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UNITED STATES

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Washington, D.C. 20549

**FORM 10-K**

(Mark One)

**x**      ANNUAL REPORT PURSUANT TO SECTION 13 OR 15(d) OF THE SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934

For the fiscal year ended December 31, 2021

OR

o      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: 0-23636

**HAWTHORN BANCSHARES, INC.**

*(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)*

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|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **Missouri** | | | **43-1626350** | | |
| *(State or other jurisdiction of*  *incorporation or organization)* | | | *(I.R.S. Employer*  *Identification No.)* | | |

**132 East High Street, Box 688, Jefferson City, Missouri 65102**

*(Address of principal executive offices) (Zip Code)*

**(573) 761-6100**

*(Registrant's telephone number, including area code)*

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

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| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
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| **Title of each class** | | |  | | | **Trading Symbol(s)** | | |  | | | **Name of each exchange on which registered** | | |
| Common Stock, $1.00 par value | | |  | | | HWBK | | |  | | | The Nasdaq Stock Market LLC | | |

**Securities registered pursuant to Section 12(g) OF THE ACT: None**

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

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

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant (1) has filed all reports required to be filed by Section 13 or 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 x No o

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant has submitted electronically every Interactive Data File required to be submitted 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 such files). Yes x No o

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

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|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Large accelerated filer o | | | Accelerated filer o | | | Non-accelerated Filer ☒ | | |
|  | | |  | | |  | | |
| Smaller reporting company ☒ | | | Emerging growth company ☐ | | |  | | |

If an emerging growth company, indicate by check mark if the registrant has elected not to use the extended transition period for complying with any new or revised financial accounting standards provided pursuant to Section 13(a) of the Exchange Act. o

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant has filed a report on and attestation to its management's assessment of the effectiveness of its internal control over financial reporting under Section 404(b) of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act (15 U.S.C 7262(b)) by the registered public accounting firm that prepared or issued its audit report. x

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

The aggregate market value of the 5,839,958 shares of voting and non-voting common equity of the registrant held by non-affiliates computed by reference to the $22.93 closing price of such common equity on June 30, 2021, the last business day of the registrant's most recently completed second fiscal quarter, was $133,910,245. Aggregate market value excludes an aggregate of 777,016 shares of common stock held by officers and directors and by each person known by the registrant to own 5% or more of the outstanding common stock on such date. Exclusion of shares held by any of these persons

should not be construed to indicate that such person possesses the power, direct or indirect, to direct or cause the direction of the management or policies of the registrant, or that such person is controlled by or under common control with the registrant. As of March 15, 2022, the registrant had 7,023,821 shares of common stock, par value $1.00 per share, issued and 6,596,873 shares outstanding.

**DOCUMENTS INCORPORATED BY REFERENCE**

Portions of the following documents are incorporated by reference into the indicated parts of this report: (1) 2021 Annual Report to Shareholders - Part II and (2) definitive Proxy Statement for the 2022 Annual Meeting of Shareholders to be filed with the Commission pursuant to Regulation 14A - Part III.

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**PART I**

**Item 1. Business.**

This report and the documents incorporated by reference herein contain forward-looking statements, which are inherently subject to risks and uncertainties. See "Forward Looking Statements" under Item 7 of this report.

**General**

The Company, Hawthorn Bancshares, Inc., is a bank holding company registered under the Bank Holding Company Act of 1956, as amended. Hawthorn Bancshares, Inc. was incorporated under the laws of the State of Missouri on October 23, 1992 as Exchange National Bancshares, Inc. and changed its name to Hawthorn Bancshares, Inc. in August 2007. The Company owns all of the issued and outstanding capital stock of Union State Bancshares, Inc., which in turn owns all of the issued and outstanding capital stock of Hawthorn Bank. The Company and Union State Bancshares each received approval from the Federal Reserve and elected to become a financial holding company on October 21, 2001.

The Company acquired Hawthorn Bank and its constituent predecessor banks, as well as Union State Bancshares, in a series of transactions that are summarized as follows:

•On April 7, 1993 the Company acquired all of the issued and outstanding capital stock of The Exchange National Bank of Jefferson City, a national banking association, pursuant to a corporate reorganization involving an exchange of shares;

•On November 3, 1997, the Company acquired Union State Bancshares, Inc., and Union's wholly-owned subsidiary, Union State Bank and Trust of Clinton;

•On January 3, 2000, the Company acquired Osage Valley Bank;

•Following the May 4, 2000 acquisition of Citizens State Bank of Calhoun by Union State Bank, Citizens State Bank merged into Union State Bank to form Citizens Union State Bank & Trust;

•On June 16, 2000, the Company acquired City National Savings Bank, FSB, which was then merged into Exchange National Bank; and

•On May 2, 2005, the Company acquired all of the issued and outstanding capital stock of Bank 10, a Missouri state bank.

On December 1, 2006, the Company announced its development of a strategic plan in which, among other things, Exchange National Bank, Citizens Union State Bank, Osage Valley Bank and Bank 10 would be consolidated into a single bank under a Missouri state trust charter. This consolidation was completed in October 2007, and the subsidiary bank is now known as Hawthorn Bank.

Except as otherwise provided herein, references herein to the "Company" or "Hawthorn" include Hawthorn Bancshares, Inc. and its consolidated subsidiaries, and references herein to the "Bank" refers to Hawthorn Bank and its constituent predecessors.

**Description of Business**

**Company.** The Company is a bank holding company registered under the Bank Holding Company Act that has elected to become a financial holding company. The Company's activities currently are limited to ownership, indirectly through its subsidiary (Union State Bancshares, Inc.), of the outstanding capital stock of Hawthorn Bank. In addition to ownership of its subsidiaries, the Company may seek expansion through acquisition and may engage in those activities (such as investments in banks or operations that are financial in nature) in which it is permitted to engage under applicable law. It is not currently anticipated that the Company will engage in any business other than that directly related to its ownership of its banking subsidiary or other financial institutions.

**Union.** Union State Bancshares, Inc. is a bank holding company registered under the Bank Holding Company Act that has elected to become a financial holding company. Union's activities currently are limited to ownership of the outstanding capital stock of Hawthorn Bank. It is not currently anticipated that Union will engage in any business other than that directly related to its ownership of Hawthorn Bank.

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**Hawthorn Bank**. Hawthorn Bank was founded in 1932 as a Missouri bank and converted to a Missouri trust company on August 16, 1989. However, its predecessors trace their lineage back to the founding of Exchange National Bank in 1865. Hawthorn Bank has 23 banking offices, including its principal office at 132 East High Street in Jefferson City's central business district. See "Item 2. Properties".

Hawthorn Bank is a full service bank conducting a general banking and trust business, offering its customers checking and savings accounts, internet banking, debit cards, certificates of deposit, trust services, brokerage services, safety deposit boxes and a wide range of lending services, including commercial and industrial loans, single payment personal loans, installment loans and commercial and residential real estate loans.

Hawthorn Bank's deposit accounts are insured by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (the "FDIC") to the extent provided by law. Hawthorn Bank's operations are supervised and regulated by the FDIC and the Missouri Division of Finance. Periodic examinations of Hawthorn Bank are conducted by representatives of the FDIC and the Missouri Division of Finance. Such regulations, supervision and examinations are principally for the benefit of depositors, rather than for the benefit of the holders of Hawthorn Bank's common stock. See "Regulation Applicable to Bank Holding Companies" and "Regulation Applicable to the Bank".

**Hawthorn Real Estate**. Hawthorn Real Estate, LLC, a non-bank subsidiary of the Company, was formed in December 2008 in order to purchase and hold various nonperforming assets of Hawthorn Bank. The purpose for holding these nonperforming assets in Hawthorn Real Estate is to allow for the orderly disposition of these assets and strengthen Hawthorn Bank's financial position.

**HB Realty, LLC.** HB Realty, LLC, a Missouri limited liability company ("HB Realty"), was formed in February 2018 and commenced operations in April 2018. HB Realty is intended to qualify as a "real estate investment trust" under the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended (the "IRC"). HB Realty was formed in order to hold certain mortgage loans and participation interests contributed to it by Hawthorn Bank. HB Realty was initially capitalized with mortgage loans and participation interests having an approximate aggregate book value of $404,665,296. As of December 31, 2021, the approximate aggregate book value of the mortgage loans and participation interests held by HB Realty was $364,390,321.

Initially, Hawthorn Bank was the sole common member and the sole preferred member of HB Realty, owning all 1,000 common shares and all 1,000 preferred shares. On April 1, 2018, Hawthorn Bank contributed all 1,000 common shares and 850 preferred shares to Jefferson City IHC, LLC, a Missouri limited liability company that is wholly owned by Hawthorn Bank ("JCIHC"). Under the IRC, a real estate investment trust must have at least one hundred (100) owners. Pursuant to a newly established Hawthorn Bank Real Estate Investment Trust Ownership Plan, Hawthorn Bank made available to certain employees of Hawthorn Bank, as an employee benefit, up to a total of 150 preferred shares of HB Realty. Each selected employee was given the opportunity to own one preferred share of HB Realty. These preferred shares were transferred to employees beginning in January 2019. Each preferred share is generally entitled to an annual dividend of thirty dollars ($30) and a liquidation amount of $500. Although dividends are not guaranteed, it is expected that HB Realty will pay dividends in December of each year. By virtue of its ownership of JCIHC, Hawthorn Bank indirectly owns the remaining economic interest associated with membership interests in HB Realty.

Through its ownership of JCIHC, Hawthorn Bank is, indirectly, the controlling member of HB Realty and is entitled to control the appointment of managers of HB Realty. The Board of Managers of HB Realty, which is responsible for the management of the business and affairs of HB Realty, is currently comprised of David T. Turner, Kathleen L. Bruegenhemke, Gregg A. Bexten and Stephen E. Guthrie.

On December 7th, 2020 Hawthorn Bank was informed that certain mortgage loans and participation interests contributed to HB Realty from Hawthorn Bank would no longer be eligible as collateral at the Federal Home Loan Bank (“FHLB”), where Hawthorn Bank maintains credit facilities. The FHLB has implemented a 5 year run-off period for the affected collateral pledged as of September 30, 2020 and Hawthorn Bank continues to investigate alternative solutions for maintaining the borrowing capacity relative to the affected collateral.

**Hawthorn Risk Management, Inc.,** a non-bank subsidiary of the Company, which was formed and began operations on December 28, 2017, is a Missouri-based captive insurance company which provides property and casualty insurance coverage to the Company and the Bank for which insurance may not be currently available or economically feasible in today's insurance marketplace. Hawthorn Risk Management, Inc. pools resources with several other similar insurance company subsidiaries of financial institutions to spread a limited amount of risk among themselves. Hawthorn

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Risk Management, Inc. is subject to the regulations of the State of Missouri and undergoes periodic examinations by the Missouri Division of Finance**.**

**Employees**

As of December 31, 2021, Hawthorn and its subsidiaries had approximately 292 full-time and 17 part-time employees. None of its employees is presently represented by any union or collective bargaining group, and the Company considers its employee relations to be satisfactory.

**Competition**

Bank holding companies and their subsidiaries and affiliates encounter intense competition from nonbanking as well as banking sources in all of their activities. The Bank's competitors include other commercial banks, thrifts, savings banks, credit unions, and money market mutual funds. Thrifts and credit unions now have the authority to offer checking accounts and to make corporate and agricultural loans and were granted expanded investment authority by recent federal regulations. In addition, large national and multinational corporations have in recent years become increasingly visible in offering a broad range of financial services to all types of commercial and consumer customers. In the Bank's service areas, new competitors, as well as the expanding operations of existing competitors, have had, and are expected to continue to have, an adverse impact on the Bank's market share of deposits and loans in such service areas.

The Bank experiences substantial competition for deposits and loans within both its primary service areas of Jefferson City, Columbia, Clinton, Lee's Summit, Warsaw, and Springfield, Missouri and its secondary service area of the nearby communities in Cole, Boone, Henry, Cass, Benton, and Greene counties of Missouri. Hawthorn Bank's principal competition for deposits and loans comes from other banks within its primary service areas and, to an increasing extent, other banks in nearby communities. Based on publicly available information, management believes that Hawthorn Bank is the third largest (in terms of deposits) of the twelve banks within Cole county, the thirteenth largest (in terms of deposits) of thirty-one banks within Boone county, the largest (in terms of deposits) of the eight banks within Henry county, the third largest (in terms of deposits) of the eighteen banks within Cass county, and the second largest (in terms of deposits) of the five banks within Benton county. The main competition for Hawthorn Bank's trust services is from other commercial banks, including those of the Kansas City metropolitan area.

**Regulation Applicable to Bank Holding Companies**

**General.** As a registered bank holding company and a financial holding company under the Bank Holding Company Act (the "BHC Act") and the Gramm-Leach-Bliley Act (the "GLB Act"), Hawthorn is subject to supervision and examination by the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System (the "FRB"). The FRB has authority to issue cease and desist orders against bank holding companies if it determines that their actions represent unsafe and unsound practices or violations of law. In addition, the FRB is empowered to impose civil money penalties for violations of banking statutes and regulations. Regulation by the FRB is intended to protect depositors of the Bank, not the shareholders of Hawthorn. Hawthorn also is subject to a number of restrictions and requirements imposed by the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002 relating to internal control over financial reporting, disclosure controls and procedures, loans to directors or executive officers of the Hawthorn and its subsidiaries, the preparation and certification of Hawthorn's consolidated financial statements, the duties of Hawthorn's audit committee, relations with and functions performed by Hawthorn's independent registered public accounting firm, and various accounting and corporate governance matters.

**Limitation on Activities.** The activities of bank holding companies are generally limited to the business of banking, managing or controlling banks, and other activities that the FRB has determined to be so closely related to banking or managing or controlling banks as to be a proper incident thereto. In addition, under the GLB Act, a bank holding company, all of whose controlled depository institutions are "well capitalized" and "well managed" (as defined in federal banking regulations) with "satisfactory" Community Reinvestment Act ratings, may declare itself to be a "financial holding company" and engage in a broader range of activities. As noted above, Hawthorn is registered as a financial holding company.

A financial holding company may affiliate with securities firms and insurance companies and engage in other activities that are financial in nature or incidental or complementary to activities that are financial in nature. "Financial in nature" activities include:

•securities underwriting, dealing and market making;

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•sponsoring mutual funds and investment companies;

•insurance underwriting and insurance agency activities;

•merchant banking; and

•activities that the FRB determines to be financial in nature or incidental to a financial activity or which is complementary to a financial activity and does not pose a safety and soundness risk.

A financial holding company that desires to engage in activities that are financial in nature or incidental to a financial activity but not previously authorized by the FRB must obtain approval from the FRB before engaging in such activity. Also, a financial holding company may seek FRB approval to engage in an activity that is complementary to a financial activity, if it shows, among other things, that the activity does not pose a substantial risk to the safety and soundness of its insured depository institutions or the financial system.

A financial holding company generally may 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 without prior approval from the FRB. Prior FRB approval is required, however, before the financial holding company may acquire control of more than 5% of the voting shares or substantially all of the assets of a bank holding company, bank or savings association. In addition, under the FRB's merchant banking regulations, a financial holding company is authorized to invest in companies that engage in activities that are not financial in nature, as long as the financial holding company makes its investment with the intention of limiting the duration of the investment, does not manage the company on a day-to-day basis, and the company does not cross-market its products or services with any of the financial holding company's controlled depository institutions.

If any subsidiary bank of a financial holding company ceases to be "well-capitalized" or "well-managed" and fails to correct its condition within the time period that the FRB specifies, the FRB has authority to order the financial holding company to divest its subsidiary banks. Alternatively, the financial holding company may elect to limit its activities and the activities of its subsidiaries to those permissible for a bank holding company that is not a financial holding company. If any subsidiary bank of a financial holding company receives a rating under the Community Reinvestment Act (the "CRA") of less than "satisfactory", then the financial holding company is prohibited from engaging in new activities or acquiring companies other than bank holding companies, banks or savings associations until the rating is raised to "satisfactory" or better.

**Limitation on Acquisitions***.* The BHC Act requires a bank holding company to obtain prior approval of the FRB before:

•taking any action that causes a bank to become a controlled subsidiary of the bank holding company;

•acquiring direct or indirect ownership or control of voting shares of any bank or bank holding company, if the acquisition results in the acquiring bank holding company having control of more than 5% of the outstanding shares of any class of voting securities of such bank or bank holding company, and such bank or bank holding company is not majority-owned by the acquiring bank holding company prior to the acquisition;

•acquiring substantially all of the assets of a bank; or

•merging or consolidating with another bank holding company.

**Regulatory Capital Requirements.** The FRB has issued risk-based and leverage capital guidelines applicable to United States banking organizations. If a bank holding company's capital falls below minimum required levels, then the bank holding company must implement a plan to increase its capital, and its ability to pay dividends and make acquisitions of new bank subsidiaries may be restricted or prohibited. The risk-based capital guidelines that applied to us and our subsidiary bank prior to January 1, 2015 were based on the 1988 capital accord, referred to as Basel I, of the International Basel Committee on Banking Supervision (which we refer to as the "Basel Committee"), a committee of central banks and bank supervisors, as implemented by federal bank regulators. In 2008, the bank regulatory agencies began to phase-in capital standards based on a second capital accord issued by the Basel Committee, referred to as Basel II, for large or "core" international banks (generally defined for U.S. purposes as having total assets of $250 billion or more or consolidated foreign exposures of $10 billion or more). Because we do not anticipate controlling any large or "core" international bank in the foreseeable future, Basel II presently does not apply to us. On September 12, 2010, the Group of Governors and Heads of Supervision, the oversight body of the Basel Committee, announced agreement on the calibration and phase-in arrangements for a strengthened set of capital requirements, known as Basel III. In July 2013, the federal

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banking agencies announced new risk-based capital and leverage ratios to conform to the Basel III framework and address provisions of the Dodd-Frank Act. With respect to the Company and the Bank, these requirements become effective on January 1, 2015.

The Basel III Rules established three components of regulatory capital: (1) common equity tier 1 capital (“CET1”), (2) additional tier 1 capital, and (3) tier 2 capital. CET1 capital generally includes common stock instruments and related surplus (net of treasury stock), retained earnings, and, subject to certain adjustments, minority common equity interests in subsidiaries, less goodwill and certain other adjustments. Tier 1 Capital generally includes CET1 Capital plus Additional Tier 1 Capital elements, such as non-cumulative perpetual preferred stock and similar instruments meeting specified criteria and minority interests in subsidiaries that do not satisfy the requirements for Common Equity Tier 1 Capital treatment. Cumulative preferred stock (other than cumulative preferred stock issued to the U.S. Treasury under the Capital Purchase Program or the Small Business Lending Fund) does not qualify as Additional Tier 1 Capital. Trust preferred securities and other non-qualifying capital instruments issued prior to May 19, 2010 by bank and savings and loan holding companies with less than $15 billion in assets as of December 31, 2009 or by mutual holding companies may continue to be included in Tier 1 Capital but will be phased out over 10 years beginning in 2016 for all other banking organizations. These non-qualifying capital instruments, however, may be included in Tier 2 Capital. Tier 2 Capital may also include certain qualifying debt and the allowance for credit losses up to 1.25% of risk-weighted assets and other adjustments.

The Basel III Capital Rules provide for a number of deductions from and adjustments to CET1. These include, for example, the requirement that mortgage servicing rights, deferred tax assets dependent upon future taxable income and investments in the capital of unconsolidated financial institutions be deducted from CET1 to the extent that any one such category exceeds 10% of CET1 or all such categories in the aggregate exceed 15% of CET1. Beginning April 1, 2020, this framework for regulatory capital deductions to CET1 will be simplified by increasing the deduction threshold to 25% at the individual level for each of the aforementioned categories. Pursuant to the Basel III Rules, the effects of certain accumulated other comprehensive income or loss (“AOCI”) items are not excluded; however, “non-advanced approaches banking organizations,” including the Company and the Bank, could make a one-time permanent election to continue to exclude these items. The Company made its one-time, permanent election to continue to exclude AOCI from capital in its filing with the Federal Reserve Board for the quarter ended March 31, 2015. If the Company would not have made this election, unrealized gains and losses would have been included in the calculation of its regulatory capital.

The sum of the three tiers of capital less investments in unconsolidated subsidiaries represents the total capital. The risk-based capital ratios are calculated by dividing Common Equity Tier 1, Tier 1 and total capital by risk-weighted assets (including certain off-balance sheet activities). Under the Basel III Rules, the minimum capital ratios effective as of January 1, 2015 are:

•Common Equity Tier 1 risk-based capital ratio equal to at least 4.5% of its risk-weighted assets;

•Tier 1 risk-based capital ratio equal to at least 6% of its risk-weighted assets;

•Total risk-based capital ratio equal to at least 8% of its risk-weighted assets; and

•Tier 1 capital to average consolidated assets (leverage ratio) of at least 4%.

In addition to the higher requirements, the Basel III Rules established bank holding companies are required to maintain a common equity Tier 1 capital conservation buffer of at least 2.5% of risk-weighted assets over and above the minimum risk-based capital requirements. Institutions that do not maintain the required capital buffer will become subject to progressively more stringent limitations on the percentage of earnings that can be paid out in dividends or used for stock repurchases and on the payment of discretionary bonuses to senior executive management. The capital conservation buffer requirement began being phased in over four years beginning in 2016. On January 1, 2016, the first phase of the requirement went into effect at 0.625% of risk-weighted assets, and increased each subsequent year by an additional 0.625 percentage points, to reach its final level of 2.5% of risk weighted assets on January 1, 2019. At December 31, 2019, the capital conservation buffer requirement of 2.5%, effectively raised the minimum required risk-based capital ratios to 7% Common Equity Tier 1 Capital, 8.5% Tier 1 Capital and 10.5% Total Capital on a fully phased-in basis.

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On December 31, 2021 the Company was in compliance with the FRB's capital adequacy guidelines. The Company's capital ratios calculated under the Basel III Rules (minimum plus a 2.5% capital conservation buffer) on December 31, 2021 are as follows:

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| **Tier 1 Leverage Ratio (4%)**  **(min requirement)** | | |  | | | **Common Equity Tier 1 Risk-  Based Capital Ratio (7.0%) (min requirement plus buffer)** | | |  | | | **Tier 1 Risk-Based Capital  Ratio (8.5%)  (min requirement plus buffer)** | | |  | | | **Total Risk-Based  Capital Ratio (10.5%)  (min requirement plus buffer)** | | |
| 11.01 | | % |  | | | 10.22 | | % |  | | | 13.59 | | % |  | | | 14.79 | | % |

The Economic Growth, Regulatory Relief, and Consumer Protection Act (the "EGRRCPA") directs the federal banking agencies to develop a specified Community Bank Leverage Ratio, or CBLR, (that is, the ratio of a bank's equity capital to its consolidated assets) of not less than 8% and not more than 10%. On November 4, 2019, federal regulators issued final rules that provide certain banks and their holding companies with the option to elect out of complying with the Basel III Capital Rules. Under this new rule, a qualifying community banking organization is eligible to elect the community bank leverage ratio framework if it has a community bank leverage ratio, or CBLR, greater than 9% at the time of election.

A qualifying community banking organization, or QCBO, is defined as a bank, a savings association, a bank holding company or a savings and loan holding company with:

•a CBLR greater than 9%;

•total consolidated assets of less than $10 billion;

•total off-balance sheet exposures (excluding derivatives other than credit derivatives and unconditionally cancelable commitments) of 25% or less of total consolidated assets; and

•total trading assets and trading liabilities of 5% or less of total consolidated assets.

A QCBO may elect out of complying with the Basel III Capital Rules if, at the time of the election, the QCBO has a CBLR above 9%. The CBLR is generally calculated in accordance with the regulations for calculating the Tier 1 leverage ratio under the regulatory capital framework discussed above and below, with certain specified exceptions. As of December 31, 2020, the Company and the Bank each qualified to elect the community bank leverage ratio framework because they had a CBLR of greater than 9% and satisfied the other requirements. The Company does not have immediate plans to elect to use the community bank leverage ratio framework but may make such an election in the future.

Implementing Section 4012 of The Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act (CARES Act), federal banking agencies issued final rules that, effective October 1, 2020, temporarily lower the community bank leverage ratio threshold and provide a gradual transition back to the prior level. Specifically, the community bank leverage ratio is 8% percent for 2020 and 8.5% for 2021 and is reset at 9% beginning January 1, 2022.

**Interstate Banking and Branching.** Under the Riegle-Neal Interstate Banking and Branching Efficiency Act of 1994 (the "Riegle-Neal Act"), a bank holding company is permitted to acquire the stock or substantially all of the assets of banks located in any state regardless of whether such transaction is prohibited under the laws of any state. The FRB will not approve an interstate acquisition if, as a result of the acquisition, the bank holding company would control more than 10% of the total amount of insured deposits in the United States or would control more than 30% of the insured deposits in the home state of the acquired bank. The 30% of insured deposits state limit does not apply if the acquisition is the initial entry into a state by a bank holding company or if the home state waives such limit. The Riegle-Neal Act also authorizes banks to merge across state lines, thereby creating interstate branches. The Bank and Savings Association Holding Company and Depository Institution Regulatory Improvements Act of 2010, a subset of the Dodd-Frank Act discussed below, permits banks to acquire and establish de novo branches in other states if a state bank in that other state would be permitted to establish the branch.

Under the Riegle-Neal Act, individual states may restrict interstate acquisitions in two ways. A state may prohibit an out-of-state bank holding company from acquiring a bank located in the state unless the target bank has been in existence for a specified minimum period of time (not to exceed five years). A state may also establish limits on the total amount of insured deposits within the state which are controlled by a single bank holding company, provided that such deposit limit does not discriminate against out-of-state bank holding companies.

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**Source of Strength.** Bank holding companies, such as the Company, are required by statute to serve as a source of financial strength for their subsidiary depository institutions, by providing financial assistance to their insured depository institution subsidiaries in the event of financial distress. Under the source of strength requirement, the Company could be required to provide financial assistance to the Bank should it experience financial distress. Furthermore, the FRB has the right to order a bank holding company to terminate any activity that the FRB believes is a serious risk to the financial safety, soundness or stability of any subsidiary bank. The regulators may require these and other actions in support of controlled banks even if such action is not in the best interests of the bank holding company or its stockholders.

**Liability of Commonly Controlled Institutions.** Under cross-guaranty provisions of the Federal Deposit Insurance Act (the "FDIA"), bank subsidiaries of a bank holding company are liable for any loss incurred by the Deposit Insurance Fund (the "DIF"), the federal deposit insurance fund for banks, in connection with the failure of any other bank subsidiary of the bank holding company.

**Bank Secrecy Act and USA PATRIOT Act**. The Company and the Bank must comply with the requirements of the Bank Secrecy Act (the "BSA"). The BSA was enacted to prevent banks and other financial service providers from being used as intermediaries for, or to hide the transfer or deposit of money derived from, drug trafficking, money laundering, and other crimes. Since its passage, the BSA has been amended several times. These amendments include the Money Laundering Control Act of 1986, which made money laundering a criminal act, as well as the Money Laundering Suppression Act of 1994, which required regulators to develop enhanced examination procedures and increased examiner training to improve the identification of money laundering schemes in financial institutions. The USA PATRIOT Act, established in 2001, substantially broadened the scope of U.S. anti-money laundering laws and regulations by imposing significant new compliance and due diligence obligations, creating new crimes and penalties and expanding the extra-territorial jurisdiction of the United States. The regulations impose obligations on financial institutions to maintain appropriate policies, procedures and controls to detect, prevent, and report money laundering and terrorist financing. The regulations include significant penalties for non-compliance.

**Missouri Bank Holding Company Regulation**. Missouri prohibits any bank holding company from acquiring ownership or control of any bank or Missouri depository trust company that has Missouri deposits if, after such acquisition, the bank holding company would hold or control more than 13% of total Missouri deposits. Because of this restriction, among others, a bank holding company, prior to acquiring control of a bank or depository trust company that has deposits in Missouri, must receive the approval of the Missouri Division of Finance.

**Regulation Applicable to the Bank**

**General.** Hawthorn Bank, a Missouri state non-member depository trust company, is subject to the regulation of the Missouri Division of Finance and the FDIC. The FDIC is empowered to issue cease and desist orders against the Bank if it determines that any activities of the Bank represent unsafe and unsound banking practices or violations of law. In addition, the FDIC has the power to impose civil money penalties for violations of banking statutes and regulations. Regulation by these agencies is designed to protect the depositors of the Bank; not shareholders of Hawthorn.

**Bank Regulatory Capital Requirements.** The FDIC has adopted minimum capital requirements applicable to state non-member banks, which are similar to the capital adequacy guidelines established by the FRB for bank holding companies. Federal banking laws classified an insured financial institution in one of the following five categories, depending upon the amount of its regulatory capital:

•"well-capitalized" if it has a total Tier 1 leverage ratio of 5% or greater, a Common Equity Tier 1 risk-based capital ratio of 6.5% or greater, a Tier 1 risk-based capital ratio of 8% or greater and a total risk-based capital ratio of 10% or greater (and is not subject to any order or written directive requiring the bank to adhere to a higher capital ratio);

•"adequately capitalized" if it has a total Tier 1 leverage ratio of 4% or greater, a Common Equity Tier 1 risk-based capital ratio of 4.5% or greater, a Tier 1 risk-based capital ratio of 6% or greater, and a total risk-based capital ratio of 8% or greater;

•"undercapitalized" if it has a total Tier 1 leverage ratio that is less than 4%, a Common Equity Tier 1 risk-based capital ratio that is less than 4.5%, a Tier 1 risk-based capital ratio that is less than 6% or a total risk-based capital ratio that is less than 8%;

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•"significantly undercapitalized" if it has a total Tier 1 leverage ratio that is less than 3%, a Common Equity Tier 1 risk-based capital ratio that is less than 3%, a Tier 1 risk-based capital ratio that is less than 4% or a total risk-based ratio that is less than 6%; and

•"critically undercapitalized" if it has a Tier 1 leverage ratio that is equal to or less than 2%.

Federal regulatory agencies are required to take prompt corrective action against undercapitalized financial institutions. As of December 31, 2021, the Bank was classified as "well-capitalized," which is required for Hawthorn to remain a financial holding company.

The capital ratios and classifications of the Bank as of December 31, 2021 and the minimum requirements to be considered well-capitalized are as follows:

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| **Tier 1 Leverage Ratio**  **(5.0% minimum**  **requirement)** | | |  | | | **Common Equity Tier 1 Risk- Based Capital Ratio (6.5%) (min requirement)** | | |  | | | **Tier 1 Risk-Based Capital Ratio (8.0%)  (min requirement)** | | |  | | | **Total Risk-Based  Capital Ratio (10.0%)  (min requirement)** | | |
| 11.04 | | % |  | | | 13.58 | | % |  | | | 13.58 | | % |  | | | 14.78 | | % |

**Limitations on Interest Rates and Loans to One Borrower.** The rate of interest a bank may charge on certain classes of loans is limited by state and federal law. At certain times in the past, these limitations have resulted in reductions of net interest margins on certain classes of loans. Federal and state laws impose additional restrictions on the lending activities of banks. The maximum amount that a Missouri state-chartered bank may lend to any one person or entity is generally limited to 15% of the unimpaired capital of the bank located in a city having a population of 100,000 or more, 20% of the unimpaired capital of the bank located in a city having a population of less than 100,000 and over 7,000, and 25% of the unimpaired capital of the bank if located elsewhere in the state. In the case of Missouri state-chartered banks with a composite rating of 1 or 2 under the Capital, Assets, Management, Earnings, Liquidity and Sensitivity (CAMELS) rating system, the maximum amount is the greater of (i) the limits listed in the foregoing sentence or (ii) 25% of the unimpaired capital of the bank.

**Payment of Dividends.** The Company's primary source of funds is dividends from the Bank, and the Bank is subject to federal and state laws limiting the payment of dividends. Under the FDIA, an FDIC-insured institution may not pay dividends while it is undercapitalized or if payment would cause it to become undercapitalized. The National Bank Act and Missouri banking law also prohibit the declaration of a dividend out of the capital and surplus of the Bank.

**Community Reinvestment Act.** The Bank is subject to the CRA and implementing regulations. The CRA regulations establish the framework and criteria by which the bank regulatory agencies assess an institution's record of helping to meet the credit needs of its community, including low- and moderate-income neighborhoods. CRA ratings are taken into account by regulators in reviewing certain applications made by Hawthorn and its banking subsidiary.

**Limitations on Transactions with Affiliates.** Hawthorn and its non-bank subsidiaries are "affiliates" within the meaning of the Federal Reserve Act. The amount of loans or extensions of credit which the Bank may make to non-bank affiliates, or to third parties secured by securities or obligations of the non-bank affiliates, are substantially limited by the Federal Reserve Act and the FDIA. Such acts further restrict the range of permissible transactions between a bank and an affiliated company. A bank and its subsidiaries may engage in certain transactions, including loans and purchases of assets, with an affiliated company only if the terms and conditions of the transaction, including credit standards, are substantially the same as, or at least as favorable to the bank as, those prevailing at the time for comparable transactions with non-affiliated companies or, in the absence of comparable transactions, on terms and conditions that would be offered to non-affiliated companies.

**Other Banking Activities.** The investments and activities of the Bank are also subject to regulation by federal and state banking agencies regarding, among other things, investments in subsidiaries, investments for their own account (including limitations on investments in junk bonds and equity securities), loans to officers, directors and their affiliates, security requirements, anti-tying limitations, anti-money laundering, financial privacy and customer identity verification requirements, truth-in-lending, the types of interest bearing deposit accounts which it can offer, trust department operations, brokered deposits, audit requirements, issuance of securities, branching and mergers and acquisitions.

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**Changes in Laws and Monetary Policies**

**Recent Legislation.** Various pieces of legislation, including proposals to change substantially the financial institution regulatory system, are from time to time introduced and considered by the Missouri state legislature and the United States Congress. In July 2010, President Barack Obama signed into law the Dodd-Frank Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act (the "Dodd-Frank Act"), which enacted substantial changes to the legal framework of the entire financial services industry. The Dodd-Frank Act mandates the passage of numerous rules and regulations by various regulatory agencies over the next few years. It also creates the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau, which will overtake supervision of most providers of consumer financial products and services, and will be empowered to declare acts or practices related to the delivery of a consumer financial product or service to be "unfair, deceptive or abusive." This law will continue to change banking regulation and the operating environment of Hawthorn in substantial and unpredictable ways. These changes could increase or decrease the cost of doing business, limit or expand permissible activities or affect the competitive balance among banks, savings associations, credit unions and other financial institutions. Hawthorn cannot predict the impact that the Dodd-Frank Act, and the various regulations issued thereunder will have on its business.

Key provisions of the EGRRCPA as it relates to community banks and bank holding companies include, but are not limited to: (i) designating mortgages held in portfolio as "qualified mortgages" for banks with less than $10 billion in assets, subject to certain documentation and product limitations; (ii) exempting banks with less than $10 billion in assets (and total trading assets and trading liabilities of 5% or less of total assets) from Volcker Rule requirements relating to proprietary trading; (iii) simplifying capital calculations for banks with less than $10 billion in assets by requiring federal banking agencies to establish a community bank leverage ratio of tangible equity to average consolidated assets of not less than 8% or more than 10%, and provide that banks that maintain tangible equity in excess of such ratio will be deemed to be in compliance with risk-based capital and leverage requirements; (iv) assisting smaller banks with obtaining stable funding by providing an exception for reciprocal deposits from FDIC restrictions on acceptance of brokered deposits; (v) raising the eligibility for use of short-form Call Reports from $1 billion to $5 billion in assets; (vi) clarifying definitions pertaining to high-volatility commercial real estate, which require higher capital allocations, so that only loans with increased risk are subject to higher risk weightings; and (vii) changing the eligibility for use of the small bank holding company policy statement from institutions with under $1 billion in assets to institutions with under $3 billion in assets.

**Fiscal Monetary Policies.** Hawthorn's business and earnings are affected significantly by the fiscal and monetary policies of the federal government and its agencies. Hawthorn is particularly affected by the policies of the FRB, which regulates the supply of money and credit in the United States. Among the instruments of monetary policy available to the FRB are:

•conducting open market operations in United States government securities;

•changing the discount rates of borrowings of depository institutions;

•imposing or changing reserve requirements against depository institutions' deposits; and

•imposing or changing reserve requirements against certain borrowings by bank and their affiliates.

These methods are used in varying degrees and combinations to directly affect the availability of bank loans and deposits, as well as the interest rates charged on loans and paid on deposits. The policies of the FRB have a material effect on Hawthorn's business, results of operations and financial condition.

The references in the foregoing discussion to various aspects of statutes and regulation are merely summaries, which do not purport to be complete and which are qualified in their entirety by reference to the actual statutes and regulations.

**Available Information**

The address of the Company's principal executive offices is 132 East High Street, Jefferson City, Missouri 65101 and the telephone number at this location is (573)761-6100. The Company's common stock trades on the Nasdaq Global Select Market under the symbol "HWBK".

We electronically file certain documents with the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC). We file annual reports on Form 10-K, quarterly reports on Form 10-Q, current reports on Form 8-K (as appropriate), along with any related amendments and supplements. From time-to-time, we also may file registration and related statements pertaining to equity or debt offerings. You may read and download the Company's SEC filings over the internet from several

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commercial document retrieval services as well as at the SEC's internet website (www.sec.gov). You may also read and copy the Company's SEC filings at the SEC's public reference room located at 100 F Street, NE., Washington, DC 20549. Please call the SEC 1-800-SEC-0330 for further information concerning the public reference room and any applicable copy charges.

The Company's internet website address is www.hawthornbancshares.com. Under the "Documents" menu tab of the Company's website (www.hawthornbancshares.com), we make available, without charge, the Company's public filings with the SEC, including the Annual Report on Form 10-K, Quarterly Reports on Form 10-Q, Current Reports on Form 8-K, or any amendments to those reports filed or furnished to the SEC pursuant to Section 13(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended (the "Exchange Act"). Please note that any internet addresses provided in this report are for information purposes only and are not intended to be hyperlinks. Accordingly, no information found and/or provided at such internet addresses is intended or deemed to be incorporated by reference herein.

**Item 1A. Risk Factors.**

**Risk Factors**

We are identifying important risks and uncertainties that could affect the Company's results of operations, financial condition or business and that could cause them to differ materially from the Company's historical results of operations, financial condition or business, or those contemplated by forward-looking statements made herein or elsewhere, by, or on behalf of, the Company. Factors that could cause or contribute to such differences include, but are not limited to, those factors described below. The risk factors highlighted below are not necessarily the only ones that the Company faces.

**Risks Relating to Our Business and Market**

**Public health threats or outbreaks of communicable diseases has adversely affected, and is expected to continue to adversely effect on the Company's operations and financial results**. The Company and the Bank may face risks related to public health threats or outbreaks of communicable diseases. A widespread healthcare crisis, such as an outbreak of a communicable disease could adversely affect the global economy and the Company's financial performance. For example, the ongoing global Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) pandemic has destabilized the financial markets in which the Bank operates, and likely will continue to cause significant disruption in the global economies and financial markets, including the Bank's local markets. The Company and the Bank are dependent upon the willingness and ability of the Bank's customers to conduct banking and other financial transactions. In reaction to and as preventative measure to attempt to slow the spread of the pandemic, government authorities have in many states and municipalities implemented mandatory closures, shelter-in-place orders, and social distancing protocols, including orders within many of the geographic areas that the Bank operates. Although the Bank is typically considered an essential business, access to its branches and office locations have been restricted at times for the safety of its employees and customers. Limiting customers' access to the Bank's physical business could prevent some customers from transacting with the Bank and lower demand for lending and other services offered by the Bank, adversely affecting the Bank's and the Company's cash flows, financial condition, results of operations, profitability and asset quality and could continue to do so for an indefinite period of time. This could have a material adverse effect on the Bank's and Company's results of operations, financial condition, and liquidity. In particular, the continued spread of COVID-19 and efforts to contain the virus could:

•negatively impact customer demand of the Bank's lending and related services;

•cause the Bank to experience an increase in costs as a result of the Bank implementing operational

▪changes to accommodate its newly-remote workforce;

•cause delayed payments from customers and uncollectible accounts, defaults, foreclosures, and declining

▪collateral values, resulting in losses to the Bank and the Company;

•result in losses on the Bank's investment portfolio, due to volatility in the markets and lower trading

▪volume driven by economic uncertainty;

•cause market interest rates to continue to decline, which could adversely affect the Bank's and the

▪Company's net interest income and profitability;

•cause the Bank's credit losses to grow substantially; and

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•impact availability of qualified personnel.

The situation surrounding COVID-19 remains uncertain and the potential for a material adverse impact on the Bank and the Company increases the longer the virus impacts activity levels in the United States and globally. The ultimate extent of the negative impact on the Bank and the Company are highly uncertain and cannot be predicted. The Bank and the Company continue to adapt to the changing dynamics of the COVID-19 impacts to the economy, needs of employees and customers, and authoritative measures mandated by federal, state, and local governments. However, there is no assurance that the Bank and the Company can adequately mitigate the risks of such business disruptions and interruptions. Beyond the current COVID-19 pandemic, the potential impacts of epidemics, pandemics, or other outbreaks of an illness, disease, or virus could therefore materially and adversely affect the Bank's and the Company's business, revenue, operations, financial condition, liquidity and cash flows.

**Because We Primarily Serve Central And West Central Missouri, A Decline In The Local Economic Conditions Could Lower The Company's Profitability**. The profitability of Hawthorn is dependent on the profitability of its banking subsidiary, which operates out of central and west central Missouri. The financial condition of this bank is affected by fluctuations in the economic conditions and business activity prevailing in the portion of Missouri in which its operations are located. Although our customers' business and financial interests may extend well beyond our market areas, the financial conditions of both Hawthorn and its banking subsidiary would be adversely affected by deterioration in the general economic and real estate climate in Missouri.

An increase in unemployment, a decrease in profitability of regional businesses or real estate values or an increase in interest rates are among the factors that could weaken the local economy. With a weaker local economy:

•customers may not want or need the products and services of the Bank,

•borrowers may be unable to repay their loans,

•the value of the collateral security of the Bank's loans to borrowers may decline,

•the number of loan delinquencies and foreclosures may increase, and

•the overall quality of the Bank's loan portfolio may decline.

Originating mortgage loans and consumer loans is a significant source of profits for Hawthorn's banking subsidiary. If individual customers in the local area do not want or need these loans, profits may decrease. Although the Bank could make other investments, the Bank may earn less revenue on these investments than on loans. Also, the Bank's losses on loans may increase if borrowers are unable to make payments on their loans.

**Interest Rate Changes May Reduce The Profitability Of The Company And Of The Bank**. The primary source of earnings for Hawthorn's banking subsidiary is net interest income. To be profitable, the Bank has to earn more money in interest and fees on loans and other interest-earning assets than it pays as interest on deposits and other interest-bearing liabilities and as other expenses. If prevailing interest rates decrease, the amount of interest the Bank earn on loans and investment securities may decrease more rapidly than the amount of interest the Bank has to pay on deposits and other interest-bearing liabilities. This would result in a decrease in the profitability of Hawthorn and its banking subsidiary.

Changes in the level or structure of interest rates also affect:

•the Bank's ability to originate loans,

•the value of the Bank's loan and securities portfolios,

•the Bank's ability to realize gains from the sale of loans and securities,

•the average life of the Bank's deposits, and

•the Bank's ability to obtain deposits.

Fluctuations in interest rates will ultimately affect both the level of income and expense recorded on a large portion of the Bank's assets and liabilities, and the fair value of all interest-earning assets, other than interest-earning assets that mature in the short term. The Bank's interest rate management strategy is designed to stabilize net interest income and preserve capital over a broad range of interest rate movements by matching the interest rate sensitivity of assets and liabilities. Although Hawthorn believes that the Bank's current mix of loans, mortgage-backed securities, investment

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securities and deposits is reasonable, significant fluctuations in interest rates may have a negative effect on the profitability of the Bank.

**Our Business Depends On Our Ability To Successfully Manage Credit Risk**. The operation of our business requires us to manage credit risk. As a lender, our banking subsidiary is exposed to the risk that borrowers will be unable to repay their loans according to their terms, and that the collateral securing repayment of their loans, if any, may not be sufficient to ensure repayment. In addition, there are risks inherent in making any loan, including risks with respect to the period of time over which the loan may be repaid, risks relating to proper loan underwriting, risks resulting from changes in economic and industry conditions and risks inherent in dealing with individual borrowers. In order to successfully manage credit risk, we must, among other things, maintain disciplined and prudent underwriting standards and ensure that our loan officers follow those standards. The weakening of these standards for any reason, such as an attempt to attract higher yielding loans, a lack of discipline or diligence by our employees in underwriting and monitoring loans, the inability of our employees to adequately adapt policies and procedures to changes in economic or any other conditions affecting borrowers and the quality of our loan portfolio, may result in loan defaults, foreclosures and additional charge-offs and may necessitate that we significantly increase our allowance for loan losses, each of which could adversely affect our net income. As a result, our inability to successfully manage credit risk could have a material adverse effect on our business, financial condition or results of operations.

**The Company's Profitability Depends On The Bank's Asset Quality And Lending Risks**. Success in the banking industry largely depends on the quality of loans and other assets. A significant source of risk for us arises from the possibility that losses will be sustained because borrowers, guarantors and related parties may fail to perform in accordance with the terms of their loans. The loan officers of Hawthorn's banking subsidiary are actively encouraged to identify deteriorating loans. Loans are also monitored and categorized through an analysis of their payment status. The Bank's failure to timely and accurately monitor the quality of its loans and other assets could have a materially adverse effect on the operations and financial condition of Hawthorn and its banking subsidiary. There is a degree of credit risk associated with any lending activity. The Bank attempts to minimize its credit risk through loan diversification. Although the Bank's loan portfolio is varied, with no undue concentration in any one industry, substantially all of the loans in the portfolio have been made to borrowers in central, west central, and southwest Missouri. Therefore, the loan portfolio is susceptible to factors affecting the central, west central, and southwest Missouri area and the level of non-performing assets is heavily dependent upon local conditions. There can be no assurance that the level of the Bank's non-performing assets will not increase above current levels. High levels of non-performing assets could have a materially adverse effect on the operations and financial condition of Hawthorn and its banking subsidiary.

**The Provision For Probable Loan Losses May Need To Be Increased**. Hawthorn's banking subsidiary makes a provision for loan losses based upon management's estimate of probable losses in the loan portfolio and its consideration of prevailing economic and environmental conditions. The amount of future loan losses is susceptible to changes in economic, operating and other conditions, including changes in interest rates, which may be beyond the Company's control, and these losses may exceed current estimates. We cannot fully predict the amount or timing of losses or whether the loss allowance will be adequate in the future. The Bank may need to increase the provision for loan losses through additional provisions in the future if, among other things, the financial condition of any of its borrowers deteriorates, if its borrower fails to perform its obligations to it, or if real estate values decline. Furthermore, various regulatory agencies, as an integral part of their examination process, periodically review the Bank's loan portfolio, provision for loan losses, and real estate acquired by foreclosure. Such agencies may require the Bank to recognize additions to the provision for loan losses based on their judgments of information available to them at the time of the examination. Any additional provision for probable loan losses, whether required as a result of regulatory review or initiated by Hawthorn itself, may materially alter the financial outlook of Hawthorn and its banking subsidiary and may have a material adverse effect on the Company's financial condition and results of operations.

In June of 2016, the Financial Accounting Standards Board, or FASB, decided to review how banks estimate losses in the allowance calculation, and it issued the final current expected credit loss standard, or CECL. Currently, the impairment model is based on incurred losses, and investments are recognized as impaired when there is no longer an assumption that future cash flows will be collected in full under the originally contracted terms. This model will be replaced by the new CECL model that will become effective for the Company in January 2023. Under the new CECL model promulgated under ASU 2016-13 "Financial Instruments-Credit Losses (Topic 326): Measurement of Credit Losses on Financial Instruments", we will be required to use historical information, current conditions and reasonable forecasts to estimate the expected loss over the life of the loan and record an allowance that, when deducted from the amortized cost basis of the financial asset, presents the net amount expected to be collected on the financial asset. The CECL model is expected to result in more timely recognition of credit losses. The ASU will require new disclosures for financial assets

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measured at amortized cost, loans and available-for-sale debt securities. Entities will apply the standard's provisions as a cumulative-effect adjustment to retained earnings as of the beginning of the first reporting period in which the guidance is adopted. The transition to the CECL model will bring with it significantly greater data requirements and changes to methodologies to accurately account for expected losses under the new parameters.

Management is currently evaluating the impact of these changes to our financial position and results of operations. We anticipate a significant change in the processes and procedures to calculate the allowance, including changes in assumptions and estimates to consider expected credit losses over the life of the loan versus the current accounting practice that utilizes the incurred loss model. We expect to continue developing and implementing processes and procedures to ensure we are fully compliant with the CECL requirements at its adoption date. The allowance is a material estimate of ours, and given the change from an incurred loss model to a methodology that considers the credit loss over the life of the loan, there is the potential for an increase in the allowance at adoption date. At this time, an estimate of the impact to the Company's financial statements is not known, but the impact could be significantly impacted by the composition, characteristics and quality of the underlying loan portfolio at the time of adoption. The Company has formed a committee and is continuing to evaluate the impact of the ASU's adoption on the Company's consolidated financial statements by assessing different credit risk models. As a result of the FASB issuing a delay in the implementation of this ASU, the Company will extend its evaluation process leading up to the new implementation deadline of January 2023.

**Adverse Market Conditions In The U.S. Economy And The Markets In Which We Operate Could Adversely Impact The Company's Business.** General downward economic trends, reduced availability of commercial credit, and increasing unemployment have negatively impacted the credit performance of commercial and consumer credit, resulting in additional write-downs. Concerns over the stability of the financial markets and the economy have resulted in decreased lending by financial institutions to their customers and to each other. This market turmoil and tightening of credit has led to increased commercial and consumer deficiencies, lack of customer confidence, increased market volatility and widespread reduction in general business activity. Competition among depository institutions for deposits has increased significantly. Financial institutions have experienced decreased access to deposits or borrowings.

Although there has been a modest recovery in the domestic economy, there can be no assurance that the economy will not enter into another recession, whether in the near or long term future. In addition, during the COVID-19 pandemic, our growth was bolstered by government programs that may not continue, such as the SBA Paycheck Protection Program (PPP) pursuant to which we issued PPP loans in 2020 and 2021. Furthermore, real estate values and the demand for commercial real estate loans have not fully recovered, and reduced availability of commercial credit and continuing unemployment have negatively impacted the credit performance of commercial and consumer credit. Additional market developments such as a relapse or worsening of economic conditions in other parts of the world would likely exacerbate the lingering effects of the difficult market conditions experienced by us and others in the financial services industry and could further slow, stall or reverse the slow recovery in the U.S. A further deterioration of overall market conditions, a continuation of the economic downturn or prolonged economic stagnation in the Company's markets may have a negative impact on its business, financial condition, results of operations and the trading price of its common stock. If the strength of the U.S. economy in general and the strength of the economy in areas where we lend were to stagnate or decline, this could result in, among other things, a deterioration in credit quality or a reduced demand for credit, including a resultant adverse effect on the Company's loan portfolio and provision for losses on loans. This may exacerbate the Company's exposure to credit risk, impair the Company's ability to assess the creditworthiness of its customers or to estimate the values of its assets and adversely affect the ability of borrowers to perform under the terms of their lending arrangements with us. Negative conditions in the real estate markets where we operate could adversely affect borrowers' ability to repay their loans and the value of the underlying collateral. Real estate values are affected by various factors, including general economic conditions, governmental rules or policies and natural disasters. These factors may adversely impact borrowers' ability to make required payments, which in turn, may negatively impact the Company's financial results. As a result of the difficult market and economic conditions referred to above, there is a potential for new federal or state laws and regulations regarding lending and funding practices and liquidity standards, and for bank regulatory agencies to be very aggressive in responding to concerns and trends identified in examinations. This increased government action may increase costs and limit the Company's ability to pursue certain business opportunities.

We cannot predict whether the difficult market and economic conditions will improve in the near future. A worsening of these conditions would likely exacerbate the adverse effects of these difficult conditions on the Company, its customers and the other financial institutions in its market. As a result, we may experience increases in foreclosures, delinquencies and customer bankruptcies, as well as more restricted access to funds, and the Company's business, financial condition, results of operations and stock price may be adversely affected.

**The Soundness Of Other Financial Institutions Could Adversely Affect Us.** The Company's ability to engage in routine funding transactions could be adversely affected by the actions and commercial soundness of other financial

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institutions. Financial services institutions are interrelated as a result of trading, clearing, counterparty or other relationships. We have exposure to many different industries and counterparties, and we routinely execute transactions with counterparties in the financial industry, including brokers and dealers, commercial banks, investment banks, mutual and hedge funds, and other institutional clients. As a result, defaults by, or even rumors or questions about, one or more financial services institutions, or the financial services industry generally, have led to market-wide liquidity problems and could lead to losses or defaults by us or by other institutions. Many of these transactions expose us to credit risk in the event of default of a counterparty or client. In addition, the Company's credit risk may be exacerbated when the collateral held by us cannot be realized upon or is liquidated at prices not sufficient to recover the full amount of the loan or derivative exposure due us. There is no assurance that any such losses would not materially and adversely affect the Company's results of operations.

**Deterioration In The Housing Market Could Cause Further Increases In Delinquencies And Non-Performing Assets, Including Loan Charge-Offs, And Depress The Company's Income And Growth.** The volume of one-to-four family residential mortgages and home equity lines of credit may decrease during economic downturns as a result of, among other things, a decrease in real estate values, an increase in unemployment, a slowdown in housing price appreciation or increases in interest rates. These factors could reduce earnings and consequently the Company's financial condition because:

•borrowers may not be able to repay their loans;

•the value of the collateral securing loans may decline further;

•the quality of the Company's loan portfolio may decline further; and

•customers may not want or need the Company's products and services.

Any of these scenarios could cause an increase in delinquencies and non-performing assets, require us to charge-off a higher percentage of loans, increase substantially the provision for losses on loans, or make fewer loans, which would reduce income.

**The FDIC's Changes in the Calculation of Deposit Insurance Premiums and Ability to Levy Special Assessments Could Increase The Company's Non-Interest Expense And May Reduce Its Profitability.** The range of base assessment rates historically varies from 12 to 45 basis points depending on an institution's risk category, with newly added financial measures resulting in increased assessment rates for institutions heavily relying on brokered deposits to support rapid asset growth. However, the Dodd-Frank Act requires the FDIC to amend its regulations to redefine the assessment base used for calculating deposit insurance assessments. On February 9, 2011, the FDIC adopted a final rule that defines the assessment base as the average consolidated total assets during the assessment period minus the average tangible equity of the insured depository institution during the assessment period. The FDIC also imposed a new assessment rate scale (which was revised further in 2016). Under the new system, banks will pay assessments at a rate between 3 and 30 basis points per assets minus tangible equity, depending upon an institution's risk category (the final rule also includes progressively lower assessment rate schedules when the FDIC's reserve ratio reaches certain levels). The rulemaking changes the current assessment rate schedule so the schedule will result in the collection of assessment revenue that is approximately the same as generated under the current rate schedule and current assessment base. Nearly all banks with assets less than $10 billion will pay smaller deposit insurance assessments as a result of the new rule. The majority of the changes in the FDIC's final rule became effective on April 1, 2011. The FDIC has the statutory authority to impose special assessments on insured depository institutions in an amount, and for such purposes, as the FDIC may deem necessary. The change in the calculation methodology for deposit insurance premiums and the possible emergency special assessments could increase non-interest expense and may adversely affect the Company's profitability.

**We May Elect Or Be Compelled To Seek Additional Capital In The Future, But That Capital May Not Be Available When It Is Needed.** We are required by regulatory authorities to maintain adequate levels of capital to support operations. In addition, we may elect to raise additional capital to support the growth of the Company's business or to finance acquisitions, if any, or we may elect to raise additional capital for other reasons. In that regard, a number of financial institutions have recently raised considerable amounts of capital as a result of a deterioration in their results of operations and financial condition arising from the turmoil in the mortgage loan market, deteriorating economic conditions, declines in real estate values and other factors. Should we elect or be required by regulatory authorities to raise additional capital, we may seek to do so through the issuance of, among other things, common stock or securities convertible into common stock, which could dilute your ownership interest in the Company. Although we remain "well-capitalized" and have not had a deterioration in liquidity, the future cost and availability of capital may be adversely affected by illiquid credit markets, economic conditions and a number of other factors, many of which are outside of the Company's control.

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Accordingly, we cannot assure you of the ability to raise additional capital if needed or on terms acceptable to us. If we cannot raise additional capital when needed or on terms acceptable to us, it may have a material adverse effect on the Company's financial condition and results of operations.

**If We Are Unable To Successfully Compete For Customers In The Company's Market Area, the Company's Financial Condition And Results Of Operations Could Be Adversely Affected**. Hawthorn's banking subsidiary faces substantial competition in making loans, attracting deposits and providing other financial products and services. The Bank has numerous competitors for customers in its market area.

Such competition for loans comes principally from:

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| •other commercial banks  •savings banks  •savings and loan associations | | | •mortgage banking companies  •finance companies  •credit unions | | |

Competition for deposits comes principally from:

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| •other commercial banks  •savings banks  •savings and loan associations  •credit unions | | | •brokerage firms  •insurance companies  •money market mutual funds  •mutual funds (such as corporate and government securities funds) | | |

Many of these competitors have greater financial resources and name recognition, more locations, more advanced technology and more financial products to offer than the Bank. Competition from larger institutions may increase due to an acceleration of bank mergers and consolidations in Missouri and the rest of the nation. In addition, the Gramm-Leach-Bliley Act removes many of the remaining restrictions in federal banking law against cross-ownership between banks and other financial institutions, such as insurance companies and securities firms. The law will likely increase the number and financial strength of companies that compete directly with the Bank.

The profitability of the Bank depends of its continued ability to attract new customers and compete in it service areas. Increased competition in our markets from new competitors, as well as the expanding operations of existing competitors, may result in:

•interest rate changes to various types of accounts

•a decrease in the amounts of the Bank's loans and deposits

•reduced spreads between loan rates and deposit rates

•loan terms that are less favorable to the bank.

Any of these results could have a material adverse impact on the Bank's market share of deposits and loans in the Bank's service areas. If the Bank is unable to successfully compete, its financial condition and results of operations will be adversely affected.

**We May Experience Difficulties In Managing Growth And In Effectively Integrating Newly Acquired Companies**. As part of the Company's general strategy, it may continue to acquire banks and businesses that it believes provide a strategic fit with its business. To the extent that the Company does grow, there can be no assurances that we will be able to adequately and profitably manage such growth. Acquiring other banks and businesses will involve risks commonly associated with acquisitions, including:

•potential exposure to liabilities of the banks and businesses acquired;

•difficulty and expense of integrating the operations and personnel of the banks and businesses acquired;

•difficulty and expense of instituting the necessary systems and procedures, including accounting and financial reporting systems, to manage the combined enterprises on a profitable basis;

•potential disruption to existing business and operations;

•potential diversion of the time and attention of management; and

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•impairment of relationships with and the possible loss of key employees and customers of the banks and businesses acquired.

The success of the Company's internal growth strategy will depend primarily on the ability of the Bank to generate an increasing level of loans and deposits at acceptable risk levels and on acceptable terms without significant increases in non-interest expenses relative to revenues generated. There is no assurance that we will be successful in implementing the Company's internal growth strategy.

**The Bank Is A Community Bank And Our Ability To Maintain The Bank's Reputation Is Critical To The Success Of Our Business And The Failure To Do So Could Materially Adversely Affect Our Performance.** The Bank is a community bank, and its reputation is one of the most valuable components of our business. As such, we strive to conduct our business in a manner that enhances our reputation. This is done, in part, by recruiting, hiring and retaining employees who share our core values of being an integral part of the communities we serve, delivering superior service to our customers and caring about our customers and associates. If our reputation is negatively affected, by the actions of our employees or otherwise, our business and, therefore, our operating results could be materially adversely affected.

**Phase-out of the London Inter-Bank Offered Rate (“LIBOR”) and uncertainty relating to alternative reference rates may adversely affect our results of operations.**LIBOR is used extensively as a reference rate for various financial contracts, including adjustable-rate loans, asset-backed securities, and interest rate swaps. In July 2017, the United Kingdom's Financial Conduct Authority, which regulates LIBOR, announced that it intends to stop persuading or compelling banks to submit LIBOR rates after 2021, such date was later extended to June 30, 2023. Accordingly, continuation of LIBOR cannot be guaranteed after June 30, 2023 and alternative reference rates must be established. Management is currently evaluating the impact of this transition as it relates to new and existing contracts and customers. We will be required to implement substitute indices for the calculation of interest rates under our loan agreements and we are currently evaluating appropriate alternatives to LIBOR. Implementing the LIBOR phase-out will involve additional expense and may reduce the value of our LIBOR-based loans and securities and impact the availability and cost of hedging instruments and borrowings. If we fail to successfully execute the transition, we may be subject to disputes or litigation with clients over the appropriateness of substitute LIBOR indices. The ultimate impact of the LIBOR phase-out on the valuations, pricing and operation of our financial instruments is not yet known and difficult to predict and may adversely affect our results of operations. At December 31, 2021, $12.6 million of our loans were tied to LIBOR.

**The Company's Success Largely Depends On The Efforts Of Its Executive Officers**. The success of Hawthorn and its banking subsidiary has been largely dependent on the efforts of David Turner, Chairman, CEO, and President and the other executive officers. These individuals are expected to continue to perform their services. However, the loss of the services of Mr. Turner, or any of the other key executive officers could have a materially adverse effect on Hawthorn and its subsidiary bank.

**If We Fail To Maintain An Effective System Of Internal Control Over Financial Reporting, We May Not Be Able To Accurately Report Our Financial Results Or Prevent Fraud, And, As A Result, Investors And Depositors Could Lose Confidence In Our Financial Reporting, Which Could Adversely Affect Our Business, The Trading Price Of Our Stock, And Our Ability To Attract Additional Deposits**. We are required to include in our annual reports filed with the SEC a report from our management regarding internal control over financial reporting. As a result, we documented and evaluated our internal control over financial reporting in order to satisfy the requirements of Section 404 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act and SEC rules and regulations, which require an annual management report on our internal control over financial reporting, including, among other matters, management's assessment of the effectiveness of internal control over financial reporting. Failure or circumvention of our system of internal control could have an adverse effect on our business, profitability, and financial condition, and could result in regulatory actions and loss of investor confidence. Additionally, if we fail to identify and correct any significant deficiencies or material weaknesses in the design or operating effectiveness of our internal control over financial reporting or fail to prevent fraud, current and potential stockholders and depositors could lose confidence in our financial reporting, which could adversely affect our business, financial condition and results of operations, the trading price of our stock and our ability to attract additional deposits.

**Risks Relating to Our Regulatory Environment**

**We May Be Adversely Affected By Changes In Laws And Regulations Affecting The Financial Services Industry**. Banks and bank holding companies such as Hawthorn are subject to regulation by both federal and state bank regulatory agencies. The regulations, which are designed to protect borrowers and promote certain social policies, include limitations on the operations of banks and bank holding companies, such as minimum capital requirements and restrictions

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on dividend payments. The regulatory authorities have extensive discretion in connection with their supervision and enforcement activities and their examination policies, including the imposition of restrictions on the operation of a bank, the classification of assets by an institution and requiring an increase in a bank's allowance for loan losses. These regulations are not necessarily designed to maximize the profitability of banking institutions.

In July 2010, President Barack Obama signed into law the Dodd-Frank Act, which enacted substantial changes to the legal framework of the entire financial services industry. The Dodd-Frank Act mandates the passage of numerous rules and regulations by various regulatory agencies over the next few years. This legislation will change banking regulation and the operating environment of Hawthorn in substantial and unpredictable ways. It could increase or decrease the cost of doing business, limit or expand permissible activities or affect the competitive balance among banks, savings associations, credit unions and other financial institutions. Hawthorn cannot predict the impact that the Dodd-Frank Act, and the various regulations issued thereunder will have on its business.

These, and other future changes in the banking laws and regulations and tax and accounting rules applicable to financial institutions, could have a material adverse effect on the operations and financial condition of Hawthorn and its banking subsidiary.

**The Short-Term And Long-Term Impact Of The Changing Regulatory Capital Requirements And New Capital Rules Is Uncertain.** The federal banking agencies have substantially amended the regulatory capital rules applicable to us and the Bank. The amendments implement the "Basel III" regulatory capital reforms and changes required by the Dodd-Frank Act. The amended rules include new minimum risk-based capital and leverage ratios, which became effective in January 2015, with certain requirements to be phased in beginning in 2016, and refined the definition of what constitutes "capital" for purposes of calculating those ratios.

The application of more stringent capital requirements to us and the Bank could, among other things, result in lower returns on invested capital, require the raising of additional capital, and result in regulatory actions if we were to be unable to comply with such requirements. Implementation of changes to asset risk weightings for risk based capital calculations, items included or deducted in calculating regulatory capital and/or additional capital conservation buffers could result in management modifying its business strategy and could further limit the Company's ability to make distributions, including paying out dividends or buying back shares.

The EGRRCPA directs the federal banking agencies to develop a specified Community Bank Leverage Ratio (that is, the ratio of a bank's equity capital to its consolidated assets) of not less than 8% and not more than 10%. On November 4, 2019, federal regulators issued final rules effective January 1, 2020 that provide certain banks and their holding companies with the option to elect out of complying with the Basel III Capital Rules. Under this new rule, a qualifying community banking organization is eligible to elect the community bank leverage ratio framework if it has a community bank leverage ratio, or CBLR, greater than 9% at the time of election. The final rule is described in more detail above under the section entitled "Regulatory Capital Requirements." As of December 31, 2020, the Company and the Bank each qualified to elect the community bank leverage ratio framework because they had a CBLR of greater than 9% and satisfied the other requirements. Hawthorn has not opted in to CBLO. The Company does not have immediate plans to elect to use the community bank leverage ratio framework but may make such an election in the future. Under the CARES Act and regulations issued by federal banking agencies thereunder, effective October 1, 2020, the community bank leverage ratio has been temporarily reduced to 8% percent for 2020 and 8.5% for 2021 and is reset at 9% beginning January 1, 2022.

**Non-Compliance with the USA PATRIOT Act, Bank Secrecy Act, Real Estate Settlement Procedures Act, Truth-in-Lending Act, Community Reinvestment Act, Fair Lending Laws Or Other Laws And Regulations Could Result In Fines Or Sanctions, And Curtail Expansion Opportunities**. Financial institutions are required under the USA PATRIOT and Bank Secrecy Acts to develop programs to prevent financial institutions from being used for money-laundering and terrorist activities. Financial institutions are also obligated to file suspicious activity reports with the U.S. Treasury Department's Office of Financial Crimes Enforcement Network if such activities are detected. These rules also require financial institutions to establish procedures for identifying and verifying the identity of customers seeking to open new financial accounts. Failure or the inability to comply with the USA PATRIOT Act and Bank Secrecy Act statutes and regulations could result in fines or penalties, curtailment of expansion opportunities, enforcement actions, intervention or sanctions by regulators and costly litigation or expensive additional controls and systems. During the last few years, several banking institutions have received large fines for non-compliance with these laws and regulations. In addition, the U.S. Government imposed and will continue to expand laws and regulations relating to residential and consumer lending activities that create significant new compliance burdens and financial risks.

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**We are subject to a number of other laws and regulations, which may adversely affect the operation of our business and increase our costs.** We are extensively regulated under U.S. federal and state law, and are subject to a number of laws and regulations in addition to banking laws and regulations, including securities, insurance and tax laws and regulations. As a company whose stock is publicly traded, we are subject to various federal and state securities laws, including the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, the Exchange Act and the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002, and we file periodic reports with the Securities and Exchange Commission. In addition, because our common stock is listed with The Nasdaq Stock Market LLC, we are subject to the listing rules of that exchange. Our subsidiary, Hawthorn Risk Management, Inc., is subject to the regulations of the State of Missouri and undergoes periodic examinations by the Missouri Division of Finance**.** The Company and its subsidiaries are subject to federal and state income taxes and Missouri franchise taxes, and are potentially subject to audits by the Internal Revenue Service and state income and franchise tax examinations by the Missouri Department of Revenue. Any failure by us to comply with any laws or regulations, any change in such laws or regulations or the position of any regulatory agency with respect thereto, or any adverse result in any regulatory investigation or examination, including any tax audit or examination, could adversely affect our business, financial condition and results of operations.

**Technology and Vendor Risks**

**We Are Subject To Security And Operational Risks Relating To Our Use Of Technology That Could Damage Our Reputation And Our Business**. We rely heavily on communications and information systems to conduct our business. Furthermore, we have access to large amounts of confidential financial information and control substantial financial assets, including those belonging to our customers, to whom we offer remote access, and we regularly transfer substantial financial assets by electronic means. Our operations are dependent upon our ability to protect our computer equipment against damage from physical theft, fire, power loss, telecommunications failure or a similar catastrophic event, as well as from security breaches, denial of service attacks, viruses, worms and other disruptive problems caused by hackers. Any failure, interruption or breach in security of our systems could damage our reputation, result in a loss of customer business, subject us to additional regulatory scrutiny, or expose us to civil litigation and possible financial liability, any of which could have a material adverse effect on our financial condition and results of operations. Although we intend to continue to implement security technology and establish operational procedures to prevent such damage, our security measures may not be successful.

In addition, advances in computer capabilities, new discoveries in the field of cryptography or other developments could result in a compromise or breach of the algorithms we and our third-party service providers use to encrypt and protect customer transaction data. A failure of such security measures could have a material adverse effect on our financial condition and results of operations. We also face the risk of operational disruption, failure, termination or capacity constraints caused by third parties that facilitate our business activities by providing technology such as software applications, as well as financial intermediaries. Such parties could also be the source of an attack on, or breach of, our operational systems, data or infrastructure.

We also face the potential risk of loss due to fraud, including commercial checking account fraud, automated teller machine ("ATM") skimming and trapping, write-offs necessitated by debit card fraud, and other forms of online banking fraud, which are becoming more sophisticated and present new challenges as mobile banking increases, as well as employee fraud. Employee errors could also subject us to financial claims for negligence. We maintain a system of internal controls and insurance coverage to mitigate against operational risks, including data processing system failures and errors and customer or employee fraud. Should our internal controls fail to prevent or detect an occurrence, and if any resulting loss is not insured or exceeds applicable insurance limits, such failure could have a material adverse effect on our business, financial condition and results of operations.

**The Operation Of Our Business, Including Our Interaction With Customers, Are Increasingly Done Via Electronic Means, And This Has Increased Our Risks Related To Cybersecurity**. We rely on the successful and uninterrupted functioning of our information technology and telecommunications systems to conduct our business. This includes internally developed systems, the systems of third-party service providers, and digital and mobile technologies. Any failure, interruption or breach in security of these systems could result in failures or disruptions in our customer relationship management, general ledger, deposit, loan and other systems, and could damage our reputation, result in loss of customer business, subject us to regulatory scrutiny, or expose us to civil litigation and possible financial liability. We are exposed to the risk of cyber-attacks in the normal course of business, which can result from deliberate attacks or unintentional events. We have observed an increased level of attention in the industry focused on cyber-attacks that include, but are not limited to, gaining unauthorized access to digital systems for purposes of misappropriating assets or sensitive information, corrupting data, or causing operational disruption. Cyber-attacks may also be carried out in a manner that does not require gaining unauthorized access, such as by causing denial-of-service attacks on websites. Cyber-attacks

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may be carried out by third parties or insiders using techniques that range from highly sophisticated efforts to electronically circumvent network security or overwhelm websites to more traditional intelligence gathering and social engineering aimed at obtaining information necessary to gain access. The objectives of cyber-attacks vary widely and can include theft of financial assets, intellectual property, or other sensitive information, including the information belonging to our banking customers. Cyber-attacks may also be directed at disrupting our operations.

We may incur substantial costs and suffer other negative consequences if we fall victim to successful cyber-attacks. Such negative consequences could include remediation costs that may include liability for stolen assets or information and repairing system damage that may have been caused; increased cybersecurity protection costs that may include organizational changes, deploying additional personnel and protection technologies, training employees, and engaging third party experts and consultants; lost revenues resulting from unauthorized use of proprietary information or the failure to retain or attract customers following an attack; litigation; and reputational damage adversely affecting customer or investor confidence.

**We Continually Encounter Technological Change, And We Cannot Predict How Changes In Technology Will Affect Our Business.** The financial services industry is continually undergoing rapid technological change with frequent introductions of new technology driven by products and services, which include developments in:

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| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| •telecommunications  •data processing  •automation | | | •internet-based banking  •telebanking  •debit cards and so-called "smart cards" | | |

The effective use of technology increases efficiency and enables financial institutions to better serve customers and to reduce costs. Our future success depends, in part, upon our ability to address the needs of our customers by using technology to provide products and services that will satisfy customer demands, as well as to create additional efficiencies in our operations. Many of our competitors have substantially greater resources to invest in technological improvements. We may not be able to effectively implement new technology driven products and services or be successful in marketing these products and services to our customers. Failure to successfully keep pace with technological change affecting the financial services industry could have a material adverse impact on our business and, in turn, our financial condition and results of operations.

**We Rely On Others To Provide Key Components Of Our Business Infrastructure**. Third party vendors provide key components of our business infrastructure such as internet connections, network access and core application processing. While we have selected these third party vendors carefully, we do not control their actions. Any problems caused by these third parties, including as a result of their not providing us their services for any reason or their performing their services poorly, could adversely affect our ability to deliver products and services to our customers or otherwise conduct our business efficiently and effectively. Replacing these third party vendors could also entail significant delay and expense.

**Risks Related to Our Common Stock**

**The Price Of Our Common Stock Could Fluctuate Significantly, And This Could Make It Difficult For You To Resell Shares Of Our Common Stock At Times Or At Prices You Find Attractive**. The stock market and, in particular, the market for financial institution stocks, has experienced significant volatility during the recent economic downturn. In some cases, the markets have produced downward pressure on stock prices for certain issuers without regard to those issuers' underlying financial strength. As a result, the trading volume in our common stock could fluctuate more than usual and cause significant price variations to occur. This could make it difficult for you to resell shares of our common stock at times or at prices you find attractive.

The trading price of the shares of our common stock will depend on many factors that could change from time to time and could be beyond our control. Among the factors that could affect our stock price are those identified under the heading "Forward-Looking Statements" in Item 7 of this report and as follows:

•actual or anticipated quarterly fluctuations in our operating results and financial condition;

•changes in financial estimates or publication of research reports and recommendations by financial analysts or actions taken by rating agencies with respect to our common stock or those of other financial institutions;

•failure to meet analysts' revenue or earnings estimates;

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•speculation in the press or investment community generally or relating to our reputation, our market area, our competitors or the financial services industry in general;

•strategic actions by us or our competitors, such as acquisitions, restructurings, dispositions or financings;

•actions by our current stockholders, including sales of common stock by existing stockholders and/or directors and executive officers;

•fluctuations in the stock price and operating results of our competitors;

•future sales of our equity, equity-related or debt securities;

•changes in the frequency or amount of dividends or share repurchases;

•proposed or adopted regulatory changes or developments;

•investigations, proceedings or litigation that involve or affect us;

•trading activities in our common stock, including short-selling;

•domestic and local economic factors unrelated to our performance; and

•general market conditions and, in particular, developments related to market conditions for the financial services industry.

A significant decline in our stock price could result in substantial losses for individual stockholders and could lead to costly and disruptive securities litigation.

**The Trading Volume In Our Common Stock Has Been Low, And The Sale Of A Substantial Number Of Shares Of Our Common Stock In The Public Market Could Depress The Price Of Our Common Stock And Make It Difficult For You To Sell Your Shares**. Our common stock is listed to trade on the NASDAQ Global Select Market, but is thinly traded. As a result, you may not be able to sell your shares of common stock on short notice. Additionally, thinly traded stock can be more volatile than stock trading in an active public market. The sale of a substantial number of shares of our common stock at one time could temporarily depress the market price of our common stock, making it difficult for you to sell your shares and impairing our ability to raise capital.

**Our Common Stock Is Not Insured By Any Governmental Entity**. Our common stock is not a deposit account or other obligation of any bank and is not insured by the FDIC or any other governmental entity.

**Additional Factors**. Additional risks and uncertainties that may affect the future results of operations, financial condition or business of the Company and its banking subsidiary include, but are not limited to: (i) adverse publicity, news coverage by the media, or negative reports by brokerage firms, industry and financial analysts regarding the Bank or the Company; and (ii) changes in accounting policies and practices.

**Item 1B. Unresolved Staff Comments.**

None.

**Item 2. Properties.**

Neither the Company nor Union State Bancshares owns or leases any property. The Company's principal offices are located at 132 East High Street, Jefferson City, Missouri 65101. The table below provides a list of the Bank's facilities.

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|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **Location** | | |  | | | **Approximate Square Footage** | | |  | | | **Owned or Leased** | | |  | | | **Net Book**  **Value at**  **12/31/2021**  ***(in thousands)*** | | |
| 8127 East 171st Street, Belton, MO | | |  | | | 13,000 | |  |  | | | Owned | | |  | | | $ | 1,363 |  |
| 910 West Buchanan Street, California, MO | | |  | | | 2,270 | |  |  | | | Owned | | |  | | | $ | 300 |  |
| 102 North Second Street, Clinton, MO | | |  | | | 11,524 | |  |  | | | Owned | | |  | | | $ | 1,150 |  |
| 1400 East Ohio Street, Clinton, MO | | |  | | | 13,551 | |  |  | | | Owned | | |  | | | $ | 2,413 |  |
| 1712 East Ohio Street, Clinton, MO (inside a Walmart store) | | |  | | | 540 | |  |  | | | Leased | | | (1) | | | $ | 39 |  |
| 803 E. Walnut St, Columbia, MO | | |  | | | 9,698 | |  |  | | | Leased | | | (2) | | | $ | 1,041 |  |
| 1110 Club Village Drive, Columbia, MO | | |  | | | 5,000 | |  |  | | | Owned | | |  | | | $ | 1,212 |  |
| 115 South 2nd Street, Drexel, MO | | |  | | | 4,000 | |  |  | | | Owned | | |  | | | $ | 88 |  |
| 100 Plaza Drive, Harrisonville, MO | | |  | | | 4,000 | |  |  | | | Owned | | |  | | | $ | 500 |  |
| 17430 East 39th Street, Independence, MO | | |  | | | 4,070 | |  |  | | | Owned | | |  | | | $ | 483 |  |
| 220 West White Oak, Independence, MO | | |  | | | 1,800 | |  |  | | | Owned | | |  | | | $ | 29 |  |
| 132 East High Street, Jefferson City, MO | | |  | | | 34,800 | |  |  | | | Owned | | |  | | | $ | 2,257 |  |
| 3701 West Truman Blvd, Jefferson City, MO | | |  | | | 21,000 | |  |  | | | Owned | | |  | | | $ | 325 |  |
| 211 West Dunklin Street, Jefferson City, MO | | |  | | | 2,500 | |  |  | | | Owned | | |  | | | $ | 1,381 |  |
| 800 Eastland Drive, Jefferson City, MO | | |  | | | 4,100 | |  |  | | | Owned | | |  | | | $ | 562 |  |
| 3600 Amazonas Drive, Jefferson City, MO | | |  | | | 26,000 | |  |  | | | Owned | | |  | | | $ | 2,081 |  |
| 300 S.W. Longview Blvd, Lee's Summit, MO | | |  | | | 11,700 | |  |  | | | Owned | | |  | | | $ | 1,679 |  |
| 5 Victory lane, Suite 203 & 204, Liberty, MO | | |  | | | 1,667 | |  |  | | | Leased | | | (3) | | | $                N/A | | |
| 335 Chestnut, Osceola, MO | | |  | | | 1,580 | |  |  | | | Owned | | |  | | | $ | 61 |  |
| 595 VFW Memorial Drive, St. Robert, MO | | |  | | | 2,236 | |  |  | | | Owned | | |  | | | $ | 61 |  |
| 321 West Battlefield, Springfield, MO | | |  | | | 12,500 | |  |  | | | Owned | | |  | | | $ | 1,013 |  |
| 200 West Main Street, Warsaw, MO | | |  | | | 8,900 | |  |  | | | Owned | | |  | | | $ | 72 |  |
| 1891 Commercial Drive, Warsaw, MO | | |  | | | 11,000 | |  |  | | | Owned | | |  | | | $ | 1,303 |  |
| 12250 Weber Hill Rd Suite 125, St. Louis, MO | | |  | | | 2,253 | |  |  | | | Leased | | | (4) | | | $                N/A | | |
|  | | |  | | |  | | |  | | |  | | |  | | |  | | |

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(1)The term of this lease began in February 2019 and ends in January 2024.

(2)The term of this lease began in July 2018 and ends in July 2028.

(3)The term of this lease began in May 2021 and ends in April 2022.

(4)The term of this lease began in November 2020 and ends in December 2023.

Management believes that the current condition of each of the Bank's facilities is adequate for its business and that such facilities are adequately covered by insurance.

**Item 3. Legal Proceedings.**

The information required by this Item is set forth in Note 19, *Commitments and Contingencies,* in the Company's consolidated financial statements.

**Item 4. Mine Safety Disclosures.**

Not applicable

**EXECUTIVE OFFICERS OF THE REGISTRANT**

Executive officers of the Company are appointed by the board of directors and serve at the discretion of the board. The following table sets forth certain information with respect to all executive officers of the Company.

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|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **Name** | | |  | | | **Age** | | |  | | | **Position** | | |
| David T. Turner | | |  | | | 65 | | |  | | | Chairman, Chief Executive Officer, President and Director | | |
| Stephen E. Guthrie | | |  | | | 65 | | |  | | | Senior Vice President and Chief Financial Officer | | |
| Kathleen L. Bruegenhemke | | |  | | | 56 | | |  | | | Senior Vice President, Secretary and Director | | |

The business experience of the executive officers of the Company for the last five years is as follows:

*David T. Turner* has served as a director of the Company and of Hawthorn Bank (or of its constituent predecessors) since January 1997. He has served as president of the Company since March 2002 and as chairman and chief executive officer of the Company since January 2011. He also currently serves as chairman, chief executive officer and president of Hawthorn Bank. Mr. Turner served as vice chairman of the Company from June 1998 through March 2002 and as senior vice president of the Company from 1993 until June 1998. He served as president of a predecessor to Hawthorn Bank from January 1997 through March 2002 when he assumed the position of chairman, chief executive officer and president. He served as senior vice president of that same predecessor from June 1992 through December 1996 and as its vice president from 1985 until June 1992.

*Stephen E. Guthrie* has served as Senior Vice President and Chief Financial Officer of the Company and of Hawthorn Bank since May 2020. Prior to joining the Company, he most recently served as Executive Vice President and Chief Financial Officer of Landmark Bank in Columbia, Missouri, the wholly-owned subsidiary of The Landrum Company. The Landrum Company was recently acquired by Simmons First National Corporation, holding company for Simmons Bank. Mr. Guthrie served as Senior Vice President, Internal Audit and Risk & Controls for Capmark Finance Inc. from September 2006 to May 2010. From 2003 to 2006, Mr. Guthrie served as Vice President, Internal Audit and Corporate Security for AT&T Corp. From 2000 to 2003, Mr. Guthrie served as Vice President, Auditing Services for Pharmacia Corporation. From 1979 to 2000 Mr. Guthrie served in various capacities with Monsanto Company, serving as Chief Financial Officer of Monsanto Canada, Inc. from 1999 to 2000. Mr. Guthrie is a licensed CPA.

*Kathleen L. Bruegenhemke* has served as a director of our Company and of Hawthorn Bank since March 2017 and as Chief Operating Officer of Hawthorn Bank since January 2017. From October 2014 until December 2016 she served as Columbia Market President of Hawthorn Bank. She has served as Senior Vice President and Secretary of the Company since November 1997 and as Chief Risk Officer of the Company since June 2006. From January 1992 until November 1997, she served as Internal Auditor of Hawthorn Bank (or of one of its constituent predecessors). Prior to joining the Bank, Ms. Bruegenhemke served as a Commissioned Bank Examiner for the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation. Ms. Bruegenhemke is a certified public accountant and possesses considerable expertise in overseeing various finance, regulatory compliance and risk management aspects of community banking, which she attained through over 30 years of service, first as a bank regulator and then as a dedicated employee of Hawthorn Bank.

There is no arrangement or understanding between any executive officer and any other person pursuant to which such executive officer was selected as an officer.

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**PART II**

**Item 5. Market for Registrant's Common Equity, Related Stockholder Matters and Issuer Purchases of Equity Securities.**

Pursuant to General Instruction G(2) to Form 10-K, the information required by this Item, other than that referred to below, is incorporated herein by reference to the information under the caption "Market Price of and Dividends on Equity Securities and Related Matters" in the Company's 2021 Annual Report to Shareholders.

We refer you to Item 12 of this report under the caption "Securities Authorized For Issuance Under Equity Compensation Plans" for certain equity plan information.

**The Company's Purchases of Equity Securities**

There were no purchases made by or on behalf of the Company or any "affiliated purchaser" (as defined by applicable rules of the SEC) of shares the Company's common stock during the fourth quarter of the year ended December 31, 2021. In 2019, the Company's Board of Directors authorized the purchase of up to $5.0 million market value of the Company's common stock. During the second quarter of 2021, the Company's Board of Directors reauthorized the purchase of up to $5.0 million market value of the Company's common stock under the 2019 authorization. As of December 31, 2021, $5.0 million remained for share repurchase pursuant to that authorization.

**Recent Issuance of Securities**

None.

**Item 6. Selected Financial Data. [Reserved].**

**Item 7. Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operation.**

Pursuant to General Instruction G(2) to Form 10-K, the information required by this Item is incorporated herein by reference to the information under the caption "Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations" in the Company's 2021 Annual Report to Shareholders.

**Forward-Looking Statements**

This report, including information included or incorporated by reference in this report, contains certain forward-looking statements with respect to the financial condition, results of operations, plans, objectives, strategy, future performance and business of the Company and its subsidiaries, including, without limitation:

•statements that are not historical in nature, and

•statements preceded by, followed by or that include the words "believes," "expects," "may," "will," "should," "could," "anticipates," "estimates," "intends" or similar expressions.

Forward-looking statements are not guarantees of future performance or results. They involve risks, uncertainties and assumptions. Actual results may differ materially from those contemplated by the forward-looking statements due to, among others, the following factors:

•competitive pressures among financial services companies may increase significantly,

•changes in the interest rate environment may reduce interest margins,

•general economic conditions, either nationally or in Missouri, may be less favorable than expected and may adversely affect the quality of the Company's loans and other assets,

•increases in non-performing assets in the Company's loan portfolios and adverse economic conditions may necessitate increases to the provisions for loan losses,

•costs or difficulties related to the integration of the business of Hawthorn and its acquisition targets may be greater than expected,

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•legislative, regulatory, or tax law changes may adversely affect the business in which Hawthorn and its subsidiaries are engaged, and

•changes may occur in the securities markets.

We have described additional factors that could cause actual results to be materially different from those described in the forward-looking statements, which factors are identified in Item 1A of this report under the heading "Risk Factors." Other factors that we have not identified in this report could also have this effect. You are cautioned not to put undue reliance on any forward-looking statement, which speak only as of the date such statement is made. Except as otherwise required by law, we undertake no obligation to publicly update or revise any forward-looking statement to reflect events or circumstances after the date of this report or to reflect the occurrence of unanticipated events.

**Item 7A. Quantitative and Qualitative Disclosures About Market Risk.**

The Company's exposure to market risk is reviewed on a regular basis by our Bank's asset/liability committee and board of directors. Interest rate risk is the potential of economic losses due to future interest rate changes. These economic losses can be reflected as a loss of future net interest income and/or a loss of current fair market values. The objective is to measure the effect on net interest income and to adjust the balance sheet to minimize the inherent risk while at the same time maximizing income. Management realizes certain risks are inherent and that the goal is to identify and minimize those risks.

Tools used by the Bank's management include modeling the effects on net interest income under different rate shock scenarios. At December 31, 2021, the Company's rate shock scenario models indicated that annual net interest income could change by as much as 4.47% or (4.02)% should interest rates rise or fall, respectively, 200 basis points from their current level over a one-year period. These levels of interest rate risk are within limits set by the board in the Company's *Funds Management, Investment Asset Liability Policy* and Management believes this is an acceptable level of interest rate risk. However, there are no assurances that the change will not be more or less than this estimate.

Pursuant to General Instruction G(2) to Form 10-K, the information required by this Item, other than that provided above, is incorporated herein by reference to the information under the caption "Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations -- Quantitative and Qualitative Disclosures About Market Risk" in the Company's 2021 Annual Report to Shareholders.

**Item 8. Financial Statements and Supplementary Data.**

Pursuant to General Instruction G(2) to Form 10-K, the information required by this Item is incorporated herein by reference to the report of the independent registered public accounting firm and the information under the caption "Consolidated Financial Statements" in the Company's 2021 Annual Report to Shareholders.

**Item 9. Changes in and Disagreements With Accountants on Accounting and Financial Disclosure.**

None.

**Item 9A. Controls and Procedures.**

**(a)Evaluation of Disclosure Controls and Procedures.**

As of the end of the period covered by this annual report, the Company's management, including the Chief Executive Officer and Chief Financial Officer, evaluated the effectiveness of the Company's disclosure controls and procedures (as defined in Rule 13a-15(e) promulgated under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended). Based on that evaluation, the Company's management, including the Chief Executive Officer and Chief Financial Officer, concluded that, as of December 31, 2021, the Company's disclosure controls and procedures were effective.

**(b)Management's Report on Internal Control Over Financial Reporting**.

The Company's management is responsible for establishing and maintaining effective internal control over financial reporting, as such term is defined in Securities Exchange Act Rule 13a-15(f). Under the supervision and with the participation of the Company's management, including the Company's principal executive officer and

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principal financial officer, we conducted an evaluation of the effectiveness of the Company's internal control over financial reporting, as of December 31, 2021, based on the framework set forth by the Committee of Sponsoring Organizations of the Treadway Commission in *Internal Control-Integrated Framework (2013)*. Based upon its assessment, management has concluded that, as of December 31, 2021, the Company's internal control over financial reporting, is effective based on the criteria established in *Internal Control-Integrated Framework (2013)*.

Management's assessment of the effectiveness of internal control over financial reporting, as of December 31, 2021, has been audited by KPMG LLP, an independent registered public accounting firm, as stated in their report, which is included in this Annual Report on Form 10-K.

**(c)Changes in Internal Control over Financial Reporting.**

There has been no changes in the Company's internal control over financial reporting (as defined in Rules 13a-15(f) and 15d-15(f) under the Exchange Act) occurred during the quarter ended December 31, 2021 that has materially affected, or is reasonably likely to materially affect, the Company's internal control over financial reporting.

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**Report of Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm**

To the Stockholders and Board of Directors

Hawthorn Bancshares, Inc.:

*Opinion on Internal Control Over Financial Reporting*

We have audited Hawthorn Bancshares, Inc. and subsidiaries' (the Company) internal control over financial reporting as of December 31, 2021, based on criteria established in Internal Control – Integrated Framework (2013) issued by the Committee of Sponsoring Organizations of the Treadway Commission. In our opinion, the Company maintained, in all material respects, effective internal control over financial reporting as of December 31, 2021, based on criteria established in Internal Control – Integrated Framework (2013) issued by the Committee of Sponsoring Organizations of the Treadway Commission.

We also have audited, in accordance with the standards of the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board (United States) (PCAOB), the consolidated balance sheets of the Company as of December 31, 2021 and 2020, the related consolidated statements of income, comprehensive income, stockholders’ equity, and cash flows for each of the years in the three-year period ended December 31, 2021, and the related notes (collectively, the consolidated financial statements), and our report dated March 17, 2022 expressed an unqualified opinion on those consolidated financial statements.

*Basis for Opinion*

The Company’s management is responsible for maintaining effective internal control over financial reporting and for its assessment of the effectiveness of internal control over financial reporting, included in the accompanying Management's Report on Internal Control Over Financial Reporting. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on the Company’s internal control over financial reporting based on our audit. We are a public accounting firm registered with the PCAOB and are required to be independent with respect to the Company in accordance with the U.S. federal securities laws and the applicable rules and regulations of the Securities and Exchange Commission and the PCAOB.

We conducted our audit in accordance with the standards of the PCAOB. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether effective internal control over financial reporting was maintained in all material respects. Our audit of internal control over financial reporting included obtaining an understanding of internal control over financial reporting, assessing the risk that a material weakness exists, and testing and evaluating the design and operating effectiveness of internal control based on the assessed risk. Our audit also included performing such other procedures as we considered necessary in the circumstances. We believe that our audit provides a reasonable basis for our opinion.

*Definition and Limitations of Internal Control Over Financial Reporting*

A company’s internal control over financial reporting is a process designed to provide reasonable assurance regarding the reliability of financial reporting and the preparation of financial statements for external purposes in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles. A company’s internal control over financial reporting includes those policies and procedures that (1) pertain to the maintenance of records that, in reasonable detail, accurately and fairly reflect the transactions and dispositions of the assets of the company; (2) provide reasonable assurance that transactions are recorded as necessary to permit preparation of financial statements in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles, and that receipts and expenditures of the company are being made only in accordance with authorizations of management and directors of the company; and (3) provide reasonable assurance regarding prevention or timely detection of unauthorized acquisition, use, or disposition of the company’s assets that could have a material effect on the financial statements.

Because of its inherent limitations, internal control over financial reporting may not prevent or detect misstatements. Also, projections of any evaluation of effectiveness to future periods are subject to the risk that controls may become inadequate because of changes in conditions, or that the degree of compliance with the policies or procedures may deteriorate.

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|  | | | */s /* KPMG LLP | | |
| St. Louis, Missouri | | |  | | |
| March 17, 2022 | | |  | | |

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**Item 9B. Other Information.**

None

**Item 9C. Disclosure Regarding Foreign Jurisdictions that Prevent Inspections.**

None

**PART III**

**Item 10. Directors, Executive Officers and Corporate Governance.**

Pursuant to General Instruction G(3) to Form 10-K, the information required by this Item, other than that referred to below, is incorporated herein by reference to:

(i)the information under the caption "Item 1: Election of Directors--What is the structure of our board and how often are directors elected?" in the Company's definitive Proxy Statement for its 2022 Annual Meeting of Shareholders to be filed pursuant to Regulation 14A;

(ii)the information under the caption "Item 1: Election of Directors--Who are this year's nominees?" in the Company's definitive Proxy Statement for its 2022 Annual Meeting of Shareholders to be filed pursuant to Regulation 14A;

(iii)the information under the caption "Item 1: Election of Directors--What is the business experience of the nominees and of our continuing board members?" in the Company's definitive Proxy Statement for its 2022 Annual Meeting of Shareholders to be filed pursuant to Regulation 14A;

(iv)the information under the caption "Executive Officers of the Registrant" in Part I of this report;

(v)the information under the caption "Delinquent Section 16(a) Reports" in the Company's definitive Proxy Statement for its 2022 Annual Meeting of Shareholders to be filed pursuant to Regulation 14A;

(vi)the information under the caption "Corporate Governance and Board Matters--Consideration of Director Nominees" in the Company's definitive Proxy Statement for its 2022 Annual Meeting of Shareholders to be filed pursuant to Regulation 14A; and

(vii)the information under the caption "Corporate Governance and Board Matters--Committees of the Board--Audit Committee" in the Company's definitive Proxy Statement for its 2022 Annual Meeting of Shareholders to be filed pursuant to Regulation 14A.

**Code of Ethics**

The Company has adopted a Code of Business Conduct and Ethics for directors, officers and employees including, the its principal executive officer, principal financial officer, principal accounting officer, controller and persons performing similar functions. This Code of Business Conduct and Ethics is posted on the Company's internet website (www.hawthornbancshares.com) under the "Governance Documents" menu tab and is available for your examination. A copy of this Code will be furnished without charge upon written request to Corporate Secretary, Hawthorn Bancshares, Inc., 132 East High Street, Jefferson City, Missouri 65101. Any substantive amendment to, or waiver from, a provision of this Code that applies to the Company's principal executive officer, principal financial officer, principal accounting officer, controller, or persons performing similar functions will be disclosed in a report on Form 8-K.

**Item 11. Executive Compensation.**

Pursuant to General Instruction G(3) to Form 10-K, the information required by this Item is incorporated herein by reference to:

(i)the information under the caption "Executive Compensation and Related Matters" in the Company's definitive Proxy Statement for its 2022 Annual Meeting of Shareholders to be filed pursuant to Regulation 14A; and

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(ii)the information under the caption "Corporate Governance and Board Matters--Director Compensation" in the Company's definitive Proxy Statement for its 2022 Annual Meeting of Shareholders to be filed pursuant to Regulation 14A.

**Item 12. Security Ownership of Certain Beneficial Owners and Management and Related Stockholder Matters.**

Pursuant to General Instruction G(3) to Form 10-K, the information required by this Item, other than that presented below, is incorporated herein by reference to the information under the caption "Ownership of Common Stock" in the Company's definitive Proxy Statement for its 2022 Annual Meeting of Shareholders to be filed pursuant to Regulation 14A.

**Securities Authorized For Issuance Under Equity Compensation Plans**

The Company has no equity compensation plan for its employees pursuant to which options, rights, warrants or other equity awards may be granted. As of December 31, 2021 the Company had no outstanding options, rights or warrants granted under any equity compensation plan.

**Item 13. Certain Relationships and Related Transactions, and Director Independence.**

Pursuant to General Instruction G(3) to Form 10-K, the information required by this Item is incorporated herein by reference to:

(i)the information under the caption "Related Party Transactions" in the Company's definitive Proxy Statement for its 2022 Annual Meeting of Shareholders to be filed pursuant to Regulation 14A;

(ii)the information under the caption "Item 1: Election of Directors--What is the structure of our board and how often are directors elected?" in the Company's definitive Proxy Statement for its 2022 Annual Meeting of Shareholders to be filed pursuant to Regulation 14A; and

(iii)the information under the caption "Corporate Governance and Board Matters--Committees of the Board" in the Company's definitive Proxy Statement for its 2022 Annual Meeting of Shareholders to be filed pursuant to Regulation 14A.

**Item 14. Principal Accountant Fees and Services.**

Pursuant to General Instruction G(3) to Form 10-K, the information required by this Item is incorporated herein by reference to the information under the caption "Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm Fees and Services" in the Company's definitive Proxy Statement for its 2022 Annual Meeting of Shareholders to be filed pursuant to Regulation 14A.

**PART IV**

**Item 15. Exhibits and, Financial Statement Schedules.**

(a)Exhibits, Financial Statements and Financial Statement Schedules:

1.Financial Statements:

The following consolidated financial statements of the Company and reports of the Company's independent registered public accounting firm, included in the Company's Annual Report to Shareholders for the year ended December 31, 2021 under the caption "Consolidated Financial Statements", are incorporated herein by reference:

Report of Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm.

Auditor Name: KPMG LLP

Auditor Location: St. Louis, MO

Auditor Firm ID: 185

Consolidated Balance Sheets as of December 31, 2021 and 2020.

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Consolidated Statements of Income for the years ended December 31, 2021, 2020, and 2019.

Consolidated Statements of Comprehensive Income for the years ended December 31, 2021, 2020, and 2019.

Consolidated Statements of Stockholders' Equity for the years ended December 31, 2021, 2020, and 2019.

Consolidated Statements of Cash Flows for the years ended December 31, 2021, 2020, and 2019.

Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements.

2.Financial Statement Schedules:

Financial statement schedules have been omitted because they either are not required or are not applicable or because equivalent information has been included in the financial statements, the notes thereto or elsewhere herein.

3.Exhibits:

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| **Exhibit No.** | | |  | | | **Description** | | |
|  | | |  | | |  | | |
| 3.1 | | |  | | | [Restated Articles of Incorporation of the Company (filed as Exhibit 3.1 to the Company's current report on Form 8-K on August 9, 2007 and incorporated herein by reference).](http://www.sec.gov/Archives/edgar/data/893847/000129993307004833/exhibit1.htm) | | |
|  | | |  | | |  | | |
| 3.2 | | |  | | | [Amended and Restated Bylaws of the Company (filed as Exhibit 3.1 to the Company's current report on Form 8-K on January 27, 2021 and incorporated herein by reference).](https://www.sec.gov/Archives/edgar/data/893847/000155837021000457/hwbk-20210127xex3d1.htm) | | |
|  | | |  | | |  | | |
| 4.1 | | |  | | | [Description of the Company's Securities Registered Pursuant to Section 12 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (filed as Exhibit 4.0 to the Company's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2019 and incorporated herein by reference).](https://www.sec.gov/Archives/edgar/data/893847/000155837020002742/hwbk-20191231xex4.htm) | | |
|  | | |  | | |  | | |
| 4.2 | | |  | | | [Specimen certificate representing shares of the Company's $1.00 par value Common Stock (filed as Exhibit 4.1 to the Company's current report on Form 8-K/A on June 23, 2017 and incorporated herein by reference).](https://www.sec.gov/Archives/edgar/data/893847/000141588917001027/ex4-06232017_100639.htm) | | |
|  | | |  | | |  | | |
| 10.1 | | |  | | | [Form of Change of Control Agreement and schedule of parties thereto (filed as Exhibit 10.2 to the Company's Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q for the quarterly period March 31, 2005 and incorporated herein by reference). \*](http://www.sec.gov/Archives/edgar/data/893847/000095013705005612/c94951exv10w2.txt) | | |
|  | | |  | | |  | | |
| 10.2 | | |  | | | [Hawthorn Bancshares, Inc. Excess Benefit Plan (filed as Exhibit 10.2 to the Company's current report on Form 8-K on November 13, 2018 and incorporated herein by reference). \*](http://www.sec.gov/Archives/edgar/data/893847/000141588918001618/ex10-11132018_021118.htm) | | |
|  | | |  | | |  | | |
| 13 | | |  | | | [The Company's 2021 Annual Report to Shareholders (only those portions of this Annual Report to Shareholders which are specifically incorporated by reference into this Annual Report on Form 10-K shall be deemed to be filed with the Commission).](hwbk-20211231_d2.htm) | | |
|  | | |  | | |  | | |
| 14 | | |  | | | [Code of Business Conduct and Ethics of the Company (filed as Exhibit 14 to the Company's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2018 and incorporated herein by reference).](http://www.sec.gov/Archives/edgar/data/893847/000155837019002015/hwbk-20181231ex143eb20d6.htm) | | |
|  | | |  | | |  | | |
| 21 | | |  | | | [List of Subsidiaries (filed as Exhibit 21 to the Company's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2018 and incorporated herein by reference).](http://www.sec.gov/Archives/edgar/data/893847/000155837019002015/hwbk-20181231ex21280d347.htm) | | |
|  | | |  | | |  | | |
| 23 | | |  | | | [Consent of Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm.](a2021q4ex23.htm) | | |
|  | | |  | | |  | | |
| 24 | | |  | | | Power of Attorney (included on the signature page to this Annual Report on Form 10-K). | | |
|  | | |  | | |  | | |
| 31.1 | | |  | | | [Certification of Chief Executive Officer pursuant to Rule 13a-14(a) and Rule 15d-14(a) of the Securities Exchange Act, as amended.](a2021q4ex311.htm) | | |
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| **Exhibit No.** | | |  | | | **Description** | | |
| 31.2 | | |  | | | [Certification of Chief Financial Officer pursuant to Rule 13a-14(a) and Rule 15d-14(a) of the Securities Exchange Act, as amended.](a2021q4ex312.htm) | | |
|  | | |  | | |  | | |
| 32.1 | | |  | | | [Certification of Chief Executive Officer pursuant to 18 U.S.C. 1350, as adopted pursuant to Section 906 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002.](a2021q4ex321.htm) | | |
|  | | |  | | |  | | |
| 32.2 | | |  | | | [Certification of Chief Financial Officer pursuant to 18 U.S.C. 1350, as adopted pursuant to Section 906 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002.](a2021q4ex322.htm) | | |
|  | | |  | | |  | | |
| 101.INS | | |  | | | Inline XBRL Instance Document (the instance document does not appear in the Interactive Data File because its XBRL tags are embedded within the Inline XBRL document). | | |
|  | | |  | | |  | | |
| 101.SCH | | |  | | | Inline XBRL Taxonomy Extension Schema Document. | | |
|  | | |  | | |  | | |
| 101.CAL | | |  | | | Inline XBRL Taxonomy Extension Calculation Linkbase Document. | | |
|  | | |  | | |  | | |
| 101.DEF | | |  | | | Inline XBRL Taxonomy Extension Definition Linkbase Document. | | |
|  | | |  | | |  | | |
| 101.LAB | | |  | | | Inline XBRL Taxonomy Extension Label Linkbase Document. | | |
|  | | |  | | |  | | |
| 101.PRE | | |  | | | Inline XBRL Taxonomy Extension Presentation Linkbase Document. | | |
|  | | |  | | |  | | |
| 104 | | |  | | | Cover Page Interactive Data File (formatted as inline XBRL and contained in Exhibit 101). | | |

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\*Management contracts or compensatory plans or arrangements required to be identified by Item 15(a).

(b)Exhibits.

See exhibits identified above under Item 15(a)3.

(c)Financial Statement Schedules.

See financial statement schedules identified above under Item 15(a)2, if any.

**Item 16. Form 10-K Summary.**

None

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**EXHIBIT INDEX**

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| **Exhibit No.** | | |  | | | **Description** | | |  | | | **Page No.** | | |
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| 13 | | |  | | | [The Company's 2021 Annual Report to Shareholders (only those portions of this Annual Report to Shareholders which are specifically incorporated by reference into this Annual Report on Form 10-K shall be deemed to be filed with the Commission).](hwbk-20211231_d2.htm) | | |  | | |  | | |
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| 31.2 | | |  | | | [Certification of Chief Financial Officer pursuant to Rule 13a-14(a) and Rule 15d-14(a) of the Securities Exchange Act, as amended.](a2021q4ex312.htm) | | |  | | |  | | |
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| 101.SCH | | |  | | | Inline XBRL Taxonomy Extension Schema Document. | | |  | | |  | | |
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| 101.CAL | | |  | | | Inline XBRL Taxonomy Extension Calculation Linkbase Document. | | |  | | |  | | |
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| 101.DEF | | |  | | | Inline XBRL Taxonomy Extension Definition Linkbase Document. | | |  | | |  | | |
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| 101.LAB | | |  | | | Inline XBRL Taxonomy Extension Label Linkbase Document. | | |  | | |  | | |
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| 104 | | |  | | | Cover Page Interactive Data File (formatted as inline XBRL and contained in Exhibit 101). | | |  | | |  | | |

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\*As provided in Rule 406T of Regulation S-T, this information is furnished and not filed for purposes of Sections 11 and 12 of the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, and Section 18 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended.

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SIGNATURES

Pursuant to the requirements of Section 13 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, the registrant has duly caused this report to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned, thereunto duly authorized.

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|  | | | HAWTHORN BANCSHARES, INC. | | | | | | | | |
|  | | |  | | |  | | |  | | |
| Dated: March 17, 2022 | | | By | | | /s/ | | | David T. Turner | | |
|  | | |  | | |  | | | David T. Turner, Chairman of the Board, | | |
|  | | |  | | |  | | | President and Chief Executive Officer | | |

KNOW ALL PERSONS BY THESE PRESENTS, that each person whose signature appears below constitutes and appoints David T. Turner and Stephen E. Guthrie, or either of them, his attorneys-in-fact, for such person in any and all capacities, to sign any amendments to this report and to file the same, with exhibits thereto, and other documents in connection therewith, with the Securities and Exchange Commission, hereby ratifying and confirming all that either of said attorneys-in-fact, or substitute or substitutes, may do or cause to be done by virtue hereof.

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, this report has been signed below by the following persons on behalf of the registrant and in the capacities and on the dates indicated.

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| **Date** | | |  | | | **Signature and Title** | | |
|  | | |  | | |  | | |
| March 17, 2022 | | |  | | | /s/ David T. Turner | | |
|  | | |  | | | David T. Turner, Chairman of the Board, President and Chief Executive Officer (Principal Executive Officer) and Director | | |
|  | | |  | | |  | | |
| March 17, 2022 | | |  | | | /s/ Stephen E. Guthrie | | |
|  | | |  | | | Stephen E. Guthrie, Chief Financial Officer | | |
|  | | |  | | | (Principal Financial Officer and Principal Accounting Officer) | | |
|  | | |  | | |  | | |
| March 17, 2022 | | |  | | | /s/ Kathleen L. Bruegenhemke | | |
|  | | |  | | | Kathleen L. Bruegenhemke, Director | | |
|  | | |  | | |  | | |
| March 17, 2022 | | |  | | | /s/ Frank E. Burkhead | | |
|  | | |  | | | Frank E. Burkhead, Director | | |
|  | | |  | | |  | | |
| March 17, 2022 | | |  | | | /s/ Philip D. Freeman | | |
|  | | |  | | | Philip D. Freeman, Director | | |
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| March 17, 2022 | | |  | | | /s/ Kevin L. Riley | | |
|  | | |  | | | Kevin L. Riley, Director | | |
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| March 17, 2022 | | |  | | | /s/ Gus S. (Jack) Wetzel III | | |
|  | | |  | | | Gus S. (Jack) Wetzel III, Director | | |
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| March 17, 2022 | | |  | | | /s/ Jonathan D. Holtaway | | |
|  | | |  | | | Jonathan D. Holtaway, Director | | |

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