

META FINANCIAL GROUP INC

FORM 8-K

(Unscheduled Material Events)

Filed 8/25/2004 For Period Ending 8/24/2004

Address	121 EAST FIFTH STREET P O BOX 1307 STORM LAKE, Iowa 50588
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CIK	0000907471
Industry	S&Ls/Savings Banks
Sector	Financial
Fiscal Year	09/30

**UNITED STATES
SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20549**

FORM 8-K

CURRENT REPORT

Pursuant to Section 13 or 15(d) of the
Securities Exchange Act of 1934

Date of report (Date of earliest event reported): August 24, 2004

First Midwest Financial, Inc.

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

Delaware
(State or other jurisdiction of
incorporation or organization)

0-22140
(Commission File
Number)

42-1406262
(IRSEmployer
Identification No.)

Fifth at Erie, Storm Lake, IA 50588
(Address of principal executive offices)(Zip Code)

Registrant's telephone number, including area code: (712) 732-4117

Check the appropriate box below if the Form 8-K filing is intended to simultaneously satisfy the filing obligations of the registrant under any of the following provisions:

☐ Written communications pursuant to Rule 425 under the Securities Act

(17 CFR 230.425)

☐ Soliciting material pursuant to Rule 14a-12 under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.14a-12)

☐ Pre-commencement communications pursuant to Rule 14d-2(b) under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.14d-2(b))

☐ Pre-commencement communications pursuant to Rule 13e-4(c) under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.13e-4 (c))

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Item 8.01 Other Events.

On August 24, 2004, the Registrant issued the attached press release announcing that the Board of Directors had authorized the Trustee of the Company's ESOP Plan to purchase up to 40,000 shares of the Company's outstanding common stock.

Section 9 - Financial Statements and Exhibits

Item 9.01 Financial Statements, Pro Forma Financial Information and Exhibits.

(c) Exhibits.

The following Exhibits are being furnished herewith:

99.1 Registrant's Press Release dated August 24, 2004.

SIGNATURE

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, the Registrant has duly caused this report to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned hereunto duly authorized.

FIRST MIDWEST FINANCIAL, INC.

By: /s/ Ronald J. Walters

Ronald J. Walters

*Senior Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer
and Chief Financial Officer*

Dated: August 25, 2004

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Exhibit Number -----	Description of Exhibit -----
99.1	Registrant's Press Release dated August 24, 2004.

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Investor Relations

Telephone: 712.732.4117

FIRST MIDWEST FINANCIAL, INC. ANNOUNCES STOCK PURCHASE BY ESOP

Storm Lake, Iowa - (August 24, 2004) First Midwest Financial, Inc. (NASDAQ NM: CASH) announced that the Board of Directors has authorized the Trustee of the Company's Employee Stock Ownership Plan (ESOP) to purchase up to 40,000 shares of the Company's outstanding common stock. The shares will be used in future distributions to participants in the Company's ESOP.

At June 30, 2004, First Midwest Financial, Inc. had assets of \$757.5 million and shareholders' equity of \$44.8 million, or \$17.95 per common share outstanding.

Corporate Profile: First Midwest Financial, Inc. is the holding company for First Federal Savings Bank of the Midwest, headquartered in Storm Lake, Iowa, and for Security State Bank, headquartered in Stuart, Iowa. First Federal Savings Bank operates as a thrift with four divisions: First Federal Storm Lake, Brookings Federal Bank, Iowa Savings Bank, and First Federal Sioux Falls. Security State Bank operates as a state-chartered commercial bank. Sixteen offices support customers throughout northwest and central Iowa, and in Brookings and Sioux Falls, South Dakota. During the first half of calendar 2005, First Midwest Financial, Inc., will change its name to Meta Financial Group. The Company's stock will continue to trade on the NASDAQ National Market under the symbol "CASH".

This release may contain forward-looking statements which reflect management's expectations regarding future events and speaks only as of the date of this release. These forward-looking statements involve a number of risks and uncertainties. A list of factors that could cause actual results to differ materially from those expressed in, or underlying, the Company's forward-looking statements is detailed in the Company's filings with the Securities and Exchange Commission, such as its annual and quarterly reports.

End of Filing

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