

Form 5500 Department of the Treasury Internal Revenue Service Department of Labor Employee Benefits Security Administration Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation	Annual Return/Report of Employee Benefit Plan This form is required to be filed for employee benefit plans under sections 104 and 4065 of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 (ERISA) and sections 6057(b) and 6058(a) of the Internal Revenue Code (the Code). ▶ Complete all entries in accordance with the instructions to the Form 5500.	OMB Nos. 1210-0110 1210-0089 2023 This Form is Open to Public Inspection
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Part I	Annual Report Identification Information
For calendar plan year 2023 or fiscal plan year beginning 01/01/2023 and ending 12/31/2023	
A	This return/report is for: ☐ a multiemployer plan ☐ a multiple-employer plan (Filers checking this box must provide participating employer information in accordance with the form instructions.) ☒ a single-employer plan ☐ a DFE (specify) _____ ☐ the first return/report ☐ the final return/report ☐ an amended return/report ☐ a short plan year return/report (less than 12 months)
C	If the plan is a collectively-bargained plan, check here. ▶ ☐
D	Check box if filing under: ☒ Form 5558 ☐ automatic extension ☐ the DFVC program ☐ special extension (enter description)
E	If this is a retroactively adopted plan permitted by SECURE Act section 201, check here. ▶ ☐

Part II	Basic Plan Information—enter all requested information
1a	Name of plan COWLES COMPANY 401(K) PLAN
1b	Three-digit plan number (PN) ▶ 002
1c	Effective date of plan 01/01/1992
2a	Plan sponsor's name (employer, if for a single-employer plan) Mailing address (include room, apt., suite no. and street, or P.O. Box) City or town, state or province, country, and ZIP or foreign postal code (if foreign, see instructions) COWLES COMPANY 999 W RIVERSIDE AVE SPOKANE, WA 99201-1006
2b	Employer Identification Number (EIN) 91-0420030
2c	Plan Sponsor's telephone number 509-459-5212
2d	Business code (see instructions) 511110

Caution: A penalty for the late or incomplete filing of this return/report will be assessed unless reasonable cause is established.

Under penalties of perjury and other penalties set forth in the instructions, I declare that I have examined this return/report, including accompanying schedules, statements and attachments, as well as the electronic version of this return/report, and to the best of my knowledge and belief, it is true, correct, and complete.

SIGN HERE	Filed with authorized/valid electronic signature.	10/14/2024	STEVE RECTOR
	Signature of plan administrator	Date	Enter name of individual signing as plan administrator
SIGN HERE	Filed with authorized/valid electronic signature.	10/14/2024	STEVE RECTOR
	Signature of employer/plan sponsor	Date	Enter name of individual signing as employer or plan sponsor
SIGN HERE			
	Signature of DFE	Date	Enter name of individual signing as DFE

3a Plan administrator's name and address ☒ Same as Plan Sponsor	3b Administrator's EIN 3c Administrator's telephone number
4 If the name and/or EIN of the plan sponsor or the plan name has changed since the last return/report filed for this plan, enter the plan sponsor's name, EIN, the plan name and the plan number from the last return/report: a Sponsor's name c Plan Name	4b EIN 4d PN
5 Total number of participants at the beginning of the plan year	5 986
6 Number of participants as of the end of the plan year unless otherwise stated (welfare plans complete only lines 6a(1) , 6a(2) , 6b , 6c , and 6d). a(1) Total number of active participants at the beginning of the plan year a(2) Total number of active participants at the end of the plan year b Retired or separated participants receiving benefits c Other retired or separated participants entitled to future benefits d Subtotal. Add lines 6a(2) , 6b , and 6c e Deceased participants whose beneficiaries are receiving or are entitled to receive benefits f Total. Add lines 6d and 6e g(1) Number of participants with account balances as of the beginning of the plan year (only defined contribution plans complete this item) g(2) Number of participants with account balances as of the end of the plan year (only defined contribution plans complete this item) h Number of participants who terminated employment during the plan year with accrued benefits that were less than 100% vested	6a(1) 654 6a(2) 670 6b 0 6c 304 6d 974 6e 7 6f 981 6g(1) 909 6g(2) 952 6h 78
7 Enter the total number of employers obligated to contribute to the plan (only multiemployer plans complete this item)	7

8a If the plan provides pension benefits, enter the applicable pension feature codes from the List of Plan Characteristics Codes in the instructions:

2E 2F 2G 2J 2K 2S 2T 3D 3H

b If the plan provides welfare benefits, enter the applicable welfare feature codes from the List of Plan Characteristics Codes in the instructions:

9a Plan funding arrangement (check all that apply) (1) ☒ Insurance (2) ☐ Code section 412(e)(3) insurance contracts (3) ☒ Trust (4) ☐ General assets of the sponsor	9b Plan benefit arrangement (check all that apply) (1) ☒ Insurance (2) ☐ Code section 412(e)(3) insurance contracts (3) ☒ Trust (4) ☐ General assets of the sponsor
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10 Check all applicable boxes in 10a and 10b to indicate which schedules are attached, and, where indicated, enter the number attached. (See instructions)

a Pension Schedules

- (1)** ☒ **R** (Retirement Plan Information)
- (2)** ☐ **MB** (Multiemployer Defined Benefit Plan and Certain Money Purchase Plan Actuarial Information) - signed by the plan actuary
- (3)** ☐ **SB** (Single-Employer Defined Benefit Plan Actuarial Information) - signed by the plan actuary
- (4)** ☐ **DCG** (Individual Plan Information) – Number Attached 0
- (5)** ☐ **MEP** (Multiple-Employer Retirement Plan Information)

b General Schedules

- (1)** ☒ **H** (Financial Information)
- (2)** ☐ **I** (Financial Information – Small Plan)
- (3)** ☒ **A** (Insurance Information) – Number Attached 1
- (4)** ☒ **C** (Service Provider Information)
- (5)** ☒ **D** (DFE/Participating Plan Information)
- (6)** ☐ **G** (Financial Transaction Schedules)

Part III Form M-1 Compliance Information (to be completed by welfare benefit plans)

11a If the plan provides welfare benefits, was the plan subject to the Form M-1 filing requirements during the plan year? (See instructions and 29 CFR 2520.101-2.) ☐ Yes ☐ No

If "Yes" is checked, complete lines 11b and 11c.

11b Is the plan currently in compliance with the Form M-1 filing requirements? (See instructions and 29 CFR 2520.101-2.) ☐ Yes ☐ No

11c Enter the Receipt Confirmation Code for the 2023 Form M-1 annual report. If the plan was not required to file the 2023 Form M-1 annual report, enter the Receipt Confirmation Code for the most recent Form M-1 that was required to be filed under the Form M-1 filing requirements. (Failure to enter a valid Receipt Confirmation Code will subject the Form 5500 filing to rejection as incomplete.)

Receipt Confirmation Code _____

SCHEDULE A (Form 5500) Department of the Treasury Internal Revenue Service Department of Labor Employee Benefits Security Administration Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation	Insurance Information This schedule is required to be filed under section 104 of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 (ERISA). ▶ File as an attachment to Form 5500. ▶ Insurance companies are required to provide the information pursuant to ERISA section 103(a)(2).	OMB No. 1210-0110 2023 This Form is Open to Public Inspection
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For calendar plan year 2023 or fiscal plan year beginning 01/01/2023 and ending 12/31/2023		
A Name of plan COWLES COMPANY 401(K) PLAN	B Three-digit plan number (PN) ▶	002
C Plan sponsor's name as shown on line 2a of Form 5500 COWLES COMPANY	D Employer Identification Number (EIN) 91-0420030	

Part I	Information Concerning Insurance Contract Coverage, Fees, and Commissions	Provide information for each contract on a separate Schedule A. Individual contracts grouped as a unit in Parts II and III can be reported on a single Schedule A.
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1 Coverage Information:

(a) Name of insurance carrier
PRINCIPAL LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY

(b) EIN	(c) NAIC code	(d) Contract or identification number	(e) Approximate number of persons covered at end of policy or contract year	Policy or contract year	
				(f) From	(g) To
42-0127290	61271	427701	981	01/01/2023	12/31/2023

2 Insurance fee and commission information. Enter the total fees and total commissions paid. List in line 3 the agents, brokers, and other persons in descending order of the amount paid.

(a) Total amount of commissions paid	(b) Total amount of fees paid
0	0

3 Persons receiving commissions and fees. (Complete as many entries as needed to report all persons).

(a) Name and address of the agent, broker, or other person to whom commissions or fees were paid

(b) Amount of sales and base commissions paid	Fees and other commissions paid		(e) Organization code
	(c) Amount	(d) Purpose	

(a) Name and address of the agent, broker, or other person to whom commissions or fees were paid

(b) Amount of sales and base commissions paid	Fees and other commissions paid		(e) Organization code
	(c) Amount	(d) Purpose	

(a) Name and address of the agent, broker, or other person to whom commissions or fees were paid

(b) Amount of sales and base commissions paid	Fees and other commissions paid		(e) Organization code
	(c) Amount	(d) Purpose	

(a) Name and address of the agent, broker, or other person to whom commissions or fees were paid

(b) Amount of sales and base commissions paid	Fees and other commissions paid		(e) Organization code
	(c) Amount	(d) Purpose	

(a) Name and address of the agent, broker, or other person to whom commissions or fees were paid

(b) Amount of sales and base commissions paid	Fees and other commissions paid		(e) Organization code
	(c) Amount	(d) Purpose	

(a) Name and address of the agent, broker, or other person to whom commissions or fees were paid

(b) Amount of sales and base commissions paid	Fees and other commissions paid		(e) Organization code
	(c) Amount	(d) Purpose	

(a) Name and address of the agent, broker, or other person to whom commissions or fees were paid

(b) Amount of sales and base commissions paid	Fees and other commissions paid		(e) Organization code
	(c) Amount	(d) Purpose	

Part II Investment and Annuity Contract Information

Where individual contracts are provided, the entire group of such individual contracts with each carrier may be treated as a unit for purposes of this report.

4 Current value of plan's interest under this contract in the general account at year end	4	0
5 Current value of plan's interest under this contract in separate accounts at year end.....	5	12102756

6 Contracts With Allocated Funds:**a** State the basis of premium rates ▶**b** Premiums paid to carrier**6b****c** Premiums due but unpaid at the end of the year.....**6c****d** If the carrier, service, or other organization incurred any specific costs in connection with the acquisition or retention of the contract or policy, enter amount.**6d**

Specify nature of costs ▶

e Type of contract: (1) ☐ individual policies (2) ☐ group deferred annuity(3) ☐ other (specify) ▶**f** If contract purchased, in whole or in part, to distribute benefits from a terminating plan, check here ☐**7** Contracts With Unallocated Funds (Do not include portions of these contracts maintained in separate accounts)

a Type of contract: (1) ☐ deposit administration (2) ☐ immediate participation guarantee
 (3) ☐ guaranteed investment (4) ☒ other ▶ **FLEXIBLE INVESTMENT ANNUITY**

b Balance at the end of the previous year **7b****c** Additions: (1) Contributions deposited during the year**7c(1)**

(2) Dividends and credits

7c(2)

(3) Interest credited during the year

7c(3)

(4) Transferred from separate account.....

7c(4)

(5) Other (specify below)

7c(5)

▶

(6) Total additions..... **7c(6)****d** Total of balance and additions (add lines **7b** and **7c(6)**) **7d****e** Deductions:

(1) Disbursed from fund to pay benefits or purchase annuities during year

7e(1)

(2) Administration charge made by carrier

7e(2)

(3) Transferred to separate account.....

7e(3)

(4) Other (specify below)

7e(4)

▶

(5) Total deductions..... **7e(5)****f** Balance at the end of the current year (subtract line **7e(5)** from line **7d**) **7f****0**

Part III Welfare Benefit Contract Information

If more than one contract covers the same group of employees of the same employer(s) or members of the same employee organizations(s), the information may be combined for reporting purposes if such contracts are experience-rated as a unit. Where contracts cover individual employees, the entire group of such individual contracts with each carrier may be treated as a unit for purposes of this report.

8 Benefit and contract type (check all applicable boxes)

- a** ☐ Health (other than dental or vision)
b ☐ Dental
c ☐ Vision
d ☐ Life insurance
e ☐ Temporary disability (accident and sickness)
f ☐ Long-term disability
g ☐ Supplemental unemployment
h ☐ Prescription drug
i ☐ Stop loss (large deductible)
j ☐ HMO contract
k ☐ PPO contract
l ☐ Indemnity contract
m ☐ Other (specify) ▶

9 Experience-rated contracts:

a Premiums: (1) Amount received	9a(1)		
(2) Increase (decrease) in amount due but unpaid.....	9a(2)		
(3) Increase (decrease) in unearned premium reserve	9a(3)		
(4) Earned ((1) + (2) - (3)).....		9a(4)	
b Benefit charges (1) Claims paid.....	9b(1)		
(2) Increase (decrease) in claim reserves	9b(2)		
(3) Incurred claims (add (1) and (2)).....		9b(3)	
(4) Claims charged		9b(4)	
c Remainder of premium: (1) Retention charges (on an accrual basis) --			
(A) Commissions	9c(1)(A)		
(B) Administrative service or other fees	9c(1)(B)		
(C) Other specific acquisition costs	9c(1)(C)		
(D) Other expenses	9c(1)(D)		
(E) Taxes	9c(1)(E)		
(F) Charges for risks or other contingencies.....	9c(1)(F)		
(G) Other retention charges	9c(1)(G)		
(H) Total retention		9c(1)(H)	
(2) Dividends or retroactive rate refunds. (These amounts were ☐ paid in cash, or ☐ credited.).....		9c(2)	
d Status of policyholder reserves at end of year: (1) Amount held to provide benefits after retirement		9d(1)	
(2) Claim reserves		9d(2)	
(3) Other reserves.....		9d(3)	
e Dividends or retroactive rate refunds due. (Do not include amount entered in line 9c(2).)		9e	

10 Nonexperience-rated contracts:

a Total premiums or subscription charges paid to carrier	10a	
b If the carrier, service, or other organization incurred any specific costs in connection with the acquisition or retention of the contract or policy, other than reported in Part I, line 2 above, report amount	10b	

Specify nature of costs.

Part IV Provision of Information

11 Did the insurance company fail to provide any information necessary to complete Schedule A?..... ☐ Yes ☒ No

12 If the answer to line 11 is "Yes," specify the information not provided. ▶

SCHEDULE C (Form 5500) Department of the Treasury Internal Revenue Service Department of Labor Employee Benefits Security Administration Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation	Service Provider Information This schedule is required to be filed under section 104 of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 (ERISA). ▶ File as an attachment to Form 5500.	OMB No. 1210-0110
		2023
		This Form is Open to Public Inspection.

For calendar plan year 2023 or fiscal plan year beginning 01/01/2023 and ending 12/31/2023		
A Name of plan COWLES COMPANY 401(K) PLAN	B Three-digit plan number (PN) ▶	002
C Plan sponsor's name as shown on line 2a of Form 5500 COWLES COMPANY	D Employer Identification Number (EIN) 91-0420030	

Part I	Service Provider Information (see instructions)
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You must complete this Part, in accordance with the instructions, to report the information required for **each person** who received, directly or indirectly, \$5,000 or more in total compensation (i.e., money or anything else of monetary value) in connection with services rendered to the plan or the person's position with the plan during the plan year. If a person received **only** eligible indirect compensation for which the plan received the required disclosures, you are required to answer line 1 but are not required to include that person when completing the remainder of this Part.

1 Information on Persons Receiving Only Eligible Indirect Compensation

- a Check "Yes" or "No" to indicate whether you are excluding a person from the remainder of this Part because they received only eligible indirect compensation for which the plan received the required disclosures (see instructions for definitions and conditions).. ☒ Yes ☐ No
- b If you answered line 1a "Yes," enter the name and EIN or address of each person providing the required disclosures for the service providers who received only eligible indirect compensation. Complete as many entries as needed (see instructions).

(b) Enter name and EIN or address of person who provided you disclosures on eligible indirect compensation
PRINCIPAL LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY
42-0127290

(b) Enter name and EIN or address of person who provided you disclosures on eligible indirect compensation
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2. Information on Other Service Providers Receiving Direct or Indirect Compensation. Except for those persons for whom you answered "Yes" to line 1a above, complete as many entries as needed to list each person receiving, directly or indirectly, \$5,000 or more in total compensation (i.e., money or anything else of value) in connection with services rendered to the plan or their position with the plan during the plan year. (See instructions).

(a) Enter name and EIN or address (see instructions)

PRINCIPAL LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY

42-0127290

(b) Service Code(s)	(c) Relationship to employer, employee organization, or person known to be a party-in-interest	(d) Enter direct compensation paid by the plan. If none, enter -0-.	(e) Did service provider receive indirect compensation? (sources other than plan or plan sponsor)	(f) Did indirect compensation include eligible indirect compensation, for which the plan received the required disclosures?	(g) Enter total indirect compensation received by service provider excluding eligible indirect compensation for which you answered "Yes" to element (f). If none, enter -0-.	(h) Did the service provider give you a formula instead of an amount or estimated amount?
13 37 50 64	CONTRACT ADMINISTRATOR	91976	Yes ☒ No ☐	Yes ☒ No ☐	0	Yes ☐ No ☒

(a) Enter name and EIN or address (see instructions)

MORNINGSTAR INVESTMENT MANAGEMENT L

36-4317381

(b) Service Code(s)	(c) Relationship to employer, employee organization, or person known to be a party-in-interest	(d) Enter direct compensation paid by the plan. If none, enter -0-.	(e) Did service provider receive indirect compensation? (sources other than plan or plan sponsor)	(f) Did indirect compensation include eligible indirect compensation, for which the plan received the required disclosures?	(g) Enter total indirect compensation received by service provider excluding eligible indirect compensation for which you answered "Yes" to element (f). If none, enter -0-.	(h) Did the service provider give you a formula instead of an amount or estimated amount?
26 70	INV ADV, PARTICIPANTS	0	Yes ☒ No ☐	Yes ☐ No ☒	0	Yes ☒ No ☐

(a) Enter name and EIN or address (see instructions)

D A DAVIDSON & CO INC

81-0139474

(b) Service Code(s)	(c) Relationship to employer, employee organization, or person known to be a party-in-interest	(d) Enter direct compensation paid by the plan. If none, enter -0-.	(e) Did service provider receive indirect compensation? (sources other than plan or plan sponsor)	(f) Did indirect compensation include eligible indirect compensation, for which the plan received the required disclosures?	(g) Enter total indirect compensation received by service provider excluding eligible indirect compensation for which you answered "Yes" to element (f). If none, enter -0-.	(h) Did the service provider give you a formula instead of an amount or estimated amount?
27 50	INVESTMENT ADVISORY	53570	Yes ☒ No ☐	Yes ☐ No ☒	0	Yes ☐ No ☒

Part I Service Provider Information (continued)

3. If you reported on line 2 receipt of indirect compensation, other than eligible indirect compensation, by a service provider, and the service provider is a fiduciary or provides contract administrator, consulting, custodial, investment advisory, investment management, broker, or recordkeeping services, answer the following questions for (a) each source from whom the service provider received \$1,000 or more in indirect compensation and (b) each source for whom the service provider gave you a formula used to determine the indirect compensation instead of an amount or estimated amount of the indirect compensation. Complete as many entries as needed to report the required information for each source.

(a) Enter service provider name as it appears on line 2	(b) Service Codes (see instructions)	(c) Enter amount of indirect compensation
MORNINGSTAR INVESTMENT MANAGEMENT L	26 70	0

(d) Enter name and EIN (address) of source of indirect compensation	(e) Describe the indirect compensation, including any formula used to determine the service provider's eligibility for or the amount of the indirect compensation.
PRINCIPAL LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY 42-0127290	14 BASIS POINTS ON ASSETS MANAGED BY MORNINGSTAR INVESTMENT MANAGEMENT LLC

(a) Enter service provider name as it appears on line 2	(b) Service Codes (see instructions)	(c) Enter amount of indirect compensation

(d) Enter name and EIN (address) of source of indirect compensation	(e) Describe the indirect compensation, including any formula used to determine the service provider's eligibility for or the amount of the indirect compensation.

(a) Enter service provider name as it appears on line 2	(b) Service Codes (see instructions)	(c) Enter amount of indirect compensation

(d) Enter name and EIN (address) of source of indirect compensation	(e) Describe the indirect compensation, including any formula used to determine the service provider's eligibility for or the amount of the indirect compensation.

Part II Service Providers Who Fail or Refuse to Provide Information

4 Provide, to the extent possible, the following information for each service provider who failed or refused to provide the information necessary to complete this Schedule.

(a) Enter name and EIN or address of service provider (see instructions)	(b) Nature of Service Code(s)	(c) Describe the information that the service provider failed or refused to provide
(a) Enter name and EIN or address of service provider (see instructions)	(b) Nature of Service Code(s)	(c) Describe the information that the service provider failed or refused to provide
(a) Enter name and EIN or address of service provider (see instructions)	(b) Nature of Service Code(s)	(c) Describe the information that the service provider failed or refused to provide
(a) Enter name and EIN or address of service provider (see instructions)	(b) Nature of Service Code(s)	(c) Describe the information that the service provider failed or refused to provide
(a) Enter name and EIN or address of service provider (see instructions)	(b) Nature of Service Code(s)	(c) Describe the information that the service provider failed or refused to provide
(a) Enter name and EIN or address of service provider (see instructions)	(b) Nature of Service Code(s)	(c) Describe the information that the service provider failed or refused to provide

Part III Termination Information on Accountants and Enrolled Actuaries (see instructions)
(complete as many entries as needed)

a Name:	b EIN:
c Position:	
d Address:	e Telephone:

Explanation:

a Name:	b EIN:
c Position:	
d Address:	e Telephone:

Explanation:

a Name:	b EIN:
c Position:	
d Address:	e Telephone:

Explanation:

a Name:	b EIN:
c Position:	
d Address:	e Telephone:

Explanation:

a Name:	b EIN:
c Position:	
d Address:	e Telephone:

Explanation:

SCHEDULE D (Form 5500) Department of the Treasury Internal Revenue Service Department of Labor Employee Benefits Security Administration	DFE/Participating Plan Information This schedule is required to be filed under section 104 of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 (ERISA). ▶ File as an attachment to Form 5500.	OMB No. 1210-0110 2023 This Form is Open to Public Inspection.
For calendar plan year 2023 or fiscal plan year beginning 01/01/2023 and ending 12/31/2023		
A Name of plan COWLES COMPANY 401(K) PLAN		B Three-digit plan number (PN) ▶ 002
C Plan or DFE sponsor's name as shown on line 2a of Form 5500 COWLES COMPANY		D Employer Identification Number (EIN) 91-0420030
Part I Information on interests in MTIAs, CCTs, PSAs, and 103-12 IEs (to be completed by plans and DFEs) (Complete as many entries as needed to report all interests in DFEs)		
a Name of MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE: PRINCIPAL SMALLCAP SEP ACCT-Z		
b Name of sponsor of entity listed in (a): PRINCIPAL LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY		
c EIN-PN 42-0127290-029	d Entity code P	e Dollar value of interest in MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE at end of year (see instructions) 2687800
a Name of MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE: PRIN MIDCAP SEP ACCT-Z		
b Name of sponsor of entity listed in (a): PRINCIPAL LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY		
c EIN-PN 42-0127290-020	d Entity code P	e Dollar value of interest in MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE at end of year (see instructions) 4167490
a Name of MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE: PRIN INTL SMALLCAP SEP ACCT-Z		
b Name of sponsor of entity listed in (a): PRINCIPAL LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY		
c EIN-PN 42-0127290-014	d Entity code P	e Dollar value of interest in MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE at end of year (see instructions) 0
a Name of MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE: PRINCIPAL U.S. PROPERTY SA-Z		
b Name of sponsor of entity listed in (a): PRINCIPAL LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY		
c EIN-PN 42-0127290-027	d Entity code P	e Dollar value of interest in MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE at end of year (see instructions) 1935401
a Name of MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE: PRIN CORE PLUS BOND SEP ACCT-Z		
b Name of sponsor of entity listed in (a): PRINCIPAL LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY		
c EIN-PN 42-0127290-005	d Entity code P	e Dollar value of interest in MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE at end of year (see instructions) 1310937
a Name of MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE: PRIN LGCP S&P 500 INDEX SA-Z		
b Name of sponsor of entity listed in (a): PRINCIPAL LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY		
c EIN-PN 42-0127290-016	d Entity code P	e Dollar value of interest in MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE at end of year (see instructions) 0
a Name of MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE: PRIN SMCAP S&P 600 INDEX SA-Z		
b Name of sponsor of entity listed in (a): PRINCIPAL LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY		
c EIN-PN 42-0127290-028	d Entity code P	e Dollar value of interest in MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE at end of year (see instructions) 528267
For Paperwork Reduction Act Notice, see the Instructions for Form 5500.		
Schedule D (Form 5500) 2023 v. 230707		

a Name of MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE: PRIN MIDCAP S&P 400 IDX SA-Z		
b Name of sponsor of entity listed in (a): PRINCIPAL LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY		
c EIN-PN 42-0127290-023	d Entity code P	e Dollar value of interest in MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE at end of year (see instructions) 652625
a Name of MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE: PRIN LIFETM 2010 SEP ACCT-Z		
b Name of sponsor of entity listed in (a): PRINCIPAL LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY		
c EIN-PN 42-0127290-075	d Entity code P	e Dollar value of interest in MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE at end of year (see instructions) 0
a Name of MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE: PRIN LIFETIME 2020 SEP ACCT-Z		
b Name of sponsor of entity listed in (a): PRINCIPAL LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY		
c EIN-PN 42-0127290-076	d Entity code P	e Dollar value of interest in MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE at end of year (see instructions) 0
a Name of MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE: PRINL LIFETIME 2030 SEP ACCT-Z		
b Name of sponsor of entity listed in (a): PRINCIPAL LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY		
c EIN-PN 42-0127290-077	d Entity code P	e Dollar value of interest in MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE at end of year (see instructions) 0
a Name of MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE: PRIN LIFETIME 2040 SEP ACCT-Z		
b Name of sponsor of entity listed in (a): PRINCIPAL LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY		
c EIN-PN 42-0127290-078	d Entity code P	e Dollar value of interest in MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE at end of year (see instructions) 0
a Name of MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE: PRIN LIFETIME 2050 SEP ACCT-Z		
b Name of sponsor of entity listed in (a): PRINCIPAL LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY		
c EIN-PN 42-0127290-079	d Entity code P	e Dollar value of interest in MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE at end of year (see instructions) 0
a Name of MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE: PRIN LIFETIME STRAT INC SA-Z		
b Name of sponsor of entity listed in (a): PRINCIPAL LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY		
c EIN-PN 42-0127290-080	d Entity code P	e Dollar value of interest in MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE at end of year (see instructions) 0
a Name of MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE: PRIN SMCAP VALUE II SEP ACCT-Z		
b Name of sponsor of entity listed in (a): PRINCIPAL LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY		
c EIN-PN 42-0127290-096	d Entity code P	e Dollar value of interest in MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE at end of year (see instructions) 820235
a Name of MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE: PRIN LIFETIME 2015 SEP ACCT-Z		
b Name of sponsor of entity listed in (a): PRINCIPAL LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY		
c EIN-PN 42-0127290-110	d Entity code P	e Dollar value of interest in MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE at end of year (see instructions) 0
a Name of MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE: PRIN LIFETIME 2025 SEP ACCT-Z		
b Name of sponsor of entity listed in (a): PRINCIPAL LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY		
c EIN-PN 42-0127290-111	d Entity code P	e Dollar value of interest in MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE at end of year (see instructions) 0

a Name of MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE: PRIN LIFETIME 2035 SEP ACT-Z		
b Name of sponsor of entity listed in (a): PRINCIPAL LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY		
c EIN-PN 42-0127290-112	d Entity code P	e Dollar value of interest in MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE at end of year (see instructions) 0

a Name of MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE: PRIN LIFETIME 2045 SEP ACCT-Z		
b Name of sponsor of entity listed in (a): PRINCIPAL LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY		
c EIN-PN 42-0127290-113	d Entity code P	e Dollar value of interest in MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE at end of year (see instructions) 0

a Name of MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE: PRIN LIFETIME 2055 SEP ACCT-Z		
b Name of sponsor of entity listed in (a): PRINCIPAL LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY		
c EIN-PN 42-0127290-114	d Entity code P	e Dollar value of interest in MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE at end of year (see instructions) 0

a Name of MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE: PRIN BOND MARKET INDEX SA-Z		
b Name of sponsor of entity listed in (a): PRINCIPAL LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY		
c EIN-PN 42-0127290-122	d Entity code P	e Dollar value of interest in MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE at end of year (see instructions) 0

a Name of MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE: PRIN LIFETIME 2060 SEP ACCT-Z		
b Name of sponsor of entity listed in (a): PRINCIPAL LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY		
c EIN-PN 42-0127290-130	d Entity code P	e Dollar value of interest in MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE at end of year (see instructions) 0

a Name of MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE: PRINCIPAL STABLE VALUE Z FUND		
b Name of sponsor of entity listed in (a): PRINCIPAL GLOBAL INVESTORS TRUST CO		
c EIN-PN 93-6274328-001	d Entity code C	e Dollar value of interest in MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE at end of year (see instructions) 4597811

a Name of MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE: PRINCIPAL LT 2010 CIT TIER I		
b Name of sponsor of entity listed in (a): PRINCIPAL GLOBAL INVESTORS TRUST CO		
c EIN-PN 27-5280363-001	d Entity code C	e Dollar value of interest in MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE at end of year (see instructions) 0

a Name of MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE: PRINCIPAL LT 2020 CIT TIER I		
b Name of sponsor of entity listed in (a): PRINCIPAL GLOBAL INVESTORS TRUST CO		
c EIN-PN 27-5280363-002	d Entity code C	e Dollar value of interest in MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE at end of year (see instructions) 948839

a Name of MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE: PRINCIPAL LT 2030 CIT TIER I		
b Name of sponsor of entity listed in (a): PRINCIPAL GLOBAL INVESTORS TRUST CO		
c EIN-PN 27-5280363-003	d Entity code C	e Dollar value of interest in MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE at end of year (see instructions) 4217707

a Name of MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE: PRINCIPAL LT 2040 CIT TIER I		
b Name of sponsor of entity listed in (a): PRINCIPAL GLOBAL INVESTORS TRUST CO		
c EIN-PN 27-5280363-004	d Entity code C	e Dollar value of interest in MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE at end of year (see instructions) 3471147

a Name of MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE: PRINCIPAL LT 2050 CIT TIER I		
b Name of sponsor of entity listed in (a): PRINCIPAL GLOBAL INVESTORS TRUST CO		
c EIN-PN 27-5280363-005	d Entity code C	e Dollar value of interest in MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE at end of year (see instructions) 1980261
a Name of MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE: PRINCIPAL LT STR INC CIT TR I		
b Name of sponsor of entity listed in (a): PRINCIPAL GLOBAL INVESTORS TRUST CO		
c EIN-PN 27-5280363-006	d Entity code C	e Dollar value of interest in MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE at end of year (see instructions) 1141835
a Name of MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE: PRINCIPAL LT 2060 CIT TIER I		
b Name of sponsor of entity listed in (a): PRINCIPAL GLOBAL INVESTORS TRUST CO		
c EIN-PN 27-5280363-007	d Entity code C	e Dollar value of interest in MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE at end of year (see instructions) 1135558
a Name of MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE: PRUDENTIAL CORE PL BD FD CL 5		
b Name of sponsor of entity listed in (a): PRUDENTIAL TRUST COMPANY		
c EIN-PN 23-6994310-165	d Entity code C	e Dollar value of interest in MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE at end of year (see instructions) 1315280
a Name of MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE: PRIN LIFETIME 2065 SEP ACCT-Z		
b Name of sponsor of entity listed in (a): PRINCIPAL LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY		
c EIN-PN 42-0127290-173	d Entity code P	e Dollar value of interest in MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE at end of year (see instructions) 0
a Name of MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE: PRINCIPAL LT 2015 CIT TIER I		
b Name of sponsor of entity listed in (a): PRINCIPAL GLOBAL INVESTORS TRUST CO		
c EIN-PN 27-5280363-008	d Entity code C	e Dollar value of interest in MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE at end of year (see instructions) 1230782
a Name of MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE: PRINCIPAL LT 2025 CIT TIER I		
b Name of sponsor of entity listed in (a): PRINCIPAL GLOBAL INVESTORS TRUST CO		
c EIN-PN 27-5280363-009	d Entity code C	e Dollar value of interest in MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE at end of year (see instructions) 7588745
a Name of MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE: PRINCIPAL LT 2035 CIT TIER I		
b Name of sponsor of entity listed in (a): PRINCIPAL GLOBAL INVESTORS TRUST CO		
c EIN-PN 27-5280363-010	d Entity code C	e Dollar value of interest in MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE at end of year (see instructions) 2104969
a Name of MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE: PRINCIPAL LT 2045 CIT TIER I		
b Name of sponsor of entity listed in (a): PRINCIPAL GLOBAL INVESTORS TRUST CO		
c EIN-PN 27-5280363-011	d Entity code C	e Dollar value of interest in MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE at end of year (see instructions) 2856402
a Name of MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE: PRINCIPAL LT 2055 CIT TIER I		
b Name of sponsor of entity listed in (a): PRINCIPAL GLOBAL INVESTORS TRUST CO		
c EIN-PN 27-5280363-012	d Entity code C	e Dollar value of interest in MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE at end of year (see instructions) 1701103

a Name of MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE: PRINCIPAL LT 2065 CIT TIER I**b** Name of sponsor of entity listed in (a): PRINCIPAL GLOBAL INVESTORS TRUST CO

c EIN-PN 27-5280363-013	d Entity code C	e Dollar value of interest in MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE at end of year (see instructions) 312565
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a Name of MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE:**b** Name of sponsor of entity listed in (a):

c EIN-PN	d Entity code	e Dollar value of interest in MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE at end of year (see instructions)
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a Name of MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE:**b** Name of sponsor of entity listed in (a):

c EIN-PN	d Entity code	e Dollar value of interest in MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE at end of year (see instructions)
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a Name of MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE:**b** Name of sponsor of entity listed in (a):

c EIN-PN	d Entity code	e Dollar value of interest in MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE at end of year (see instructions)
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a Name of MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE:**b** Name of sponsor of entity listed in (a):

c EIN-PN	d Entity code	e Dollar value of interest in MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE at end of year (see instructions)
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a Name of MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE:**b** Name of sponsor of entity listed in (a):

c EIN-PN	d Entity code	e Dollar value of interest in MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE at end of year (see instructions)
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a Name of MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE:**b** Name of sponsor of entity listed in (a):

c EIN-PN	d Entity code	e Dollar value of interest in MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE at end of year (see instructions)
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a Name of MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE:**b** Name of sponsor of entity listed in (a):

c EIN-PN	d Entity code	e Dollar value of interest in MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE at end of year (see instructions)
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a Name of MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE:**b** Name of sponsor of entity listed in (a):

c EIN-PN	d Entity code	e Dollar value of interest in MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE at end of year (see instructions)
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a Name of MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE:**b** Name of sponsor of entity listed in (a):

c EIN-PN	d Entity code	e Dollar value of interest in MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE at end of year (see instructions)
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Part II Information on Participating Plans (to be completed by DFEs, other than DCGs)

(Complete as many entries as needed to report all participating plans. DCGs must report each participating plan using Schedule DCG.)

a Plan name**b** Name of
plan sponsor**c** EIN-PN**a** Plan name**b** Name of
plan sponsor**c** EIN-PN**a** Plan name**b** Name of
plan sponsor**c** EIN-PN**a** Plan name**b** Name of
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plan sponsor**c** EIN-PN**a** Plan name**b** Name of
plan sponsor**c** EIN-PN**a** Plan name**b** Name of
plan sponsor**c** EIN-PN

SCHEDULE H (Form 5500) Department of the Treasury Internal Revenue Service Department of Labor Employee Benefits Security Administration Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation	Financial Information This schedule is required to be filed under section 104 of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 (ERISA), and section 6058(a) of the Internal Revenue Code (the Code). ▶ File as an attachment to Form 5500.	OMB No. 1210-0110
		2023
		This Form is Open to Public Inspection

For calendar plan year 2023 or fiscal plan year beginning 01/01/2023 and ending 12/31/2023		
A Name of plan COWLES COMPANY 401(K) PLAN	B Three-digit plan number (PN) ▶	002
C Plan sponsor's name as shown on line 2a of Form 5500 COWLES COMPANY		
		D Employer Identification Number (EIN) 91-0420030

Part I	Asset and Liability Statement		
1 Current value of plan assets and liabilities at the beginning and end of the plan year. Combine the value of plan assets held in more than one trust. Report the value of the plan's interest in a commingled fund containing the assets of more than one plan on a line-by-line basis unless the value is reportable on lines 1c(9) through 1c(14). Do not enter the value of that portion of an insurance contract which guarantees, during this plan year, to pay a specific dollar benefit at a future date. Round off amounts to the nearest dollar. MTIAs, CCTs, PSAs, and 103-12 IEs do not complete lines 1b(1), 1b(2), 1c(8), 1g, 1h, and 1i. CCTs, PSAs, and 103-12 IEs also do not complete lines 1d and 1e. See instructions.			
	Assets	(a) Beginning of Year	(b) End of Year
a Total noninterest-bearing cash	1a		
b Receivables (less allowance for doubtful accounts):			
(1) Employer contributions	1b(1)	25857	15069
(2) Participant contributions	1b(2)		16612
(3) Other	1b(3)		
c General investments:			
(1) Interest-bearing cash (include money market accounts & certificates of deposit)	1c(1)		
(2) U.S. Government securities	1c(2)		
(3) Corporate debt instruments (other than employer securities):			
(A) Preferred	1c(3)(A)		
(B) All other	1c(3)(B)		
(4) Corporate stocks (other than employer securities):			
(A) Preferred	1c(4)(A)		
(B) Common	1c(4)(B)		
(5) Partnership/joint venture interests	1c(5)		
(6) Real estate (other than employer real property)	1c(6)		
(7) Loans (other than to participants)	1c(7)		
(8) Participant loans	1c(8)	346360	392700
(9) Value of interest in common/collective trusts	1c(9)	6596162	34603004
(10) Value of interest in pooled separate accounts	1c(10)	45409855	12102756
(11) Value of interest in master trust investment accounts	1c(11)		
(12) Value of interest in 103-12 investment entities	1c(12)		
(13) Value of interest in registered investment companies (e.g., mutual funds)	1c(13)	10081939	19228060
(14) Value of funds held in insurance company general account (unallocated contracts)	1c(14)		
(15) Other	1c(15)		

1d Employer-related investments:		(a) Beginning of Year	(b) End of Year
(1) Employer securities	1d(1)		
(2) Employer real property	1d(2)		
e Buildings and other property used in plan operation	1e		
f Total assets (add all amounts in lines 1a through 1e)	1f	62460173	66358201
Liabilities			
g Benefit claims payable	1g		
h Operating payables	1h		
i Acquisition indebtedness	1i		
j Other liabilities	1j		
k Total liabilities (add all amounts in lines 1g through 1j)	1k	0	0
Net Assets			
l Net assets (subtract line 1k from line 1f)	1l	62460173	66358201

Part II Income and Expense Statement

2 Plan income, expenses, and changes in net assets for the year. Include all income and expenses of the plan, including any trust(s) or separately maintained fund(s) and any payments/receipts to/from insurance carriers. Round off amounts to the nearest dollar. MTIAs, CCTs, PSAs, and 103-12 IEs do not complete lines 2a, 2b(1)(E), 2e, 2f, and 2g.

Income		(a) Amount	(b) Total
a Contributions:			
(1) Received or receivable in cash from: (A) Employers	2a(1)(A)	1602611	
(B) Participants	2a(1)(B)	2641675	
(C) Others (including rollovers)	2a(1)(C)	384212	
(2) Noncash contributions	2a(2)		
(3) Total contributions. Add lines 2a(1)(A) , (B) , (C) , and line 2a(2)	2a(3)		4628498
b Earnings on investments:			
(1) Interest:			
(A) Interest-bearing cash (including money market accounts and certificates of deposit)	2b(1)(A)	117946	
(B) U.S. Government securities	2b(1)(B)		
(C) Corporate debt instruments	2b(1)(C)		
(D) Loans (other than to participants)	2b(1)(D)		
(E) Participant loans	2b(1)(E)	25388	
(F) Other	2b(1)(F)	188966	
(G) Total interest. Add lines 2b(1)(A) through (F)	2b(1)(G)		332300
(2) Dividends: (A) Preferred stock	2b(2)(A)		
(B) Common stock	2b(2)(B)		
(C) Registered investment company shares (e.g. mutual funds)	2b(2)(C)	286622	
(D) Total dividends. Add lines 2b(2)(A) , (B) , and (C)	2b(2)(D)		286622
(3) Rents	2b(3)		
(4) Net gain (loss) on sale of assets: (A) Aggregate proceeds	2b(4)(A)		
(B) Aggregate carrying amount (see instructions)	2b(4)(B)		
(C) Subtract line 2b(4)(B) from line 2b(4)(A) and enter result	2b(4)(C)		
(5) Unrealized appreciation (depreciation) of assets: (A) Real estate	2b(5)(A)		
(B) Other	2b(5)(B)		
(C) Total unrealized appreciation of assets. Add lines 2b(5)(A) and (B)	2b(5)(C)		

		(a) Amount	(b) Total
(6) Net investment gain (loss) from common/collective trusts.....	2b(6)		3498967
(7) Net investment gain (loss) from pooled separate accounts.....	2b(7)		2222687
(8) Net investment gain (loss) from master trust investment accounts.....	2b(8)		
(9) Net investment gain (loss) from 103-12 investment entities.....	2b(9)		
(10) Net investment gain (loss) from registered investment companies (e.g., mutual funds)	2b(10)		2983944
c Other income	2c		11878
d Total income. Add all income amounts in column (b) and enter total	2d		13964896

Expenses

e Benefit payment and payments to provide benefits:			
(1) Directly to participants or beneficiaries, including direct rollovers	2e(1)	9917397	
(2) To insurance carriers for the provision of benefits.....	2e(2)		
(3) Other	2e(3)	690	
(4) Total benefit payments. Add lines 2e(1) through (3)	2e(4)		9918087
f Corrective distributions (see instructions)	2f		
g Certain deemed distributions of participant loans (see instructions)	2g		3235
h Interest expense	2h		
i Administrative expenses:			
(1) Salaries and allowances	2i(1)		
(2) Contract administrator fees.....	2i(2)	92205	
(3) Recordkeeping fees.....	2i(3)		
(4) IQPA audit fees.....	2i(4)		
(5) Investment advisory and investment management fees	2i(5)	53341	
(6) Bank or trust company trustee/custodial fees	2i(6)		
(7) Actuarial fees	2i(7)		
(8) Legal fees	2i(8)		
(9) Valuation/appraisal fees	2i(9)		
(10) Other trustee fees and expenses	2i(10)		
(11) Other expenses	2i(11)		
(12) Total administrative expenses. Add lines 2i(1) through (11)	2i(12)		145546
j Total expenses. Add all expense amounts in column (b) and enter total	2j		10066868

Net Income and Reconciliation

k Net income (loss). Subtract line 2j from line 2d	2k		3898028
l Transfers of assets:			
(1) To this plan	2l(1)		
(2) From this plan	2l(2)		

Part III Accountant's Opinion

3 Complete lines 3a through 3c if the opinion of an independent qualified public accountant is attached to this Form 5500. Complete line 3d if an opinion is not attached.

a The attached opinion of an independent qualified public accountant for this plan is (see instructions):

(1) ☒ Unmodified (2) ☐ Qualified (3) ☐ Disclaimer (4) ☐ Adverse

b Check the appropriate box(es) to indicate whether the IQPA performed an ERISA section 103(a)(3)(C) audit. Check both boxes (1) and (2) if the audit was performed pursuant to both 29 CFR 2520.103-8 and 29 CFR 2520.103-12(d). Check box (3) if pursuant to neither.

(1) ☒ DOL Regulation 2520.103-8 (2) ☐ DOL Regulation 2520.103-12(d) (3) ☐ neither DOL Regulation 2520.103-8 nor DOL Regulation 2520.103-12(d).

c Enter the name and EIN of the accountant (or accounting firm) below:

(1) Name: **DECORIA BLAIR & TEAGUE PS**

(2) EIN: **26-0152208**

d The opinion of an independent qualified public accountant is **not attached** as part of Schedule H because:

(1) ☐ This form is filed for a CCT, PSA, DCG or MTIA. (2) ☐ It will be attached to the next Form 5500 pursuant to 29 CFR 2520.104-50.

Part IV Compliance Questions

4 CCTs and PSAs do not complete Part IV. MTIAs, 103-12 IEs, and GIAs do not complete lines 4a, 4e, 4f, 4g, 4h, 4k, 4m, 4n, or 5. 103-12 IEs also do not complete lines 4j and 4l. MTIAs also do not complete line 4l. DCGs do not complete lines 4e, 4f, 4k, 4l, and 5, and DCGs generally complete the rest of Part IV collectively for all plans in the DCG, except as otherwise provided (see instructions).

During the plan year:

	Yes	No	Amount
a Was there a failure to transmit to the plan any participant contributions within the time period described in 29 CFR 2510.3-102? Continue to answer "Yes" for any prior year failures until fully corrected. (See instructions and DOL's Voluntary Fiduciary Correction Program.)		☒	
b Were any loans by the plan or fixed income obligations due the plan in default as of the close of the plan year or classified during the year as uncollectible? Disregard participant loans secured by participant's account balance. (Attach Schedule G (Form 5500) Part I if "Yes" is checked.)		☒	
c Were any leases to which the plan was a party in default or classified during the year as uncollectible? (Attach Schedule G (Form 5500) Part II if "Yes" is checked.)		☒	
d Were there any nonexempt transactions with any party-in-interest? (Do not include transactions reported on line 4a. Attach Schedule G (Form 5500) Part III if "Yes" is checked.)		☒	
e Was this plan covered by a fidelity bond?	☒		1000000
f Did the plan have a loss, whether or not reimbursed by the plan's fidelity bond, that was caused by fraud or dishonesty?		☒	
g Did the plan hold any assets whose current value was neither readily determinable on an established market nor set by an independent third party appraiser?		☒	
h Did the plan receive any noncash contributions whose value was neither readily determinable on an established market nor set by an independent third party appraiser?		☒	
i Did the plan have assets held for investment? (Attach schedule(s) of assets if "Yes" is checked, and see instructions for format requirements.)	☒		
j Were any plan transactions or series of transactions in excess of 5% of the current value of plan assets? (Attach schedule of transactions if "Yes" is checked and see instructions for format requirements.)		☒	
k Were all the plan assets either distributed to participants or beneficiaries, transferred to another plan, or brought under the control of the PBGC?		☒	
l Has the plan failed to provide any benefit when due under the plan?		☒	
m If this is an individual account plan, was there a blackout period? (See instructions and 29 CFR 2520.101-3.)		☒	
n If 4m was answered "Yes," check the "Yes" box if you either provided the required notice or one of the exceptions to providing the notice applied under 29 CFR 2520.101-3.			

5a Has a resolution to terminate the plan been adopted during the plan year or any prior plan year? ☐ Yes ☒ No
If "Yes," enter the amount of any plan assets that reverted to the employer this year _____.

5b If, during this plan year, any assets or liabilities were transferred from this plan to another plan(s), identify the plan(s) to which assets or liabilities were transferred. (See instructions.)

5b(1) Name of plan(s)	5b(2) EIN(s)	5b(3) PN(s)

5c Was the plan a defined benefit plan covered under the PBGC insurance program at any time during this plan year? (See ERISA section 4021 and instructions.) ☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Not determined

If "Yes" is checked, enter the My PAA confirmation number from the PBGC premium filing for this plan year _____.

SCHEDULE R (Form 5500) Department of the Treasury Internal Revenue Service Department of Labor Employee Benefits Security Administration Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation	Retirement Plan Information This schedule is required to be filed under sections 104 and 4065 of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 (ERISA) and section 6058(a) of the Internal Revenue Code (the Code). ▶ File as an attachment to Form 5500.	OMB No. 1210-0110 2023 This Form is Open to Public Inspection.
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For calendar plan year 2023 or fiscal plan year beginning 01/01/2023 and ending 12/31/2023

A Name of plan COWLES COMPANY 401(K) PLAN	B Three-digit plan number (PN) ▶ 002
C Plan sponsor's name as shown on line 2a of Form 5500 COWLES COMPANY	D Employer Identification Number (EIN) 91-0420030

Part I	Distributions
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All references to distributions relate only to payments of benefits during the plan year.

1 Total value of distributions paid in property other than in cash or the forms of property specified in the instructions.....	1	0
2 Enter the EIN(s) of payor(s) who paid benefits on behalf of the plan to participants or beneficiaries during the year (if more than two, enter EINs of the two payors who paid the greatest dollar amounts of benefits): EIN(s): 42-0127290 Profit-sharing plans, ESOPs, and stock bonus plans, skip line 3.		
3 Number of participants (living or deceased) whose benefits were distributed in a single sum, during the plan year	3	

Part II	Funding Information (If the plan is not subject to the minimum funding requirements of section 412 of the Internal Revenue Code or ERISA section 302, skip this Part.)
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4 Is the plan administrator making an election under Code section 412(d)(2) or ERISA section 302(d)(2)? If the plan is a defined benefit plan, go to line 8.	☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ N/A
5 If a waiver of the minimum funding standard for a prior year is being amortized in this plan year, see instructions and enter the date of the ruling letter granting the waiver. Date: Month _____ Day _____ Year _____ If you completed line 5, complete lines 3, 9, and 10 of Schedule MB and do not complete the remainder of this schedule.	
6 a Enter the minimum required contribution for this plan year (include any prior year accumulated funding deficiency not waived)	6a
b Enter the amount contributed by the employer to the plan for this plan year	6b
c Subtract the amount in line 6b from the amount in line 6a. Enter the result (enter a minus sign to the left of a negative amount)	6c
If you completed line 6c, skip lines 8 and 9.	
7 Will the minimum funding amount reported on line 6c be met by the funding deadline?	☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ N/A
8 If a change in actuarial cost method was made for this plan year pursuant to a revenue procedure or other authority providing automatic approval for the change or a class ruling letter, does the plan sponsor or plan administrator agree with the change?	☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ N/A

Part III	Amendments
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9 If this is a defined benefit pension plan, were any amendments adopted during this plan year that increased or decreased the value of benefits? If yes, check the appropriate box. If no, check the "No" box.	☐ Increase ☐ Decrease ☐ Both ☐ No
---	--

Part IV	ESOPs (see instructions). If this is not a plan described under section 409(a) or 4975(e)(7) of the Internal Revenue Code, skip this Part.
---------	--

10 Were unallocated employer securities or proceeds from the sale of unallocated securities used to repay any exempt loan?	☐ Yes ☐ No
11 a Does the ESOP hold any preferred stock?	☐ Yes ☐ No
b If the ESOP has an outstanding exempt loan with the employer as lender, is such loan part of a "back-to-back" loan? (See instructions for definition of "back-to-back" loan.)	☐ Yes ☐ No
12 Does the ESOP hold any stock that is not readily tradable on an established securities market?	☐ Yes ☐ No

For Paperwork Reduction Act Notice, see the Instructions for Form 5500.

Schedule R (Form 5500) 2023
v. 230707

Part V Additional Information for Multiemployer Defined Benefit Pension Plans

13 Enter the following information for each employer that (1) contributed more than 5% of total contributions to the plan during the plan year or (2) was one of the top-ten highest contributors (measured in dollars). See instructions. *Complete as many entries as needed to report all applicable employers.*

a Name of contributing employer

b EIN

c Dollar amount contributed by employer

d Date collective bargaining agreement expires (If employer contributes under more than one collective bargaining agreement, check box ☐ and see instructions regarding required attachment. Otherwise, enter the applicable date.) Month _____ Day _____ Year _____

e Contribution rate information (If more than one rate applies, check this box ☐ and see instructions regarding required attachment. Otherwise, complete lines 13e(1) and 13e(2).)

(1) Contribution rate (in dollars and cents) _____

(2) Base unit measure: ☐ Hourly ☐ Weekly ☐ Unit of production ☐ Other (specify): _____

a Name of contributing employer

b EIN

c Dollar amount contributed by employer

d Date collective bargaining agreement expires (If employer contributes under more than one collective bargaining agreement, check box ☐ and see instructions regarding required attachment. Otherwise, enter the applicable date.) Month _____ Day _____ Year _____

e Contribution rate information (If more than one rate applies, check this box ☐ and see instructions regarding required attachment. Otherwise, complete lines 13e(1) and 13e(2).)

(1) Contribution rate (in dollars and cents) _____

(2) Base unit measure: ☐ Hourly ☐ Weekly ☐ Unit of production ☐ Other (specify): _____

a Name of contributing employer

b EIN

c Dollar amount contributed by employer

d Date collective bargaining agreement expires (If employer contributes under more than one collective bargaining agreement, check box ☐ and see instructions regarding required attachment. Otherwise, enter the applicable date.) Month _____ Day _____ Year _____

e Contribution rate information (If more than one rate applies, check this box ☐ and see instructions regarding required attachment. Otherwise, complete lines 13e(1) and 13e(2).)

(1) Contribution rate (in dollars and cents) _____

(2) Base unit measure: ☐ Hourly ☐ Weekly ☐ Unit of production ☐ Other (specify): _____

a Name of contributing employer

b EIN

c Dollar amount contributed by employer

d Date collective bargaining agreement expires (If employer contributes under more than one collective bargaining agreement, check box ☐ and see instructions regarding required attachment. Otherwise, enter the applicable date.) Month _____ Day _____ Year _____

e Contribution rate information (If more than one rate applies, check this box ☐ and see instructions regarding required attachment. Otherwise, complete lines 13e(1) and 13e(2).)

(1) Contribution rate (in dollars and cents) _____

(2) Base unit measure: ☐ Hourly ☐ Weekly ☐ Unit of production ☐ Other (specify): _____

a Name of contributing employer

b EIN

c Dollar amount contributed by employer

d Date collective bargaining agreement expires (If employer contributes under more than one collective bargaining agreement, check box ☐ and see instructions regarding required attachment. Otherwise, enter the applicable date.) Month _____ Day _____ Year _____

e Contribution rate information (If more than one rate applies, check this box ☐ and see instructions regarding required attachment. Otherwise, complete lines 13e(1) and 13e(2).)

(1) Contribution rate (in dollars and cents) _____

(2) Base unit measure: ☐ Hourly ☐ Weekly ☐ Unit of production ☐ Other (specify): _____

a Name of contributing employer

b EIN

c Dollar amount contributed by employer

d Date collective bargaining agreement expires (If employer contributes under more than one collective bargaining agreement, check box ☐ and see instructions regarding required attachment. Otherwise, enter the applicable date.) Month _____ Day _____ Year _____

e Contribution rate information (If more than one rate applies, check this box ☐ and see instructions regarding required attachment. Otherwise, complete lines 13e(1) and 13e(2).)

(1) Contribution rate (in dollars and cents) _____

(2) Base unit measure: ☐ Hourly ☐ Weekly ☐ Unit of production ☐ Other (specify): _____

14 Enter the number of deferred vested and retired participants (inactive participants), as of the beginning of the plan year, whose contributing employer is no longer making contributions to the plan for:		
a The current plan year. Check the box to indicate the counting method used to determine the number of inactive participants: ☐ last contributing employer ☐ alternative ☐ reasonable approximation (see instructions for required attachment)	14a	
b The plan year immediately preceding the current plan year. ☐ Check the box if the number reported is a change from what was previously reported (see instructions for required attachment)	14b	
c The second preceding plan year. ☐ Check the box if the number reported is a change from what was previously reported (see instructions for required attachment)	14c	
15 Enter the ratio of the number of participants under the plan on whose behalf no employer had an obligation to make an employer contribution during the current plan year to:		
a The corresponding number for the plan year immediately preceding the current plan year	15a	
b The corresponding number for the second preceding plan year	15b	
16 Information with respect to any employers who withdrew from the plan during the preceding plan year:		
a Enter the number of employers who withdrew during the preceding plan year	16a	
b If line 16a is greater than 0, enter the aggregate amount of withdrawal liability assessed or estimated to be assessed against such withdrawn employers	16b	
17 If assets and liabilities from another plan have been transferred to or merged with this plan during the plan year, check box and see instructions regarding supplemental information to be included as an attachment..... ☐		

Part VI	Additional Information for Single-Employer and Multiemployer Defined Benefit Pension Plans
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18 If any liabilities to participants or their beneficiaries under the plan as of the end of the plan year consist (in whole or in part) of liabilities to such participants and beneficiaries under two or more pension plans as of immediately before such plan year, check box and see instructions regarding supplemental information to be included as an attachment..... ☐	
19 If the total number of participants is 1,000 or more, complete lines (a) and (b):	
a Enter the percentage of plan assets held as: Public Equity: _____% Private Equity: _____% Investment-Grade Debt and Interest Rate Hedging Assets: _____% High-Yield Debt: _____% Real Assets: _____% Cash or Cash Equivalents: _____% Other: _____%	
b Provide the average duration of the Investment-Grade Debt and Interest Rate Hedging Assets: ☐ 0-5 years ☐ 5-10 years ☐ 10-15 years ☐ 15 years or more	
20 PBGC missed contribution reporting requirements. If this is a multiemployer plan or a single-employer plan that is not covered by PBGC, skip line 20.	
a Is the amount of unpaid minimum required contributions for all years from Schedule SB (Form 5500) line 40 greater than zero? ☐ Yes ☐ No	
b If line 20a is "Yes," has PBGC been notified as required by ERISA sections 4043(c)(5) and/or 303(k)(4)? Check the applicable box:	
☐ Yes.	
☐ No. Reporting was waived under 29 CFR 4043.25(c)(2) because contributions equal to or exceeding the unpaid minimum required contribution were made by the 30th day after the due date.	
☐ No. The 30-day period referenced in 29 CFR 4043.25(c)(2) has not yet ended, and the sponsor intends to make a contribution equal to or exceeding the unpaid minimum required contribution by the 30th day after the due date.	
☐ No. Other. Provide explanation. _____	

Part VII	IRS Compliance Questions
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21a Does the plan satisfy the coverage and nondiscrimination tests of Code sections 410(b) and 401(a)(4) by combining this plan with any other plans under the permissive aggregation rules? ☐ Yes ☒ No	
21b If this is a Code section 401(k) plan, check all boxes that apply to indicate how the plan is intended to satisfy the nondiscrimination requirements for employee deferrals and employer matching contributions (as applicable) under Code sections 401(k)(3) and 401(m)(2).	
☐ Design-based safe harbor method	
☐ "Prior year" ADP test	
☒ "Current year" ADP test	
☐ N/A	
22 If the plan sponsor is an adopter of a pre-approved plan that received a favorable IRS Opinion Letter, enter the date of the Opinion Letter <u>06 / 30 / 2020</u> (MM/DD/YYYY) and the Opinion Letter serial number <u>Q702477A</u> .	

**Cowles Company 401(k) Plan
Financial Statements
Supplemental Schedule**
December 31, 2023



Cowles Company 401(k) Plan
Financial Statements and Supplemental Schedule
Year Ended December 31, 2023

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Independent Auditor's Report	1
Financial Statements	
Statements of Net Assets Available for Benefits	5
Statement of Changes in Net Assets Available for Benefits	6
Notes to Financial Statements	7
Supplemental Schedule	
Schedule H, Line 4(i) – Schedule of Assets (Held at End of Year)	15

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

To the Board of Trustees
Cowles Company 401(k) Plan

Scope and Nature of the ERISA Section 103(a)(3)(C) Audit

We have performed an audit of the accompanying financial statements of the Cowles Company 401(k) Plan (the Plan), an employee benefit plan subject to the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 (ERISA), as permitted by ERISA Section 103(a)(3)(C) [ERISA Section 103(a)(3)(C) audit]. The financial statements comprise the statements of net assets available for benefits as of December 31, 2023 and 2022, and the related statement of changes in net assets available for benefits for the year ended December 31, 2023, and the related notes to the financial statements.

Management, having determined it is permissible in the circumstances, has elected to have the audit of the Cowles Company 401(k) Plan's financial statements performed in accordance with ERISA Section 103(a)(3)(C) pursuant to 29 CFR 2520.103-8 of the Department of Labor's Rules and Regulations for Reporting and Disclosure under ERISA. As permitted by ERISA Section 103(a)(3)(C), our audit need not extend to any statements or information related to assets held for investment of the plan (investment information) by a bank or similar institution or insurance carrier that is regulated, supervised, and subject to periodic examination by a state or federal agency, provided that the statements or information regarding assets so held are prepared and certified to by the bank or similar institution or insurance carrier in accordance with 29 CFR 2520.103-5 of the Department of Labor's Rules and Regulations for Reporting and Disclosure under ERISA (qualified institution).

Management has obtained certifications from a qualified institution as of and for the years ended December 31, 2023 and 2022, stating that the certified investment information, as described in Note 3 to the financial statements, is complete and accurate.

Opinion

In our opinion, based on our audit and on the procedures performed as described in the Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements section—

- the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements referred to above, other than those agreed to or derived from the certified investment information, are presented fairly, in all material respects, in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.
- the information in the financial statements referred to above related to assets held by and certified to by a qualified institution agrees to, or is derived from, in all material respects, the information prepared and certified by an institution that management determined meets the requirements of ERISA Section 103(a)(3)(C).

Basis for Opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements section of our report. We are required to be independent of the Cowles Company 401(k) Plan and to meet our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with the relevant ethical requirements relating to our audit. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our ERISA Section 103(a)(3)(C) audit opinion.

Responsibilities of Management for the Financial Statements

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of these financial statements in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America, and for the design, implementation, and maintenance of internal control relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error. Management's election of the ERISA Section 103(a)(3)(C) audit does not affect management's responsibility for the financial statements.

In preparing the financial statements, management is required to evaluate whether there are conditions or events, considered in the aggregate, that raise substantial doubt about the Cowles Company 401(k) Plan's ability to continue as a going concern for one year after the date the financial statements are available to be issued.

Management is also responsible for maintaining a current plan instrument, including all plan amendments; administering the plan; and determining that the plan's transactions that are presented and disclosed in the financial statements are in conformity with the plan's provisions, including maintaining sufficient records with respect to each of the participants, to determine the benefits due or which may become due to such participants.

Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements

Except as described in the Scope and Nature of the ERISA Section 103(a)(3)(C) Audit section of our report, our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance but is not absolute assurance and therefore is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control. Misstatements are considered material if there is a substantial likelihood that, individually or in the aggregate, they would influence the judgment made by a reasonable user based on the financial statements.

In performing an audit in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards, we:

- Exercise professional judgment and maintain professional skepticism throughout the audit.
- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, and design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks. Such procedures include examining, on a test basis, evidence regarding the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit 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 Cowles Company 401(k) Plan's internal control. Accordingly, no such opinion is expressed.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of significant accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluate the overall presentation of the financial statements.
- Conclude whether, in our judgment, there are conditions or events, considered in the aggregate, that raise substantial doubt about the Cowles Company 401(k) Plan's ability to continue as a going concern for a reasonable period of time.

Our audit did not extend to the certified investment information, except for obtaining and reading the certification, comparing the certified investment information with the related information presented and disclosed in the financial statements, and reading the disclosures relating to the certified investment information to assess whether they are in accordance with the presentation and disclosure requirements of accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

Accordingly, the objective of an ERISA Section 103(a)(3)(C) audit is not to express an opinion about whether the financial statements as a whole are presented fairly, in all material respects, in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

We are required to communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit, significant audit findings, and certain internal control-related matters that we identified during the audit.

Other Matters – Supplemental Schedule Required by ERISA

The supplemental schedule of assets (held at end of year) as of December 31, 2023 is presented for purposes of additional analysis and is not a required part of the financial statements but is supplementary information required by the Department of Labor's Rules and Regulations for Reporting and Disclosure under ERISA. Such information is the responsibility of management and was derived from and relates directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the financial statements. The information included in the supplemental schedule, other than that agreed to or derived from the certified investment information, has been subjected to auditing procedures applied in the audit of the financial statements and certain additional procedures, including comparing and reconciling such information directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the financial statements or to the financial statements themselves, and other additional procedures in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards.

For information included in the supplemental schedule that agreed to or is derived from the certified investment information, we compared such information to the related certified investment information.

In forming our opinion on the supplemental schedule, we evaluated whether the supplemental schedule, other than the information agreed to or derived from the certified investment information, including their form and content, is presented in conformity with the Department of Labor's Rules and Regulations for Reporting and Disclosure under ERISA.

In our opinion—

- the form and content of the supplemental schedule, other than the information in the supplemental schedule that agreed to or is derived from the certified investment information, is presented, in all material respects, in conformity with the Department of Labor's Rules and Regulations for Reporting and Disclosure under ERISA.
- the information in the supplemental schedule related to assets held by and certified to by a qualified institution agrees to or is derived from, in all material respects, the information prepared and certified by an institution that management determined meets the requirements of ERISA Section 103(a)(3)(C).

DeCoria, Blair & Teague, PS

DeCoria, Blair & Teague, PS
Spokane, Washington
October 9, 2024

Cowles Company 401(k) Plan
Statements of Net Assets Available for Benefits
December 31, 2023 and 2022

	2023	2022
<i>ASSETS</i>		
Investments, at fair value (all participant directed):		
Common/collective trust funds	\$ 34,603,004	\$ 5,645,998
Mutual funds	19,228,060	10,081,941
Pooled separate accounts	12,102,756	46,360,018
Total investments	<u>65,933,820</u>	<u>62,087,957</u>
Notes receivable from participants	392,700	346,360
Employer contributions receivable	15,069	25,857
Participant contributions receivable	16,612	—
Net assets available for benefits	<u><u>\$ 66,358,201</u></u>	<u><u>\$ 62,460,174</u></u>

The accompanying notes are an integral part of the financial statements.

Cowles Company 401(k) Plan
Statement of Changes in Net Assets Available for Benefits
Year Ended December 31, 2023

	<u>2023</u>
<i>ADDITIONS</i>	
Investments and notes receivable income:	
Interest and dividends	\$ 630,800
Net appreciation in fair value of investments:	
Common/collective trust funds	3,498,967
Mutual funds	2,983,942
Pooled separate accounts	<u>2,222,688</u>
	9,336,397
Employer contributions	1,602,611
Participant contributions	<u>3,025,887</u>
Total additions	<u>13,964,895</u>
<i>DEDUCTIONS</i>	
Benefit payments	9,921,322
Administrative expenses	<u>145,546</u>
Total deductions	<u>10,066,868</u>
Net increase in net assets available for benefits	3,898,027
Net assets available for benefits at beginning of year	<u>62,460,174</u>
Net assets available for benefits at end of year	<u>\$ 66,358,201</u>

The accompanying notes are an integral part of the financial statements.

Cowles Company 401(k) Plan Notes to Financial Statements

1. Description of the Plan

General

The Cowles Company 401(k) Plan (the Plan) is a defined contribution plan covering virtually all employees of Cowles Company (the Plan Sponsor), Cowles Publishing Company (dba The Spokesman-Review); Northwest Offset Printing, Inc.; Inland Empire Paper Company (excluding union employees); Cowles Real Estate Company; River Park Square, LLC; Centennial Property Management Company; KHQ, Incorporated; Nickel's Worth Publications, Inc.; Fiber Reclaim, Inc.; Northwest Business Press, Inc.; Mid-Columbia Media, Inc. and Cowles Montana Media Company (collectively referred to as the Company).

The following brief description of the Plan is provided for general information purposes only. Participants should refer to the Plan document for a more complete description of the Plan's provisions. The Plan was established under the provisions of Section 401(a) of the Internal Revenue Code which includes a qualified deferred arrangement as defined in Section 401(k) thereof. The Plan is subject to the provisions of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 (ERISA), as amended.

Eligibility

Employees who have completed three (3) months of continuous service and attained age 21 are eligible to participate.

Contributions and Participant Accounts

Each year, participants may contribute up to 100% of their eligible compensation, as defined in the Plan, not to exceed annual limitations prescribed by the Internal Revenue Service. Employer matching and other contributions may be made each Plan year at the Company's discretion, in an amount determined by the Company. The Company has elected not to make any other discretionary contributions beyond the employer match for the year ended December 31, 2023.

Cowles Company 401(k) Plan Notes to Financial Statements

1. Description of the Plan (continued)

Contributions and Participant Accounts (continued)

The Company makes employer matching contributions equal to 100% of participant contributions up to the first 6% of eligible compensation for participants. The match described in this paragraph excludes participants of Cowles Montana Media Company.

The Company makes employer matching contributions equal to 50% of participant contributions, up to the first 3% of eligible compensation, for participants employed by Cowles Montana Media Company.

Each participant account is credited directly with the participant's and employer matching contributions, allocations of the Company's other discretionary contributions and each participant's investment earnings. Administrative expenses not paid for by the Company are charged to individual participant accounts. The balance in a participant's account determines their eligible future benefit. Participants direct the investment of their contributions and any Company contributions to any of the Plan's fund options.

Vesting of Contributions

Participants are immediately 100% vested in their contributions and their actual earnings thereon. Company contributions are a graded vesting of 25% after one year of service, 50% after two years of service, and 100% after three years of service.

Forfeitures

The non-vested portion of a participant's account is forfeited upon termination of employment and is used to reduce the Company's future contributions. The forfeited amounts used to reduce 2023 Company contributions totaled \$136,690. At December 31, 2023 there was \$35,823 of unused forfeitures available to offset future employer contributions.

Cowles Company 401(k) Plan Notes to Financial Statements

1. Description of the Plan (continued)

Payment of Benefits

On termination of service due to retirement, death, disability or termination of employment, a participant may elect to receive either periodic installments, or a lump-sum amount equal to the value of the participant's account. Normal retirement age is 65. A participant may withdraw their account at age 59-1/2 if certain conditions are met. Withdrawals due to financial hardship, as defined by the Plan document, are permitted under certain circumstances.

Plan Termination

Although it has not expressed any intent to do so, the Plan Sponsor has the right to terminate the Plan at any time subject to the provisions of ERISA. In the event of Plan termination, benefits under the Plan would be distributed based upon participant account balances accumulated on the date of termination of the Plan.

Notes Receivable from Participants

Participants in the Plan may receive loans secured by their respective account balances, subject to certain limitations. Participant loan amounts may not exceed the lesser of \$50,000 or 50% of the participant's account balance. Interest on the loan is accrued annually at a rate of 2% above the established prime lending rate in effect as of the date of the loan application. Principal and interest payments are paid ratably through payroll deductions, over a period not to exceed five years.

Administrative Expenses

Participant loan fees and certain other individually generated transaction fees are paid by the Plan, by charging that specific participant's account balance. All other costs associated with administering the Plan are paid by Plan Sponsor.

Cowles Company 401(k) Plan Notes to Financial Statements

2. Summary of Accounting Policies

Use of Estimates

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States requires management to make estimates that affect the amounts reported in the financial statements and accompanying notes. Actual results could differ from those estimates.

Investment Valuation and Income Recognition

Investments are reported at fair value. Fair value is the price that would be received to sell an asset or paid to transfer a liability in an orderly transaction between market participants at the measurement date. The Plan's management determines the Plan's valuation policies utilizing information provided by the investment advisor and custodian. See Note 4 for discussion of fair value measurements.

Purchases and sales of securities are recorded on a trade-date basis. Interest income is recorded on the accrual basis. Dividends are recorded on the ex-dividend date. Net appreciation (depreciation) includes the Plan's realized and unrealized gains and losses on investments bought and sold, as well as held during the year.

Notes Receivable from Participants

Notes receivable from participants are stated at their unpaid principal balance, plus any accrued but unpaid interest.

Subsequent Events

The Plan has evaluated all subsequent events through October 9, 2024 which is the date as of which the Plan's financial statements are available to be issued.

Cowles Company 401(k) Plan Notes to Financial Statements

3. Investments

All investments and notes receivable information disclosed in the accompanying financial statements and supplemental schedule, including investments held and notes receivable from participants at December 31, 2023 and 2022, and interest and dividends and net appreciation in fair value of investments for the year ended December 31, 2023, was obtained or derived from information supplied to the Plan Sponsor and Management and certified as complete and accurate by the custodian, Principal Trust Company (Principal).

Individual investments held by Principal that represent 5% or more of the Plan's net assets at December 31, 2023 or 2022 are as follows:

	2023	2022
Principal Life Insurance Company pooled separate accounts:		
Mid-Cap Blend Account	\$4,167,490	*
Lifetime 2010-2065 Accounts	*	\$24,116,187
LargeCap S&P 500 Index Account	*	6,655,944
Principal Global Investors Trust Company common/collective trust funds:		
Lifetime 2015-2065 Accounts	27,548,078	*
Stable Value Fund	4,597,811	5,645,998
Mutual funds:		
Fidelity Investments LargeCap S&P 500 Index Account	7,090,841	*
JP Morgan Funds LargeCap Growth Index Account	3,434,972	*

*These investments did not represent 5% or more of the Plan's net assets at this date.

During 2023, the Plan Sponsor completed a comprehensive investment review looking at several variables including performance and expenses of the investment options. As a result, several investment options were changed, new choices were added, and some options were removed. In addition, Principal recharacterized the Lifetime 2015-2065 pooled separate accounts (PSAs) as common/collective trust funds (CCTs). These changes caused the shift in investments seen in the table above.

Cowles Company 401(k) Plan Notes to Financial Statements

4. Fair Value Measurements

Financial Accounting Standards Board (FASB) Accounting Standards Codification (ASC) Topic 820, *Fair Value Measurements and Disclosures*, establishes a fair value hierarchy for those assets and liabilities measured at fair value, that distinguishes between assumptions based on market data (observable inputs) and the Plan's own assumptions (unobservable inputs). The hierarchy consists of: Level 1 – quoted market prices in active markets for identical instruments; Level 2 – inputs other than Level 1 inputs that are observable; and Level 3 – unobservable inputs developed using estimates and assumptions determined by the Plan and Principal.

The asset or liability's fair value measurement level within the fair value hierarchy is based on the lowest level of any input that is significant to the fair value measurement. Valuation techniques maximize the use of relevant observable inputs and minimize the use of unobservable inputs.

Following is a description of the valuation methodologies used for assets measured at fair value.

Common/collective trust funds: Valued at net asset value (NAV). The majority of the underlying securities in which the CCTs invest are fully benefit-responsive investment contracts. Even though the CCTs hold fully benefit-responsive investment contracts, the Plan's investments in the CCTs themselves are not considered fully benefit-responsive investment contracts, and are reported at fair value. NAV is the amount participants would receive if they were to initiate permitted transactions under the terms of the Plan. The NAV of the CCTs is not publicly quoted, but is available to current investors via the custodian website or when Plan participants access their account values. The NAV is the basis for current transactions and the CCTs can be redeemed at NAV as of the measurement date. Therefore, the Plan believes that this investment has a "readily determinable fair value". Because the CCTs are valued similarly to mutual funds, the Plan believes they should be Level 1 assets to allow for consistent disclosure. Unfunded commitments are typically found only in private equity funds and are not applicable to CCTs.

Mutual funds: Valued at the daily closing price as reported by the fund. Mutual funds held by the Plan are open-end mutual funds that are registered with the Securities and Exchange Commission. These funds are required to publish their daily NAV and to transact at that price. The mutual funds held by the Plan are deemed to be actively traded.

Cowles Company 401(k) Plan Notes to Financial Statements

4. Fair Value Measurements (continued)

Pooled separate accounts: Valued at net asset value (NAV). The majority of the underlying securities in which the PSAs invest have observable Level 1 quoted pricing inputs. The NAV of the PSAs are not publicly quoted, but are available to current investors via the custodian website or when Plan participants access their account values. The NAV is the basis for current transactions and the PSAs can be redeemed at NAV as of the measurement date. Therefore, the Plan believes that this form of investment has a “readily determinable fair value”. Most of the underlying security prices were obtained from a pricing service. Because the PSAs are valued similarly to mutual funds, the Plan believes they should be Level 1 assets to allow for consistent disclosure. PSAs typically can be redeemed on a daily basis. Unfunded commitments are typically found only in private equity funds and are not applicable to PSAs.

The following tables set forth, by level within the fair value hierarchy, the Plan’s assets at fair value as of December 31, 2023 and 2022 (see Note 3 concerning the shift in investments during 2023):

Assets at Fair Value as of December 31, 2023				
	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Total
Common/collective trust funds	\$ 34,603,004	\$ —	\$ —	\$ 34,603,004
Mutual funds	19,228,060	—	—	19,228,060
Pooled separate accounts	12,102,756	—	—	12,102,756
Total investments	\$ 65,933,820	\$ —	\$ —	\$ 65,933,820

Assets at Fair Value as of December 31, 2022				
	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Total
Common/collective trust funds	\$ 5,645,998	\$ —	\$ —	\$ 5,645,998
Mutual funds	10,081,941	—	—	10,081,941
Pooled separate accounts	46,360,018	—	—	46,360,018
Total investments	\$ 62,087,957	\$ —	\$ —	\$ 62,087,957

The Plan has no assets or liabilities measured at fair value on a nonrecurring basis at December 31, 2023 or 2022.

Cowles Company 401(k) Plan Notes to Financial Statements

5. Related Party Transactions and Party-in-Interest Transactions

Certain Plan investments are managed by affiliates of Principal. Since Principal is also the custodian for the Plan, these transactions qualify as party-in-interest transactions.

6. Income Tax Status

The Plan received a determination letter from the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) dated September 15, 2017 stating that the Plan is qualified under applicable sections of the Internal Revenue Code (the Code) and, therefore, the Plan is exempt from taxation. Subsequent to this issuance of the determination letter, the Plan was amended. Once qualified, the Plan is required to operate in conformity with the Code to maintain its qualification. The Plan Administrator believes the Plan is being operated in compliance with the applicable requirements of the Code and, therefore, believes that the Plan, as amended, remains qualified and tax exempt.

Accounting principles generally accepted in the United States require Plan management to evaluate tax positions by the Plan and recognize a tax liability if the Plan has taken an uncertain position that more likely than not would not be sustained upon examination by the IRS. The Plan is subject to audits by the IRS; however, there are currently no audits for any tax periods.

7. Risks and Uncertainties

The Plan invests in various investment securities, which are exposed to various risks, such as interest rate, market and credit risks. Due to the level of risk associated with certain investment securities, it is at least reasonably possible that changes in the values of investment securities will occur in the near term, and that such changes could materially affect participants' account balances, and the amounts reported in the statement of net assets available for benefits.

8. Reconciliation of Financial Statements to Form 5500

Although there were minor offsetting differences between individual assets, additions and deductions, there were no differences in net assets available for benefits or net increase in net assets available for benefits between the financial statements and the Form 5500 as of or for the years ended December 31, 2023 and 2022.

Cowles Company 401(k) Plan**EIN: 91-0420030, PN: 002****Schedule H, Line 4(i) – Schedule of Assets (Held at End of Year)****December 31, 2023**

(a)	(b) Identity of Issue, Borrower, Lessor, or Similar Party	(c) Description of Investment, Including Maturity Date, Rate of Interest, Collateral, Par, or Maturity Value	(e) Current Value
* Principal Trust Company		185,682 units Principal Stable Value Fund – common/collective trust fund	\$ 4,597,811
* Principal Trust Company		7,288 shares Prudential Core Plus Bond Fund – common/collective trust fund	1,315,280
* Principal Trust Company		66,424 units Principal LifeTime Strategic Income Account – common/collective trust fund	1,141,835
* Principal Trust Company		1,635,403 units Principal LifeTime 2015 – 2065 Accounts – common/collective trust fund	27,548,078
* Principal Trust Company		9,024 units Principal Core Plus Bond Account – pooled separate account	1,310,937
* Principal Trust Company		11,874 units Principal U.S. Property Account – pooled separate account	1,935,401
* Principal Trust Company		8,771 units Principal Mid-Cap Blend Account – pooled separate account	4,167,490
* Principal Trust Company		9,073 units Principal Small-Cap Blend Account – pooled separate account	2,687,800
* Principal Trust Company		6,788 shares Principal MidCap S&P 400 Index Account – pooled separate account	652,625
* Principal Trust Company		16,016 shares Principal SmallCap Value II Account – pooled separate account	820,235
* Principal Trust Company		5,444 shares Principal SmallCap S&P 600 Index Account – pooled separate account	528,267
* Principal Trust Company		34,237 shares American Funds EuroPacific Growth R6 Fund – mutual fund	1,872,740
* Principal Trust Company		39,453 shares MFS Value A Fund – mutual fund	1,863,381
* Principal Trust Company		15,873 shares Allspring Special MidCap Value Fund – mutual fund	730,328
* Principal Trust Company		9,066 shares Vanguard Explorer Admiral Fund – mutual fund	935,842
* Principal Trust Company		54,420 shares JP Morgan LargeCap Growth R6 Fund – mutual fund	3,434,972
* Principal Trust Company		23,886 shares JP Morgan U.S. Equity R6 Fund – mutual fund	510,689

Cowles Company 401(k) Plan**EIN: 91-0420030, PN: 002****Schedule H, Line 4(i) – Schedule of Assets (Held at End of Year) (continued)****December 31, 2023**

(a)	(b) Identity of Issue, Borrower, Lessor, or Similar Party	(c) Description of Investment, Including Maturity Date, Rate of Interest, Collateral, Par, or Maturity Value	(e) Current Value
*	Principal Trust Company	48,141 shares Fidelity U.S. Bond Market Index Fund – mutual fund	502,106
*	Principal Trust Company	42,848 shares Fidelity LargeCap S&P 500 Index Fund – mutual fund	7,090,841
*	Principal Trust Company	173,929 shares - Fidelity Total International Index Fund – mutual fund	2,287,162
	Notes receivable from participants	Interest at 5.25% - 10.50%, maturing in years through 2028	392,700
			<u>\$66,326,520</u>

* Indicates party-in-interest to the Plan.

Column (d), Cost, is not required since all investments are participant directed.

The information in this schedule has been certified as to its completeness and accuracy by the custodian.

SCHEDULE H, line 4i - SCHEDULE OF ASSETS (HELD AT END OF YEAR)

C C 401() P

EIN 91 0420030
 PLAN NUMBER 002
 PLAN YEAR 01/01/2023 TO 12/31/2023

(A)	(B) Identity of issuer, borrower, lessor or similar party.	(C) Description of investment including maturity date, rate of interest, collateral, par or maturity value.	(D) Cost	(E) Current Value
	SEI TRUST COMPANY	Registered Investment Company Allspring Spec M Cap Value R6	\$ 0.00	\$ 730,327.50
	The American Funds	Registered Investment Company Am Fds EuroPacific Grth R6 Fd	\$ 0.00	\$ 1,872,739.73
	Fidelity Investments	Registered Investment Company FIDELITY TOTAL INT IDX FUND	\$ 0.00	\$ 2,287,162.28
	Fidelity Investments	Registered Investment Company FIDELITY US BOND INDEX FUND	\$ 0.00	\$ 502,105.98
	Fidelity Investments	Registered Investment Company FIDELITY 500 INDEX FUND	\$ 0.00	\$ 7,090,840.56
	JP Morgan Funds	Registered Investment Company JP MORGAN LARGE CAP GR R6 FD	\$ 0.00	\$ 3,434,972.27
	JP Morgan Funds	Registered Investment Company JP MORGAN US EQUITY R6 FUND	\$ 0.00	\$ 510,688.76
	MFS Investment Management	Registered Investment Company MFS Value R6 Fund	\$ 0.00	\$ 1,863,380.91
*	Principal Life Insurance Company	Pooled Separate Accounts Prin Core Plus Bond Sep Acct-Z	\$ 0.00	\$ 1,310,937.42
*	Principal Life Insurance Company	Pooled Separate Accounts Prin MidCap S&P 400 Idx SA-Z	\$ 0.00	\$ 652,625.35
*	Principal Life Insurance Company	Pooled Separate Accounts Prin MidCap Sep Acct-Z	\$ 0.00	\$ 4,167,490.34
*	Principal Life Insurance Company	Pooled Separate Accounts Prin SmCap S&P 600 Index SA-Z	\$ 0.00	\$ 528,267.46
*	Principal Life Insurance Company	Pooled Separate Accounts Prin SmCap Value II Sep Acct-Z	\$ 0.00	\$ 820,235.35
*	Principal Life Insurance Company	Pooled Separate Accounts Principal SmallCap Sep Acct-Z	\$ 0.00	\$ 2,687,799.54
*	Principal Global Investors Trust Co	Common/Collective Trust Principal Stable Value Z Fund	\$ 0.00	\$ 4,597,811.00

SCHEDULE H, line 4i - SCHEDULE OF ASSETS (HELD AT END OF YEAR)

C C 401() P

EIN 91 0420030
PLAN NUMBER 002
PLAN YEAR 01/01/2023 TO 12/31/2023

(A)	(B) Identity of issuer, borrower, lessor or similar party.	(C) Description of investment including maturity date, rate of interest, collateral, par or maturity value.	(D) Cost	(E) Current Value
*	Principal Life Insurance Company	Pooled Separate Accounts Principal U.S. Property SA-Z	\$ 0.00	\$ 1,935,400.97
	Prudential Trust Company	Common/Collective Trust Prudential Core Pl Bd Fd Cl 5	\$ 0.00	\$ 1,315,280.43
*	Principal Global Investors Trust Co	Common/Collective Trust PRINCIPAL LT STR INC CIT TR I	\$ 0.00	\$ 1,141,835.41
*	Principal Global Investors Trust Co	Common/Collective Trust PRINCIPAL LT 2015 CIT TIER I	\$ 0.00	\$ 1,230,781.83
*	Principal Global Investors Trust Co	Common/Collective Trust PRINCIPAL LT 2020 CIT TIER I	\$ 0.00	\$ 948,839.24
*	Principal Global Investors Trust Co	Common/Collective Trust PRINCIPAL LT 2025 CIT TIER I	\$ 0.00	\$ 7,588,744.89
*	Principal Global Investors Trust Co	Common/Collective Trust PRINCIPAL LT 2030 CIT TIER I	\$ 0.00	\$ 4,217,706.97
*	Principal Global Investors Trust Co	Common/Collective Trust PRINCIPAL LT 2035 CIT TIER I	\$ 0.00	\$ 2,104,968.59
*	Principal Global Investors Trust Co	Common/Collective Trust PRINCIPAL LT 2040 CIT TIER I	\$ 0.00	\$ 3,471,146.58
*	Principal Global Investors Trust Co	Common/Collective Trust PRINCIPAL LT 2045 CIT TIER I	\$ 0.00	\$ 2,856,402.12
*	Principal Global Investors Trust Co	Common/Collective Trust PRINCIPAL LT 2050 CIT TIER I	\$ 0.00	\$ 1,980,261.11
*	Principal Global Investors Trust Co	Common/Collective Trust PRINCIPAL LT 2055 CIT TIER I	\$ 0.00	\$ 1,701,103.24
*	Principal Global Investors Trust Co	Common/Collective Trust PRINCIPAL LT 2060 CIT TIER I	\$ 0.00	\$ 1,135,557.85
*	Principal Global Investors Trust Co	Common/Collective Trust PRINCIPAL LT 2065 CIT TIER I	\$ 0.00	\$ 312,564.52
	Vanguard Group	Registered Investment Company VANGUARD EXPLORER ADMIRAL FUND	\$ 0.00	\$ 935,842.32

SCHEDULE H, line 4i - SCHEDULE OF ASSETS (HELD AT END OF YEAR)

C C 401() P
EIN 91 0420030
PLAN NUMBER 002
PLAN YEAR 01/01/2023 TO 12/31/2023

(A)	(B) Identity of issuer, borrower, lessor or similar party.	(C) Description of investment including maturity date, rate of interest, collateral, par or maturity value.	(D) Cost	(E) Current Value
*	Participant Loans	Range of Interest Rates Rates Range From 5.25% To 10.50%	\$ 0.00	\$ 392,700.00

