
**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): January 9, 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
(IRS Employer
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

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Item 5. Other Events.

Item 7. Financial Statements, Pro Forma Financial Information and Exhibits.

Signatures

Exhibit Index

Exhibit 99.1

Exhibit 99.2

Item 5. Other Events.

On January 9, 2004, the Registrant issued the attached press release announcing the appointment of a new Chief Financial Officer

On January 9, 2004, the Registrant issued the attached press release announcing completion of the sale of a branch office located in Manson, Iowa.

Item 7. Financial Statements, Pro Forma Financial Information and Exhibits.

(c) Exhibits.

The following Exhibits are being furnished herewith:

99.1 Registrant's Press Release dated January 9, 2004.

99.2 Registrant's Press Release dated January 9, 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: January 12, 2004

Exhibit Index

| Exhibit Number ----- | Description of Exhibit ----- |
|----------------------------|---|
| 99.1 | Registrant's Press Release dated January 9, 2004. |
| 99.2 | Registrant's Press Release dated January 9, 2004. |

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Investor Relations

Telephone: 712.732.4117

RONALD J. WALTERS JOINS FIRST MIDWEST

(Storm Lake, Iowa - January 9, 2004) James S. Haahr, Chairman of the Board and CEO of First Midwest Financial, Inc. and First Federal Savings Bank of the Midwest is pleased to announce the appointment of Ronald J. Walters as Senior Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, and Chief Financial Officer for First Midwest and First Federal. Walters brings over 30 years of accounting and banking experience to the company. Donald J. Winchell, former SVP, Secretary, Treasurer, and CFO for First Midwest and First Federal has agreed to stay on in a consulting capacity to assist Walters in the transition. Walters previously served as CFO for KFS Bank and its holding company, Kankakee Bancorp, Inc.

About First Midwest

At September 30, 2003, First Midwest had assets of \$772 million. First Midwest 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. You can learn more about First Midwest at www.fmficash.com.

Exhibit 99.2

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Investor Relations

Telephone: 712.732.4117

**FIRST MIDWEST ANNOUNCES SALE OF
MANSON, IOWA BRANCH OFFICE COMPLETED**

(Storm Lake, Iowa - January 9, 2004) First Midwest Financial, Inc. is pleased to announce that Manson State Bank acquired the branch office of First Federal Savings Bank of the Midwest located at Eleventh and Main in Manson, Iowa. First Midwest received a 7.25 percent premium on the approximately \$16,100,000 in deposits held by the Manson office. Manson State Bank also purchased loans of \$733,000 at par and the office building in Manson at approximately net book value. First Midwest closed this office and the Manson State Bank will service all acquired deposit and loan accounts from their existing location in Manson.

At September 30, 2003, First Midwest Financial, Inc. had assets of \$772 million and shareholders' equity of \$43 million. The company's stock is traded on the Nasdaq National Market under the symbol "CASH."