

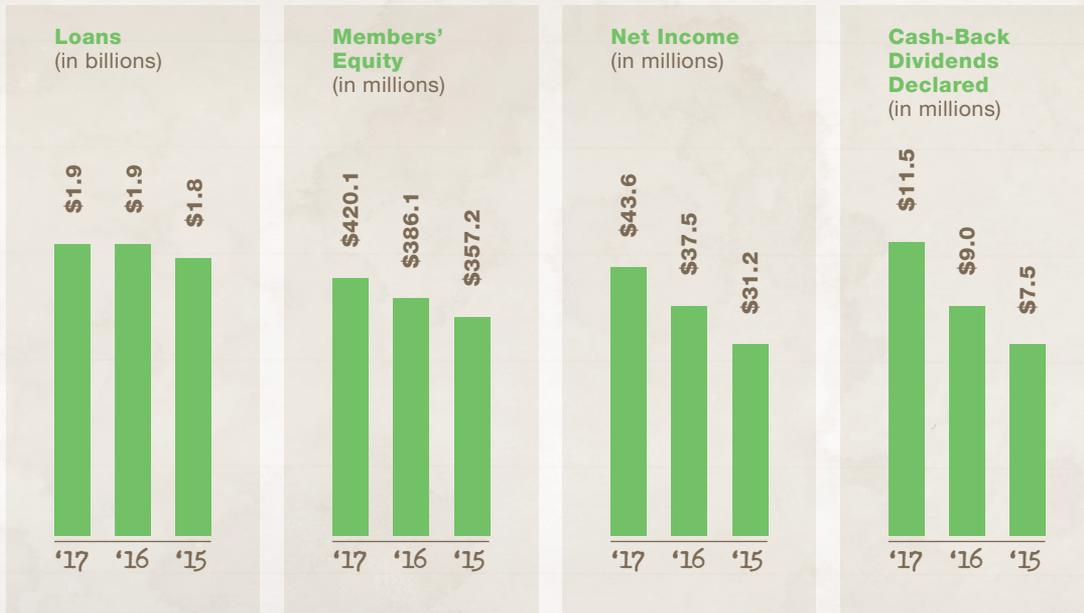


2017 annual report

WORKING FOR YOUR SUCCESS.



FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS



WORKING FOR YOUR SUCCESS.

.....
Frontier Farm Credit is different from other
.....
lenders because our unique mission means we
.....
work for you and the good of agriculture.
.....

Your cooperative is investing in the people, products and services that help you and your operation succeed. And more than simply benefiting our customers today, the investments will continue to add value and growth well into the future.

On the following pages, you will read examples of how our expertise has helped people grow, how our dependability has made a difference when it was needed most, and how we have helped the next generation achieve their dreams.

You will also learn how our investment in a revolutionary management tool called MagnifySM can help our customers find profit and success in their operations.

No other lender works like Frontier Farm Credit. We are proud to serve your farming and ranching financial needs.



FRONTIER
FARM CREDIT

**"THE FUTURE OF AGRICULTURE
IS FILLED WITH EXCITING
OPPORTUNITIES, AND ALL OF
US AT THE ASSOCIATION ARE
WORKING FOR YOUR SUCCESS."**

- MARK JENSEN



Growing up on a southeast Nebraska dairy farm instilled in me a deep love for agriculture. And through 25 years of serving customer-owners at Farm Credit Services of America (FCSAmerica) and Frontier Farm Credit, my passion has only grown.

It is with pride and humility that I write to you as the new president and CEO of your cooperative.

The future of agriculture is filled with exciting opportunities, and all of us at the Association are working for your success. However, as producers, you understand the cyclical nature of the industry means the road forward isn't always smooth.

While many producers are well-positioned to weather the current economic environment, others continue to adjust their costs. Your Board of Directors and leadership team are committed to being a consistent, dependable lender as we leverage our financial strength and expertise to help our customers adapt.

Our 2017 financial results support our mission of serving agriculture through every cycle. Frontier Farm Credit finished 2017 with net income of \$43.6 million, an increase of 16.3 percent from the previous year. We had loan growth of 1.1 percent, and members' equity increased 8.8 percent to \$420.1 million.

As a cooperative, we strive to keep owners' capital close to the farm and ranch. At a time when producers need a reliable lender, we returned a record \$11.5 million of 2017 net earnings to eligible customer-owners. That brings our total cash-back dividend payout since 2004 to \$80.7 million – money producers can invest in their families, operations and local communities.

The earnings we retain help ensure our financial strength for the future, both in lending and for growing our expertise, services and programs. In 2017 this included our investment in Magnify, a new ag management tool designed in association with FCSAmerica specifically to help producers understand their financials and focus on profit.

Today's producers have access to more data than ever, yet it remains a challenge to turn it into meaningful information to support better decisions. Magnify addresses that challenge. It comes at a time of change in U.S. agriculture, when future success depends not only on production skills but also on marketing and financial management. We are committed to helping producers succeed for today and tomorrow.

In closing, I want to thank our recently retired CEO, Doug Stark, for his service to the Association. Doug made us better, and all of us at Frontier Farm Credit are grateful for the legacy he left.

I also thank you for trusting Frontier Farm Credit as your financial partner and look forward to serving you for many years to come.



Mark Jensen
President and CEO

"IT'S BEEN A PLUS THAT I GET TO WORK WITH THE SAME PEOPLE YEAR AFTER YEAR."

- HAL LUTHI

In everything we do, we strive to be your most valued financial partner. It's part of our mission of dependability. It's the reason Frontier Farm Credit exists - to serve agriculture and its credit needs through every cycle and every generation.

Hal Luthi was a sophomore in college when he received his first loan from Farm Credit.

"It was a real estate loan," he remembers. "And during the 45 years since, I've worked with only three loan officers. That means a lot to me."

Today, Hal and Sheila are the third generation of a family operation that began in the early 1900s. The Luthi Cattle Company includes both farming and ranching, with the primary focus on the registered Simmental cow-calf herd that produces both feeder calves and fed cattle.

The couple's son and son-in-law are now taking on more management responsibility, and the family hopes a fifth generation will be involved someday, too.

"Bringing a new generation into the operation is a challenge but also an asset," Hal says. "Communication is important to bridge differences. At this point, it's very hard for me not to become conservative. So it's a positive having these young

guns here to remind me that we need to keep growing and that we need to keep thinking ahead and planning for the future."

VALUES LONG-TERM RELATIONSHIPS

Hal says Frontier Farm Credit has been a dependable lender through the years, and he values the loyalty and trust that is part of his relationship with his lender.

"It's been a plus that I get to work with the same people year after year.

"I like their services, and I like the loan and crop insurance officers I work with – they're knowledgeable about agriculture. You don't have to explain what you're doing, what went wrong or what the change in your operation was that made you take on a little debt."

"And we like that they make an appointment and travel to the ranch," Sheila adds. "Hal doesn't have to stop, clean up and go to see them. They come right to your door, sit down at your kitchen table and discuss their business. Our time is important, too. We have a team that knows us."

NAME:
Hal & Sheila Luthi
Luthi Cattle Company

LOCATION:
Madison, Kansas

OPERATION:
Grain & Beef Producers

CUSTOMERS SINCE:
1973

View their story at:
frontierfarmcredit.com/halsheila

What success looks like on our farm

Sheila: Success is getting up daily, striving to do our best and coming together as a family. It also means enjoying the fruits of our labor, but not necessarily working 24/7, which is kind of hard to balance. I'm very proud of Hal and the kids.

Our biggest challenge is our greatest asset

Hal: It's always a challenge to work with other family members. But I think what is a big challenge is also a huge asset because it's becoming harder to find people who want to become involved in agriculture as a labor force. We want the whole family in the picture.

Lessons we've learned and the next generation

Hal: I can see our kids are going to have to be much better money managers than I was in my lifetime. You've got to know your costs and everything almost right down to the penny to turn a profit now. There's so much volatility in the marketplace, but once the decision's made, you've just got to go on and hope you do better next time.



NAME:

Nicholas Smith
Smith Farm

LOCATION:

St. Paul, Kansas

OPERATION:

Grain & Beef Producer

CUSTOMER SINCE:

2013

View his story at:
frontierfarmcredit.com/nicholas

How I prepared for a career in agriculture

Nicholas: I was a construction major in college, but when the industry took a downturn in 2007, I started to lean a little more toward agriculture. I started with a small cow herd, small row crop acreage and a custom chemical application business. With the help of good advisors and mentors, I was able to make good decisions to grow progressively.

How my operation has changed

Nicholas: When I started in agriculture, my goals were simple. I wanted to be efficient, productive and grow my operation as fast as possible. Since then, I've gained awareness in controlling costs and evaluating those at least quarterly, or even monthly in some areas.

My vision for the future

Nicholas: Better efficiency. Better integration of technology. More production with less input. I hope to be more proficient in controlling the costs of my operation. In 10 years, I'm confident my farm will be even more efficient and productive.



"AS A FIRST-GENERATION FARMER AND RANCHER, I DIDN'T HAVE ANY HELP. ALL I HAD WAS FARM CREDIT."

- NICHOLAS SMITH

.....
At Frontier Farm Credit, we understand the unique challenges young and beginning producers face in starting, growing or transitioning into an operation. We tailor our specialized funding and educational programs to help them succeed and grow into seasoned farmers and ranchers.

Nicholas Smith grew up working at his family's service station in St. Paul, Kansas. And while he was familiar with agriculture, it wasn't until 2007 when the U.S. economy took a downturn – along with the construction industry in which he worked – that he decided to pursue farming.

He now describes the change as a “spur-of-the-moment” decision.

Starting with a small cow herd and some land he purchased from an uncle getting out of agriculture, Nicholas has grown his operation to include nearly 2,500 row crop acres, a cow-calf operation, a custom spraying operation and a wholesale chemical fertilizer dealership.

“I began to do some custom chemical application, purchased a sprayer rig and it took off,” Nicholas says. “That’s what got me here today – the custom work drove both the balance sheet and the operation.”

DEVELOPMENT FUND HELPED

Nicholas attributes much of his growth to hard work, a lot of research, plus advisors and mentors, including “the right lender assisting me in making good choices. I have a great financial officer. He is very involved in my operation and will be in the future.”

It was his financial officer who encouraged him to apply for Frontier Farm Credit’s Development Fund – a specialized loan program with working capital support that is tailored to the financing needs of young and beginning producers. Applicants must submit a mission statement and business plan to qualify.

“Developing a business plan was a very educational experience. And while it is changing with my operation, I still use that original model. It’s something we look at quarterly and sometimes even monthly. Without the Development Fund, my operation wouldn’t be what it is today.

“As a first-generation farmer and rancher, I didn’t have any help. All I had was Farm Credit. And fortunately, they were very kind and assisted me in all needs. The Development Fund was just that much more assistance they could give,” Nicholas says. “The program says a lot about Frontier Farm Credit and how they’re willing to assist start-up and beginning farmers and ranchers.”



DISCOVER THE REVOLUTIONARY MANAGEMENT TOOL THAT DELIVERS A WHOLE NEW VIEW OF PROFITABILITY.

It is more essential than ever for crop and livestock producers to know their costs and margins to help find and grow profit. As part of our mission to serve agriculture and support the growing needs of our customers, Frontier Farm Credit, in association with FCSAmerica, recently introduced a new management tool called Magnify that can help producers better manage their operations and find opportunities for profit.

STEP UP TO THE NEXT LEVEL IN FARM AND RANCH MANAGEMENT WITH MAGNIFYSM.

Big data is revolutionizing production agriculture, yet understanding how to manage that data for profitability remains a challenge. As one customer-owner said, producers also need “small data” that can answer financial questions that impact their bottom line such as “What are my most profitable acres?” “What happens if I expand my herd?” “How much can I afford for cash rent?” “Is that new tractor a good investment?”

Magnify unlocks the power of your financial records to reveal business insights that can lead to improved margins, optimized growth and profitability. Specifically designed for agriculture, the software streamlines record keeping and delivers a completely new perspective on financial performance and management decisions.

TRUE COST OF PRODUCTION

In addition to maintaining cash-based accounting for tax preparation, Magnify automatically translates the same information into accrual-based management reports and analyses for a true cost of production.

Accrual-based reports are critical to fully understanding your cost of production. Cash-based reports don't reveal, for example, how crop inputs purchased one year combine with cash rent, labor and other costs incurred the next to determine the cost of production for grain that may not be marketed until the year after harvest.

Accrual-based accounting uses the same underlying information as cash-based accounting, but looks at all the income and expenses associated with a production cycle rather than looking only at the income and expenses generated within a fiscal year.

In other words, cash-based accounting helps manage your taxes, while accrual-based accounting helps manage your business.

"WHAT-IF" ANALYSES

As a management tool, Magnify delivers a comprehensive picture of cash flow, profitability and working capital with features that include production tracking and “what-if” analyses. It can value inventories using real-time local pricing and model the impact of price scenarios to help you plan for market shifts. Producers can also use Magnify to create budgets, compare to actuals and update forecasts throughout the season.

A Magnify user says, “One of the coolest features is having your cost of production and your balance sheet available.

“Knowing your cost of production – knowing where you are right now – is powerful.”

Another producer likes the ease of reconciling transactions. “With Magnify, you can reconcile anytime and in seconds from any device – such as when you're waiting in line at the elevator.”

Frontier Farm Credit is proud to offer Magnify. More than simply meeting our customers' financial needs, Magnify demonstrates our commitment to growing their success.

NAME:

Matthew & Roberta Wyckoff
Wyckoff Cattle

LOCATION:

Wellsville, Kansas

OPERATION:

Beef Producers

CUSTOMERS SINCE:

2013

View their story at:
frontierfarmcredit.com/mattroberta

How we prepared for a career in agriculture

Matthew: We don't come from a multigenerational operation, so we look to folks that have been doing this for a long time to help us make good decisions and bounce ideas off financially. We like to work smarter, not harder.

Our business approach

Roberta: We're on different ends of the spectrum when it comes to risk and growing the farm. Matt is go, go, go, and I like to sit back and look at everything that can go wrong before we leap. Our financial officer understands the difference in our approaches and can make the fast and furious plans with Matt while discussing the little details with me. It means a lot to work with an advisor outside our farm who cares about the success and longevity of our operation.

Working with Frontier Farm Credit

Matthew: The Farm Credit team is part of our community. They're not just people we do business with. They also are people we go to dinner with or see at church. They're our friends. And it makes us confident, if we did have a bad year, they would be behind us. We know they are rooting for us.



SERVING AGRICULTURE MEANS MORE THAN FINANCING THOSE WHO FARM AND RANCH.

We support our rural communities, too. In 2017, Frontier Farm Credit employees dedicated nearly 420 hours to community volunteer work. We also contributed more than \$267,000 to projects and initiatives that positively impact agriculture, including \$180,464 through our *Working Here Fund* and expanded grant programs.

We worked with a shared goal of making a difference in our rural communities by focusing on projects that help expand agricultural education, break the hunger cycle and benefit the growth and development of the next generation.

The accompanying map shows the scope of our community impact work in 2017. Those projects and initiatives touched many different aspects of agriculture, including farm safety, risk management, 4-H, FFA, organizations for women in agriculture and more.

For more information about our community involvement, visit frontierfarmcredit.com/community.



420
volunteer hours
contributed



more than **\$267,000**
in financial contributions



\$180,464 in
grant programs

COMMUNITY IMPACT MAP



-  **Disaster Relief** Employee volunteer hours and contributions supported local disaster cleanup efforts.

 **Employee Match** This program provided matches of up to \$100 for each employee contribution to causes meaningful to them.

 **Employee Volunteers** Frontier Farm Credit employees volunteered 420 hours for nonprofit organizations in their local communities.

 **Expanded Grants** Up to \$10,000 per grant totaling \$56,500 for hunger and nutrition, ag education, plus young and beginning producer initiatives.

 **Grain Bin Rescue** Donated grain bin rescue training and equipment for 12 local volunteer fire departments.
-  **Grants** Provided 77 *Working Here Fund* grants totaling \$123,964 for hunger and nutrition, ag education and young and beginning producer initiatives.

 **Hunger Relief** Provided funding for food distribution to underserved counties with high percentages of food insecurity.

 **Local Contributions** Each of our six offices impacted communities with funding support for local programs and initiatives.

 **Scholarships** Awarded eight \$2,500 scholarships to junior and senior Kansas State University students.

 **Underwriting Support** Funded support for Kansas Center of Risk Management and Education.

**"WE HAVE BUILT FINANCIAL
STRENGTH TO BE HERE FOR YOU,
NO MATTER THE AGRICULTURAL
BUSINESS CYCLE."**

- JENNIFER GEHRT



Your elected Directors on the Frontier Farm Credit Board are farmers and ranchers like you, and we make every decision with your financial success in mind. In 2017, our focus on customers advanced the cooperative's mission of serving agriculture in important and lasting ways.

Crop insurance customers now have digital tools to help them choose the right coverage for managing risks and supporting marketing plans. Magnify, a first-of-its-kind ag management tool developed for our customer-owners, gives producers the ability to understand their financial position in real time. And specialized lending and educational programs for young and beginning producers continue to support a new generation of farmers and ranchers.

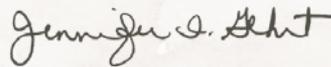
Frontier Farm Credit's cooperative business model means your Board and our leadership team work for you. We have built financial strength to be here for you, no matter the agricultural business cycle. Your Board is proud of the work Frontier Farm Credit is doing every day to help producers through today's challenging economic cycle while also keeping up with the growth needs of our industry.

The new Emporia office, opened in 2017 in a more accessible location, is an example of Frontier Farm Credit's continued investment in the future of agriculture, reflecting our commitment to the local community, to meeting the needs of our customer-owners, and to giving team members the space and technology needed to serve agriculture and rural Kansas.

One of the Board's major duties in 2017 was appointing Doug Stark's successor as president and CEO. Doug retired in November with many successes to his credit, none as significant to Frontier Farm Credit as our alliance with Farm Credit Services of America. Our customer-owners continue to reap the benefits of increased operational efficiencies. Members' equity is at an all-time high of \$420.1 million, and the 2017 cash-back dividend of \$11.5 million demonstrates both our financial strength and our commitment to share our success with our customer-owners.

I speak for the Board in expressing confidence in the leadership of our new president and CEO, Mark Jensen, and his team. As agriculture changes and grows, so too will your cooperative. What won't change is Frontier Farm Credit's dependability as your most valued financial partner. Today's challenging agricultural cycle is a reminder that agriculture in eastern Kansas will always need Frontier Farm Credit.

Your Board of Directors is a strong and diverse voice for the men and women whose operations are so vital to our state. I thank you for the trust you have placed in your Board of Directors and hope you find opportunity and success in 2018.



Jennifer I. Gehrt
2017 Board Chair



Frontier Farm Credit, ACA Directors



Kathy Brick / Overland Park, Kansas

An appointed Director, Brick has consulted for the last five years with private, not-for-profit and public companies on a variety of financial, internal control and process improvement matters through both Kathy Brick, L.L.C., and an international management consulting firm. She also serves as managing director of Prairie View Holdings, L.L.C., a family-farming operation in Missouri. She was appointed to the Frontier Farm Credit Board in 2014; her term ends March 31, 2021.



Ronald Dunbar / Princeton, Kansas

Dunbar is president of Dunbar Farms, Inc., and raises a variety of crops and hay, maintains a beef cow herd, and backgrounds and finishes cattle. He serves on the Franklin County Conservation District Board. He was elected to the Frontier Farm Credit Board in 2003; his current term ends March 31, 2019.



Jennifer Gehrt / Alma, Kansas

Gehrt is majority partner of G&W Ranch, L.L.C., president of Gehrt Farm, Inc., and an agricultural landowner. She also is associate director of information systems at Kansas State University, where she previously served as project director in the information services office and director of human resource services. She serves on the Wabaunsee County Historical Society and Museum Board of Directors. Gehrt was appointed to the Frontier Farm Credit Board in 2011 and was elected to the Board in 2016. Her term ends March 31, 2020.



William Miller / Council Grove, Kansas

Miller is president of ABCD2 Cattle Co., L.L.C., a cattle feeding business, and co-owner of Miller Ranch, a ranch on which he and his wife run commercial Angus cows. Additionally, he does communications consulting for U.S. Premium Beef, L.L.C., where he previously served as vice president of communications. Miller is a member of the Morris County Hospital Board. He was elected to the Frontier Farm Credit Board in 2006; his current term ends March 31, 2018.



Lee Mueller / Hiawatha, Kansas

Mueller is president of Laus Creek Farm, Inc., and raises corn and soybeans. He serves on the Padonia Township Board and the Highland Community College Precision Ag Department Advisory Committee. Mueller was elected to the Frontier Farm Credit Board in 2015; his term ends March 31, 2021.



Steve Powers / Chanute, Kansas

Powers owns and operates a farm and ranch that includes wheat, corn, soybeans, brood cows and stocker cattle. He serves on the Eastern Kansas Royalty Owners Association Board, Thayer Christian Church Board, Hidden Haven Church Camp Board and Thayer Cemetery Board. Powers was elected to the Frontier Farm Credit Board in 2010; his current term ends March 31, 2019.



Shane Tiffany / Allen, Kansas

Tiffany is president of Tiffany Cattle Co., Inc., a custom cattle feeding operation, Tiffany Holdings, L.L.C., an agriculture land-holding company, and Tiffany Enterprises, L.L.C., a real estate investment company. He is vice president of Tiffany Family Farms, L.L.C., a farming operation raising primarily corn and wheat. He also has minority ownership in OWNX, L.L.C., a gold and silver investment company. Tiffany served as mayor of Alta Vista, Kansas, from 2014-2017 and was president of Alta Vista Grocers, Inc., a small-town grocery store, until 2017. He is an elder of High View Church and serves as a leader for the Flint Hills Men's Encounter. Tiffany was elected to the Frontier Farm Credit Board in 2017, and his current term ends March 31, 2021.

Note: In accordance with the Frontier Farm Credit Bylaws, the Board was downsized to one appointed Director and six elected Directors on April 1, 2017. Kathy Brick was appointed to serve a term ending on March 31, 2021, and Bill Fleming and Alan Hess retired from the Board effective March 31, 2017. The remaining elected Directors were candidates for re-election. Successful candidates serve staggered terms that began on April 1, 2017.

Financial Information

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Frontier Farm Credit, ACA

Consolidated Five-Year Summary of Selected Financial Data

(Dollars in thousands)

| | 2017 | 2016 | 2015 | 2014 | 2013 |
|---|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| Balance Sheet Data | | | | | |
| Loans | \$1,919,313 | \$1,898,181 | \$1,835,021 | \$1,705,111 | \$1,596,629 |
| Less allowance for loan losses | 6,100 | 7,500 | 4,300 | 4,943 | 5,004 |
| Net loans | 1,913,213 | 1,890,681 | 1,830,721 | 1,700,168 | 1,591,625 |
| Investment in CoBank, ACB | 63,816 | 63,797 | 59,520 | 56,533 | 52,173 |
| Investment in AgDirect, LLP | 4,696 | 4,889 | 4,829 | 4,551 | 4,401 |
| Cash | – | – | 4,675 | 18,908 | 16,588 |
| Other property owned | 279 | – | – | – | 1,244 |
| Other assets | 72,880 | 64,455 | 50,172 | 51,452 | 51,035 |
| Total assets | \$2,054,884 | \$2,023,822 | \$1,949,917 | \$1,831,612 | \$1,717,066 |
| Obligations with maturities of one year or less | \$ 24,032 | \$ 21,660 | \$ 89,595 | \$ 46,430 | \$ 30,090 |
| Obligations with maturities greater than one year | 1,610,787 | 1,616,091 | 1,503,100 | 1,451,720 | 1,374,941 |
| Total liabilities | 1,634,819 | 1,637,751 | 1,592,695 | 1,498,150 | 1,405,031 |
| Protected members' equity | – | – | – | – | 2 |
| At-risk capital stock | 7,675 | 5,786 | 5,213 | 5,197 | 5,179 |
| Accumulated other comprehensive expense | (246) | (298) | (119) | (151) | (104) |
| Retained earnings | 412,636 | 380,583 | 352,128 | 328,416 | 306,958 |
| Total members' equity | 420,065 | 386,071 | 357,222 | 333,462 | 312,035 |
| Total liabilities and members' equity | \$2,054,884 | \$2,023,822 | \$1,949,917 | \$1,831,612 | \$1,717,066 |
| Statement of Income Data | | | | | |
| Net interest income | \$52,249 | \$50,982 | \$45,717 | \$42,918 | \$40,658 |
| Provision for (reversal of) credit losses | 466 | 3,481 | (37) | 86 | (169) |
| Noninterest income | 12,994 | 13,143 | 12,899 | 15,857 | 12,487 |
| Noninterest expense | 21,227 | 23,193 | 27,207 | 30,164 | 25,183 |
| Provision for income taxes | – | – | 237 | 69 | 52 |
| Net income | \$43,550 | \$37,451 | \$31,209 | \$28,456 | \$28,079 |
| Comprehensive income | \$43,609 | \$37,272 | \$31,191 | \$28,409 | \$28,117 |
| Key Financial Ratios | | | | | |
| For the year | | | | | |
| Return on average assets | 2.18% | 1.89% | 1.67% | 1.61% | 1.72% |
| Return on average total members' equity | 10.76% | 10.03% | 8.95% | 8.68% | 9.22% |
| Net interest income as a percentage of average earning assets | 2.78% | 2.72% | 2.62% | 2.60% | 2.66% |
| Net charge-offs (recoveries) as a percentage of average loans | 0.10% | 0.02% | (0.01)% | 0.01% | (0.01)% |
| At year-end | | | | | |
| Members' equity as a percentage of total assets | 20.44% | 19.08% | 18.32% | 18.21% | 18.17% |
| Allowance for loan losses as a percentage of total loans | 0.32% | 0.40% | 0.23% | 0.29% | 0.31% |
| Capital ratios effective beginning January 1, 2017: | | | | | |
| Permanent capital ratio | 16.65% | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A |
| Common equity tier 1 ratio | 16.57% | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A |
| Tier 1 capital ratio | 16.57% | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A |
| Total capital ratio | 17.00% | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A |
| Tier 1 leverage ratio | 17.97% | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A |
| Capital ratios effective prior to January 1, 2017: | | | | | |
| Permanent capital ratio | N/A | 15.94% | 15.05% | 14.83% | 14.58% |
| Total surplus ratio | N/A | 15.68% | 14.79% | 14.56% | 14.30% |
| Core surplus ratio | N/A | 15.68% | 14.79% | 14.56% | 14.30% |
| Other | | | | | |
| Cash patronage distribution payable to members | \$11,500 | \$9,000 | \$7,500 | \$7,000 | \$7,000 |

Frontier Farm Credit, ACA

Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations

The following commentary reviews the consolidated financial condition and consolidated results of operations of Frontier Farm Credit, ACA and its subsidiaries, Frontier Farm Credit, FLCA and Frontier Farm Credit, PCA and provides additional specific information. The accompanying consolidated financial statements and notes to the consolidated financial statements also contain important information about our financial condition and results of operations.

The Farm Credit System is a nationwide system of cooperatively owned banks and associations established by Congress to meet the credit needs of American agriculture. As of January 1, 2018, the Farm Credit System consisted of three Farm Credit Banks, one Agricultural Credit Bank and 69 customer-owned cooperative lending institutions (associations). The Farm Credit System serves all 50 states, Washington, D.C., and Puerto Rico. This network of financial cooperatives is owned and governed by the rural customers the Farm Credit System serves.

CoBank, ACB, a Farm Credit System bank, its affiliated associations and AgVantis are collectively referred to as the District. Frontier Farm Credit is one of the affiliated associations in the District.

The Farm Credit Administration is authorized by Congress to regulate the Farm Credit System. The Farm Credit System Insurance Corporation ensures the timely payment of principal and interest on Systemwide debt obligations and the retirement of protected borrower capital at par or stated value.

To request a free copy of our annual or quarterly reports, contact us at PO Box 2409, Omaha, NE 68103-2409, (800) 531-3905, via email to [\\$sr@frontierfarmcredit.com](mailto:$sr@frontierfarmcredit.com) or view them on our website, frontierfarmcredit.com. The annual report is available on our website 75 days after the end of the calendar year, and shareholders are provided a copy of the report 90 days after the end of the year. The quarterly reports are available on our website 40 days after the end of each calendar quarter.

Forward-Looking Information

This annual report includes forward-looking statements. These statements are not guarantees of future performance and involve certain risks, uncertainties and assumptions that are difficult to predict. Words such as "anticipate," "believe," "estimate," "may," "expect," "intend," "outlook" and similar expressions are used to identify such forward-looking statements. These statements reflect our current views with respect to future events. However, actual results may differ materially from our expectations due to a number of risks and uncertainties which may be beyond our control.

These risks and uncertainties include, but are not limited to:

- political, legal, regulatory, financial markets, international and economic conditions and developments in the United States and abroad;
- economic fluctuations in the agricultural and farm-related business sectors;
- unfavorable weather, disease and other adverse climatic or biological conditions that periodically occur and impact agricultural productivity and income;
- changes in United States government support of the agricultural industry and the Farm Credit System as a government-sponsored enterprise, as well as investor and rating agency actions relating to events involving the United States government, other government-sponsored enterprises and other financial institutions;
- actions taken by the Federal Reserve System in implementing monetary policy;
- credit, interest rate and liquidity risks inherent in our lending activities;
- changes in our assumptions for determining the allowance for loan losses; and
- changes in new United States tax laws such as the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act of 2017, enacted in late 2017.

2017 Highlights

The year ended December 31, 2017, was another year of continuing to enhance Frontier Farm Credit's financial strength. A strong balance sheet and solid earnings provide a firm foundation for 2018. Highlights include:

- In December, the Board declared an \$11.5 million cash-back dividend distribution under the 2017 patronage program.
- Loan volume increased 1.1 percent to \$1.9 billion.
- Total members' equity increased 8.8 percent to \$420.1 million after recording a liability for the \$11.5 million cash-back dividend payment.
- Net income for the year was \$43.6 million compared to \$37.5 million for 2016, an increase of 16.3 percent.

Frontier Farm Credit, ACA Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations

Commodity Review and Outlook

Farm sector profits in the United States stabilized in 2017 after three consecutive years of declining net farm income. However, profits varied by industry and location across Frontier Farm Credit's lending territory. Nationally, cash receipts are forecasted to increase 2.4 percent with livestock receipt growth of 7.6 percent, more than offsetting a drop in crop receipts of 2.0 percent. Notably, cattle and hogs saw more increases in revenue during 2017 than in 2016. Higher prices plus stable to declining feed costs led to profits in the protein sector with the exception of egg producers whose revenue remained below the cost of production. Cash grain farmers operated in a lower-price environment with limited profit opportunity for the fourth consecutive year, and ethanol producers were modestly profitable.

The average December monthly prices received by farmers and ranchers for the past five years are reflected in the table below:

| Commodity | Monthly Averages: | | | | |
|-------------------|-------------------|----------|----------|----------|----------|
| | 2017 | 2016 | 2015 | 2014 | 2013 |
| Corn | \$3.23 | \$3.33 | \$3.65 | \$3.79 | \$4.41 |
| Soybeans | \$9.30 | \$9.64 | \$8.76 | \$10.30 | \$13.00 |
| Wheat | \$4.51 | \$3.91 | \$4.75 | \$6.14 | \$6.73 |
| Beef cattle (All) | \$118.00 | \$111.00 | \$122.00 | \$164.00 | \$130.00 |
| Hogs (All) | \$48.60 | \$43.10 | \$42.80 | \$64.30 | \$61.50 |

We monitor, compile and report real estate sales information for the 41 counties in our territory in eastern Kansas. We also monitor seven benchmark farms in eastern Kansas, which are updated each January and July.

For 2017, there was an overall decrease of 3.2 percent in the benchmark values and a decrease of 0.1 percent in the last six months of 2017. Farmland prices were relatively steady across the area compared to a year ago. The average quality of land sold also remained stable during this time and has not changed substantially over the past few years. The overall demand for farmland declined compared to 2016.

Loan repayment capacity is largely dependent on income from corn, soybeans, wheat and cattle. Many of our customers are also dependent on off-farm income, although the level of off-farm income varies widely. Government-program payments related to corn, soybeans, wheat and the Conservation Reserve Program are also a source of income for many of our customers.

The following reflects economic conditions for various commodities prepared by our industry specialists based on United States Department of Agriculture and commodity industry reports.

Crops: Row crop producers again faced largely breakeven to negative margins, although cash flows varied widely depending on yields and marketing efficiency. Yields were reduced due to dry conditions in southern Kansas, as well as pockets in the northern part of the state. Corn and soybean prices retreated while wheat prices rebounded at year-end, but profits remained elusive. Input prices were largely unchanged as increases in labor and interest costs

offset reductions in fertilizer costs with static seed and chemical prices. Producers were able to negotiate cash rental rates modestly lower in 2017.

United States corn production in 2017 was again very strong at an estimated 14.6 billion bushels, although down 4.0 percent from the 2016 record production. Corn stocks in the United States as of December 1, 2017, grew 1.0 percent year over year to 12.5 billion bushels. United States producers achieved record yields of 176.6 bushels per acre, eclipsing the previous record set in 2016 by 2 bushels per acre. Kansas production was down 2.0 percent as a 10-bushel-per-acre yield drop to 132 bushels per acre more than offset 400,000 additional planted acres.

Omaha cash corn prices in 2017 averaged \$3.29 per bushel compared to \$3.33 per bushel in 2016. Prices stayed in a relatively small trading range, peaking at \$3.68 per bushel in July before falling to harvest lows near \$3.00 per bushel. The corn price ended the year at \$3.28 per bushel, similar to bids offered a year ago.

United States 2017 soybean production set another new record at 4.39 billion bushels, up 2.0 percent from 2016. The increase was driven by an 8.0 percent increase in harvested acres to a record-high 89.5 million acres. Average yields remained solid at 49.1 bushels per acre, but were down 2.9 bushels per acre from 2016. The additional production resulted in a 9.0 percent increase in stored soybeans to 3.16 billion bushels. Kansas production was down 2.0 percent from 2016, despite 1.1 million additional planted acres, as yields declined from 48 to 37 bushels per acre. Soybean prices were off \$0.20 per bushel to \$9.20 at year-end.

Wheat production in the United States was down 24.6 percent to \$1.74 billion bushels, reducing wheat in storage by 10.0 percent to 1.87 billion bushels. The drop in production was triggered by a year-over-year yield reduction. Winter wheat producers in Kansas experienced similar results as production fell 28.6 percent due to yields declining 9 bushels per acre to 48 bushels per acre.

Beef: The beef industry experienced one of the most profitable years in recent history. All sectors, including cow-calf producers, cattle feeders and meat packers realized an average profit of about \$150 per head. Drivers included stronger exports, improved domestic demand and lower-than-forecasted beef supply growth. Exports grew 11.0 percent in 2017, bolstered by a more competitive United States dollar and tightening global beef supply. Domestic demand also increased, in support of cattle prices, as per capita beef consumption grew 2.0 percent at the same time the availability of choice beef product was reduced. Economic signals incentivized cattle feeders to market cattle promptly, noting average fed cattle carcass weights were lower for the first time since 2010. This helped outweigh record large fed cattle slaughter, keeping meat supply consistent.

The cow herd experienced its third consecutive year of expansion, growing just over one million head or 2.0 percent as moisture conditions across the central United States, coupled with continued profitability, led to continued growth. Expansion is slowing but the industry is expecting producers to add several hundred thousand cows in 2018. Forecasts for 2018 again call for increased fed cattle slaughter numbers that will likely test meat-packing capacity and

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place more reliance on growing exports and consumer demand to maintain prices. Beef production in the United States is estimated to set a record in 2018.

Pork: Swine producers generated better-than-anticipated profits of roughly \$5 to \$10 per head in 2017 as demand remained strong in light of increasing pork supply. Hog cash prices averaged \$50 per cwt. for the year, up \$4 per cwt. from 2016. Total pork production was up 2.5 percent, increasing for the third consecutive year with growth expected to continue in 2018. The year-end United States Department of Agriculture Quarterly Hogs and Pigs Report reflected the breeding inventory at 6.21 million head, up 1.0 percent from a year ago; market hog inventory was up 2.0 percent. While sow numbers grew, pigs saved per litter also increased to a record 10.59.

Strong domestic and global pork demand was the primary driver for higher hog prices. Particularly, exports grew to Mexico and South Korea, more than offsetting reduced sales to China, with Japan remaining a key market. Sales also increased to South America. The addition of new processing plant capacity and subsequent packer competition also helped support domestic producer prices. Improving world economies provide a backdrop for continued strong pork demand, and futures markets are signaling the opportunity for improved profits in 2018. Noting about a quarter of United States pork is exported, a concern to the industry is the threat of potential new trade barriers to important trading partners.

Ethanol: Although ethanol prices were down compared to a year ago, the industry generated positive margins in 2017. The national four-week average ethanol price of \$1.30 per gallon at the close of 2017 reflected a notable decrease from \$1.73 per gallon received in 2016. Ethanol production continued to increase due to low corn prices, stabilized energy prices and increased domestic gasoline consumption. According to the Energy Information Administration (EIA), United States production totaled 1.03 million barrels per day or 15.79 billion gallons, exceeding consumption of 0.945 million barrels per day or 14.48 billion gallons (10.2 percent blend rate). EIA projects similar production rates through 2019 while consumption is expected to rise to 0.967 million barrels per day or 14.82 billion gallons (10.3 percent blend rate).

Margins are expected to remain compressed in 2018 due to continued lower ethanol prices and high stock levels, noting demand growth has not kept up with production. Low corn prices will continue to spur ethanol production and support further inventory growth. Ethanol exports continue to be a vital component of the equation with 1.3 billion gallons exported in 2017. While domestic support for ethanol remains solid, the sustainability of key export markets through trade negotiation is a concern moving forward.

Loan Portfolio

Our loan volume experienced another year of growth and increased \$21.1 million during 2017, an increase of 1.1 percent.

We have no single customer or group of related customers who comprise more than 10.0 percent of our volume or who would have a material effect if they no longer did business with us.

Counties with more than 5.0 percent of total loan volume include Douglas with 7.7 percent and Nemaha with 5.5 percent.

The following table summarizes risk asset and delinquency information (accrual loans include accrued interest receivable; amounts are in thousands):

| | December 31, | | |
|--|--------------|----------|---------|
| | 2017 | 2016 | 2015 |
| Risk loans: | | | |
| Nonaccrual | \$5,597 | \$10,666 | \$5,697 |
| Restructured | 390 | 428 | 502 |
| 90 days past due still accruing interest | 59 | 236 | – |
| Total risk loans | 6,046 | 11,330 | 6,199 |
| Other property owned, net | 279 | – | – |
| Total risk assets | \$6,325 | \$11,330 | \$6,199 |
| Risk loans as a percentage of total loans | 0.31% | 0.59% | 0.33% |
| Nonaccrual loans as a percentage of total loans | 0.29% | 0.56% | 0.31% |
| Current nonaccrual loans as a percentage of total nonaccrual loans | 48.9% | 68.8% | 76.0% |
| Total delinquencies as a percentage of total loans | 0.59% | 0.38% | 0.14% |

Total risk loans have decreased since the end of 2016. The decrease in nonaccrual loans is primarily due to accounts in the horticulture, grain and beef feedlot industries. There was also a decrease in loans 90 days past due still accruing interest. It is our practice to transfer accruing loans that are past due 90 days or more into nonaccrual unless they are adequately secured and in the process of collection. Based on our analysis, loans 90 days or more past due and still accruing interest were adequately secured and in the process of collection. Risk loans as a percentage of total loans remain at acceptable levels.

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Our adversely classified assets increased during 2017, ending the year at 3.9 percent of the portfolio compared to 3.3 percent of the portfolio at December 31, 2016. Adversely classified assets are assets we have identified as showing some credit weakness outside our credit standards. We have considered portfolio credit quality in assessing the reasonableness of our allowance for loan losses.

The allowance for loan losses is an estimate of losses on loans in our portfolio as of the financial statement date. We determine the appropriate level of allowance for loan losses based on the periodic evaluation of factors such as loan loss history, probability of default, estimated loss severity, portfolio quality, and current economic and environmental conditions.

Comparative allowance coverage of various loan categories follows:

| | December 31, | | |
|-------------------------------|--------------|--------|--------|
| | 2017 | 2016 | 2015 |
| Allowance as a percentage of: | | | |
| Total loans | 0.32% | 0.40% | 0.23% |
| Nonaccrual loans | 108.99% | 70.32% | 75.48% |
| Total risk loans | 100.89% | 66.20% | 69.37% |

In our opinion, the allowance for loan losses at December 31, 2017, is adequate to provide for probable and estimable losses in the loan portfolio.

Results of Operations

The following table provides profitability information:

| | December 31, | | |
|-----------------------------------|--------------|----------|----------|
| | 2017 | 2016 | 2015 |
| Net income (in thousands) | \$43,550 | \$37,451 | \$31,209 |
| Return on average assets | 2.18% | 1.89% | 1.67% |
| Return on average members' equity | 10.76% | 10.03% | 8.95% |

Changes to our return on average assets and return on average members' equity are related directly to the changes in income as described below, the changes in assets discussed in the Loan Portfolio section and the changes in members' equity discussed in the Members' Equity section. Major components of the changes in net income for 2017, 2016 and 2015 are outlined in the following table (in thousands):

| | December 31, | | |
|---|--------------|----------|----------|
| | 2017 | 2016 | 2015 |
| Net income prior year | \$37,451 | \$31,209 | \$28,456 |
| Increase (decrease) in net income attributable to changes in: | | | |
| Net interest income | 1,267 | 5,265 | 2,799 |
| Provision for credit losses | 3,015 | (3,518) | 123 |
| Noninterest income | (149) | 244 | (2,958) |
| Noninterest expense | 1,966 | 4,014 | 2,957 |
| Provision for income taxes, net | - | 237 | (168) |
| Net income for the year | \$43,550 | \$37,451 | \$31,209 |

The effects on net interest income from changes in average volumes and rates are presented in the following table (in thousands):

| | 2017 vs. 2016 | 2016 vs. 2015 |
|-----------------------------|---------------|---------------|
| Changes in volume | \$ 267 | \$3,152 |
| Changes in rates | 1,249 | 1,959 |
| Change in nonaccrual income | 318 | 154 |
| Net change | \$1,834 | \$5,265 |

The average lending rate was 4.46 percent for 2017 compared to 4.20 percent for 2016. The average cost of debt was 2.03 percent for 2017 compared to 1.73 percent for 2016. The net interest margin was 2.78 percent in 2017 compared to 2.72 percent in 2016.

Net interest income included income on nonaccrual loans that totaled \$33 thousand in 2017, \$249 thousand in 2016 and \$95 thousand in 2015. Nonaccrual income is recognized when:

- received in cash,
- collection of the recorded investment is fully expected, and
- prior charge-offs have been recovered.

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We recorded a \$0.5 million provision for credit losses for 2017 compared to a \$3.5 million provision for credit losses for 2016. The provision for credit losses includes the provision for loan losses and the provision for unfunded lending commitments. Credit quality deterioration slowed in 2017 compared to 2016 leading to a modest increase in overall provision. Allowance for loan losses declined primarily due to resolving nonaccrual volume within the portfolio through charge-off and collection efforts. The reserve for unfunded lending commitments balance at December 31, 2017, decreased \$0.1 million as compared to December 31, 2016. The reserve for unfunded lending commitments is based on our best estimate of losses inherent in lending commitments made to customers but not yet disbursed. Factors such as likelihood of disbursement and likelihood of losses given disbursement were utilized in determining this contingency.

We recorded net charge-offs of \$2.0 million in 2017 (0.10 percent of average loans). We recorded net recoveries of charge-offs of \$0.3 million in 2016 ((0.02) percent of average loans) and net recoveries of charge-offs of \$0.2 million in 2015 ((0.01) percent of average loans).

The decrease in noninterest income is primarily due to a decrease in loan fees and business services.

The decrease in noninterest expense is primarily due to the sharing of expenses with Farm Credit Services of America (FCSAmerica) as part of the strategic alliance agreement.

Patronage Program

Our Board adopted a patronage program for eligible customers in 2017. The patronage program has been in place for more than a decade. The 2017 program is based on each customer's eligible average loans outstanding during the year. The patronage program is a qualified (cash) distribution referred to as cash-back dividends. The Board declared a cash-back dividend of \$11.5 million at its December 2017 meeting to be distributed no later than April 30, 2018. We recorded a liability of \$11.5 million in December 2017.

The 2016 and 2015 patronage programs were also based on each customer's eligible average loans outstanding during the year. The Board declared a cash-back dividend of \$9.0 million at its December 2016 meeting and \$7.5 million at its December 2015 meeting to be distributed no later than April 30 of the following respective years. We recorded a liability of \$9.0 million in December 2016 and \$7.5 million in December 2015.

Our Board has also adopted a patronage program for 2018. The 2018 patronage program will once again be based on each customer's average daily balance of eligible loans during 2018.

CoBank, ACB Patronage Income

We receive patronage from CoBank, ACB at the discretion of CoBank, ACB's Board of Directors. Patronage is paid in cash and stock.

We received patronage income based on the average balance of our note payable to CoBank, ACB. We recorded patronage income of \$7.1 million in 2017, \$7.1 million in 2016 and \$6.8 million in 2015. Changes in our note payable to CoBank, ACB caused the variance in the patronage income amounts.

Funding and Liquidity

Our approach to sustaining sufficient liquidity to fund operations and meet current obligations is to maintain an adequate line of credit with CoBank, ACB. As of January 1, 2017, we had a \$1.9 billion revolving line of credit with CoBank, ACB. We generally apply excess cash to this line of credit.

As described in Note 7 to the consolidated financial statements, "Notes Payable," this line of credit is governed by a General Financing Agreement and is collateralized by a pledge of substantially all of our assets and is also subject to regulatory borrowing limits. The line of credit will be renegotiated periodically. We expect this line of credit to be sufficient to fund our operations. The note payable related to this line of credit reprices monthly.

At December 31, 2017, the direct loan balance was \$1.6 billion compared to \$1.6 billion at the end of 2016 and \$1.5 billion at the end of 2015.

The interest rate risk inherent in our loan portfolio is substantially mitigated through this funding relationship. CoBank, ACB manages interest rate risk through its direct loan pricing and asset/liability management processes. The direct loan pricing mechanism simulates matching the cost of underlying debt with substantially the same terms as the anticipated terms of our loans to customers. The primary risks we manage include pipeline risk and basis risk. Pipeline risk occurs when we commit a fixed interest rate to a customer in advance of the loan's closing date and is effectively mitigated through the use of rate-lock agreements. Basis risk occurs when the interest rate on a loan reprices according to one index, while the debt supporting that loan reprices according to another index.

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We provide financing to eligible customers with various interest rate programs. New loans are priced with consideration given to the local competitive conditions, the cost of debt that will be incurred to fund the loan, the individual risk elements of the loan and profit objectives. Interest on real estate loans is generally paid in full annually, while interest on agricultural production loans is generally paid in full at the annual renewal date of the loan.

We offer variable-rate loan products that include variable-rate loans repriced at our discretion, as dictated by market conditions, and market-indexed variable-rate loans that provide customers with the option of indexing their interest rate to external market indices such as LIBOR or the prime rate.

We also offer fixed-rate operating loans for up to two years, fixed-rate installment loans for up to 10 years and fixed-rate mortgage loans in yearly increments from 5-35 years.

In addition, we offer real estate adjustable-rate loans that are indexed to one-, three- or five-year United States Department of the Treasury rates. The loans reprice at one-, three- or five-year intervals at a rate equal to the corresponding United States Department of the Treasury rate plus a contractual spread. The one-, three- and five-year adjustable-rate loans are generally subject to periodic caps ranging from 2.0-2.5 percent with a 6.0 percent life cap. The cost of debt supporting these loans is capped accordingly.

We also offer a prepayment-restricted loan product. This is a fixed-rate product with a prepayment penalty provision if prepayments are made during the initial three, five or seven years of the loan term. For agreeing to restricted prepayments, the customer receives a reduced interest rate that remains in effect for the entire loan term.

A breakdown of the loan portfolio by rate type, as a percentage of total volume at December 31, is shown in the following table:

| | December 31, | | |
|-----------------|--------------|--------|--------|
| | 2017 | 2016 | 2015 |
| Variable rate | 41.8% | 41.6% | 43.2% |
| Fixed rate | 57.6 | 57.6 | 55.8 |
| Adjustable rate | 0.6 | 0.8 | 1.0 |
| | 100.0% | 100.0% | 100.0% |

Our other source of lendable funds is unallocated surplus.

Members' Equity

Our equity structure is described in Note 8 to the consolidated financial statements, "Members' Equity."

Members' equity increased to \$420.1 million at December 31, 2017, compared to \$386.1 million at December 31, 2016. The increase in 2017 was due to net income recorded in 2017, the net capital stock issued and the change in other comprehensive loss partially offset by patronage payable.

Members' equity as a percentage of total assets increased to 20.44 percent at December 31, 2017, compared to 19.08 percent at December 31, 2016. The increase in the members' equity-to-assets ratio was due to the growth rate of members' equity exceeding the growth rate of assets. The increase in members' equity is described in the previous paragraph. The increase in assets is primarily due to the increase in loans described in the Loan Portfolio section.

Farm Credit Administration regulations require us to maintain minimums for various regulatory capital ratios. New regulations became effective January 1, 2017, which replaced the previously required core surplus and total surplus ratios with common equity Tier 1, Tier 1 capital and total capital risk-based capital ratios. The new regulations also added Tier 1 leverage and unallocated retained earnings and equivalents (UREE) ratios. The permanent capital ratio continues to remain in effect, with some modifications to align with the new regulations.

| | As of December 31, 2017 | Regulatory Minimums | Capital Conservation Buffer | Total |
|---------------------------|-------------------------------|------------------------|-----------------------------------|-------|
| Risk-adjusted ratios: | | | | |
| Common equity tier 1 | 16.57% | 4.5% | 2.5%* | 7.0% |
| Tier 1 capital | 16.57% | 6.0% | 2.5%* | 8.5% |
| Total capital | 17.00% | 8.0% | 2.5%* | 10.5% |
| Permanent capital | 16.65% | 7.0% | - | 7.0% |
| Non-risk-adjusted ratios: | | | | |
| Tier 1 leverage | 17.97% | 4.0% | 1.0% | 5.0% |
| UREE leverage | 19.71% | 1.5% | - | 1.5% |

*The 2.5 percent capital conservation buffer over risk-adjusted ratio minimums will be phased in over three years under the Farm Credit Administration capital requirements.

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Relationship with CoBank, ACB

We borrow from CoBank, ACB to fund our lending operations in accordance with the Farm Credit Act of 1971, as amended. Approval from CoBank, ACB is required for us to borrow elsewhere. A General Financing Agreement, as discussed in Note 7 to the consolidated financial statements, "Notes Payable," governs this lending relationship. The interest rate may be periodically adjusted by CoBank, ACB based on the terms and conditions of the General Financing Agreement.

We are required to own stock in CoBank, ACB to capitalize our notes payable balance and participation loans sold to CoBank, ACB. The current requirement for capitalizing the notes payable to CoBank, ACB is 4.0 percent of our prior year average notes payable balance. The 2017 requirement for capitalizing patronage-based participation loans sold to CoBank, ACB is 8.0 percent of our prior 10-year average balance of participations sold to CoBank, ACB. Under the current CoBank, ACB capital plan applicable to participations sold, patronage from CoBank, ACB related to these participations sold is paid 75.0 percent cash and 25.0 percent Class A stock. The capital plan is evaluated annually by CoBank, ACB's Board of Directors and management and is subject to change.

In August 2017, CoBank, ACB announced changes to their capital plans and patronage programs for eligible customer-owners designed to address a number of marketplace challenges. Such challenges include, among others, higher minimum capital requirements under the new capital regulations in addition to other increased regulatory costs, the impact of a prolonged low interest rate environment on returns on invested capital, decreased returns on equity and assets, declining spreads and net interest margin driven by intense competition in the banking industry, and low and declining spreads in rural electric and water loans. These changes are intended to strengthen CoBank, ACB's long-term capacity to serve customers' borrowing needs, enhance the bank's ability to capitalize future customer growth, and ensure equitability among different customer segments.

Pursuant to the changes approved by CoBank, ACB Board of Directors, CoBank, ACB created two separate capital plans for cooperative and other eligible direct borrowers under which targeted patronage levels and cash/equity splits will be more equitably balanced between the earnings generated by different customer portfolios and the use of the bank by its patronage-eligible members. Pursuant to these new plans, agribusiness, communications and project finance customers are in one plan, while rural electric and water customers are in another. Additionally, target patronage levels for all customers and partners are reduced under the new plans.

For cooperatives and other eligible direct borrowers as well as for loans purchased from other Farm Credit institutions, the new target patronage levels take effect in the 2018 calendar year and will be reflected in patronage distributions made in March 2019. Affiliated associations and nonaffiliated Farm Credit and other financing institutions will transition to their new targeted patronage levels over a multiyear period ending in 2020. No changes are being made to target equity requirements or the loan base periods for any borrower or commercial partner. Additionally, the capital plan for financial service members remains unchanged.

At December 31, 2017, our investment in CoBank, ACB is in the form of Class A stock with a par value of \$100 per share.

CoBank, ACB may require the holders of its equities to subscribe for additional capital as may be needed to meet its capital requirements for its joint and several liability under the Farm Credit Act and regulations. In making such a capital call, CoBank, ACB shall take into account the financial condition of each such holder and such other considerations, as it deems appropriate.

We receive patronage income based on the annual average daily balance of our note payable to CoBank, ACB. CoBank, ACB's Board of Directors sets the patronage rates.

Due to the nature of our financial relationship with CoBank, ACB, the financial condition and results of operations of CoBank, ACB materially affect our stockholders' investment in Frontier Farm Credit. To request a free copy of the combined CoBank, ACB and affiliated associations' financial reports, contact us at PO Box 2409, Omaha, NE 68103-2409, (800) 531-3905 or via email to [\\$sr@frontierfarmcredit.com](mailto:$sr@frontierfarmcredit.com). You may also obtain copies by accessing CoBank, ACB's website, cobank.com. Annual reports are available within 75 days after the end of the calendar year, and quarterly reports are available within 40 days after the end of each calendar quarter.

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Relationship with Farm Credit Services of America

A strategic alliance between Frontier Farm Credit and FCSAmerica was implemented January 1, 2015. The alliance is designed to benefit the farmers and ranchers who own and support the two financial services cooperatives by ensuring that both Associations have the strength and capacity to serve agricultural customers' needs for years to come.

Frontier Farm Credit and FCSAmerica continue to exist as separate Associations while integrating their day-to-day business operations, technology systems and leadership teams. Each Association continues to have its own board, with representatives participating in a coordinating committee to facilitate board governance between the two organizations.

Under the alliance agreement, Frontier Farm Credit and FCSAmerica have agreed to share current-year income and expenses based on the average total assets of each entity for the prior calendar year. Due to the transition period required to fully implement the alliance, the agreement specifies generally that pretax net income will be shared on fixed percentages of 94.0 percent for FCSAmerica and 6.0 percent for Frontier Farm Credit for 2015, and 93.0 percent for FCSAmerica and 7.0 percent for Frontier Farm Credit for 2016. For the year ending December 31, 2017, pretax net income was shared on fixed percentages of 92.9 and 7.1 percent for FCSAmerica and Frontier Farm Credit respectively. For the year ending December 31, 2017, Frontier Farm Credit recorded \$12.1 million of net operating expenses under the income- and expense-sharing provisions of the alliance agreement primarily due to the salary and related expenses incurred by FCSAmerica for former Frontier Farm Credit employees added to the FCSAmerica payroll. The net operating expenses recorded by Frontier Farm Credit were \$16.2 million for the year ended December 31, 2016, and \$10.4 million for the year ended December 31, 2015.

Frontier Farm Credit has \$2.1 billion in assets and serves multiple counties in eastern Kansas. FCSAmerica has \$28 billion in assets and serves the states of Iowa, Nebraska, South Dakota and Wyoming.

AgDirect, LLP

We participate in the AgDirect trade credit financing program, which includes origination and refinancing of agricultural equipment loans through independent equipment dealers. The program is facilitated by FCSAmerica through a limited liability partnership in which we are a partial owner. Our investment in AgDirect, LLP was \$4.7 million at December 31, 2017, \$4.9 million at December 31, 2016, and \$4.8 million at December 31, 2015. The LLP is an unincorporated business entity.

Purchased Services

During 2016, District associations and AgriBank, FCB conducted research related to the creation of a separate service entity to provide many of the business services offered by AgriBank, FCB. A separate service entity allows District associations and AgriBank, FCB to develop and maintain long-term, cost-effective technology and business services. The service entity would be owned by certain District associations and AgriBank, FCB and will be named SunStream Business Services (SunStream). An application to form the service entity was submitted in May 2017 to the Farm Credit Administration for approval.

Farm Credit Foundations

We purchase human resource information systems and benefit and payroll services from Farm Credit Foundations. The Farm Credit System entities using Farm Credit Foundations' services contributed an investment into the service corporation in January 2012. Our investment was \$21 thousand at December 31, 2017, December 31, 2016, and December 31, 2015. The total cost of services purchased from Farm Credit Foundations was \$78 thousand in 2017, \$94 thousand in 2016 and \$105 thousand in 2015.

Frontier Farm Credit, ACA Report of Management

We prepare the consolidated financial statements of Frontier Farm Credit, ACA (Association) and are responsible for their integrity and objectivity, including amounts that must be necessarily based on judgments and estimates. The consolidated financial statements have been prepared in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. The consolidated financial statements, in our opinion, fairly present the financial condition of the Association. Other financial information included in the annual report is consistent with that in the consolidated financial statements.

To meet our responsibility for reliable financial information, we depend on accounting and internal control systems designed to provide reasonable, but not absolute, assurance that assets are safeguarded and transactions are properly authorized and recorded. Costs must be reasonable in relation to the benefits derived when designing accounting and internal control systems. Financial operations audits are performed to monitor compliance. PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP, our independent auditors, audit the consolidated financial statements. They also consider internal controls to the extent necessary to design audit procedures that comply with generally accepted auditing standards in the United States of America. The Farm Credit Administration also performs examinations for safety and soundness, as well as compliance with applicable laws and regulations.

The Board of Directors has overall responsibility for our system of internal control and financial reporting. The Board of Directors and its Audit Committee consult regularly with us and meet periodically with the independent auditors and other auditors to review the scope and results of their work. The independent auditors have direct access to the Board of Directors, which is composed solely of directors who are not officers or employees of the Association.

The undersigned certify that we have reviewed the Association's annual report and it has been prepared in accordance with all applicable statutory or regulatory requirements, and the information contained herein is true, accurate and complete to the best of our knowledge and belief.



Mark Jensen
President and CEO
March 2, 2018



Craig P. Kinnison
Senior Vice President – CFO
March 2, 2018



Jennifer I. Gehrt
Chairperson, Board of Directors
March 2, 2018

Frontier Farm Credit, ACA Report on Internal Control Over Financial Reporting

Frontier Farm Credit, ACA's (Association) principal executives and principal financial officers, or persons performing similar functions, are responsible for establishing and maintaining adequate internal control over financial reporting for the Association's consolidated financial statements. For purposes of this report, "internal control over financial reporting" is defined as a process designed by, or under the supervision of, the Association's principal executives and principal financial officers, or persons performing similar functions, and effected by its Board of Directors, management and other personnel, to provide reasonable assurance regarding the reliability of financial reporting information and the preparation of the consolidated financial statements for external purposes in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America, and 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 Association, (2) provide reasonable assurance that transactions are recorded as necessary to permit preparation of financial information in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America, and that receipts and expenditures are being made only in accordance with authorizations of management and directors of the Association, and (3) provide reasonable assurance regarding prevention or timely detection of unauthorized acquisition, use or disposition of the Association's assets that could have a material effect on its consolidated financial statements.

The Association's management has completed an assessment of the effectiveness of internal control over financial reporting as of December 31, 2017. In making the assessment, management used the 2013 framework in Internal Control – Integrated Framework, promulgated by the Committee of Sponsoring Organizations of the Treadway Commission, commonly referred to as the "COSO" criteria.

Based on the assessment performed, the Association concluded that as of December 31, 2017, the internal control over financial reporting was effective based upon the COSO criteria. Additionally, based on this assessment, the Association determined that there were no material weaknesses in the internal control over financial reporting as of December 31, 2017.



Mark Jensen
President and CEO
March 2, 2018



Craig P. Kinnison
Senior Vice President – CFO
March 2, 2018

Frontier Farm Credit, ACA Report of Audit Committee

The consolidated financial statements of Frontier Farm Credit, ACA (Association) were prepared under the oversight of the Audit Committee. The Audit Committee is composed of six individuals from the Association Board of Directors. In 2017, the Audit Committee met eight times. The Audit Committee oversees the scope of the Association's internal audit program, the approval and independence of PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP (PwC) as our independent auditors, the adequacy of the Association's system of internal controls and procedures, and the adequacy of management's action with respect to recommendations arising from those auditing activities. The Audit Committee's responsibilities are described more fully in the Internal Control Policy and the Audit Committee Charter.

Management is responsible for internal controls and the preparation of the consolidated financial statements in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. PwC is responsible for performing an independent audit of the consolidated financial statements in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and to issue their report based on their audit. The Audit Committee's responsibilities include monitoring and overseeing these processes.

In this context, the Audit Committee reviewed and discussed the audited consolidated financial statements for the year ended December 31, 2017, with management. The Audit Committee also reviewed with PwC the matters required to be discussed by Statement on Auditing Standards AU-C260, *The Auditor's Communication With Those Charged With Governance*, and both PwC and the internal auditors directly provided reports on any significant matters to the Audit Committee.

The Audit Committee had discussions with and received written disclosures from PwC confirming its independence. The Audit Committee also reviewed the non-audit services provided by PwC, if any, and concluded these services were not incompatible with maintaining PwC's independence. The Audit Committee discussed with management and PwC any other matters and received any assurances from them as the Audit Committee deemed appropriate.

Based on the foregoing review and discussions, and relying thereon, the Audit Committee recommended that the Board of Directors include the audited consolidated financial statements in the annual report for the year ended December 31, 2017.



Kathy Brick
Chair, Audit Committee
Frontier Farm Credit, ACA
March 2, 2018

Audit Committee Members:

Ronald Dunbar
William Miller
Lee Mueller
Steve Powers
Shane Tiffany



Report of Independent Auditors

To the Board of Directors of Frontier Farm Credit, ACA,

We have audited the accompanying consolidated financial statements of Frontier Farm Credit, ACA and its subsidiaries (the Association), which comprise the consolidated balance sheets as of December 31, 2017, 2016 and 2015, and the related consolidated statements of comprehensive income, changes in members' equity and cash flows for the years then ended.

Management's Responsibility for the Consolidated Financial Statements

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the consolidated financial statements in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America; this includes the design, implementation, and maintenance of internal control relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of consolidated financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

Auditors' Responsibility

Our responsibility is to express an opinion on the consolidated financial statements based on our audits. We conducted our audits in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the consolidated financial statements are free from material misstatement.

An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the consolidated financial statements. The procedures selected depend on our judgment, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the consolidated financial statements, whether due to fraud or error. In making those risk assessments, we consider internal control relevant to the Association's preparation and fair presentation of the consolidated financial statements in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Association's internal control. Accordingly, we express no such opinion. An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of significant accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the consolidated financial statements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinion.

Opinion

In our opinion, the consolidated financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of Frontier Farm Credit, ACA and its subsidiaries as of December 31, 2017, 2016 and 2015, and the results of its operations and its cash flows for the years then ended in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

March 2, 2018

Frontier Farm Credit, ACA
Consolidated Balance Sheets
(Dollars in thousands)

| | December 31, | | |
|--|---------------------|-------------|-------------|
| | 2017 | 2016 | 2015 |
| Assets | | | |
| Loans | \$1,919,313 | \$1,898,181 | \$1,835,021 |
| Less allowance for loan losses | 6,100 | 7,500 | 4,300 |
| Net loans | 1,913,213 | 1,890,681 | 1,830,721 |
| Cash | – | – | 4,675 |
| Accrued interest receivable | 26,337 | 23,936 | 21,393 |
| Investment in CoBank, ACB | 63,816 | 63,797 | 59,520 |
| Investment in AgDirect, LLP | 4,696 | 4,889 | 4,829 |
| Premises and equipment, net | 21,795 | 19,053 | 20,896 |
| Other property owned, net | 279 | – | – |
| Prepaid benefit expense | 1,367 | 593 | – |
| Other assets | 23,381 | 20,873 | 7,883 |
| Total assets | \$2,054,884 | \$2,023,822 | \$1,949,917 |
| Liabilities | | | |
| Notes payable to CoBank, ACB | \$1,610,787 | \$1,616,091 | \$1,503,100 |
| Accrued interest payable | 2,974 | 2,540 | 2,942 |
| Patronage payable | 11,500 | 9,000 | 7,500 |
| Reserve for unfunded lending commitments | 700 | 800 | 800 |
| Accrued benefits liability | 813 | 1,075 | 1,340 |
| Other liabilities | 8,045 | 8,245 | 77,013 |
| Total liabilities | 1,634,819 | 1,637,751 | 1,592,695 |
| Commitments and contingencies (Note 12) | | | |
| Members' Equity | | | |
| At-risk capital: | | | |
| Class B common stock | 7,454 | 5,662 | 5,147 |
| Class C common stock | 221 | 124 | 66 |
| Accumulated other comprehensive loss | (246) | (298) | (119) |
| Retained earnings | 412,636 | 380,583 | 352,128 |
| Total members' equity | 420,065 | 386,071 | 357,222 |
| Total liabilities and members' equity | \$2,054,884 | \$2,023,822 | \$1,949,917 |

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these consolidated financial statements.

Frontier Farm Credit, ACA
Consolidated Statements of Comprehensive Income
(Dollars in thousands)

| | Year Ended December 31, | | |
|---|-------------------------|----------|----------|
| | 2017 | 2016 | 2015 |
| Net Interest Income | | | |
| Interest income | \$84,565 | \$79,491 | \$73,672 |
| Interest expense | 32,316 | 28,509 | 27,955 |
| Net interest income | 52,249 | 50,982 | 45,717 |
| Provision for (reversal of) credit losses | 466 | 3,481 | (37) |
| Net interest income after provision for credit losses | 51,783 | 47,501 | 45,754 |
| Noninterest Income | | | |
| Patronage income from CoBank, ACB | 7,116 | 7,129 | 6,843 |
| Loan fees | 1,508 | 2,098 | 876 |
| Insurance services | 2,528 | 2,343 | 2,134 |
| Mineral income | 1,014 | 992 | 1,845 |
| Other noninterest income | 828 | 581 | 1,201 |
| Total noninterest income | 12,994 | 13,143 | 12,899 |
| Noninterest Expense | | | |
| Salaries and employee benefits | 14,066 | 11,987 | 6,732 |
| Occupancy and equipment expense | 2,136 | 1,966 | 1,611 |
| Purchased services from AgVantis | - | - | 2,333 |
| Insurance fund premiums | 2,244 | 2,572 | 1,762 |
| Other operating expenses | 2,781 | 6,668 | 14,769 |
| Total noninterest expense | 21,227 | 23,193 | 27,207 |
| Income before income taxes | 43,550 | 37,451 | 31,446 |
| Provision for income taxes | - | - | 237 |
| Net income | \$43,550 | \$37,451 | \$31,209 |
| Comprehensive Income | | | |
| Actuarial gain (loss) in retirement obligation | 4 | (195) | 7 |
| Amortization of retirement costs | 55 | 16 | 25 |
| Total comprehensive income | \$43,609 | \$37,272 | \$31,241 |

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these consolidated financial statements.

Frontier Farm Credit, ACA

Consolidated Statements of Changes in Members' Equity

(Dollars in thousands)

| | Accumulated Other Comprehensive Income (Loss) | At-Risk Capital | | Total Members' Equity |
|--------------------------------------|---|------------------|----------------------|--------------------------|
| | | Capital Stock | Retained Earnings | |
| Balance at December 31, 2014 | \$(151) | \$5,197 | \$328,416 | \$333,462 |
| Net income | | | 31,209 | 31,209 |
| Patronage declared | | | (7,500) | (7,500) |
| Patronage accrual adjustment | | | 3 | 3 |
| Change in other comprehensive income | 32 | | | 32 |
| Capital stock: | | | | |
| Issued | | 361 | | 361 |
| Retired | | (345) | | (345) |
| Balance at December 31, 2015 | (119) | 5,213 | 352,128 | 357,222 |
| Net income | | | 37,451 | 37,451 |
| Patronage declared | | | (9,000) | (9,000) |
| Patronage accrual adjustment | | | 4 | 4 |
| Change in other comprehensive loss | (179) | | | (179) |
| Capital stock: | | | | |
| Issued | | 1,388 | | 1,388 |
| Retired | | (815) | | (815) |
| Balance at December 31, 2016 | (298) | 5,786 | 380,583 | 386,071 |
| Net income | | | 43,550 | 43,550 |
| Patronage declared | | | (11,500) | (11,500) |
| Patronage accrual adjustment | | | 3 | 3 |
| Change in other comprehensive income | 52 | | | 52 |
| Capital stock: | | | | |
| Issued | | 4,239 | | 4,239 |
| Retired | | (2,350) | | (2,350) |
| Balance at December 31, 2017 | \$(246) | \$7,675 | \$412,636 | \$420,065 |

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these consolidated financial statements.

Frontier Farm Credit, ACA
Consolidated Statements of Cash Flows
(Dollars in thousands)

| | Year Ended December 31, | | |
|---|-------------------------|----------|-----------|
| | 2017 | 2016 | 2015 |
| Cash Flows from Operating Activities: | | | |
| Net income | \$43,550 | \$37,451 | \$31,209 |
| Adjustments to reconcile net income to net cash provided by operating activities: | | | |
| Provision for (reversal of) credit losses | 466 | 3,481 | (37) |
| Decrease (increase) in stock patronage received from CoBank, ACB | - | 233 | (50) |
| Carrying value write-down on AgVantis allocated surplus | - | - | 1,115 |
| Loss (gain) on sales of premises and equipment | 149 | 839 | (152) |
| Carrying value write-down on premises and equipment | - | - | 110 |
| Depreciation on premises and equipment | 884 | 886 | 1,020 |
| Increase in accrued interest receivable | (2,401) | (2,543) | (1,960) |
| Increase (decrease) in accrued interest payable | 434 | (402) | (3,822) |
| Increase in prepaid benefit expense | (774) | (593) | - |
| (Increase) decrease in other assets | (2,508) | (12,990) | 1,077 |
| (Decrease) increase in accrued benefits liability | (211) | (444) | 328 |
| (Decrease) increase in other liabilities | (200) | (68,768) | 38,627 |
| Total adjustments | (4,161) | (80,301) | 36,256 |
| Net cash provided by operating activities | 39,389 | (42,850) | 67,465 |
| Cash Flows from Investing Activities: | | | |
| Increase in loans, net | (23,377) | (63,441) | (129,716) |
| Increase in investment in CoBank, ACB | (19) | (4,510) | (2,937) |
| Decrease (increase) in investment in AgDirect, LLP | 193 | (60) | (278) |
| Purchases of premises and equipment, net | (4,230) | (1,633) | (102) |
| Proceeds from sales of premises and equipment | 455 | 1,751 | 172 |
| Net cash used in investing activities | (26,978) | (67,893) | (132,861) |
| Cash Flows from Financing Activities: | | | |
| (Decrease) increase in notes payable, net | (5,304) | 112,991 | 58,144 |
| At-risk capital stock issued | 4,239 | 1,388 | 361 |
| At-risk capital stock retired | (2,349) | (815) | (345) |
| Patronage paid in cash | (8,997) | (7,496) | (6,997) |
| Net cash provided by financing activities | (12,411) | 106,068 | 51,163 |
| Net (decrease) in cash | - | (4,675) | (14,233) |
| Cash at beginning of year | - | 4,675 | 18,908 |
| Cash at end of year | \$ - | \$ - | \$ 4,675 |
| Supplemental Schedule of Non-Cash Investing and Financing Activities: | | | |
| Cash patronage distribution declared | \$11,500 | \$9,000 | \$7,500 |
| Loan amounts transferred to other property owned | \$279 | - | - |
| Change in accumulated other comprehensive income (loss) | \$51 | \$(179) | \$32 |
| Supplemental Cash Flow Information: | | | |
| Interest paid on notes payable | \$26,802 | \$23,027 | \$18,250 |
| Income taxes paid | \$211 | \$356 | \$84 |

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these consolidated financial statements.

Frontier Farm Credit, ACA

Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements

Note 1 – Organization and Operations

Farm Credit System and District

Farm Credit System Lending Institutions

The Farm Credit System is a nationwide system of cooperatively owned banks and associations established by Congress to meet the credit needs of American agriculture. As of January 1, 2018, the Farm Credit System consisted of three Farm Credit Banks, one Agricultural Credit Bank and 69 customer-owned cooperative lending institutions (associations). The Farm Credit System serves all 50 states, Washington, D.C., and Puerto Rico. This network of financial cooperatives is owned and operated by the rural customers the Farm Credit System serves – the American farmer and rancher.

CoBank, ACB, its related associations and AgVantis, Inc. (AgVantis) are collectively referred to as the District. CoBank, ACB provides the funding to associations within the District and is responsible for supervising certain activities of the District associations. AgVantis, which is owned by the entities it serves, provides technology and other operational services to certain associations and to CoBank, ACB. As of January 1, 2018, the CoBank District consisted of CoBank, ACB, 22 Agricultural Credit Associations (ACA), which each have two wholly owned subsidiaries, a Federal Land Credit Association (FLCA) and a Production Credit Association (PCA), and AgVantis.

Federal Land Credit Associations are authorized to originate long-term real estate mortgage loans. Production Credit Associations are authorized to originate short-term and intermediate-term loans. Agricultural Credit Associations are authorized to originate long-term real estate mortgage loans, and short-term and intermediate-term loans either directly or through their subsidiaries. Associations are authorized to provide lease financing options for agricultural purposes and are also authorized to purchase and hold certain types of investments including mission-related investments.

Associations are authorized to provide, either directly or in participation with other lenders, credit and related services to eligible borrowers. Eligible borrowers may include farmers, ranchers, producers or harvesters of aquatic products, rural residents and farm-related service businesses. Additionally, associations can participate with other lenders in loans to similar entities. Similar entities are parties that are not eligible for a loan from a Farm Credit System lending institution but have operations that are functionally similar to the activities of eligible borrowers.

Farm Credit System Regulator

The Farm Credit Administration is authorized by Congress to regulate the Farm Credit System banks and associations. We are examined by the Farm Credit Administration, and certain association actions are subject to the prior approval of the Farm Credit Administration and/or CoBank, ACB.

Farm Credit Insurance Fund

The Farm Credit Act established the Farm Credit System Insurance Corporation to administer the Farm Credit Insurance Fund. The Farm Credit Insurance Fund is used to ensure the timely payment of principal and interest on Farm Credit Systemwide debt obligations, to ensure the retirement of protected borrower capital at par or stated value, and for other specified purposes.

At the discretion of the Farm Credit System Insurance Corporation, the Farm Credit Insurance Fund is also available to provide assistance to certain troubled Farm Credit System institutions and for the operating expenses of the Farm Credit System Insurance Corporation. Each Farm Credit System bank is required to pay premiums into the Farm Credit Insurance Fund until the assets in the Farm Credit Insurance Fund equal 2.0 percent of the aggregated insured obligations adjusted to reflect the reduced risk on loans or investments guaranteed by federal or state governments. This percentage of aggregate obligations can be changed by the Farm Credit System Insurance Corporation, at its sole discretion, to a percentage it determines to be actuarially sound. The basis for assessing premiums is debt outstanding with adjustments made for nonaccrual loans and impaired investment securities, which are assessed a surcharge, while guaranteed loans and investment securities are deductions from the premium base. CoBank, ACB, in turn, assesses premiums to its related associations each year based on similar factors.

Association

Frontier Farm Credit, ACA and its subsidiaries, Frontier Farm Credit, FLCA, and Frontier Farm Credit, PCA, are lending institutions of the Farm Credit System. We are a member-owned cooperative providing credit and credit-related services to or for the benefit of eligible members for qualified agricultural purposes in the counties of Allen, Anderson, Atchison, Bourbon, Brown, Chase, Chautauqua, Cherokee, Clay, Coffey, Crawford, Dickinson, Doniphan, Douglas, Elk, Franklin, Geary, Greenwood, Jackson, Jefferson, Johnson, Labette, Leavenworth, Linn, Lyon, Marion, Marshall, Miami, Montgomery, Morris, Nemaha, Neosho, Osage, Pottawatomie, Riley, Shawnee, Wabaunsee, Washington, Wilson, Woodson and Wyandotte in the state of Kansas. We borrow from CoBank, ACB and provide financing and related services to our members. Our ACA holds all the stock of the FLCA and PCA subsidiaries. The FLCA makes secured long-term agricultural real estate and rural home mortgage loans, and

Frontier Farm Credit, ACA Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements

provides lease financing options in collaboration with Farm Credit Leasing Services and CoBank, ACB. The PCA makes short-term and intermediate-term loans for agricultural production or operating purposes, and provides lease financing options in collaboration with Farm Credit Leasing Services and CoBank, ACB. We offer risk management services, including credit life insurance, crop insurance, crop-hail insurance, estate planning, tax and recordkeeping services, and fee appraisals for borrowers and those eligible to borrow.

Relationship with Farm Credit Services of America

A strategic alliance between Frontier Farm Credit and Farm Credit Services of America (FCSAmerica) was implemented January 1, 2015. The alliance is designed to benefit the farmers and ranchers who own and support the two financial services cooperatives by ensuring that both Associations have the strength and capacity to serve agricultural customers' needs for years to come.

Frontier Farm Credit and FCSAmerica continue to exist as separate Associations while integrating their day-to-day business operations, technology systems and leadership teams. Each Association continues to have its own Board, with representatives participating in a coordinating committee to facilitate Board governance between the two organizations.

Under the alliance agreement, Frontier Farm Credit and FCSAmerica have agreed to share current-year income and expenses based on the average total assets of each entity for the prior calendar year. Due to the transition period required to fully implement the alliance, the agreement specifies generally that pretax net income will be shared on fixed percentages of 94.0 percent for FCSAmerica and 6.0 percent for Frontier Farm Credit for 2015, and 93.0 percent for FCSAmerica and 7.0 percent for Frontier Farm Credit for 2016. For the year ending December 31, 2017, pretax net income was shared on fixed percentages of 92.9 and 7.1 percent for FCSAmerica and Frontier Farm Credit respectively. For the year ending December 31, 2017, Frontier Farm Credit recorded \$12.1 million of net operating expenses under the income- and expense-sharing provisions of the alliance agreement primarily due to the salary and related expenses incurred by FCSAmerica for former Frontier Farm Credit employees added to the FCSAmerica payroll. The net operating expenses recorded by Frontier Farm Credit were \$16.2 million for the year ended December 31, 2016, and \$10.4 million for the year ended December 31, 2015.

Frontier Farm Credit has \$2.1 billion in assets and serves multiple counties in eastern Kansas. FCSAmerica has \$28 billion in assets and serves the states of Iowa, Nebraska, South Dakota and Wyoming.

Note 2 – Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

Our accounting and reporting policies conform to accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America and prevailing practices within the financial services industry.

Preparing financial statements in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America requires us to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities and disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities at the date of the consolidated financial statements and the reported amounts of revenues and expenses during the period. Actual results could differ from those estimates. We have reclassified certain amounts in prior years' financial statements to conform to current financial statement presentation. The consolidated financial statements present the consolidated financial results of Frontier Farm Credit, ACA (the parent) and Frontier Farm Credit, FLCA, and Frontier Farm Credit, PCA (the subsidiaries). All material intercompany transactions and balances have been eliminated in consolidation.

The following are our significant accounting policies:

Loans

Mortgage loan terms range from 5-35 years at origination. Almost all commercial loans are made for agricultural production or operating purposes with original terms of 10 years or less.

Loans are carried at their principal amount outstanding net of any unearned income, cumulative charge-offs and unamortized premiums or discounts on purchased loans. Loan interest is accrued and credited to interest income based upon the daily principal amount outstanding.

We place loans in nonaccrual status when:

- principal or interest is delinquent for 90 days or more (unless the loan is well-secured and in the process of collection), or
- circumstances indicate that full collection is not expected.

When a loan is placed in nonaccrual status, we reverse accrued interest to the extent principal plus accrued interest before the transfer exceeds the net realizable value of the collateral. Any unpaid interest accrued in a prior year is capitalized to the recorded investment of the loan. Any cash received on nonaccrual loans is applied to reduce the recorded investment in the loan, except in those cases where the collection of the recorded investment is fully expected and the loan does not have any unrecovered prior charge-offs. Nonaccrual loans may be returned to accrual status when:

- principal and interest are current,
- prior charge-offs have been recovered,
- the ability of the borrower to fulfill the contractual repayment terms is fully expected, and
- the loan is not classified as doubtful or loss.

Frontier Farm Credit, ACA

Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements

In situations where, for economic or legal reasons related to the borrower's financial difficulties, we grant a concession for other than an insignificant period of time to the borrower that we would not otherwise consider, the related loan is classified as a troubled debt restructuring, also known as a restructured loan. A concession is generally granted in order to minimize economic loss and avoid foreclosure. Concessions vary by program and borrower and may include interest rate reductions, term extensions, payment deferrals or an acceptance of additional collateral in lieu of payments. In limited circumstances, principal may be forgiven. Loans classified as troubled debt restructurings are considered risk loans.

Loans are charged off at the time they are determined to be uncollectible.

Loans that are sold as participations are transferred as entire financial assets, groups of entire financial assets or participating interests in the loans. The transfers of such assets or participating interests are structured such that control over the transferred assets or participating interests have been surrendered and that all of the conditions have been met to be accounted for as a sale.

Allowance for Loan Losses and Reserve for Unfunded Lending Commitments

The allowance for loan losses is an estimate of losses on loans in our portfolio as of the financial statement date. We determine the appropriate level of allowance for loan losses based on periodic evaluation of factors such as:

- loan loss history,
- changes in credit risk classifications,
- changes in collateral values,
- changes in risk concentrations, and
- changes in economic and environmental conditions.

Loans in our portfolio that are considered impaired are analyzed individually to establish a specific allowance for impaired loans or are analyzed on a pool basis if they have similar risk characteristics. A loan is impaired when it is probable that all amounts due under the contractual terms of the loan agreement will not be collected. We measure impairment based on the net realizable value of the collateral. All risk loans are considered to be impaired loans. Risk loans include:

- nonaccrual loans,
- formally restructured loans, and
- loans that are 90 days or more past due and still accruing interest.

We record a specific allowance to reduce the carrying amount of the risk loan to the lower of book value or the net realizable value of collateral. When collection is unlikely, we charge the loan principal and prior year(s) accrued interest against the allowance for loan losses. Subsequent recoveries, if any, are added to the allowance for loan losses.

An allowance is recorded for probable and estimable credit losses as of the financial statement date for loans that are not individually assessed as impaired.

Changes in the allowance for loan losses consist of provision activity, recorded as "Provision for (reversal of) credit losses" on the Consolidated Statements of Comprehensive Income, and charge-offs and recoveries.

The reserve for unfunded lending commitments is based on our best estimate of losses inherent in lending commitments made to customers but not yet disbursed. Factors such as likelihood of disbursement and likelihood of losses given disbursement were utilized in determining this contingency. Changes in the reserve for unfunded commitments consist of provision activity, recorded as "Provision for (reversal of) credit losses" on the Consolidated Statements of Comprehensive Income.

Investment in CoBank, ACB

Accounting for our investment in CoBank, ACB is on a cost plus allocated equities basis.

Investment in AgDirect, LLP

Accounting for the investment in AgDirect, LLP is on a cost basis.

Other Property Owned

We record other property owned, consisting of real and personal property acquired through a collection action, at fair value, less estimated selling costs at the time of acquisition. Revised estimates of the fair value, less estimated selling costs, are reported as adjustments to the carrying amount of the asset, provided that the adjusted value is not in excess of the carrying amount at acquisition. Income and expenses from operations, carrying value adjustments and realized gains or losses on sales are recorded as "Loss (gain) on other property owned" on the Consolidated Statements of Comprehensive Income.

Premises and Equipment

The carrying amount of premises and equipment is at cost, less accumulated depreciation. Calculation of depreciation is generally on the straight-line method over the estimated useful lives of the assets, which are normally 5-40 years for building and improvements, and 3-10 years for furniture and equipment. Gains and losses on premises and equipment dispositions are reflected in current-year income. Maintenance and repairs are included in operating expense and improvements are capitalized.

Advance Conditional Payments

We are authorized under the Farm Credit Act to accept advance conditional payments from customers. We net the advance conditional payments against the customer's related loan balance to the extent the real estate customer's loan balance exceeds the advance payments. Under the strategic alliance with FCSAmerica, we adopted their advance conditional payment system and programs in October 2015. Real estate funds held balances under

Frontier Farm Credit, ACA Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements

the program totaled \$27 thousand at December 31, 2017, \$869 thousand at December 31, 2016, and \$15.1 million at December 31, 2015. The amount of commercial advance conditional payments accepted cannot exceed the commitment amount of the customer's note. We classify commercial advance conditional payments as "Other liabilities" on the Consolidated Balance Sheets since the limit on commercial advance conditional payments is based on note commitments. Commercial advance conditional payments under the program totaled \$1.3 million at December 31, 2017, \$2.5 million at December 31, 2016, and \$17.6 million at December 31, 2015.

Employee Benefit Plans

Our employees participate in a defined contribution plan and/or pension plan. Benefit plans are described in Note 9, "Employee Benefit Plans." The costs of the defined contribution plan are funded as accrued. Additionally, we provide a retiree health-care benefit to retired employees who met specific age and service requirements.

Income Taxes

The ACA and PCA accrue federal and state income taxes. Deferred tax assets and liabilities are recognized for future tax consequences of temporary differences between the carrying amounts and tax basis of assets and liabilities. Deferred tax assets are recorded if the deferred tax asset is more likely than not to be realized. If the realization test cannot be met, the deferred tax asset is reduced by a valuation allowance. The expected future tax consequences of uncertain income tax positions are accrued.

The FLCA is exempt from federal and other taxes to the extent provided in the Farm Credit Act.

Patronage Program

We accrue patronage distributions as declared by the Board of Directors, normally in December of each year. We pay the accrued patronage during the first quarter of each subsequent year. Cash patronage distributions are referred to as cash-back dividends.

Statement of Cash Flows

For purposes of reporting cash flow, cash includes cash on hand and on deposit at commercial banks.

Other Comprehensive Income

Other comprehensive income refers to revenue, expenses, gains and losses that under generally accepted accounting principles are recorded as an element of shareholders' equity and comprehensive income but are excluded from net income. Accumulated other comprehensive income refers to the balance of these transactions. We record other comprehensive income associated with the liability under the Pension Restoration Plan.

Fair Value Measurement

The Financial Accounting Standards Board guidance on *Fair Value Measurements* describes three levels of inputs that may be used to measure fair value.

Level 1: Quoted prices in active markets for identical assets or liabilities that the reporting entity has the ability to access at the measurement date.

Level 2: Observable inputs other than quoted prices included within Level 1 that are observable for the asset or liability either directly or indirectly. Level 2 inputs include the following:

- quoted prices for similar assets or liabilities in active markets;
- quoted prices for identical or similar assets or liabilities in markets that are not active so that they are traded less frequently than exchange-traded instruments, quoted prices that are not current or principal market information that is not released publicly;
- inputs that are observable such as interest rates and yield curves, prepayment speeds, credit risks and default rates; and
- inputs derived principally from, or corroborated by, observable market data by correlation or other means.

Level 3: Unobservable inputs that are supported by little or no market activity and that are significant to the fair value of the assets or liabilities. These unobservable inputs reflect our own assumptions that market participants would use in pricing the asset or liability. Level 3 assets and liabilities include financial instruments whose value is determined using pricing models, discounted cash flow methodologies or similar techniques, as well as instruments for which the determination of fair value requires significant management judgment or estimation.

We currently have no material financial statement items required to be accounted for within the consolidated financial statements at fair value.

Frontier Farm Credit, ACA

Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements

Recently Issued or Adopted Accounting Pronouncements

We have assessed the potential impact of accounting standards that have been issued by the Financial Accounting Standards Board and have determined the following standards to be applicable to our business.

| Standard | Description | Effective Date and Financial Statement Impact |
|--|---|--|
| In March 2017, the Financial Accounting Standards Board issued ASU 2017-07 <i>Improving the Presentation of Net Periodic Pension Cost and Net Periodic Postretirement Cost</i> . | The guidance requires that an employer disaggregate the service cost component from the other components of net benefit cost. Specifically, the guidance requires non-service cost components of net benefit cost to be recognized in a non-operating income line item of the income statement and allow only the service cost component of net benefit cost to be eligible for capitalization. | The guidance is effective for nonpublic entities for annual reporting periods beginning after December 15, 2018, and interim periods within annual periods beginning after December 15, 2019. Early adoption is permitted with certain restrictions. However, we have no plans to early adopt. We are currently evaluating the impact of the guidance on our results of operations and financial statement disclosures. The guidance will have no impact on our financial condition or cash flows. |
| In June 2016, the Financial Accounting Standards Board issued ASU 2016-13 <i>Financial Instruments – Credit Losses</i> . | The guidance replaces the current incurred loss impairment methodology with a methodology that reflects expected credit losses and requires consideration of a broader range of reasonable and supportable information to inform credit loss estimates. Credit losses relating to available-for-sale securities would also be recorded through an allowance for credit losses. | The guidance is effective for nonpublic entities for annual reporting periods beginning after December 15, 2020, and interim periods within annual periods beginning after December 15, 2021. Early adoption is permitted as of annual reporting periods beginning after December 15, 2018, including interim periods within those annual periods. However, we have no plans to early adopt. We are currently evaluating the impact of the guidance on our financial condition, results of operations, cash flows and financial statement disclosures. |
| In February 2016, the Financial Accounting Standards Board issued ASU 2016-02 <i>Leases</i> . | The guidance modifies the recognition and accounting for lessees and lessors, and requires expanded disclosures regarding assumptions used to recognize revenue and expenses related to leases. | The guidance is effective for nonpublic entities for annual reporting periods beginning after December 15, 2019, and interim periods the subsequent year. Early adoption is permitted, and modified retrospective adoption is required. However, we have no plans to early adopt. We have determined after preliminary review that this guidance will not have a material impact on our financial condition, results of operations and financial statement disclosures, and will have no impact on cash flows. |

Frontier Farm Credit, ACA

Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements

| Standard | Description | Effective Date and Financial Statement Impact |
|---|--|---|
| <p>In January 2016, the Financial Accounting Standards Board issued ASU 2016-01 <i>Recognition and Measurement of Financial Assets and Financial Liabilities</i>.</p> | <p>The guidance is intended to enhance the reporting model for financial instruments to provide users of financial statements with more decision-useful information. The amendments address certain aspects of recognition, measurement, presentation and disclosure of financial statements.</p> | <p>The guidance is effective for nonpublic entities for annual reporting periods beginning after December 15, 2018, and interim periods within annual periods beginning after December 15, 2019. Certain disclosure changes are permitted to be immediately adopted for annual reporting periods that have not yet been made available for issuance. Nonpublic entities are no longer required to include certain fair value of financial instruments disclosures as part of these disclosure changes. We have immediately adopted this guidance and have excluded such disclosures from our "Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements." Early adoption is permitted for interim and annual reporting periods beginning after December 15, 2017, for other applicable sections of the guidance. We are currently evaluating the impact of the remaining guidance on our financial condition, results of operations, cash flows and financial statement disclosures.</p> |
| <p>In May 2014, the Financial Accounting Standards Board issued ASU 2014-09 <i>Revenue from Contracts with Customers</i>.</p> | <p>The guidance governs revenue recognition from contracts with customers and requires an entity to recognize revenue to depict the transfer of promised goods or services to customers in an amount that reflects the consideration to which the entity expects to be entitled in exchange for those goods or services. Financial instruments and other contractual rights within the scope of other guidance issued by the Financial Accounting Standards Board are excluded from the scope of this new revenue recognition guidance. In this regard, a majority of our contracts would be excluded from the scope of this new guidance.</p> | <p>We have adopted the new standard effective January 1, 2018, using the modified retrospective approach. Since a majority of the Association's revenues are not subject to the new guidance, the adoption of the guidance did not have a material impact on our financial condition, results of operations, equity or cash flows.</p> |

Frontier Farm Credit, ACA
Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements

Note 3 – Loans and Allowance for Loan Losses

Loans, including participations purchased and nonaccruals, consisted of the following (in thousands):

| | December 31, | | | | | |
|----------------------------------|---------------------|-------------------|-------------|------------|-------------|------------|
| | 2017 | | 2016 | | 2015 | |
| | Amount | Percentage | Amount | Percentage | Amount | Percentage |
| Long-term agricultural mortgage | \$1,075,693 | 56.0% | \$1,079,520 | 57.0% | \$1,042,482 | 56.8% |
| Production and intermediate term | 510,759 | 26.6 | 482,929 | 25.4 | 516,541 | 28.2 |
| Agribusiness | 206,740 | 10.8 | 217,413 | 11.4 | 157,210 | 8.5 |
| Rural residential real estate | 83,653 | 4.4 | 78,356 | 4.1 | 74,476 | 4.1 |
| Rural infrastructure | 33,018 | 1.7 | 30,513 | 1.6 | 32,832 | 1.8 |
| Agricultural export finance | 9,450 | 0.5 | 9,450 | 0.5 | 11,480 | 0.6 |
| Total loans | \$1,919,313 | 100.0% | \$1,898,181 | 100.0% | \$1,835,021 | 100.0% |

Frontier Farm Credit, ACA

Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements

We may purchase or sell participation interests with other parties in order to diversify risk, manage loan volume or comply with Farm Credit Administration regulations. The following table presents information regarding participations purchased and sold (participations purchased do not include syndications; amounts are in thousands):

| | Other Farm Credit Institutions | | Non-Farm Credit Institutions | | Total | |
|----------------------------------|--------------------------------|----------|------------------------------|------|----------------|----------|
| | Participations | | Participations | | Participations | |
| | Purchased | Sold | Purchased | Sold | Purchased | Sold |
| As of December 31, 2017 | | | | | | |
| Long-term agricultural mortgage | \$ 52,712 | \$13,961 | \$ - | \$ - | \$ 52,712 | \$13,961 |
| Production and intermediate term | 149,122 | 49,359 | 1,062 | - | 150,184 | 49,359 |
| Agribusiness | 206,511 | 23,083 | 12,752 | - | 219,263 | 23,083 |
| Rural infrastructure | 33,018 | - | - | - | 33,018 | - |
| Agricultural export finance | 9,450 | - | - | - | 9,450 | - |
| Total | \$450,813 | \$86,403 | \$13,814 | \$ - | \$464,627 | \$86,403 |
| As of December 31, 2016 | | | | | | |
| Long-term agricultural mortgage | \$ 51,959 | \$11,632 | \$ - | \$ - | \$ 51,959 | \$11,632 |
| Production and intermediate term | 82,124 | 18,145 | - | - | 82,124 | 18,145 |
| Agribusiness | 208,128 | 18,914 | 14,363 | - | 222,491 | 18,914 |
| Rural infrastructure | 41,010 | 10,497 | - | - | 41,010 | 10,497 |
| Agricultural export finance | 9,450 | - | - | - | 9,450 | - |
| Total | \$392,671 | \$59,188 | \$14,363 | \$ - | \$407,034 | \$59,188 |
| As of December 31, 2015 | | | | | | |
| Long-term agricultural mortgage | \$ 49,910 | \$21,928 | \$ 2,191 | \$ - | \$ 52,101 | \$21,928 |
| Production and intermediate term | 71,937 | 7,588 | 800 | - | 72,737 | 7,588 |
| Agribusiness | 179,404 | 32,074 | 13,046 | - | 192,450 | 32,074 |
| Rural infrastructure | 58,646 | 25,814 | - | - | 58,646 | 25,814 |
| Agricultural export finance | 20,653 | 9,173 | - | - | 20,653 | 9,173 |
| Total | \$380,550 | \$96,577 | \$16,037 | \$ - | \$396,587 | \$96,577 |

Frontier Farm Credit, ACA

Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements

Participations purchased increased \$57.6 million in 2017, while participations sold increased \$27.2 million. The changes are primarily due to centralization of our Agribusiness Capital teams under the alliance with FCSAmerica.

We have concentrations with individual borrowers within various agricultural commodities. At December 31, 2017, loans outstanding plus commitments to our 10 largest borrowers, net of participations sold, totaled an amount equal to 29.0 percent of members' equity. No single borrower's loans outstanding plus commitments exceeds 5.0 percent of members' equity.

Our credit risk concentration in various agricultural commodities is shown in the following table. While the amounts represent our maximum potential credit risk related to recorded loan principal, a substantial portion of our lending activities is collateralized, which reduces our exposure to credit loss associated with lending activity. We include an estimate of our credit risk exposure in determining the allowance for loan losses. Agricultural concentrations were as follows:

| | December 31, | | |
|--------------------------|--------------|--------|--------|
| | 2017 | 2016 | 2015 |
| Grain | 37.3% | 39.1% | 42.4% |
| Cow-calf | 17.1 | 18.2 | 19.4 |
| Landlords/investors | 9.2 | 8.9 | 9.0 |
| Beef feedlot | 8.3 | 6.6 | 5.1 |
| Forest products | 2.3 | 2.7 | 1.6 |
| Swine | 3.5 | 2.6 | 3.0 |
| Dairy | 2.2 | 1.7 | 1.7 |
| General livestock | 1.4 | 1.6 | 2.6 |
| Meat/proteins processing | 1.5 | 1.6 | 1.7 |
| Farm supply | 2.0 | 1.5 | 0.9 |
| Renewable fuels | 0.6 | 0.4 | 0.2 |
| Poultry | 0.5 | 0.3 | 0.3 |
| Other | 14.1 | 15.1 | 12.1 |
| Total | 100.0% | 100.0% | 100.0% |

The amount of collateral obtained, if deemed necessary upon extension of credit, is based on our credit evaluation of the borrower. Collateral held varies by loan type, but typically includes agricultural real estate, equipment, crop inventory and livestock. Long-term real estate loans are secured by a first lien on the underlying real property. Federal regulations state that long-term real estate loans are not to exceed 85.0 percent (97.0 percent if guaranteed by a government agency) of the property's appraised value. However, internal lending procedures require a more conservative loan-to-value ratio, which results in an average loan-to-value ratio in the real estate portfolio of less than 60.0 percent of current market values.

Risk loans (accruing loans include accrued interest receivable) are loans for which it is probable that all principal and interest will not be collected according to the contractual terms. The following table presents information concerning the recorded investment in risk loans (in thousands):

| | December 31, | | |
|--------------------------------------|--------------|----------|---------|
| | 2017 | 2016 | 2015 |
| Nonaccrual loans: | | | |
| Current as to principal and interest | \$2,738 | \$ 7,333 | \$4,331 |
| Past due | 2,859 | 3,333 | 1,366 |
| Total nonaccrual loans | 5,597 | 10,666 | 5,697 |
| Impaired accrual loans: | | | |
| Restructured | 390 | 428 | 502 |
| 90 days or more past due | 59 | 236 | - |
| Total risk loans | \$6,046 | \$11,330 | \$6,199 |

Total risk loans have decreased since the end of 2016. The decrease in nonaccrual loans is primarily due to accounts in the grain, beef feedlot and horticulture industries. There was also a decrease in loans 90 days past due still accruing interest. It is our practice to transfer accruing loans that are past due 90 days or more into nonaccrual unless they are adequately secured and in the process of collection. Based on our analysis, loans 90 days or more past due and still accruing interest were adequately secured and in the process of collection. Risk loans as a percentage of total loans remain at acceptable levels.

At December 31, 2017, there were no commitments to lend additional funds to customers whose loans were at risk.

Interest income is recognized and cash payments are applied on nonaccrual loans as described in Note 2, "Summary of Significant Accounting Policies." The following table sets forth interest income recognized on risk loans (in thousands):

| | Year Ended December 31, | | |
|--|-------------------------|-------|-------|
| | 2017 | 2016 | 2015 |
| Interest income recognized on nonaccrual loans | \$33 | \$249 | \$ 95 |
| Interest income on risk accrual loans | 19 | 43 | 38 |
| Interest income recognized on risk loans | \$52 | \$292 | \$133 |

Frontier Farm Credit, ACA

Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements

Risk loans by loan type are as follows (accruing volume includes accrued interest receivable; amounts are in thousands):

| | December 31, | | |
|---|----------------|----------|---------|
| | 2017 | 2016 | 2015 |
| Nonaccrual loans: | | | |
| Long-term agricultural mortgage | \$4,210 | \$ 5,445 | \$4,270 |
| Production and intermediate term | 1,114 | 4,923 | 1,034 |
| Rural residential real estate | 249 | 298 | 393 |
| Agribusiness | 24 | - | - |
| Total nonaccrual loans | \$5,597 | \$10,666 | \$5,697 |
| Accruing restructured loans: | | | |
| Long-term agricultural mortgage | \$ 104 | \$ 137 | \$ 206 |
| Rural residential real estate | 286 | 291 | 296 |
| Total accruing restructured loans | \$ 390 | \$ 428 | \$ 502 |
| Accruing loans 90 days or more past due: | | | |
| Production and intermediate term | \$ 59 | \$ 236 | \$ - |
| Total accruing loans 90 days or more past due | \$ 59 | \$ 236 | \$ - |
| Total risk loans | \$6,046 | \$11,330 | \$6,199 |

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Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements

All risk loans are considered to be impaired loans. The following table provides additional impaired loan information (in thousands):

| | As of December 31, 2017 | | | For the Period Ended December 31, 2017 | |
|---|---------------------------------------|--|----------------------|---|-------------------------------|
| | Recorded Investment ⁽¹⁾ | Unpaid Principal Balance ⁽²⁾ | Related Allowance | Average Impaired Loans | Interest Income Recognized |
| Impaired loans with a related allowance for loan losses: | | | | | |
| Production and intermediate term | \$527 | \$794 | \$106 | \$797 | \$21 |
| Total | \$527 | \$794 | \$106 | \$797 | \$21 |
| Impaired loans with no related allowance for loan losses: | | | | | |
| Long-term agricultural mortgage | \$4,313 | \$5,006 | \$ - | \$5,166 | \$248 |
| Production and intermediate term | 647 | 3,522 | - | 3,733 | 179 |
| Agribusiness | 25 | 37 | - | 12 | - |
| Rural residential real estate | 534 | 603 | - | 541 | 15 |
| Total | \$5,519 | \$9,168 | \$ - | \$9,452 | \$442 |
| Total impaired loans: | | | | | |
| Long-term agricultural mortgage | \$4,313 | \$5,006 | \$ - | \$5,166 | \$248 |
| Production and intermediate term | 1,174 | 4,316 | 106 | 4,530 | 200 |
| Agribusiness | 25 | 37 | - | 12 | - |
| Rural residential real estate | 534 | 603 | - | 541 | 15 |
| Total | \$6,046 | \$9,962 | \$106 | \$10,249 | \$463 |

⁽¹⁾ The recorded investment in the receivable is the face amount increased or decreased by applicable accrued interest and unamortized premium, discount, finance charges or acquisition costs, and may also reflect a previous write-down of the investment.

⁽²⁾ Unpaid principal balance represents the contractual principal balance of the loan.

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Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements

| | As of December 31, 2016 | | | For the Period Ended December 31, 2016 | |
|---|---------------------------------------|--|----------------------|---|-------------------------------|
| | Recorded Investment ⁽¹⁾ | Unpaid Principal Balance ⁽²⁾ | Related Allowance | Average Impaired Loans | Interest Income Recognized |
| Impaired loans with a related allowance for loan losses: | | | | | |
| Production and intermediate term | \$3,326 | \$3,380 | \$1,906 | \$2,042 | \$ - |
| Total | \$3,326 | \$3,380 | \$1,906 | \$2,042 | \$ - |
| Impaired loans with no related allowance for loan losses: | | | | | |
| Long-term agricultural mortgage | \$5,588 | \$ 6,240 | \$ - | \$5,758 | \$178 |
| Production and intermediate term | 1,826 | 4,121 | - | 1,124 | 98 |
| Rural residential real estate | 590 | 705 | - | 644 | 16 |
| Total | \$8,004 | \$11,066 | \$ - | \$7,526 | \$292 |
| Total impaired loans: | | | | | |
| Long-term agricultural mortgage | \$ 5,588 | \$ 6,240 | \$ - | \$5,758 | \$178 |
| Production and intermediate term | 5,152 | 7,501 | 1,906 | 3,166 | 98 |
| Rural residential real estate | 590 | 705 | - | 644 | 16 |
| Total | \$11,330 | \$14,446 | \$1,906 | \$9,568 | \$292 |

⁽¹⁾ The recorded investment in the receivable is the face amount increased or decreased by applicable accrued interest and unamortized premium, discount, finance charges or acquisition costs, and may also reflect a previous write-down of the investment.

⁽²⁾ Unpaid principal balance represents the contractual principal balance of the loan.

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Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements

| | As of December 31, 2015 | | | For the Period Ended December 31, 2015 | |
|---|---------------------------------------|--|----------------------|---|-------------------------------|
| | Recorded Investment ⁽¹⁾ | Unpaid Principal Balance ⁽²⁾ | Related Allowance | Average Impaired Loans | Interest Income Recognized |
| Impaired loans with a related allowance for loan losses: | | | | | |
| Long-term agricultural mortgage | \$ – | \$ – | \$ – | \$ – | \$ – |
| Production and intermediate term | 50 | 50 | 50 | 12 | – |
| Total | \$50 | \$50 | \$50 | \$12 | \$ – |
| Impaired loans with no related allowance for loan losses: | | | | | |
| Long-term agricultural mortgage | \$4,475 | \$5,032 | \$ – | \$4,731 | \$ 49 |
| Production and intermediate term | 984 | 3,134 | – | 934 | 82 |
| Rural residential real estate | 690 | 798 | – | 286 | 2 |
| Total | \$6,149 | \$8,964 | \$ – | \$5,951 | \$133 |
| Total impaired loans: | | | | | |
| Long-term agricultural mortgage | \$4,475 | \$5,032 | \$ – | \$4,731 | \$ 49 |
| Production and intermediate term | 1,034 | 3,184 | 50 | 946 | 82 |
| Rural residential real estate | 690 | 798 | – | 286 | 2 |
| Total | \$6,199 | \$9,014 | \$50 | \$5,963 | \$133 |

⁽¹⁾ The recorded investment in the receivable is the face amount increased or decreased by applicable accrued interest and unamortized premium, discount, finance charges or acquisition costs, and may also reflect a previous write-down of the investment.

⁽²⁾ Unpaid principal balance represents the contractual principal balance of the loan.

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Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements

The following table shows loans and related accrued interest classified under the Farm Credit Administration Uniform Classification System as a percentage of total loans and related accrued interest receivable by loan type (in thousands):

| | Acceptable | | OAEM | | Substandard/Doubtful | | Total |
|----------------------------------|-------------|---------|----------|--------|----------------------|-------|-------------|
| | Amount | % | Amount | % | Amount | % | Amount |
| As of December 31, 2017 | | | | | | | |
| Long-term agricultural mortgage | \$ 988,618 | 90.49% | \$60,240 | 5.51% | \$43,662 | 4.00% | \$1,092,520 |
| Production and intermediate term | 462,428 | 89.09% | 28,303 | 5.45% | 28,313 | 5.46% | 519,044 |
| Agribusiness | 205,455 | 98.95% | 251 | 0.12% | 1,928 | 0.93% | 207,634 |
| Rural residential real estate | 81,414 | 97.03% | 1,160 | 1.38% | 1,330 | 1.59% | 83,904 |
| Rural infrastructure | 33,080 | 100.00% | - | - | - | - | 33,080 |
| Agricultural export finance | 9,468 | 100.00% | - | - | - | - | 9,468 |
| Total | \$1,780,463 | 91.51% | \$89,954 | 4.62% | \$75,233 | 3.87% | \$1,945,650 |
| As of December 31, 2016 | | | | | | | |
| Long-term agricultural mortgage | \$1,001,942 | 91.53% | \$59,495 | 5.43% | \$33,236 | 3.04% | \$1,094,673 |
| Production and intermediate term | 425,719 | 86.76% | 37,249 | 7.59% | 27,740 | 5.65% | 490,708 |
| Agribusiness | 216,413 | 99.20% | 1,741 | 0.80% | - | - | 218,154 |
| Rural residential real estate | 76,079 | 96.87% | 797 | 1.01% | 1,669 | 2.12% | 78,545 |
| Rural infrastructure | 30,571 | 100.00% | - | - | - | - | 30,571 |
| Agricultural export finance | 9,466 | 100.00% | - | - | - | - | 9,466 |
| Total | \$1,760,190 | 91.58% | \$99,282 | 5.16% | \$62,645 | 3.26% | \$1,922,117 |
| As of December 31, 2015 | | | | | | | |
| Long-term agricultural mortgage | \$1,029,682 | 97.45% | \$14,599 | 1.38% | \$12,374 | 1.17% | \$1,056,655 |
| Production and intermediate term | 493,087 | 95.27% | 12,837 | 2.48% | 11,665 | 2.25% | 517,589 |
| Agribusiness | 157,761 | 96.62% | 5,523 | 3.38% | - | - | 163,284 |
| Rural residential real estate | 73,011 | 98.09% | 720 | 0.97% | 700 | 0.94% | 74,431 |
| Rural infrastructure | 29,106 | 88.49% | 3,786 | 11.51% | - | - | 32,892 |
| Agricultural export finance | 11,563 | 100.00% | - | - | - | - | 11,563 |
| Total | \$1,794,210 | 96.65% | \$37,465 | 2.02% | \$24,739 | 1.33% | \$1,856,414 |

One credit quality indicator we utilize is the Farm Credit Administration Uniform Classification System that categorizes loans into five categories. The categories are defined as follows:

- acceptable – assets are expected to be fully collectible and represent the highest quality;
- other assets especially mentioned (OAEM) – assets are currently collectible but exhibit some potential weakness;
- substandard – assets exhibit some serious weakness in repayment capacity, equity and/or collateral pledged on the loan;

- doubtful – assets exhibit similar weaknesses to substandard assets; however, doubtful assets have additional weaknesses in existing factors, conditions and values that make collection in full highly questionable; and
- loss – assets are considered uncollectible.

We had no loans categorized as loss at December 31, 2017, 2016 or 2015.

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Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements

The following table provides an aging analysis of past due loans by loan type (accruing volume includes accrued interest receivable; amounts are in thousands):

| | 30-89 Days Past Due | 90 Days or More Past Due | Total Past Due | Not Past Due or Less Than 30 Days Past Due | Total Loans | 90 Days or More Past Due and Accruing |
|----------------------------------|------------------------|-----------------------------|-------------------|---|----------------|---|
| As of December 31, 2017 | | | | | | |
| Long-term agricultural mortgage | \$3,962 | \$ 669 | \$ 4,631 | \$1,087,889 | \$1,092,520 | \$ – |
| Production and intermediate term | 5,637 | 937 | 6,574 | 512,470 | 519,044 | 59 |
| Agribusiness | – | – | – | 207,633 | 207,633 | – |
| Rural residential real estate | 96 | 249 | 345 | 83,560 | 83,905 | – |
| Rural infrastructure | – | – | – | 33,080 | 33,080 | – |
| Agricultural export finance | – | – | – | 9,468 | 9,468 | – |
| Total | \$9,695 | \$1,855 | \$11,550 | \$1,934,100 | \$1,945,650 | \$59 |
| As of December 31, 2016 | | | | | | |
| Long-term agricultural mortgage | \$2,256 | \$ 67 | \$2,323 | \$1,092,350 | \$1,094,673 | \$ – |
| Production and intermediate term | 2,322 | 2,452 | 4,774 | 485,934 | 490,708 | 236 |
| Agribusiness | – | – | – | 218,154 | 218,154 | – |
| Rural residential real estate | 41 | 131 | 172 | 78,373 | 78,545 | – |
| Rural infrastructure | – | – | – | 30,571 | 30,571 | – |
| Agricultural export finance | – | – | – | 9,466 | 9,466 | – |
| Total | \$4,619 | \$2,650 | \$7,269 | \$1,914,848 | \$1,922,117 | \$236 |
| As of December 31, 2015 | | | | | | |
| Long-term agricultural mortgage | \$1,125 | \$ 84 | \$1,209 | \$1,055,446 | \$1,056,655 | \$ – |
| Production and intermediate term | 871 | 147 | 1,018 | 516,275 | 517,293 | – |
| Agribusiness | – | – | – | 163,284 | 163,284 | – |
| Rural residential real estate | 330 | – | 330 | 74,397 | 74,727 | – |
| Rural infrastructure | – | – | – | 32,892 | 32,892 | – |
| Agricultural export finance | – | – | – | 11,563 | 11,563 | – |
| Total | \$2,326 | \$231 | \$2,557 | \$1,853,857 | \$1,856,414 | \$ – |

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Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements

A restructuring of a loan constitutes a troubled debt restructuring if the creditor for economic or legal reasons related to the debtor's financial difficulties grants a concession to the debtor that it would not otherwise consider. Concessions vary by program and borrower, and may include interest rate reductions, term extensions, payment deferrals or the acceptance of additional collateral in lieu of payments. In limited circumstances, principal may be forgiven. As a restructured loan constitutes a troubled debt restructuring, these loans are included within our risk loans. All risk loans are analyzed within our allowance for loan losses. There were no troubled debt restructurings during the years ended December 31, 2017, 2016 and 2015.

There were no troubled debt restructurings that occurred within the previous 12 months and for which there was a subsequent payment default during 2017, 2016 or 2015.

Troubled debt restructurings outstanding at December 31, 2017, totaled \$2.3 million, of which \$1.9 million were in nonaccrual status, compared to \$2.5 million at December 31, 2016, of which \$2.1 million were in nonaccrual status, and \$3.1 million at December 31, 2015, of which \$2.6 million were in nonaccrual status. Additional commitments to lend to borrowers whose loans have been modified in a troubled debt restructuring were \$1 thousand at December 31, 2017.

The "Provision for (reversal of) credit losses" on the Consolidated Statements of Comprehensive Income includes a provision for or reversal of loan losses and a provision for unfunded lending commitments. A summary of changes in the allowance for loan losses and reserve for unfunded lending commitments follows (in thousands):

| | December 31, | | |
|---|----------------|---------|---------|
| Allowance for Loan Losses | 2017 | 2016 | 2015 |
| Balance at beginning of year | \$7,500 | \$4,300 | \$4,943 |
| Provision for (reversal of) loan losses | 566 | 3,481 | (837) |
| Loans charged off | (2,119) | (452) | (79) |
| Recoveries | 153 | 171 | 273 |
| Balance at end of year | \$6,100 | \$7,500 | \$4,300 |

| | December 31, | | |
|--|--------------|-------|-------|
| Reserve for Unfunded Lending Commitments | 2017 | 2016 | 2015 |
| Balance at beginning of year | \$800 | \$800 | \$ - |
| (Reversal of) provision for unfunded lending commitments | (100) | - | 800 |
| Balance at end of year | \$700 | \$800 | \$800 |

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Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements

A summary of changes in the allowance for loan losses and period-end recorded investments in loans by loan type is as follows (in thousands):

| | Balance at December 31, 2016 | Loan Recoveries | Loan Charge-Offs | Provision for (Reversal of) Loan Losses | Balance at December 31, 2017 |
|----------------------------------|---------------------------------|--------------------|---------------------|---|---------------------------------|
| Long-term agricultural mortgage | \$3,386 | \$ 5 | \$ (24) | \$336 | \$3,703 |
| Production and intermediate term | 3,343 | 148 | (2,079) | 95 | 1,507 |
| Agribusiness | 493 | - | (11) | 132 | 614 |
| Rural residential real estate | 136 | - | (5) | (3) | 128 |
| Rural infrastructure | 130 | - | - | 7 | 137 |
| Agricultural export finance | 12 | - | - | (1) | 11 |
| Total | \$7,500 | \$153 | \$(2,119) | \$566 | \$6,100 |

| | Balance at December 31, 2015 | Loan Recoveries | Loan Charge-Offs | Provision for (Reversal of) Loan Losses | Balance at December 31, 2016 |
|----------------------------------|---------------------------------|--------------------|---------------------|---|---------------------------------|
| Long-term agricultural mortgage | \$2,114 | \$ 5 | \$ (13) | \$1,280 | \$3,386 |
| Production and intermediate term | 1,225 | 165 | (438) | 2,391 | 3,343 |
| Agribusiness | 506 | - | - | (13) | 493 |
| Rural residential real estate | 134 | - | - | 2 | 136 |
| Rural infrastructure | 305 | - | - | (175) | 130 |
| Agricultural export finance | 16 | - | - | (4) | 12 |
| Total | \$4,300 | \$170 | \$(451) | \$3,481 | \$7,500 |

| | Balance at December 31, 2014 | Loan Recoveries | Loan Charge-Offs | (Reversal of) Provision for Loan Losses | Balance at December 31, 2015 |
|----------------------------------|---------------------------------|--------------------|---------------------|---|---------------------------------|
| Long-term agricultural mortgage | \$2,186 | \$ - | \$ (3) | \$ (69) | \$2,114 |
| Production and intermediate term | 2,223 | 273 | (76) | (1,195) | 1,225 |
| Agribusiness | 405 | - | - | 101 | 506 |
| Rural residential real estate | 3 | - | - | 131 | 134 |
| Rural infrastructure | 119 | - | - | 186 | 305 |
| Agricultural export finance | 7 | - | - | 9 | 16 |
| Total | \$4,943 | \$273 | \$(79) | \$(837) | \$4,300 |

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Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements

| | Allowance for Credit Losses Ending Balance at December 31, 2017 | | Recorded Investments in Loans Outstanding Ending Balance at December 31, 2017 | |
|----------------------------------|--|---|--|---|
| | Individually Evaluated for Impairment | Collectively Evaluated for Impairment | Individually Evaluated for Impairment | Collectively Evaluated for Impairment |
| Long-term agricultural mortgage | \$ - | \$3,703 | \$ - | \$1,092,520 |
| Production and intermediate term | 106 | 1,401 | 527 | 518,517 |
| Agribusiness | - | 614 | - | 207,633 |
| Rural residential real estate | - | 128 | - | 83,905 |
| Rural infrastructure | - | 137 | - | 33,080 |
| Agricultural export finance | - | 11 | - | 9,468 |
| Total | \$106 | \$5,994 | \$527 | \$1,945,123 |

| | Allowance for Credit Losses Ending Balance at December 31, 2016 | | Recorded Investments in Loans Outstanding Ending Balance at December 31, 2016 | |
|----------------------------------|--|---|--|---|
| | Individually Evaluated for Impairment | Collectively Evaluated for Impairment | Individually Evaluated for Impairment | Collectively Evaluated for Impairment |
| Long-term agricultural mortgage | \$ - | \$3,386 | \$ - | \$1,094,673 |
| Production and intermediate term | 1,906 | 1,437 | 3,326 | 487,382 |
| Agribusiness | - | 493 | - | 218,154 |
| Rural residential real estate | - | 136 | - | 78,545 |
| Rural infrastructure | - | 130 | - | 30,571 |
| Agricultural export finance | - | 12 | - | 9,466 |
| Total | \$1,906 | \$5,594 | \$3,326 | \$1,918,791 |

| | Allowance for Credit Losses Ending Balance at December 31, 2015 | | Recorded Investments in Loans Outstanding Ending Balance at December 31, 2015 | |
|----------------------------------|--|---|--|---|
| | Individually Evaluated for Impairment | Collectively Evaluated for Impairment | Individually Evaluated for Impairment | Collectively Evaluated for Impairment |
| Long-term agricultural mortgage | \$ - | \$2,114 | \$4,475 | \$1,052,180 |
| Production and intermediate term | 50 | 1,175 | 1,034 | 516,259 |
| Agribusiness | - | 506 | - | 163,284 |
| Rural residential real estate | - | 134 | 690 | 74,037 |
| Rural infrastructure | - | 305 | - | 32,892 |
| Agricultural export finance | - | 16 | - | 11,563 |
| Total | \$50 | \$4,250 | \$6,199 | \$1,850,215 |

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Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements

Our adversely classified assets increased during 2017, ending the year at 3.9 percent of the portfolio compared to 3.3 percent of the portfolio at December 31, 2016. Adversely classified assets are assets we have identified as showing some credit weakness outside our credit standards. We have considered portfolio credit quality in assessing the reasonableness of our allowance for loan losses.

The allowance for loan losses is an estimate of losses on loans in our portfolio as of the financial statement date. We determine the appropriate level of allowance for loan losses based on the periodic evaluation of factors such as loan loss history, portfolio quality, and current economic and environmental conditions.

We recorded a \$0.5 million provision for credit losses for 2017 compared to a \$3.5 million provision for credit losses for 2016. The provision for credit losses includes the provision for loan losses and the provision for unfunded lending commitments. Credit quality deterioration slowed in 2017 compared to 2016 leading to a modest increase in overall provision. Allowance for loan losses declined primarily due to resolving nonaccrual volume within the portfolio through charge-off and collection efforts. The reserve for unfunded lending commitments balance at December 31, 2017, decreased \$0.1 million as compared to December 31, 2016. The reserve for unfunded lending commitments is based on our best estimate of losses inherent in lending commitments made to customers but not yet disbursed. Factors such as likelihood of disbursement and likelihood of losses given disbursement were utilized in determining this contingency.

We recorded net charge-offs of \$2.0 million in 2017 (0.10 percent of average loans). We recorded net recoveries of charge-offs of \$0.3 million in 2016 ((0.02) percent of average loans) and net recoveries of charge-offs of \$0.2 million in 2015 ((0.01) percent of average loans).

In 2016 we terminated our Standby Commitment to Purchase Agreements with the Federal Agricultural Mortgage Corporation. Termination fees were not material to the Consolidated Statements of Comprehensive Income.

Note 4 – Investment in CoBank, ACB

We are required to invest in the capital stock of CoBank, ACB as a condition for maintaining a readily available source of funds. The minimum required investment is 4.0 percent of our prior year's average direct loan volume. The investment in CoBank, ACB comprises patronage-based stock and purchased stock. The requirement for capitalizing our patronage-based participation loans sold to CoBank, ACB is 8.0 percent of our prior 10-year average of such participations sold to CoBank, ACB. Under the current CoBank, ACB capital plan applicable to such participations sold, patronage from CoBank, ACB related to these participations sold is paid 75.0 percent cash and 25.0 percent Class A stock. The capital plan is evaluated annually by CoBank ACB's Board of Directors and management and is subject to change.

In August 2017, CoBank, ACB announced changes to their capital plans and patronage programs for eligible customer-owners designed to address a number of marketplace challenges. Such challenges include, among others, higher minimum capital requirements under the new capital regulations in addition to other increased regulatory costs, the impact of a prolonged low interest rate environment on returns on invested capital, decreased returns on equity and assets, declining spreads and net interest margin driven by intense competition in the banking industry, and low and declining spreads in rural electric and water loans. These changes are intended to strengthen CoBank, ACB's long-term capacity to serve customers' borrowing needs, enhance the bank's ability to capitalize future customer growth, and ensure equitability among different customer segments.

Pursuant to the changes approved by CoBank, ACB Board of Directors, CoBank, ACB created two separate capital plans for cooperative and other eligible direct borrowers under which targeted patronage levels and cash/equity splits will be more equitably balanced between the earnings generated by different customer portfolios and the use of the bank by its patronage-eligible members. Pursuant to these new plans, agribusiness, communications and project finance customers are in one plan, while rural electric and water customers are in another. Additionally, target patronage levels for all customers and partners are reduced under the new plans. For cooperatives and other eligible direct borrowers as well as for loans purchased from other Farm Credit institutions, the new target patronage levels take effect in the 2018 calendar year and will be reflected in patronage distributions made in March 2019. Affiliated associations and nonaffiliated Farm Credit and other financing institutions will transition to their new targeted patronage levels over a multiyear period ending in 2020. No changes are being made to target equity requirements or the loan base periods for any borrower or commercial partner. Additionally, the capital plan for financial service members remains unchanged.

At December 31, 2017, our investment in CoBank, ACB is in the form of Class A stock with a par value of \$100 per share.

CoBank, ACB may require the holders of its equities to subscribe for additional capital as may be needed to meet its capital requirements for its joint and several liability under the Farm Credit Act and regulations. In making such a capital call, CoBank, ACB shall take into account the financial condition of each such holder and such other considerations, as it deems appropriate.

Note 5 – Investment in AgDirect, LLP

We participate in the AgDirect trade credit financing program, which includes origination and refinancing of agricultural equipment loans through independent equipment dealers. The program is facilitated by FCSAmerica through a limited liability partnership in which we are a partial owner. Our investment in AgDirect, LLP

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Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements

was \$4.7 million at December 31, 2017, \$4.9 million at December 31, 2016, and \$4.8 million at December 31, 2015. The LLP is an unincorporated business entity.

Note 6 – Premises and Equipment

Premises and equipment consisted of the following (in thousands):

| | December 31, | | |
|----------------------------------|-----------------|----------|----------|
| | 2017 | 2016 | 2015 |
| Land, buildings and improvements | \$24,703 | \$21,473 | \$23,265 |
| Furniture and equipment | 2,198 | 2,348 | 3,958 |
| | 26,901 | 23,821 | 27,223 |
| Less accumulated depreciation | 5,106 | 4,768 | 6,327 |
| Premises and equipment, net | \$21,795 | \$19,053 | \$20,896 |

Note 7 – Notes Payable

Our notes payable to CoBank, ACB represents borrowings to fund our loan portfolio. This notes payable is collateralized by a pledge of substantially all of our assets and is governed by a General Financing Agreement (GFA), which provides for a revolving line of credit of \$1.9 billion effective June 1, 2017. The GFA and promissory note are subject to periodic renewals in the normal course of business. The GFA matures on May 31, 2018, and we expect renewal at that time. We were in compliance with the terms and conditions of the GFA as of December 31, 2017. Substantially all borrower loans are match-funded with CoBank, ACB. Payments and disbursements are made on the notes payable to CoBank, ACB on the same basis as we collect payments from and disburse on borrower loans. The interest rate may periodically be adjusted by CoBank, ACB based on the terms and conditions of the borrowing. The weighted average interest rate was 2.03 percent for the year ended December 31, 2017, compared with 1.73 percent for the year ended December 31, 2016, and 1.69 percent at December 31, 2015.

The consolidated notes payable balance is presented in the following table (in thousands):

| | December 31, | | |
|------------------------------|--------------------|-------------|-------------|
| | 2017 | 2016 | 2015 |
| Notes payable to CoBank, ACB | \$1,610,787 | \$1,616,091 | \$1,503,100 |

Under the Farm Credit Act, we are obligated to borrow only from CoBank, ACB unless CoBank, ACB approves borrowing from other funding sources. CoBank, ACB, consistent with Farm Credit Administration regulations, has established limitations on our ability to borrow funds based on specified factors or formulas relating primarily to credit quality and financial condition. At December 31, 2017, we were within the specified limitations.

Note 8 – Members' Equity

A description of our capitalization requirements, regulatory capitalization requirements and restrictions, and equities follows.

Capital Stock and Participation Certificates

In accordance with the Farm Credit Act of 1971, as amended, each borrower is required to invest in us as a condition of obtaining a loan. Our capitalization bylaws require a customer to invest in capital stock equal to \$1 thousand or 2.0 percent of the amount of the loan, whichever is less. Our Board of Directors may increase the amount of investment, if necessary, to meet capital needs. The Board of Directors approved a change to the member stock program effective October 10, 2016. Under the new program, the stock requirement for loan customers will generally be \$1 thousand and stock is issued to each loan co-maker. Non-loan customers purchasing financially related services from the Association continue to purchase one \$5 share of stock. All stock is funded with a non-interest-bearing obligation that will be due only in the unlikely event that the Association does not meet regulatory capital requirements. Loan co-makers who do not currently own stock will acquire stock when a new loan is originated or a loan servicing action takes place.

Stock for most loan customers was previously funded with loan proceeds. The conversion to the new stock program resulted in a transfer of \$4.9 million from loans to the new non-interest-bearing obligation. The non-interest-bearing obligation is included in "Other assets" on the Consolidated Balance Sheets. Discontinuing the accrual of interest for acquisition of stock is not expected to have a material impact on the Consolidated Statements of Comprehensive Income for the Association.

We retain a first lien on the stock or participation certificates owned by customers. Retirement of equities will generally be at the lower of par or book value, and repayment of a loan does not automatically result in retirement of the corresponding stock or participation certificates.

Each customer purchasing capital stock is entitled to one vote as a stockholder regardless of the number of shares held. The customer acquires ownership of the capital stock at the time the loan is made.

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Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements

Regulatory Capitalization Requirements and Restrictions

Effective January 1, 2017, the regulatory capital requirements for Farm Credit System banks and associations were modified. The new regulations replaced existing core surplus and total surplus ratios with common equity Tier 1, Tier 1 capital and total capital risk-based capital ratios. The new regulations also added a Tier 1 leverage ratio and an unallocated retained earnings and equivalents (UREE) leverage ratio. The permanent capital ratio continues to remain in effect, with some modifications, to align with the new regulations.

| | As of December 31, 2017 | Regulatory Minimums | Capital Conservation Buffer | Total |
|---------------------------|-------------------------------|------------------------|-----------------------------------|-------|
| Risk-adjusted ratios: | | | | |
| Common equity tier 1 | 16.57% | 4.5% | 2.5%* | 7.0% |
| Tier 1 capital | 16.57% | 6.0% | 2.5%* | 8.5% |
| Total capital | 17.00% | 8.0% | 2.5%* | 10.5% |
| Permanent capital | 16.65% | 7.0% | – | 7.0% |
| Non-risk-adjusted ratios: | | | | |
| Tier 1 leverage | 17.97% | 4.0% | 1.0% | 5.0% |
| UREE leverage | 19.71% | 1.5% | – | 1.5% |

*The 2.5 percent capital conservation buffer over risk-adjusted ratio minimums will be phased in over three years under the Farm Credit Administration capital requirements.

Risk-adjusted assets has been defined by the Farm Credit Administration regulations as the Statement of Condition assets and off-balance-sheet commitments adjusted by various percentages, depending on the level of risk inherent in the various types of assets. The primary changes, which generally have the impact of increasing risk-adjusted assets (decreasing risk-based regulatory capital ratios), were as follows:

- inclusion of off-balance-sheet commitments with terms at origination of less than 14 months;
- increased risk-weighting of most loans 90 days past due or in nonaccrual status.

Risk-adjusted assets is calculated differently for the permanent capital ratio compared to the other risk-based capital ratios. The primary difference is the inclusion of the allowance for loan losses as a deduction to risk-adjusted assets for the permanent capital ratio.

These ratios are based on a three-month average daily balance in accordance with Farm Credit Administration regulations and are calculated as follows (not all items below may be applicable to our Association):

- Common equity Tier 1 ratio is statutory minimum purchased member stock, other required member stock held for a minimum of 7 years, allocated equities held for a minimum of 7 years or not subject to retirement, unallocated retained earnings as regulatorily prescribed, paid-in capital, less certain regulatory required deductions including the amount of allocated investments in other System institutions, and the amount of purchased investments in other System institutions under the corresponding deduction approach, divided by average risk-adjusted assets.
- Tier 1 capital ratio is common equity Tier 1 plus noncumulative perpetual preferred stock, divided by average risk-adjusted assets.
- Total capital is Tier 1 capital plus other required member stock held for a minimum of 5 years, allocated equities held for a minimum of 5 years, subordinated debt and limited-life preferred stock greater than 5 years to maturity at issuance subject to certain limitations, allowance for loan losses and reserve for credit losses subject to certain limitations, less certain investments in other System institutions under the corresponding deduction approach, divided by average risk-adjusted assets.
- Permanent capital ratio is all at-risk borrower stock, any allocated excess stock, unallocated retained earnings as regulatorily prescribed, paid-in capital, subordinated debt and preferred stock subject to certain limitations, less certain allocated and purchased investments in other System institutions, divided by permanent capital ratio (PCR) risk-adjusted assets.
- Tier 1 leverage ratio is Tier 1 capital, including regulatory deductions, divided by average assets, less regulatory deductions subject to Tier 1 capital.
- UREE leverage ratio is unallocated retained earnings as regulatorily prescribed, paid-in capital, allocated surplus not subject to retirement, less certain regulatory required deductions including the amount of allocated investments in other System institutions, divided by average assets, less regulatory deductions subject to Tier 1 capital.

If the capital ratios fall below the total requirements, including the buffer amounts, capital distributions (equity redemptions, dividends and patronage) and discretionary senior executive bonuses are restricted or prohibited without prior Farm Credit Administration approval.

Effective January 1, 2017, the regulatory capital requirements allow for allotment agreements for only the permanent capital ratio and, as such, any stock in excess of our CoBank, ACB required investment was not included in the common equity Tier 1, Tier 1 capital or leverage ratios. We did not include our investment in CoBank, ACB as permanent capital at December 31, 2017.

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Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements

Refer to Note 8, "Members' Equity," in our 2016 annual report for a more complete description of the ratios effective as of December 31, 2016, and 2015. We were in compliance with the minimum required capital ratios as of December 31, 2016, and December 31, 2015.

Description of Equities

The following table presents information regarding the classes and number of shares of stock outstanding as of December 31, 2017. All shares are at-risk and have a par or stated value of \$5 per share.

| | Shares Outstanding |
|----------------------|--------------------|
| Class B common stock | 1,490,916 |
| Class C common stock | 44,116 |

Our bylaws authorize us to issue an unlimited number of shares of Class B common stock and Class C common stock with a par or face value of \$5 per share.

Class B common stock is voting and is issued solely to a farmer, rancher, or producer or harvester of aquatic products. Class C common stock has no voting rights and is issued to customers to capitalize rural home and farm-related business loans or to become eligible for financial services. Class B common stock and Class C common stock may be retired at the discretion of the Board of Directors, at book value not to exceed par, provided we meet minimum capital adequacy standards under Farm Credit Administration regulations.

Subject to our policies, Class B and Class C common stock are transferable to any person eligible to hold the respective class of stock. Class B common stock and Class C common stock cannot be transferred when we do not meet capital adequacy standards under Farm Credit Administration regulations.

At any time within two years after the loan of a customer is repaid in full, any voting stock held by the customer is converted to nonvoting stock. The nonvoting stock may be converted back to voting stock if the owner of the stock borrows additional funds.

As determined by the Board of Directors, we may declare dividends in stock, cash or any combination, provided we meet capital adequacy standards under Farm Credit Administration regulations and no stock is impaired. In the event we would liquidate or dissolve, any assets remaining after payment or retirement of all liabilities would be distributed to the holders of stock in the following order of priority:

- first, to the holders of common stock and participation certificates, equally and pro rata in proportion to the number of shares or units of common stock and participation certificates issued and outstanding, until an amount equal to the aggregate par value of all common stock and participation certificates has been distributed;
- second, to the holders of allocated surplus pro rata, on the basis of oldest allocations first, until an amount equal to the total account has been distributed; and
- third, any remaining assets would be distributed among current and former stockholders in the proportion which the aggregate

patronage of each stockholder bears to the total patronage of all current and former stockholders, to the extent practicable and as determined by the Board unless otherwise provided by law.

Patronage Distributions

Subject to the Farm Credit Act and Farm Credit Administration regulations, and provided that at the time of declaration no class of stock is impaired, patronage distributions may be declared and paid in amounts determined by the Board of Directors. Patronage distributions may be paid in any class of stock that the recipient is eligible to hold, in allocated surplus, in cash, in qualified or nonqualified notices of allocation, or in any combination, and must be paid on an equitable and nondiscriminatory basis as determined by the Board of Directors.

The Board of Directors declared cash patronage distributions, referred to as cash-back dividends, of \$11.5 million in 2017, \$9.0 million in 2016 and \$7.5 million in 2015.

We are prohibited from distributing earnings on a patronage basis to the extent they would reduce our permanent capital ratio below the Farm Credit Administration's minimum permanent capital adequacy requirements. We do not foresee any events that would result in this prohibition in 2018. Additionally, effective January 1, 2017, patronage distributions may be restricted or prohibited without prior Farm Credit Administration approval if capital ratios fall below the total requirements, including the buffer amounts. We do not foresee any events that would result in this prohibition in 2018.

Note 9 – Employee Benefit Plans

We participate in the benefits plans administered by Farm Credit Foundations, a service corporation for Farm Credit System entities. The Farm Credit Foundations Plan Sponsor and Trust Committees provide governance and oversight for the benefit plans. The governance committees are either elected or appointed representatives (senior leadership or Board of Director members) from the participating organizations. The Plan Sponsor Committee is responsible for decisions regarding benefits at the direction of the participating employers. The Trust Committee is responsible for fiduciary and plan administration functions. The Association has a senior officer who serves on each committee.

Under the alliance agreement described in Note 1, "Organization and Operations," the 2017 benefits expense of \$48.6 million was shared between Frontier Farm Credit and FCSAmerica on a 7.1 percent and 92.9 percent basis respectively, which excluded any Frontier Farm Credit pension plans expense in excess of FCSAmerica's retirement programs. Additionally, Frontier Farm Credit's net pension plans expense was \$1.4 million for 2017. The employee benefits expense is included in "Salaries and employee benefits" on the Consolidated Statements of Comprehensive Income.

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Defined Contribution Plan

We participate in the Farm Credit Foundations Defined Contribution/401(k) Plan for benefits-eligible employees. The plan is a qualified plan up to the limits provided under the Internal Revenue Code.

For employees who do not participate in the Qualified Pension Plan, Frontier Farm Credit matches the employee's contributions dollar for dollar up to a maximum of 6.0 percent of the employee's compensation on both pretax and post-tax contributions. Additionally, Frontier Farm Credit contributes a fixed 3.0 percent of the employee's compensation to the plan. For employees who participate in the Qualified Pension Plan, Frontier Farm Credit matches the employee's contributions dollar for dollar up to 2.0 percent of the employee's compensation and 50.0 percent of the employee's contributions above 2.0 percent and up to and including 6.0 percent of the employee's compensation, on both pretax and post-tax contributions.

Nonqualified Deferred Compensation Plan

The Farm Credit Foundations Nonqualified Deferred Compensation Plan serves two purposes. The plan provides for employer-matching or fixed contributions that exceed the Internal Revenue Code limits of the Defined Contribution Plan. Additionally, eligible employees may defer a portion of their base salary, variable pay and other compensation into this plan. Under the plan, eligible participants include the Chief Executive Officer and other employees who meet certain compensation thresholds as determined by the Internal Revenue Code.

Pre-409A Frozen Nonqualified Deferred Compensation Plan

We also participate in the Farm Credit Foundations Pre-409A Frozen Nonqualified Deferred Compensation Plan. This plan serves the same purposes as the Nonqualified Deferred Compensation Plan. However, the plan was frozen effective January 1, 2007. As such, no additional participants are eligible to enter the plan and no additional employer contributions are made to the plan.

Qualified Pension Plan

We participate in the Ninth Farm Credit District Pension Plan for certain eligible employees hired prior to January 1, 2007. The plan is a noncontributory, qualified defined benefit plan. The Department of Labor has determined the plan to be a governmental plan; therefore, the plan is not subject to the provisions of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 (ERISA), as amended. As the plan is not subject to ERISA, the plan's benefits are not insured by the Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation. Accordingly, the amount of accumulated benefits that participants would receive in the event of the plan's termination is contingent on the sufficiency of the plan's net assets to provide benefits at that time. As a multiemployer plan, the assets, liabilities and costs of the plan are not segregated by participating employers. As such, plan assets are available for any of the participating employers' retirees at any point in time. Additionally, if a participating employer stops contributing

to the plan, the unfunded obligations of the plan may be borne by the remaining participating employers. Further, if Frontier Farm Credit chooses to stop participating in the plan, we may be required to pay an amount based on the underfunded status of the plan, referred to as a withdrawal liability. Because of the multiemployer nature of the plan, any individual employer is not able to unilaterally change the provisions of the plan. If an employee moves to another employer within the same plan, the employee benefits under the plan transfer. Benefits are based on salary and years of service. There is no collective bargaining agreement in place as part of this plan.

The plan reflects an unfunded liability totaling \$84.6 million at December 31, 2017. The pension benefits funding status reflects the net of the fair value of the plan assets and the projected benefit obligation at the date of these consolidated financial statements. The projected benefit obligation is the actuarial present value of all benefits attributed by the pension benefit formula to employee service rendered prior to the measurement date based on assumed future compensation levels. The projected benefit obligation and fair value of the multiemployer plan assets as of December 31 follows (in millions):

| | 2017 | 2016 | 2015 |
|------------------------------|---------|---------|---------|
| Projected benefit obligation | \$292.6 | \$270.6 | \$244.3 |
| Fair value of plan assets | \$208.0 | \$175.6 | \$155.1 |

The amount of the pension benefits funding status is subject to many variables, including performance of plan assets and interest rate levels. Therefore, changes in assumptions could significantly affect these estimates.

Costs are determined for each participating employer based on costs directly related to its current employees as well as an allocation of the remaining costs based proportionately on the estimated projected liability of the employer under this plan. The Association recognizes its proportional share of expense and contributes a proportional share of funding. Costs and contributions for the multiemployer plan as of December 31 follow (in millions):

| | 2017 | 2016 | 2015 |
|---|--------|--------|--------|
| Total plan expenses for all participating employers | \$12.7 | \$11.3 | \$16.1 |
| Association's allocated share of plan expenses included in "Salaries and employee benefits" | \$1.4 | \$1.3 | \$1.8 |
| Total plan contributions for all participating employers | \$20.0 | \$20.4 | \$13.6 |
| Association's allocated share of plan contributions | \$2.1 | \$2.3 | \$1.5 |

While the plan is a governmental plan and is not subject to minimum funding requirements, the participating employers contribute amounts necessary on an actuarial basis to provide

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the plan with sufficient assets to meet the benefits to be paid to participants. The amount of the total employer contributions expected to be paid into the pension plans during 2018 is \$20.0 million. Frontier Farm Credit's allocated share of these pension contributions is expected to be \$2.0 million. The amount ultimately to be contributed and the amount ultimately recognized as expense, as well as the timing of those contributions and expenses, are subject to many variables, including performance of plan assets and interest rate levels. These variables could result in actual contributions and expenses being greater than or less than anticipated.

Benefits are based on compensation and years of service. In general, the plan provides participants with a joint and 50.0 percent survivor life annuity benefit at normal retirement that is equal to 1.5 percent of average monthly compensation during the 60 consecutive months in which an individual receives his or her highest compensation (High 60) multiplied by the employee's years of benefit service, plus 0.25 percent of the amount by which the High 60 exceeds covered compensation multiplied by years of benefit service. The benefit is actuarially adjusted if the individual chooses a different form of distribution other than a joint and 50.0 percent survivor life annuity, such as a lump-sum distribution. The pension valuation was determined using a blended approach assuming 30.0 percent of the benefits would be paid as a lump sum and 70.0 percent as an annuity for active participants. The plan pays benefits up to the applicable limits under the Internal Revenue Code.

Nonqualified Pension Restoration Plan

We participate in the Ninth District Pension Restoration Plan that is a nonqualified, unfunded retirement plan. This plan provides retirement benefits above the Internal Revenue Code compensation limit to certain former highly compensated eligible employees. Benefits payable under this plan are offset by the benefits payable from the Qualified Pension Plan.

The plan reflects an unfunded liability totaling \$520 thousand at December 31, 2017. The funding status reflects the net fair value of the plan assets and the projected benefit obligation at the date of these consolidated financial statements. The plan is not funded so the fair value of plan assets is zero.

The projected benefit obligation is the actuarial present value of all benefits attributed by the pension benefit formula to employee service rendered prior to the measurement data based on assumed future compensation levels. The projected benefit obligation of the plan was \$520 thousand as of December 31, 2017, \$759 thousand as of December 31, 2016, and \$550 thousand at December 31, 2015.

The plan expenses included in "Salaries and employee benefits" was \$77 thousand in 2017, \$31 thousand in 2016 and \$60 thousand in 2015. See the Consolidated Statements of Comprehensive Income and Changes in Members' Equity for the impact of net actuarial gains or losses. Assumptions utilized for the plan were consistent with the Qualified Pension Plan. Benefits payouts are expected to be \$265 thousand annually in 2018 and 2019 and then zero thereafter.

Retiree Health Care

We participate in the Farm Credit Foundations Retiree Medical Plan. The plan benefits are provided to retired employees who meet specific age and service requirements. Benefits provided are determined on a graduated scale based on years of service. The anticipated costs of these benefits were accrued during the period of the employee's active service. The related expense is not considered material to our financial position.

Note 10 – Income Taxes

The Tax Cuts and Jobs Act (the Act) was passed in December 2017. This Act contained various tax law changes, including changes to the federal statutory tax rate from 34.0 percent to 21.0 percent, effective January 1, 2018. The deferred tax assets and liabilities as of December 31, 2017, have been valued using the new statutory tax rates. The deferred tax assets and liabilities are expected to be recognized in our tax return in a future year under the new statutory tax rates. The effect of this revaluation is recognized in our provision for income taxes for the year ended December 31, 2017.

Our provision for income taxes follows (in thousands):

| | Year Ended December 31, | | |
|---|-------------------------|---------|-------|
| | 2017 | 2016 | 2015 |
| Current: | | | |
| Federal | \$ - | \$ - | \$188 |
| State | - | - | 49 |
| | - | - | \$237 |
| Deferred: | | | |
| Federal | \$549 | \$(735) | \$270 |
| State | 97 | (172) | 63 |
| (Decrease) increase in valuation allowance | (646) | 907 | (333) |
| | - | - | - |
| Provision for income taxes | \$ - | \$ - | \$237 |

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The decrease in provision for income taxes for 2017 is primarily due to a decrease in taxable income for our taxable subsidiary.

The following table calculates the differences between the provision for income taxes and income taxes at the statutory rates (in thousands):

| | Year Ended December 31, | | |
|----------------------------------|-------------------------|----------|----------|
| | 2017 | 2016 | 2015 |
| Federal tax at statutory rate | \$14,840 | \$12,742 | \$11,005 |
| State tax, net | - | - | 103 |
| Tax effect of: | | | |
| Exempt FLCA earnings | (12,381) | (11,253) | (9,093) |
| Deferred tax valuation allowance | (646) | 907 | (333) |
| Patronage distribution | (1,978) | (2,349) | (1,401) |
| Tax rate change | 133 | - | - |
| Other | 32 | (47) | (44) |
| Provision for income taxes | \$ - | \$ - | \$ 237 |

The following table provides the components of deferred tax assets and liabilities (in thousands):

| | Year Ended December 31, | | |
|--|-------------------------|---------|-------|
| | 2017 | 2016 | 2015 |
| Allowance for loan losses | \$375 | \$1,321 | \$505 |
| Nonaccrual loan interest | 89 | 127 | 156 |
| CoBank, ACB patronage allocations | (466) | (722) | (626) |
| Prepaid pension expense | 298 | 216 | - |
| Deferred tax asset | 296 | 942 | 35 |
| Deferred tax asset valuation allowance | (296) | (942) | (35) |
| Net deferred tax asset | \$ - | \$ - | \$ - |

The calculation of deferred tax assets and liabilities involves various management estimates and assumptions regarding future taxable earnings, including the amount of nonpatronage income and patronage income retained. The expected future tax rates are based on enacted tax laws.

Deferred tax assets were fully offset by a valuation allowance for all years presented. We will continue to evaluate the realizability of the deferred tax assets and adjust the valuation allowance accordingly.

Our income tax returns are subject to review by various United States taxing authorities. We record accruals for items that we believe may be challenged by these taxing authorities. However, we had no uncertain income tax positions at December 31, 2017. Additionally, we believe we are no longer subject to income tax examinations for years prior to 2014.

Note 11 – Related Party Transactions

In the ordinary course of business, we may enter into loan transactions with our directors, senior officers and other organizations with whom such persons may be associated. These loans are subject to special approval requirements contained in the Farm Credit Administration regulations and/or our policy, and are made on the same terms, including interest rates, amortization schedules and collateral, as those prevailing at the time for comparable transactions. The related parties can be different each year-end primarily due to changes in the composition of the Board of Directors and the mix of organizations with which such person may be associated. In our opinion, loans outstanding to directors and senior officers at December 31, 2017, did not involve more than a normal risk of collectability.

Loan information to related parties for the years ended December 31 is shown below (in thousands):

| Related Party Loans [and Leases] | As of December 31, | | |
|--|--------------------|---------|---------|
| | 2017 | 2016 | 2015 |
| Total related party loans [and leases] | \$10,712 | \$8,553 | \$5,764 |

| Related Party Loans [and Leases] | For the year ended December 31, | | |
|----------------------------------|---------------------------------|----------|---------|
| | 2017 | 2016 | 2015 |
| Advances to related parties | \$9,451 | \$10,515 | \$4,779 |
| Repayments by related parties | \$3,890 | \$7,458 | \$2,844 |

We purchase human resource information systems and benefit and payroll services from Farm Credit Foundations. The Farm Credit System entities using Farm Credit Foundations' services contributed an investment into the service corporation when it was formed as a separate service corporation. Our investment was \$21 thousand for all years presented. The total cost of services purchased from Farm Credit Foundations was \$78 thousand in 2017, \$94 thousand in 2016 and \$105 thousand in 2015.

Frontier Farm Credit, ACA

Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements

Note 12 – Commitments and Contingencies

In the normal course of business, we have various outstanding commitments and contingent liabilities, such as commitments to extend credit, which are not reflected in the consolidated financial statements. Commitments to extend credit are agreements to lend to a customer as long as there is not a violation of any condition established in the contract. Commitments generally have fixed expiration dates or other termination clauses and may require payment of a fee. Since some of the commitments may expire without being drawn upon, the total commitments do not necessarily represent future cash requirements. We evaluate each customer's creditworthiness on a case-by-case basis using the same credit policies as for on-balance-sheet financial instruments. The amount of collateral obtained, if deemed necessary upon extension of credit, is based on our credit evaluation of the counterparty. Collateral held upon exercise of commitments varies but may include accounts receivable, inventory, property, plant and equipment, and income-producing property. We had remaining commitments for additional borrowing at December 31, 2017, of approximately \$489 million and approximately \$479 million at December 31, 2016.

We also participate in standby letters of credit to satisfy the financing needs of customers. These letters of credit are irrevocable agreements to guarantee payments of specified financial obligations. At December 31, 2017, \$4.2 million of standby letters of credit were outstanding and \$3.5 million at December 31, 2016. Outstanding standby letters of credit have expiration dates ranging to 2024. The maximum potential amount of future payments we are required to make under the guarantees is equal to the total amount of the letters of credit outstanding.

Actions are pending against us in which claims for money damages are asserted. In our opinion, based on current information, the ultimate liability, if any, would not have a material impact on our financial position.

Note 13 – Fair Value Measurement

The Financial Accounting Standards Board guidance on *Fair Value Measurements* defines fair value as the exchange price that would be received for an asset or paid to transfer a liability in an orderly transaction between market participants in the principal or most advantageous market for the asset or liability. The guidance also establishes a fair value hierarchy, with three levels of inputs that may be used to measure fair value. See Note 2, "Summary of Significant Accounting Policies," for a more complete description of the three input levels.

We do not have any material assets or liabilities measured at fair value on a recurring basis. We may be required, from time to time, to measure certain assets at fair value on a nonrecurring basis. The following tables provide information on assets measured at fair value on a nonrecurring basis (in thousands):

| As of December 31, 2017 | Fair Value Measurement Using | | | Total Fair Value | Total (Gains) |
|-------------------------------|---------------------------------|---------|---------|---------------------|------------------|
| | Level 1 | Level 2 | Level 3 | | |
| Loans | - | - | \$576 | \$576 | \$(1,800) |
| Other Property Owned | - | - | \$300 | \$300 | - |

| As of December 31, 2016 | Fair Value Measurement Using | | | Total Fair Value | Total Losses |
|-------------------------------|---------------------------------|---------|---------|---------------------|-----------------|
| | Level 1 | Level 2 | Level 3 | | |
| Loans | - | - | \$1,419 | \$1,419 | \$1,856 |

| As of December 31, 2015 | Fair Value Measurement Using | | | Total Fair Value | Total Losses |
|-------------------------------|---------------------------------|---------|---------|---------------------|-----------------|
| | Level 1 | Level 2 | Level 3 | | |
| Loans | - | - | - | - | \$50 |

The amount of loans in the previous tables represents the fair value of certain loans that were evaluated for impairment based on the estimated appraised value of the underlying collateral. The fair value measurement process uses independent appraisals and other market-based information, but in many cases, it also requires significant input based on our knowledge of and judgment about current market conditions, specific issues relating to the collateral and other matters. As a result, these fair value measurements fall within Level 3 of the hierarchy. When the value of the collateral, less estimated costs to sell, is less than the carrying value of the loan, a specific reserve is established.

The amount of other property owned represents the fair value and related gains of foreclosed assets that were measured at fair value based on the collateral value. Costs to sell represent transaction costs and are not included as a component of the asset's fair value.

Note 14 – Subsequent Events

We have evaluated subsequent events through March 2, 2018, which is the date the consolidated financial statements were available to be issued. There have been no material subsequent events that would require recognition in our 2017 consolidated financial statements or disclosures in the "Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements."

Frontier Farm Credit, ACA

Disclosure Information

Required by Farm Credit Administration Regulations (Unaudited)

Description of Business

The description of the territory served, persons eligible to borrow, types of lending activities engaged in, financial services offered and related Farm Credit System institutions required to be disclosed in this section are incorporated herein by reference from Note 1 to the consolidated financial statements, "Organization and Operations," included in this annual report to stockholders.

The description of significant developments that had, or could have, a material impact on earnings, interest rates to customers, acquisitions or dispositions of material assets, and material changes in the manner of conducting the business, if any, required to be disclosed in this section are incorporated herein by reference from "Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations" included in this annual report to stockholders.

Description of Property

Our corporate office is located in Manhattan, Kansas, and is owned. The locations of our retail offices are incorporated herein by reference to the last page of this annual report to stockholders. All retail office locations are owned.

Construction of a new retail office in Emporia, Kansas, was completed in 2017. The previous Emporia retail office facility located at 1221 E. 12th Avenue was sold in 2017.

Legal Proceedings

Information required to be disclosed in this section is incorporated herein by reference from Note 12 to the consolidated financial statements, "Commitments and Contingencies," included in this annual report to stockholders.

Additional Regulatory Capital

Pursuant to Farm Credit Administration regulation 620.5, the permanent capital ratio, total surplus ratio and core surplus ratios were 15.12 percent, 14.82 percent and 14.82 percent as of December 31, 2012. Refer to the "Consolidated Five-Year Summary of Selected Financial Data" for capital ratio calculations for the past five years.

Description of Capital Structure

Information required to be disclosed in this section is incorporated herein by reference from Note 8 to the consolidated financial statements, "Members' Equity," included in this annual report to stockholders.

Description of Liabilities

The description of debt outstanding required to be disclosed in this section is incorporated herein by reference from Note 7 to the consolidated financial statements, "Notes Payable," included in this annual report to stockholders.

The description of contingent liabilities required to be disclosed in this section is incorporated herein by reference from Note 12 to the consolidated financial statements, "Commitments and Contingencies," included in this annual report to stockholders.

Customer Privacy

Customer privacy is important to us. We hold customer financial and other personal information in strict confidence. We do not sell or trade customers' personal information to marketing companies or information brokers for their use. By Farm Credit Administration regulations, we are required to provide a list of current stockholders to any stockholder who requests such information for defined purposes. Additional information regarding this Farm Credit Administration rule governing the disclosure of customer information can be obtained by contacting the Farm Credit Administration or our Legal team at PO Box 2409, Omaha, NE 68103-2409.

Financial and Supervisory Relationship with the Association's Funding Bank

Information required to be disclosed in this section is incorporated herein by reference from the "Relationship with CoBank, ACB" section of "Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations" and from Note 7 to the consolidated financial statements, "Notes Payable."

Selected Financial Data

The selected financial data for the five years ended December 31, 2017, required to be disclosed in this section is incorporated herein by reference from the "Consolidated Five-Year Summary of Selected Financial Data" included in this annual report to stockholders.

Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations

"Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations," which appears in this annual report to stockholders and is required to be disclosed in this section, is incorporated herein by reference.

Frontier Farm Credit, ACA Disclosure Information Required by Farm Credit Administration Regulations (Unaudited)

Directors and Compensation of Directors

The listing of directors, term of office, business experience during the past five years, principal occupation and employment during the past five years, and any other business interests, which are required to be disclosed in this section, are incorporated herein by reference from the "Frontier Farm Credit, ACA Directors" section in this annual report to stockholders.

Our bylaws permit compensation of directors for service on the Board. Compensation is provided for attendance at Board and committee meetings, special assignments, training and development, and travel time associated with these responsibilities. Per diem for 2017 was \$500. Monthly retainers for 2017 were \$2,300 for the Board Chairperson, \$2,000 for the Board Vice-Chairperson and Committee Chairpersons, and \$1,800 for all other directors. An additional \$200 per month is included in the monthly retainer for a director who serves as a Board Vice-Chairperson and a Committee Chairperson.

Compensation information for each director who served in 2017 follows:

| Director | 2017 Committee Chaired | Board Days | Other Days | Committee Compensation* | Total 2017 Compensation |
|---|------------------------|------------|------------|---------------------------|-------------------------|
| Kathy Brick | Audit | 9.0 | 29.0 | \$1,000 | \$43,000 |
| Mike Collinge** | | 2.0 | 11.0 | \$250 | \$11,900 |
| Ronald Dunbar | | 9.0 | 23.0 | \$1,000 | \$37,600 |
| Bill Fleming** | | 2.0 | 5.0 | \$250 | \$8,900 |
| Jennifer Gehrt, Board Chairperson | | 9.0 | 46.0 | \$250 | \$53,900 |
| Alan Hess** | | 2.0 | 8.5 | \$250 | \$11,250 |
| Larry Hoobler** | | 2.0 | 14.0 | \$250 | \$13,400 |
| William Miller | Human Capital | 9.0 | 39.0 | \$750 | \$49,200 |
| Lee Mueller | Governance | 9.0 | 28.5 | \$1,000 | \$41,950 |
| Steve Powers, Board Vice-Chairperson | | 9.0 | 28.0 | \$1,000 | \$42,500 |
| Shane Tiffany*** | Business Risk | 7.0 | 22.5 | \$750 | \$32,550 |
| Mark Wulfkuhle** | | 2.0 | 12.5 | \$250 | \$13,250 |
| | | | | Total Compensation | \$359,400 |

* Included in 2017 total compensation. Ms. Gehrt served on the Human Capital Committee for one meeting.

** Board term ended on March 31, 2017.

*** Board term began on April 1, 2017.

All directors, except the Board Chairperson, serve as members of the four Board committees. Total compensation is rounded to the nearest dollar and includes retainers and all per diems paid in 2017.

Frontier Farm Credit, ACA
Disclosure Information
Required by Farm Credit Administration Regulations (Unaudited)

Compensation of CEO and Senior Officers

The CEO and senior officers as of December 31, 2017, are shown below. The CEO and senior officers provide joint management for Frontier Farm Credit (Association) and Farm Credit Services of America (FCSAmerica).

| Name | Current Position | Date Started in Current Position | Previous Position(s) During Past Five Years |
|------------------------|--|---|--|
| James M. (Mark) Jensen | President and CEO | November 2017 | Senior Vice President – Chief Risk Officer; Senior Vice President – Enterprise Risk Management |
| Robert Campbell | Senior Vice President | April 1999 | – |
| Scott Coziah | Senior Vice President – General Counsel | February 2006 | – |
| Ann Finkner | Senior Vice President – Chief Administrative Officer | July 2005 | – |
| Shane Frahm | Senior Vice President – Agribusiness Capital | February 2017 | Vice President – Agribusiness Credit; Vice President – Credit & Resolutions |
| Chad Gent | Senior Vice President – Retail Credit | January 2017 | Vice President – Retail Credit |
| Marshall Hansen | Senior Vice President – Agribusiness Capital | January 2017 | Vice President – Agribusiness Finance |
| Anthony Jesina | Senior Vice President – Related Services | June 2015 | Vice President – Country Home Loans |
| Kenneth Keegan | Executive Vice President – Business Development | August 2013 | Executive Vice President – Chief Risk Officer |
| Craig Kinnison | Senior Vice President – Chief Financial Officer | November 2006 | – |
| Dennis Kirlin | Senior Vice President – Chief Applications Officer | January 2017 | Vice President – Chief Applications Officer; Vice President – Applications Development |
| Jim Knuth | Senior Vice President | September 2001 | – |
| Timothy Koch | Senior Vice President – Chief Credit Officer | February 2017 | Senior Vice President – Specialized Lending; Vice President – Agribusiness Credit |
| Brian Legried | Senior Vice President – AgDirect | April 2017 | Vice President – Refined Fuels Sales & Energy Services, CHS Inc.; President – CHS Capital LLC |
| Duane Maciejewski | Senior Vice President – Specialized Lending | March 2017 | Senior Vice President – AgDirect; Vice President – AgDirect |
| David Martin | Senior Vice President – Chief Strategy Officer | December 2008 | – |
| Gary Mazour | Senior Vice President – Agribusiness Capital Credit | February 2017 | Vice President – Capital Markets |
| James Roberge | Senior Vice President – Commercial Lending | March 2012 | – |
| Greg Salton | Senior Vice President – Risk Management | January 2017 | Vice President – Business Risk Insights |
| Fallon Savage | Senior Vice President – Agribusiness Capital Credit | February 2017 | Vice President – Agribusiness Finance Operations; Vice President – Capital Markets Sales; Capital Markets Commercial Lender |
| Robert Schmidt | Senior Vice President | May 1999 | – |
| Douglas Stark | Executive Vice President | November 2017 | President and CEO |
| Russell Wagner | Senior Vice President – Chief Technology Officer | January 2017 | Vice President – Chief Technology Officer |

Frontier Farm Credit, ACA

Disclosure Information

Required by Farm Credit Administration Regulations (Unaudited)

Other business interests of senior officers are shown below.

| Name | Other Business Interests |
|-----------------|--|
| Robert Campbell | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Board of Directors, Nebraska Farm Bureau Foundation, a non-profit organization promoting an understanding of the vital importance of agriculture in the state of Nebraska. |
| Scott Coziahr | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Managing member of JDI Properties, LLC, a residential real estate management company. |
| Ann Finkner | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Board of Directors and Plan Sponsor Committee, Farm Credit Foundations, a provider of benefits and payroll services for Farm Credit System organizations. Board of Directors, Institute for Career Advancement Needs, a non-profit organization focusing on professional and personal leadership development. Board of Directors, NET Foundation, a non-profit organization enhancing the position of public television and radio in the state of Nebraska. Partner, Jane Doughs Investment Club, a group owning publicly traded investments. |
| Shane Frahm | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Managing member of Frahm Brothers Partnership, a production farming company. Co-manager of Hollertz Farms, LLC, a production farming company. |
| Kenneth Keegan | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Board of Directors, The Durham Museum, a non-profit regional learning and cultural center organization. |
| Craig Kinnison | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Trust Committee, Farm Credit Foundations, a provider of benefits and payroll services for Farm Credit System organizations. Board of Directors, Food Bank for the Heartland, a non-profit organization that distributes emergency and supplemental food to people in Nebraska and western Iowa. |
| David Martin | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Board of Directors, Release Ministries, a non-profit organization supporting youth in the juvenile justice system. President of DCM Ventures, LLC, a residential real estate company. President of DCM Properties, LLC, a residential real estate company. |
| Fallon Savage | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Board of Directors, Four Points Federal Credit Union, a financial services cooperative offering banking products and services to members. |
| Robert Schmidt | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Board of Governors, South Dakota State University Foundation, a non-profit organization supporting private funding for the university. Board of Directors, South Dakota Corn Growers Association, a commodity group representing South Dakota corn producers. |
| Douglas Stark | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Board of Directors, University of Wyoming Foundation, a non-profit organization supporting private funding for the university. |

Compensation Overview: The Association's compensation programs are market-based and designed to provide competitive compensation, including base salary, incentives and benefits that attract, retain, motivate and reward an engaged and talented workforce while achieving business results aligned with the best interests of our shareholders.

The design and governance of our CEO and senior officer compensation program are consistent with prudent risk management standards and provide total compensation that promotes our mission to ensure a safe, sound and dependable source of credit and related services for agriculture and rural America. The design of the compensation program supports our risk management goals and includes (1) a competitive mix of base salary and variable pay, (2) a balanced use of variable pay performance measures that are risk-adjusted where appropriate, (3) a pay-for-performance process that allocates individual awards based on individual performance and contributions, and (4) a long-term portion of variable pay to align with the strategic direction of the Association, provide for competitive market-based compensation and align with shareholder interests.

Compensation for the CEO and senior officers includes base salary, short-term incentive plan opportunity and long-term incentive plan opportunity. Compensation for all other employees includes

base salary and short-term incentive plan opportunity. The CEO and senior officers participate in benefit plans generally available to all employees. Under the alliance agreement described in Note 1, "Organization and Operations," the 2017 compensation and benefits expense for the CEO, senior officers, and all Association and FCSAmerica employees was shared between the Association and FCSAmerica on a 7.1 percent and 92.9 percent basis respectively, excluding any Association pension plans expense in excess of the FCSAmerica's retirement programs.

As of January 1, 2015, the former CEO, Mr. Douglas Stark, was employed pursuant to an employment agreement through December 31, 2019. The agreement provides specified compensation and related benefits in the event his employment is terminated, except for termination for cause or voluntary termination without notice. The employment agreement also provides certain limited payments upon death or disability. To receive payments and other benefits under the agreement, the CEO must sign a separation agreement and release all legal claims against the Association that relate to his employment with the Association. The agreement also provides for noncompetition by the CEO for two years following termination of employment. Mr. Stark announced his March 1, 2018, retirement in February 2017 according to the terms of his employment agreement.

Frontier Farm Credit, ACA Disclosure Information Required by Farm Credit Administration Regulations (Unaudited)

The current CEO, Mr. Mark Jensen, does not have an employment agreement. Any CEO employment agreement is at the discretion of the Board of Directors.

Base Salaries: Base salaries for all employees, including the CEO and senior officers, are determined based upon position, experience and responsibilities, performance and market-based compensation data. The CEO base salary is reviewed and approved by the Board of Directors. The Board of Directors approves the merit and market-adjustment pools available for senior officers' base salaries. Employer expense for base salaries is included in "Salaries and employee benefits" on the Consolidated Statements of Comprehensive Income, which was shared by the Association and FCSAmerica as part of the overall allocation of salaries and benefits.

Short-Term Incentive: The Board of Directors approves the annual short-term incentive plan, including the performance measures. The 2017 short-term incentive plan performance measures included combined results for the Association and FCSAmerica. The senior officers participate in the annual short-term incentive plan along with the other eligible Association employees. Select employees must sign an assignment, nonsolicitation and nondisclosure agreement to participate in the short-term incentive plan. Payouts under the short-term incentive plan are based on financial and business results, select initiatives and credit performance measures, and are approved by the Board of Directors. Payouts are not provided unless specific levels of performance are achieved. No more than one-half of the short-term incentive-plan award opportunity may be paid in the fourth quarter of the plan year (first award payout), and the remainder of the award payout (final award payout) is paid no later than March 15 after the end of the plan year. The first award payout is based on the results achieved as of September 30 for select performance measures. The final award payout is based upon the year-end results net of the first award payout. The first payout under the 2017 short-term incentive plan occurred in November 2017. The second and final payout occurred in February 2018 and was net of the November 2017 payout.

The CEO's short-term incentive opportunity is established by the Board of Directors. The Board has full discretion as to the amount of any payout to the CEO under the short-term incentive plan and has historically and for 2017 used the results from the short-term incentive plan to determine the payout amount.

The expense for the annual short-term incentive plan was \$28.4 million for 2017, which was shared by the Association and FCSAmerica as part of the overall allocation of salaries and benefits.

Long-Term Incentive: The CEO and senior officers are eligible for long-term senior officer incentive plans. The long-term incentive plans were approved by the Board of Directors to align CEO and senior officer compensation with the strategic business plan and the goals of the Association while providing the opportunity for competitive market-based compensation at a level that will attract, retain and reward key staff for the accomplishment of Association goals. The CEO and senior officers must sign an assignment, nonsolicitation and nondisclosure agreement to participate. The plans are nonqualified performance unit plans that are effective January 1, 2015, through December 31, 2017; January 1, 2016, through December 31, 2018; and January 1, 2017, through December 31, 2019.

The plans have independent performance goals measured over the three-year term of the plans that include core return on assets, customer experience index, employee engagement, adverse assets to risk funds and nonaccrual loans to total classified assets. The results included in the plans were combined results for the Association and FCSAmerica. Payments are made no later than March 15 after the end of each three-year plan's term. The Board of Directors approves the total dollars available for the long-term incentive plans, which are then converted into units. The value of each unit is determined by the results achieved toward the established goals.

The CEO has discretion as to the distribution of the units to the senior officers for each three-year plan, which is based on consideration of market compensation and individual contributions and performance. The CEO's long-term incentive opportunity is established by the Board of Directors. The Board has full discretion as to the amount of any payout to the CEO under the long-term incentive plan and has historically used the results from the long-term senior officer incentive plan to determine the unit value for the payout amount.

A liability and salary and benefits expense of \$3.5 million was recorded in 2017 for the long-term incentive plans. The expense was shared by the Association and FCSAmerica as part of the overall allocation of salaries and benefits. The payout for the 2015-2017 plan occurred in February 2018 and is reflected in the Summary Compensation Table in the "Long-Term Incentive" column for the calendar year 2017. The payouts for the 2013-2015 and 2014-2016 plans were paid in the first quarter of 2016 and the first quarter of 2017 respectively, and are reflected in the Summary Compensation Table in the "Long-Term Incentive" column for the calendar years 2015 and 2016.

Frontier Farm Credit, ACA Disclosure Information Required by Farm Credit Administration Regulations (Unaudited)

The following Summary Compensation Table includes compensation paid to the CEO and the senior officers during fiscal years 2017, 2016 and 2015.

| Name of CEO | Year ⁽²⁾ | Salary ⁽³⁾ | Short-Term Incentive ⁽⁴⁾ | Long-Term Incentive ⁽⁵⁾ | Deferred ⁽⁶⁾ | Other ⁽⁷⁾ | Total |
|-----------------------------------|---------------------|-----------------------|-------------------------------------|------------------------------------|-------------------------|----------------------|-------------|
| Mark Jensen, CEO ⁽¹⁾ | 2017 | \$100,000 | \$68,110 | \$8,731 | \$26,986 | \$1,478 | \$205,305 |
| Douglas Stark, CEO ⁽¹⁾ | 2017 | \$566,667 | \$283,334 | \$415,574 | \$159,720 | \$11,149 | \$1,436,444 |
| Douglas Stark, CEO | 2016 | \$660,000 | \$288,618 | \$410,700 | \$217,694 | \$14,131 | \$1,591,143 |
| Douglas Stark, CEO | 2015 | \$635,000 | \$289,920 | \$381,700 | \$204,451 | \$9,839 | \$1,520,910 |

| Aggregate No. of Sr. Officers in Year Excluding CEO ⁽⁸⁾ | Year ⁽²⁾ | Salary ⁽³⁾ | Short-Term Incentive ⁽⁴⁾ | Long-Term Incentive ⁽⁵⁾ | Deferred ⁽⁶⁾ | Other ⁽⁷⁾ | Total |
|--|---------------------|-----------------------|-------------------------------------|------------------------------------|-------------------------|----------------------|--------------|
| 23 | 2017 | \$5,363,646 | \$2,832,368 | \$1,942,011 | \$1,177,192 | \$135,876 | \$11,451,093 |
| 13 | 2016 | \$3,544,555 | \$1,776,409 | \$1,776,688 | \$922,340 | \$192,466 | \$8,212,458 |
| 15 | 2015 | \$3,714,420 | \$1,946,555 | \$1,546,880 | \$1,123,728 | \$133,456 | \$8,465,039 |

⁽¹⁾ Mr. Jensen was appointed CEO as of November 1, 2017, with Mr. Stark concluding his service as CEO on October 31, 2017.

⁽²⁾ FCSAmerica paid 92.9 percent, 93.0 percent and 94.0 percent of the compensation expense for 2017, 2016 and 2015 respectively. The Association paid 7.1 percent, 7.0 percent and 6.0 percent of the compensation expense for 2017, 2016 and 2015 respectively.

⁽³⁾ Salary includes base salaries for the CEO and senior officers. For 2016, the number includes an amount for a senior officer who retired.

⁽⁴⁾ Short-term incentive earned in the fiscal year.

⁽⁵⁾ Incentive earned at the end of the respective three-year long-term incentive plan. For 2017 and 2016, the total includes a prorated amount for a senior officer who retired in 2015. For 2015, only 12 of the 15 senior officers participated in the long-term incentive.

⁽⁶⁾ The amounts represent the Association's contributions to the Defined Contribution Plan and Nonqualified Deferred Compensation Plan. For 2016, the number includes an amount for a senior officer who retired in 2016.

⁽⁷⁾ The amounts represent executive physicals, sign-on bonus, special recognition bonus, retirement gift, taxable moving expense, vacation leave payout, recognition and referral awards, health and fitness account payouts, health incentives, taxable vehicle use, long-term disability premiums and group life insurance imputed income. For 2016, the number includes amounts for a senior officer who retired in 2016.

⁽⁸⁾ The number includes employees designated as senior officers during the fiscal year. The 2017 number includes Mr. Jensen and Mr. Stark when they served as senior officers as well as nine individuals appointed as senior officers in 2017. The 2016 number does not include the senior officer who retired January 4, 2016. The 2015 number includes a senior officer who retired in 2015 plus the addition of two senior officers and the former Frontier Farm Credit CEO who was a senior officer during the year.

Disclosure of the total compensation paid during 2017 to any senior officer included in the Summary Compensation Table is available to our stockholders upon written request to Frontier Farm Credit, PO Box 2409, Omaha, NE 68103-2409.

Details of the benefit plans are described in Note 9 to the consolidated financial statements, "Employee Benefit Plans."

Travel, Subsistence and Other Related Expenses

Director and employee reimbursements for travel, subsistence and other related expenses are set forth in the Board's Governance Guidelines and Human Resources Manual, respectively. Each provides authority for and control over reimbursement of travel and subsistence expenses for authorized individuals traveling on official business. Copies of the related Governance Guidelines and Human Resources Manual provisions are available to our stockholders upon written request to Frontier Farm Credit, PO Box 2409, Omaha, NE 68103-2409.

The aggregate amount of reimbursement for travel, subsistence and other related expenses for all our directors was \$100 thousand in 2017, \$119 thousand in 2016 and \$129 thousand in 2015.

Transactions with Directors, Senior Officers and Employees

Directors and certain employees may obtain loans from us, provided they meet all eligibility requirements and provided that such loans are made on the same terms available to other customers. Approval of CoBank, ACB is required for loans to our directors and employees, and for loans to any customer if a director or employee is to receive more than \$50 thousand of the loan proceeds, has a significant personal interest in the loan or its security, may exercise control over the customer, or guarantees or cosigns a loan in excess of \$50 thousand. Further, directors and employees are required to refrain from taking any part in the consideration or decision on any loan in which they or their relatives have an interest.

Frontier Farm Credit, ACA Disclosure Information Required by Farm Credit Administration Regulations (Unaudited)

Our bylaws and policies require that directors' loans be maintained at a high level of credit quality. Any director whose loan is classified "substandard" must prepare and obtain approval of a plan to improve and upgrade the loan within a specified period of time. For directors, failure to comply with our bylaws and policies would result in the director's position being vacated. Directors whose loans are classified "doubtful" or "loss," or have any portion of a loan charged off, must resign immediately.

The Farm Credit Act and Farm Credit Administration regulations require certain disclosures to stockholders concerning loans to directors and employees, their relatives, organizations with which they are affiliated or entities that they may control. Disclosure is required where such loans were made on terms other than those available to other customers, or where such loans are considered to have more than a normal risk of collectability. None of our loans made to directors or employees, their relatives, affiliated organizations or entities they may control were made on terms other than those available to all customers, nor were any such loans considered to have more than a normal risk of collectability.

Director, senior officer and employee nonloan transactions with us are regulated by our policy.

Concerning property that was mortgaged or pledged as security for Farm Credit System debt within the preceding 12 months, the policy requires that senior officers and employees obtain approval from the Standards of Conduct officer for purchase of the property.

Concerning property acquired within the preceding 12 months in satisfaction of Farm Credit System debt, this policy:

- prohibits lease, purchase or acquisition except through inheritance by senior officers and employees; and
- prohibits lease, purchase or acquisition except through inheritance, public auction or other open competitive bidding process by directors.

The policy does permit directors, senior officers and employees to purchase furniture and equipment owned by us provided that any item having a value of greater than \$5 thousand must be purchased through an open competitive bidding process.

The Farm Credit Act and Farm Credit Administration regulations also require certain disclosures to stockholders concerning nonloan transactions a director or senior officer, or any of his or her relatives, affiliated organizations or entities he or she may control have with us. Such disclosure is required if such transactions did not involve competitive bidding, involved amounts in excess of \$5 thousand or provided a special benefit to the director or senior officer. No such transactions took place during 2017.

Involvement in Certain Legal Proceedings

There were no material legal proceedings or enforcement actions involving Frontier Farm Credit, our directors or senior officers that require disclosure in this section.

Relationship with Qualified Public Accountant

PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP serves as our qualified public accountant. There were no changes in our qualified public accountant since the prior annual report to stockholders, and there were no material disagreements on any matter of accounting principles or financial statement disclosures during this period. Expenses recognized in the 2017 consolidated financial statements for services provided by PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP were approved by the Board Audit Committee and include \$45 thousand for audit services.

Financial Statements

The "Consolidated Financial Statements," "Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements," "Report of Management," "Report on Internal Control Over Financial Reporting," "Report of Audit Committee" and "Report of Independent Auditors" required to be disclosed in this section are incorporated herein by reference from this annual report to stockholders.

Credit and Services to Young, Beginning and Small Producers

We have specific programs in place to serve the credit and related needs of young, beginning and small producers in our territory. Programs focus on providing sound financial services, education and networking opportunities. The definitions of young, beginning and small producers follow:

Definitions

- Young – producers age 35 and under.
- Beginning – producers with 10 years or less of production agriculture as their primary source of income.
- Small – producers who generate less than \$250,000 in annual gross sales of agricultural products.

Frontier Farm Credit, ACA Disclosure Information Required by Farm Credit Administration Regulations (Unaudited)

Program Elements

Our program for serving young, beginning and small producers includes the following:

Conventional Loans: Producers age 35 and under, or with 10 years or less of farming or ranching experience, may have sufficient capacity, credit history or financial backing to meet our traditional loan approval standards.

AgStart Loans: Producers age 35 and under, or with 10 years or less experience, can benefit from modified credit-approval standards to help them get started. The goal is to graduate participating producers from the AgStart program into conventional product offerings over time.

Development Fund: This program assists young, beginning and small producers who are beginning, growing or enhancing an agriculturally based operation by providing them with needed working capital loans and business planning assistance.

Youth in Agriculture Loans for Breeding Livestock: The Breeding Livestock loan program for youth provides loans for terms of 1-5 years, up to \$10,000, for the purpose of purchasing breeding livestock. These loans require a cosigner of legal age and are approved based on the strength and credit scores of the cosigner.

Education and Finance Sponsorships: We provide donations and sponsor state and local FFA activities and conventions, state 4-H activities and conventions, and agricultural leadership programs.

College Scholarships: In 2017, we offered eight \$2,500 scholarships to qualified students studying agriculture at Kansas State University.

Small Producer Financing: Small producers are served primarily through three loan programs: Country Home Loans®, AgDirect® and the full line of products and services offered through our retail marketplaces. All of these programs are designed to meet the needs of small producers, part-time farmers or rural residents with a convenient and efficient delivery of financial services. Small producers who also meet the definition of young or beginning are eligible for the young and beginning program.

Credit Underwriting Standards

Young and beginning producers who do not meet traditional credit standards are considered under an outreach loan program called AgStart. Through this program, applicants' requests are analyzed and assessed based primarily on character and capacity credit factors. Farm Service Agency guarantees are used as deemed necessary, with additional support provided by our payment of the first \$2,500 of external fees. As of December 31, 2017, AgStart customers account for 300 loans to 186 customers with an outstanding commitment of \$32.3 million. AgStart loan volume grew by 45.9 percent in 2017.

Results and Goals

As of December 31, 2017, we had 3,164 unique young, beginning and small customers, with total loan volume of \$482 million. These include:

- 458 customers who qualify as young, with total loan volume of \$66.7 million.
- 793 customers who qualify as beginning, with total loan volume of \$116.8 million.
- 2,988 customers who qualify as small, with total loan volume of \$447.5 million.

Young and Beginning Segment: In our territory, the young and beginning definitions result in 3,267 producers age 35 and under and 6,866 producers with 10 years or less of production experience, according to the 2012 United States Department of Agriculture Census of Agriculture. The 2012 data is the most recent census data available. As of December 31, 2017, we had 458 young customers and 793 beginning customers, some of whom are counted in both categories. This equates to a young market share of 14.0 percent and a beginning market share of 11.5 percent. Total loan volume to young and beginning customers was \$146 million.

Small Producer Segment: According to 2012 United States Department of Agriculture Census of Agriculture data, 26,658 farms representing 90.5 percent of all farms in our territory meet the definition of small (less than \$250,000 in annual gross sales of agricultural products). The 2012 United States Department of Agriculture Census of Agriculture includes any operation with farm income in its definition of a farm. In the census data, 14,308 operations have gross farm income of less than \$10,000. We believe that farm income in these operations is incidental to total income and that our services are likely not needed or may not even be eligible under the Farm Credit Administration regulations.

Frontier Farm Credit, ACA
Disclosure Information
Required by Farm Credit Administration Regulations (Unaudited)

| | Potential Customers* | Frontier Farm Credit Customers | Market Share*** |
|-----------|----------------------|--------------------------------|-----------------|
| Young | 1,766 | 458 | 25.93% |
| Beginning | 3,021 | 793 | 26.24% |
| Small** | 6,631 | 2,988 | 45.06% |

* 2012 United States Department of Agriculture Census of Agriculture data of farms with debt.

** Potential customers in the small category are those who reported annual gross sales between \$10,000 and \$249,999.

*** Market share was computed by comparing the number of producers in the young, beginning or small categories maintaining a loan relationship with Frontier Farm Credit to the total number of producers with debt in those categories.

**Young, Beginning and Small Producer
 New Customer Growth**

| | 2018 Goals | 2019 Goals | 2020 Goals |
|-----------|------------|------------|------------|
| Young | 40 | 45 | 45 |
| Beginning | 60 | 65 | 65 |
| Small | 80 | 85 | 85 |

Special Program Goal (AgStart): This program goal will positively affect all three young, beginning and small categories. Use of this outreach loan program is seen as a critical component of long-term success in the marketplace.

The Association's goal is to increase AgStart loan commitments by 8.0-12.0 percent annually.

Related Services

Young and Beginning Producer Conference: Frontier Farm Credit jointly hosts an annual conference for young and beginning producers with FCSAmerica. The Side by Side Conference was held in Omaha, Nebraska, on August 9-11, 2017. Including customers from FCSAmerica, there were 210 young and beginning producers in attendance at this conference.

Producers benefited from the opportunity to network with one another, learn from the speakers and learn more about Frontier Farm Credit. The conference provided benefits by creating an opportunity for participants to become better-informed business managers and by building customer loyalty.

Education and Finance Sponsorships: We awarded \$20,000 in college scholarships in 2017. In addition, the Association donated funds for state and local FFA and 4-H activities, as well as provided additional funding and resources for young and beginning producer education, leadership development programs and local scholarships.

Awareness

Young and Beginning Team: We maintain a standing cross-functional team that meets periodically to monitor, review and modify our young and beginning program to most effectively meet the needs of the segment and the goals of the organization. The team continues to periodically rotate members as a way to bring new, innovative ideas to the team.

Frontier Farm Credit, ACA
Disclosure Information
Required by Farm Credit Administration Regulations (Unaudited)

Frontier Farm Credit Retail Office Locations

1270 N. 300 Road
Baldwin City, KS 66006

1808 Road G
Emporia, KS 66801

2219 Natchez Street
Hiawatha, KS 66434

2009 Vanesta Place
Manhattan, KS 66503

835 Pony Express Highway
Marysville, KS 66508

2005 Harding Drive
Parsons, KS 67357



FRONTIER
FARM CREDIT

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800-397-3191 // frontierfarmcredit.com

Frontier Farm Credit strives to be environmentally conscious. If you would like to receive an additional copy of our 2017 annual report, please contact us at 1-800-397-3191.

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