 and 2015 are summarized in the table included in Note 15 to the consolidated financial statements.

Beginning in 2015, the Company and Bank were required to measure capital adequacy using Basel III accounting. Basel III is a comprehensive set of reform measures, developed by the Basel Committee on Banking Supervision, to strengthen the regulation, supervision and risk management of the banking sector. Implementation of the rules will be overseen by the Federal Reserve, the FDIC and the OCC. Reporting under the new rules began with the March 2015 quarterly regulatory filings.

## FDICIA

The Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation Improvement Act of 1991 ( FDICIA ), and the regulations promulgated under FDICIA, among other things, established five capital categories for insured depository institutions—well capitalized, adequately capitalized, undercapitalized, significantly undercapitalized and critically undercapitalized—and requires U.S. federal bank regulatory agencies to implement systems for prompt corrective action for insured depository institutions that do not meet minimum capital requirements based on these categories. Unless a bank is well capitalized, it is subject to restrictions on its ability to offer brokered deposits and on certain other aspects of its operations. An undercapitalized bank must develop a capital restoration plan and its parent bank holding company must guarantee the bank's compliance with the plan up to the lesser of 5% of the bank's assets at the time it became undercapitalized and the amount needed to comply with the plan. As of December 31, 2016 the Bank was well

capitalized pursuant to these prompt corrective action guidelines.

Dividend Restrictions

The ability of the Company to obtain funds for the payment of dividends and for other cash requirements will be largely dependent on the amount of dividends which may be declared by its banking subsidiary, which are limited to the Bank's retained earnings during the current year and its prior two years. Various U.S. federal statutory provisions limit the amount of dividends the Company's banking subsidiary can pay to the Company without regulatory approval. In 2009, The Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve Division of Banking Supervision and Regulation issued SR09-4 regarding the safe and sound payment of dividends by bank holding companies. See Note 16 to the consolidated financial statements for additional information on applicable dividend restrictions.

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### Deposit Insurance Assessments

The deposits of the Bank are insured up to the regulatory limits set by the FDIC. The FDIC maintains the Deposit Insurance fund ( DIF ) by assessing depository institutions an insurance premium (assessment). The amount assessed to each institution is based on statutory factors that take into account the degree of risk the institution poses to the DIF. The primary purposes of the DIF are to (1) insure the deposits and protect the depositors of insured depository institutions; and (2) resolve failed banks. The DIF is primarily funded through quarterly assessments on insured depository institutions, but it also earns interest income on its securities. Decreases in the DIF result from loss provisions associated with the resolution of failed banks and FDIC operating expenses.

The Dodd-Frank Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act of 2010 ( Dodd-Frank Act ) revised the statutory authorities governing the FDIC 's management of the DIF. A key requirement from the Dodd-Frank Act resulted in the FDIC 's adoption of new rules in February 2011 regarding Assessments, Dividends, Assessment Base, and Large Bank Pricing. The new rules implemented the following changes: (1) redefined the definition of an institution 's deposit insurance assessment base from one based on domestic deposits to one based on assets now defined as average consolidated total assets minus average tangible equity ; (2) changed the assessment rate adjustments to better account for risk based on an institution 's funding sources; (3) revised the deposit insurance assessment rate schedule in light of the new assessment base and assessment rate adjustments; (4) implemented Dodd-Frank Act dividend provisions; (5) revised the large insured depository institution assessment system to better differentiate for risk and to take into account losses the FDIC may incur from large institution failures; and (6) provided technical and other changes to the FDIC 's assessment rules. Though deposit insurance assessments maintain a risk-based approach, the FDIC imposed a more extensive risk-based assessment system on large insured depository institutions with at least \$10 billion in total assets since they are more complex in nature and could pose greater risk. The rules became effective April 1, 2011 implementing the revised assessment rate schedule for the quarter beginning April 1, 2011. The revised assessment rate schedule was used to calculate the June 30, 2011 assessments which were due September 30, 2011 and subsequent quarterly assessments thereafter.

Due to the changes to the assessment base and assessment rates, as well as the DIF restoration time frame, the impact on the Company 's future deposit insurance assessments has been and should continue to be favorable.

The Dodd-Frank Act permanently raised the standard maximum deposit insurance coverage amount to \$250,000.

The FDIC deposit insurance coverage limit applies per depositor, per insured depository institution for each account ownership category.

### Depositor Preference Statute

In the liquidation or other resolution of an institution by any receiver, U.S. federal legislation provides that deposits and certain claims for administrative expenses and employee compensation against the insured depository institution would be afforded a priority over general unsecured claims against that institution, including federal funds and letters of credit.

### Government Monetary Policy

The earnings of the Company are affected primarily by general economic conditions and to a lesser extent by the fiscal and monetary policies of the federal government and its agencies, particularly the Federal Reserve. Its policies influence, to some degree, the volume of bank loans and deposits, and interest rates charged and paid thereon, and thus have an effect on the earnings of the Company 's subsidiary Bank.



**Additional Regulation**

Implementation of the Dodd-Frank Act provisions has resulted in new rulemaking by the federal regulatory agencies and new rules yet to be issued. Implementing the new and expanded regulations involve extreme diligence to ensure compliance with the complexities of the rules, as well as extensive new disclosure and reporting requirements.

The Dodd-Frank Act created an independent regulatory body, the Bureau of Consumer Financial Protection ( Bureau ), with authority and responsibility to set rules and regulations for most consumer protection laws applicable to all banks large and small - adds another regulator to scrutinize and police financial activities. Transfer to the Bureau of all consumer financial protection functions for designated laws by the other federal agencies was completed on July 21, 2011. The Bureau was given responsibility for mortgage reform and enforcement, as well as broad new powers over consumer financial activities, including consumer financial products and services and how they are provided.

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Significant mortgage rules mandated by the Dodd-Frank Act provisions were enacted in response to the breakdown in the mortgage lending markets and to provide for consumer protections. Final rules were issued by the Bureau or jointly with other regulatory agencies to implement requirements under the Dodd-Frank Act regarding mortgage-related matters such as ability-to-repay, qualified mortgage standards, mortgage servicing, mortgage loan originator compensation, escrow requirements for higher-priced mortgage loans, and providing appraisals. These new mortgage rules, effective in January 2014, have been implemented in order to address problems consumers face in the three major steps in buying a home – shopping for a mortgage, closing on a mortgage, and paying off a mortgage.

Final rules on integrated mortgage disclosures under the Real Estate Settlement Act (RESPA) and Truth in Lending Act (TILA) became effective on October 3, 2015. Amendments to the integrated mortgage disclosure rules also became October 3, 2015. The TILA-RESPA Integrated Disclosure rule commonly referred to as TRID combined required disclosures into two single forms: 1) The Loan Estimate which is provided shortly after a mortgage loan application and 2) The Closing Disclosure which is provided prior to loan consummation. In addition, a mandated appraisal notice under the Equal Credit Opportunity Act and the servicing application disclosure under RESPA were also combined into the new integrated disclosures. Loan Origination System changes, as well as process and procedural adjustments were necessary to appropriately implement the new requirements. Implementation to achieve TRID compliance involved extensive collaboration with the Mortgage Loan Origination software vendor, as well as outreach and coordination efforts with real estate agents, attorneys, and closing agents to cultivate preparedness for the new integrated mortgage loan disclosure forms. Overall mortgage loan volume was up through the end of the year. New TRID requirements, especially the timing requirements that had to be met, did slow the loan origination process slightly but did not result in excessive delays of scheduled loan closings. Due to the complexities of the TRID rule, industry questions persist. Pending proposed additional amendments to the TRID rules are intended to provide further clarity to certain provisions. Remaining attentive to these matters will ensure practices and procedures continue to be fully compliant.

Final rules, mostly effective on October 1, 2015, were issued by the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System (FRB), the Farm Credit Administration, the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (FDIC), the National Credit Union Administration (NCUA), and the Office of the Comptroller of the Currency (OCC) to implement provisions of the Homeowner Flood Insurance Affordability Act of 2014 (HFIAA) and the Biggert-Waters Flood Insurance Reform Act of 2012 (the Biggert-Waters Act). This rule amended regulations which apply to loans secured by properties located in special flood hazard areas and included the following:

Implementation of a statutory exemption from the requirement to purchase flood insurance for a detached structure that is part of a residential property and does not serve as a residence. Under the HFIAA lenders may require flood insurance on these detached structures to protect collateral securing the mortgage. The Bank presently evaluates all instances on a case-by-case basis as they are identified and to determine the appropriate action to be taken.

Effective January 1, 2016 in accordance with the HFIAA, for loans made, increased, extended, or renewed to be secured by residential real estate or mobile homes, regulated lending institutions must;

Require an escrow for flood insurance premiums and fees, unless the loan qualifies for a statutory exception;

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Provide borrowers with residential loans outstanding as of January 1, 2016 the option to escrow flood insurance premiums and fees.

Provide new and revised sample notice forms and clauses regarding the escrow requirements and the option to escrow.

The Biggert-Waters Act provisions on force placement of flood insurance coverage:

Beginning on the date a borrower's flood coverage lapses or becomes insufficient, a regulated lending institutions has the authority to charge a borrower for the cost of force-placed insurance coverage.

Circumstances under which a lender must terminate force-placed flood insurance coverage and refund payments to the borrower are also stipulated.

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Changes to existing processes and procedures along with the implementation of new forms and notifications resulted from this new rule. Fines and penalties for compliance with flood insurance requirements promote a continued focus on adherence to the new flood rule and existing requirements.

As of October 3, 2016, compliance was required with the Department of Defense (DOD) new rules amending its regulation that implements the Military Lending Act (MLA). The MLA was enacted as part of the John Warner National Defense Act of 2007. These new rules significantly expanded the scope of the Act to cover all consumer credit except residential mortgages and purchase money loans. For credit cards, the required compliance date is October 3, 2017. Coverage applies to consumer credit defined as credit offered or extended for personal, family, or household purpose and that is subject to a finance charge or payable by written agreement in more than four installments. A covered borrower is a consumer who at the time of becoming obligated on a consumer credit transaction or establishing an account for consumer credit, is a covered member or dependent (including a spouse) of a covered member. A covered member is a member of the armed forces serving on active duty or active guard or reserve duty. More specifically, the final rule:

Makes financial institutions responsible for determining an applicant's military status through inquiry using the database maintained by the DOD or a consumer reporting agency that provides such information.

Limits what may be charged in fees and interest on covered consumer loans by imposing a 36% military annual percentage rate (MAPR) cap. The MAPR cap is an all-in annual percentage rate (APR) that includes interest and fees associated with the loan such as application fee and annual fees, as well as fees and premiums for add-on products such as credit insurance, debt cancellation, and debt suspension often sold in connection with a consumer credit transaction. Providing a loan to a covered borrower that exceeds the 36% MAPR is prohibited.

Requires additional disclosures which must be provided to military personnel, their spouses, and dependents when they obtain a loan.

Prohibits certain terms or provisions that require arbitration, involve assessment of a prepayment penalty, or require service members or their dependents to waive any rights under the Service member's Civil Relief Act or any other federal or state law.

Any covered loans made without providing proper disclosures or in violation of the MLA is void. Creditors who knowingly or willfully violate the rules could be subject to a fine, imprisonment up to one year or both.

Implementation of these new rules involved an understanding of its impact on the covered consumer credit products offered, collaboration with Loan Origination System vendors for assistance with calculations and required disclosures, and an efficient and effective process for identifying covered borrowers. Though the rule is designed to benefit service members, it involves a series of price controls which in essence may restrict the availability of some forms of conventional consumer credit for service members and their dependents.

A final rule with amendments regarding Small Creditors and Rural Areas under the TILA became effective on January 1, 2016. In determining eligibility for small creditor status, the loan origination limit was increased from 500 to 2,000 first-lien mortgage loan transactions during the preceding calendar year and excluded loans held in portfolio by the lender. In addition, the definition of rural areas was expanded from counties that are considered rural to include

smaller census blocks within a county that are not in urban areas. An automated tool for assessing whether a property is located in a rural or underserved area was made available by the Bureau. The Bank meets the criteria to qualify as a small creditor based on the number of loans made during the prior calendar year and due to its asset size of less than \$2.069 billion (the asset size threshold subject to an annual CPI adjustment as of December 31, 2016); however it is not a creditor that operates predominantly in rural or underserved areas as it did not extend more than 50% of its total first-lien covered transactions in rural or underserved areas in calendar year 2016. The Bank continues to seek Qualified Mortgage (QM) status for mortgage loans made as they provide certain presumptions of compliance under the Ability to Repay Regulation adopted under the Dodd-Frank Act. In satisfying QM requirements, any mortgage lender regardless of their size can make loans which are entitled to the QM presumption of compliance.

Revised Regulation C rules which implement the Home Mortgage Disclosure Act (HMDA) published by the Bureau become effective on January 1, 2018 for reportable loan applications. The Dodd-Frank Act provisions added new data points for HMDA and authorized the Bureau to require additional information. The types of transactions reportable have expanded to include most consumer purpose transactions that are dwelling-secured loans or open-end lines of credit. Reportable data points were significantly expanded to 52 fields which included applicant or borrower age, credit score, automated underwriting system information, property value, application channel, points

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and fees, borrower-paid origination charges, discount points, lender credits, loan term, prepayment penalty, interest rate, loan originator identifier, as well as other data fields. Ethnicity categories were expanded to include certain subcategories along with a means to capture information on how an applicant's or borrower's ethnicity, race, and sex were collected by the institution. Year-end submission of the data to be reported will be completed using a yet-to-be-developed web-based tool. The data format and use of the yet-to-be developed web-based tool also affect the year-end submission of 2017 HMDA data. Implementation of these new requirements will involve the workgroup being attentive to the provisions in the final rules. A thorough assessment will involve evaluating the impact on the data collection processes and procedures within each affected business line, as well as data collection features within the loan origination systems utilized to generate loan applications and loan closing documentation.

Unfair or deceptive acts or practices (UDAP) standards originally developed years ago by the Federal Trade Commission focus on unacceptable practices that may not specifically be addressed elsewhere in banking or consumer finance law. Banking regulatory agencies have increasingly used this authority over the last few years to address acts or practices that are deemed harmful, deceptive, or misleading to consumers. The Federal Trade Commission (FTC) no longer has the authority to issue credit practice rules under Section 5 of the Federal Trade Commission Act for financial institutions, since this was repealed as a result of the Dodd-Frank Act. In August 2014, Guidance issued collectively by the FDIC, FRB, the Bureau, NCUA, and OCC clearly indicated certain consumer credit practices are not permissible and remain subject to Section 5 of the Federal Trade Commission Act, as well as Sections 1031 and 1036 of the Dodd-Frank Act. Though the authority has been repealed, the interagency guidance further noted that the Agencies will continue to have supervisory authority and enforcement authority for unfair or deceptive acts or practices, which could include those practices previously addressed in the former credit practices rules. The guidance warned financial institutions not to interpret the repeal of these rules to indicate that the unfair or deceptive practices previously described are permissible. Remaining attentive to the UDAP standards, in relation to the offering and marketing of Bank products and services is extremely important.

The Bank is also subject to federal regulation relating to such matters as required reserves, limitation as to the nature and amount of its loans and investments, regulatory approval of any merger or consolidation, issuance or retirement of their own securities, limitations upon the payment of dividends and other aspects of banking operations. In addition, the activities and operations of the Bank are subject to a number of additional detailed, complex and sometimes overlapping laws and regulations. These include state usury and consumer credit laws, state laws relating to fiduciaries, the federal Equal Credit Opportunity Act and Regulation B, the federal Electronic Funds Transfer Act and Regulation E, the federal Fair Credit Reporting Act and Regulation V, the federal Real Estate Settlement Procedures Act (RESPA) and Regulation X, the federal Truth in Lending Act and Regulation Z, the federal Truth in Savings Act and Regulation DD, the Bank Secrecy Act, the federal Community Reinvestment Act, anti-discrimination laws and legislation, and antitrust laws.

## **Future Legislation**

Changes to the laws and regulations, both at the federal and state levels, can affect the operating environment of the Company and its subsidiaries in substantial and unpredictable ways. The Company cannot accurately predict whether those changes in laws and regulations will occur, and, if those changes occur, the ultimate effect they would have upon the financial condition or results of operations of the Company or its subsidiaries. Various provisions and regulations authorized or required by the Dodd-Frank Act have not yet been proposed or implemented by federal regulators. Uncertainty also exists with respect to the Dodd-Frank Act regulations authorized or required that have not yet been proposed or finalized.

## **Available Information**

The Company maintains an Internet web site at the following internet address: [www.fm-bank.com](http://www.fm-bank.com). The Company files reports with the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC). Because the Company makes its filing with the SEC electronically, you may access such reports at the SEC's website ([www.sec.gov](http://www.sec.gov)). The Company makes available, free of charge through its internet address, copies of its annual report on Form 10-K, quarterly reports on Form 10-Q, current reports on Form 8-K, and any amendments to these reports as soon as reasonable practicable after such materials have been filed with or furnished to the SEC. Copies of these documents may also be obtained, either in electronic or paper form, by contacting Barbara J. Britenriker, Chief Financial Officer of the Company at (419) 446-2501.

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**ITEM 1a. RISK FACTORS**

**Significant Competition from an Array of Financial Service Providers**

Our ability to achieve strong financial performance and a satisfactory return on investment to shareholders will depend in part on our ability to expand our available financial services. In addition to the challenge of attracting and retaining customers for traditional banking services, our competitors now include securities dealers, brokers, mortgage bankers, investment advisors and finance and insurance companies who seek to offer one-stop financial services to their customers that may include services that banks have not been able or allowed to offer to their customers in the past. The increasingly competitive environment is a result primarily of changes in regulation, changes in technology and product delivery systems and the accelerating pace of consolidation among financial services providers. If we fail to adequately address each of the competitive pressures in the banking industry, our financial condition and results of operations could be adversely affected.

**Credit Risk**

The risk of nonpayment of loans is inherent in commercial banking. Such nonpayment could have an adverse effect on the Company's earnings and our overall financial condition as well as the value of our common stock. Management attempts to reduce the Bank's credit exposure by carefully monitoring the concentration of its loans within specific industries and through the loan approval process. However, there can be no assurance that such monitoring and procedures will totally mitigate the risks. Credit losses can cause insolvency and failure of a financial institution and, in such event, its shareholders could lose their entire investment. For more information on the exposure of the Company and the Bank to credit risk, see the section under Part II, Item 7 of this Form 10-K captioned "Loan Portfolio."

**Our loan portfolio has a large concentration of real estate loans**

Real estate loans, which constitute a large portion of our loan portfolio, include home equity, commercial, construction and residential loans, and such loans are concentrated in the Bank's primary markets in northwest Ohio and Northeast Indiana. The market value of real estate can fluctuate significantly in a short period of time as a result of market conditions in the geographic area in which the real estate is located. Adverse developments affecting real estate values in our market could increase the credit risk associated with our loan portfolio. Also, real estate lending typically involves higher loan principal amounts and the repayment of the loans generally is dependent, in large part, on sufficient income from the properties securing the loans to cover operating expenses and debt service. Economic events or governmental regulations outside of the control of the borrower could negatively impact the future cash flow and market values of the affected properties.

If the loans that are collateralized by real estate become troubled during a time when market conditions are declining or have declined, then we may not be able to realize the amount of security that we anticipated at the time of originating the loan, which could cause us to increase our provision for loan losses and adversely affect our operating results and financial condition.

Our real estate loans also include construction loans, including land acquisition and development. Construction, land acquisition and development lending involve additional risks because funds are advanced based upon estimates of costs and the estimated value of the completed project. Because of the uncertainties inherent in estimating construction costs, as well as the market value of the completed project and the effects of governmental regulation on real property, it is relatively difficult to evaluate accurately the total funds required to complete a project and the related loan-to-value ratio. As a result, commercial construction loans often involve the disbursement of substantial funds with repayment dependent, in part, on the success of the ultimate project and the ability of the borrower to sell or lease the property, rather than the ability of the borrower or guarantor to repay principal and interest. If our



appraisal of the value of the completed project proves to be overstated, we may have inadequate security for the repayment of the loan upon completion of construction of the project.

**Commercial loans make up a significant portion of our loan portfolio**

Our commercial loans are primarily made based on the identified cash flow of the borrower and secondarily on the underlying collateral provided by the borrower. Repayment of our commercial loans is often dependent on the cash flows of the borrower, which may be unpredictable. Most often, this collateral is accounts receivable, inventory, machinery or real estate. In the case of loans secured by accounts receivable, the availability of funds for the repayment of these loans may be substantially dependent on the ability of the borrower to collect amounts due from its customers. The other types of collateral securing these loans may depreciate over time, may be difficult to appraise and may fluctuate in value based on the success of the business.

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Payments on agricultural real estate loans are dependent on the profitable operation or management of the farm property securing the loan. The success of the farm may be affected by many factors outside the control of the borrower, including adverse weather conditions that prevent the planting of a crop or limit crop yields (such as hail, drought and floods), loss of livestock due to disease or other factors, declines in market prices for agricultural products (both domestically and internationally) and the impact of government regulations (including changes in price supports, subsidies and environmental regulations). In addition, many farms are dependent on a limited number of key individuals whose injury or death may significantly affect the successful operation of the farm. If the cash flow from a farming operation is diminished, the borrower's ability to repay the loan may be impaired. The primary crops in our market areas are corn, wheat and soybeans. Accordingly, adverse circumstances affecting these crops could have an adverse effect on our agricultural real estate loan portfolio.

We also originate agricultural operating loans. As with agricultural real estate loans, the repayment of operating loans is dependent on the successful operation or management of the farm property. Likewise, agricultural operating loans involve a greater degree of risk than lending on residential properties, particularly in the case of loans that are unsecured or secured by rapidly depreciating assets such as farm equipment or assets such as livestock or crops. The primary livestock in our market areas is hogs. In these cases, any repossessed collateral for a defaulted loan may not provide an adequate source of repayment of the outstanding loan balance as a result of the greater likelihood of damage, loss or depreciation.

## **Susceptibility to Changes in Regulation**

Any changes to state and federal banking laws and regulations may negatively impact our ability to expand services and to increase the value of our business. We are subject to extensive state and federal regulation, supervision, and legislation that govern almost all aspects of our operations. These laws may change from time to time and are primarily intended for the protection of consumers, depositors and the deposit insurance funds. In addition, the Company's earnings are affected by the monetary policies of the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve. These policies, which include regulating the national supply of bank reserves and bank credit, can have a major effect upon the source and cost of funds and the rates of return earned on loans and investments. The Federal Reserve influences the size and distribution of bank reserves through its open market operations and changes in cash reserve requirements against member bank deposits. The Gramm-Leach-Bliley Act regarding financial modernization that became effective in November 1999 removed many of the barriers to the integration of the banking, securities and insurance industries and is likely to increase the competitive pressures upon the Bank. We cannot predict what effect such Act and any presently contemplated or future changes in the laws or regulations or their interpretations would have on us, but such changes could be materially adverse to our financial performance. For more information on this subject, see the section under Part I, Item 1 of this Form 10-K captioned "Supervision and Regulation."

## **Interest Rate Risk**

Changes in interest rates affect our operating performance and financial condition in diverse ways. Our profitability depends in substantial part on our net interest spread, which is the difference between the rates we receive on loans and investments and the rates we pay for deposits and other sources of funds. Our net interest spread will depend on many factors that are partly or entirely outside our control, including competition, federal economic, monetary and fiscal policies, and economic conditions generally. Historically, net interest spreads for other financial institutions have widened and narrowed in response to these and other factors, which are often collectively referred to as interest rate risk. During 2014, the Company's margin and spread began to improve slightly even though the rate environment remained low and flat. 2015 ended with a slight tightening of the margin as compared to 2014 and for 2016 the Company's margin improved. This widening of the margin directly correlated to the improvement of the Bank's loan to asset ratio and was aided by the Federal Reserve rate increase in December 2015.

The Bank manages interest rate risk within an overall asset/liability framework. The principal objectives of asset/liability management are to manage sensitivity of net interest spreads and net interest income to potential changes in interest rates. Funding positions are kept within predetermined limits designed to ensure that risk-taking is not excessive and that liquidity is properly managed. In the event that our asset/liabilities management strategies are unsuccessful, our profitability may be adversely affected. For more information regarding the Company's exposure to interest rate risk, see Part II, Item 7A of this Form 10-K.

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### **Attraction and Retention of Key Personnel**

Our success depends upon the continued service of our senior management team and upon our ability to attract and retain qualified financial services personnel. Competition for qualified employees is intense. In our experience, it can take a significant period of time to identify and hire personnel with the combination of skills and attributes required in carrying out our strategy. If we lose the services of our key personnel or are unable to attract additional qualified personnel, our business, financial condition, results of operations and cash flows could be adversely affected.

A key component of employee retention is providing a fair compensation base combined with the opportunity for additional compensation for above average performance. In this regard, the Company and the Bank use two incentive programs. The Company uses a stock award program to recognize and incentivize officers of the Bank. Under the long-term incentive compensation plan, restricted stock awards may be granted to officers. The amount of shares to be granted each year is determined by the Board Compensation Committee and may vary each year in its amount of shares and the number of recipients. The Compensation Committee determines the number of shares to be awarded overall and to the Chief Executive Officer ( CEO ) specifically. The CEO then makes recommendations to the committee as to the recipients of the remaining shares. The full Board of Directors approves the action of the Committee. Since the plan's inception in 2005, all granted stock awards have utilized a three year cliff vesting feature. This is viewed as a retention aid as the awards may be forfeited should an officer leave employment during the vesting period.

A second incentive program of the Bank is based on cash compensation of which almost all employees participate (excluding commission based employees and other employees paid for specific higher paid positions, such as peak time). A discussion of executive officer pay is incorporated within the proxy and as such, this discussion will pertain to all other employees. Non-officer employees are paid a cash incentive based on the projected overall performance of the Bank in terms of Return of Average Assets ( ROA ). The Compensation Committee determines the target performance levels on which the percentage of pay will be based. The Committee takes into account the five and ten year trend of ROA along with budget forecasted for the next year and the Bank's past year performance. The Committee also considers the predicted banking environment under which the Bank will be operating. With the formation of the Captive, the ROA goal has been exclusive of the effect of the additional insurance expense at the Bank level. Non-officers receive incentive pay in December of the same year based on the year-to-date base compensation through the last pay received in November.

Officers, other than executive officers, receive incentive pay based on additional criterion. The officers are rewarded based on overall ROA of the Bank along with individual pre-established goals. Officers, therefore, have incentive pay at risk for individual performance. The individualized goals are recommended by each officer's supervisor and are approved by an incentive committee of the Bank. The goals are designed to improve the performance of the Bank while also limiting the risk of a short-term performance focus. For example, a lending officer may be given two goals of which one is to grow loans within specific targets and another is tied to a specific level of past dues and charge-offs. The second goal limits the ability to be rewarded for growth at all costs along with the specific target levels within the growth goal itself. Officers in a support department may be given goals which create efficiencies, ensure compliance with procedures, or generate new fee or product opportunities. On average, three to four goals were given to each officer in 2016. Officers are paid cash incentives based on the year-end ROA of the Bank and receive it within the first quarter of the following year. Should the ROA be forecasted to be positive but below the base target set by the Board, the officers are paid an incentive under the same basis and timing as non-officers disclosed above.

The percentages of base pay on which the incentive is calculated graduates higher as does the responsibility level of the employee and their ability to impact the financial performance of the Bank. These percentages are recommended by management to the Compensation Committee and Board for approval. The cash incentive plan along with its

targets and goals are subject to modification at the Compensation Committee and Board's discretion throughout each year.

### **Dividend Payout Restrictions**

We currently pay a quarterly dividend on our common shares. However, there is no assurance that we will be able to pay dividends in the future. Dividends are subject to determination and declaration by our Board of Directors, which takes into account many factors. The declaration of dividends by us on our common stock is subject to the discretion of our Board and to applicable state and federal regulatory limitations. The Company may receive

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dividends from the Bank which is subject to restrictions and limitations in the amount and timing of the dividends it may pay to the Company. The Bank has been declaring additional dividends each quarter to provide this liquidity to the Company. In future years, we anticipate the Captive will also upstream dividends to the Company once reserve levels are adequately provided for.

## **Anti-Takeover Provisions**

Provisions of our Articles of Incorporation and Ohio law could have the effect of discouraging takeover attempts which certain stockholders might deem to be in their interest. These anti-takeover provisions may make us a less attractive target for a takeover bid or merger, potentially depriving shareholders of an opportunity to sell their shares of common stock at a premium over prevailing market prices as a result of a takeover bid or merger.

## **Technological Change**

Our industry is susceptible to significant technological changes in the future as there continue to be a high level of new technology driven products and services introduced. Technological advancement aids the Company in providing customer service and increases efficiency. Our national competitors have more resources to invest in technological changes and associated required resources. As a result they may be able to offer products and services that are more technologically advanced and that may put us at a competitive disadvantage. Our future depends on our ability to analyze technological changes to determine the best course of action for our business, customers and shareholders.

## **Operational Risks**

We are subject to certain operational risks, including, but not limited to, data processing system failures and errors, customer or employee fraud and catastrophic failures resulting from terrorist acts or natural disasters. We maintain a system of internal controls to mitigate against such occurrences and maintain insurance coverage for such risks that are insurable, but should such an event occur that is not prevented or detected by our internal controls, uninsured or in excess of applicable insurance limits, it could have a significant adverse impact on our business, financial condition or results of operations.

In addition, our operations are dependent on our ability to process financial transactions in a secure manner. Failure in or breach of our operational or security systems or infrastructure, or those of our third party vendors and other service providers could disrupt our businesses or the businesses of our customers, result in the disclosure or misuse of confidential or proprietary information, damage our reputation, increase our costs and cause losses. We must ensure that information is properly protected from a variety of threats such as cyber-attacks, error, fraud, sabotage, terrorism, industrial espionage, privacy violation, service interruption, and natural disaster. The Company, with the assistance of third-party service providers, intends to continue to implement security technology and establish procedures to maintain network security, but there is no assurance that these measures will be successful. As cyber threats continue to evolve, we may be required to expend significant additional resources to continue to modify or enhance our protective measures or to investigate and remediate any information security vulnerabilities. Any activity that jeopardizes our network and the security of the information stored on our network may result in significant cost to the Company and have a significant negative effect on our reputation.

## **Limited Trading Market**

The Company has its shares of stock listed on the OTC Markets Group trading platform. Our stock is traded on the OTC-QX platform. The Company's trading symbol is FMAO.

**ITEM 1b. UNRESOLVED STAFF COMMENTS**

None.

**ITEM 2. PROPERTIES**

Our principal office is located in Archbold, Ohio.

The Bank operates from its principal office located at 307 North Defiance Street, Archbold, Ohio. In addition, the Bank owns the property from 200 to 208 Ditto Street, Archbold, Ohio, which it uses for Bank parking and a community mini-park area. The Bank owns real estate at two locations, 207 Ditto Street and 209 Ditto Street in Archbold, Ohio upon which the bank built a commercial building to be used for storage, and a parking lot for company vehicles and employee parking. The Bank also owns real estate across from the main facilities to provide for parking.

