

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 MERIDIAN COOPERATIVE SAVINGS PLAN
1b	Three-digit plan number (PN) ▶ 002
1c	Effective date of plan 04/01/1984
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) MERIDIAN COOPERATIVE, INC. 100 ASHFORD CENTER N., SUITE 500 ATLANTA, GA 30338
2b	Employer Identification Number (EIN) 58-1257418
2c	Plan Sponsor's telephone number 770-414-8400
2d	Business code (see instructions) 541512

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.	10/16/2024	MALIK SMITH
	Signature of plan administrator	Date	Enter name of individual signing as plan administrator
SIGN HERE	Filed with authorized/valid electronic signature.	10/15/2024	JOHN STACK
	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	5 707
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) 553 6a(2) 562 6b 0 6c 153 6d 715 6e 5 6f 720 6g(1) 695 6g(2) 705 6h 0
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:

2A 2E 2F 2G 2J 2K 2R 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 _____
- (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 _____
- (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 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 MERIDIAN COOPERATIVE SAVINGS PLAN	B Three-digit plan number (PN) ▶	002
C Plan sponsor's name as shown on line 2a of Form 5500 MERIDIAN COOPERATIVE, INC.	D Employer Identification Number (EIN) 58-1257418	

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
CHARLES SCHWAB & CO. INC. AND AFFIL
94-1737782

(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)

SCHWAB RETIREMENT PLAN SERVICES INC

34-1479833

(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?
15 26 50 64	NONE	234061	Yes ☐ No ☒	Yes ☐ No ☐		Yes ☐ No ☐

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

CHARLES SCHWAB & CO., INC.

94-1737782

(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?
33 50 59 62 71	NONE	84	Yes ☒ No ☐	Yes ☒ No ☐	0	Yes ☒ No ☐

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

(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?
			Yes ☐ No ☐	Yes ☐ No ☐		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
CHARLES SCHWAB & CO.INC. AND AFFIL	59	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.	
SEE ATTACHMENT 39-6037917	SEE ATTACHMENT	

(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 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 MERIDIAN COOPERATIVE SAVINGS PLAN	B Three-digit plan number (PN) ▶	002
C Plan sponsor's name as shown on line 2a of Form 5500 MERIDIAN COOPERATIVE, INC.		
		D Employer Identification Number (EIN) 58-1257418

Part I	Asset and Liability Statement
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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)	171000	0
(2) Participant contributions	1b(2)	112039	0
(3) Other	1b(3)		
c General investments:			
(1) Interest-bearing cash (include money market accounts & certificates of deposit)	1c(1)	3007594	2760602
(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)	1173238	1226813
(9) Value of interest in common/collective trusts	1c(9)		
(10) Value of interest in pooled separate accounts	1c(10)		
(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)	75170284	88144040
(14) Value of funds held in insurance company general account (unallocated contracts)	1c(14)		
(15) Other	1c(15)	5043961	2981236

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	84678116	95112691
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		
Net Assets			
l Net assets (subtract line 1k from line 1f)	1l	84678116	95112691

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)	5552778	
(B) Participants	2a(1)(B)	4276252	
(C) Others (including rollovers)	2a(1)(C)	566913	
(2) Noncash contributions	2a(2)		
(3) Total contributions. Add lines 2a(1)(A) , (B) , (C) , and line 2a(2)	2a(3)		10395943
b Earnings on investments:			
(1) Interest:			
(A) Interest-bearing cash (including money market accounts and certificates of deposit)	2b(1)(A)	57034	
(B) U.S. Government securities	2b(1)(B)		
(C) Corporate debt instruments	2b(1)(C)		
(D) Loans (other than to participants)	2b(1)(D)	70316	
(E) Participant loans	2b(1)(E)		
(F) Other	2b(1)(F)		
(G) Total interest. Add lines 2b(1)(A) through (F)	2b(1)(G)		127350
(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)	1389144	
(D) Total dividends. Add lines 2b(2)(A) , (B) , and (C)	2b(2)(D)		1389144
(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)		
(7) Net investment gain (loss) from pooled separate accounts.....	2b(7)		
(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)		10789967
c Other income	2c		1061676
d Total income. Add all income amounts in column (b) and enter total	2d		23764080

Expenses

e Benefit payment and payments to provide benefits:			
(1) Directly to participants or beneficiaries, including direct rollovers	2e(1)	13072754	
(2) To insurance carriers for the provision of benefits.....	2e(2)		
(3) Other	2e(3)		
(4) Total benefit payments. Add lines 2e(1) through (3)	2e(4)		13072754
f Corrective distributions (see instructions)	2f		22640
g Certain deemed distributions of participant loans (see instructions)	2g		
h Interest expense	2h		
i Administrative expenses:			
(1) Salaries and allowances	2i(1)		
(2) Contract administrator fees.....	2i(2)		
(3) Recordkeeping fees.....	2i(3)	6412	
(4) IQPA audit fees.....	2i(4)		
(5) Investment advisory and investment management fees	2i(5)	227699	
(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)		234111
j Total expenses. Add all expense amounts in column (b) and enter total	2j		13329505

Net Income and Reconciliation

k Net income (loss). Subtract line 2j from line 2d	2k		10434575
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: **MCNAIR, MCLEMORE AND MIDDLEBROOKS**

(2) EIN: **58-1094351**

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?	☒		5000000
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	B Three-digit plan number (PN)	
MERIDIAN COOPERATIVE SAVINGS PLAN	002	
C Plan sponsor's name as shown on line 2a of Form 5500	D Employer Identification Number (EIN)	
MERIDIAN COOPERATIVE, INC.	58-1257418	

Part I	Distributions
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):	82-3967259
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.)
4	Is the plan administrator making an election under Code section 412(d)(2) or ERISA section 302(d)(2)?..... ☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ N/A
If the plan is a defined benefit plan, go to line 8.	
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
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

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>09 / 21 / 2020</u> (MM/DD/YYYY) and the Opinion Letter serial number <u>Q704158A</u> .	

**MERIDIAN COOPERATIVE SAVINGS PLAN
ATLANTA, GEORGIA**

**FINANCIAL STATEMENTS AS OF
DECEMBER 31, 2023 AND 2022 AND
INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT**

**MERIDIAN COOPERATIVE
SAVINGS PLAN**

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NOTE: All other schedules required by the Department of Labor's Rules and Regulations for Reporting and Disclosure under the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 have been omitted because they are not applicable.

October 10, 2024

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

Plan Administrative Committee
Meridian Cooperative Savings Plan

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

We have performed audits of the financial statements of **Meridian Cooperative Savings 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 audits of the Meridian Cooperative Savings 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 audits 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 December 31, 2023 and 2022, and for the year ended December 31, 2023, 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 audits 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 accompanying financial statements, 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 accompanying financial statements 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 audits in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America (GAAS). 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 Meridian Cooperative Savings Plan and to meet our other ethical responsibilities, in accordance with the relevant ethical requirements relating to our audits. 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 the 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 Meridian Cooperative Savings Plan's ability to continue as a going concern for one year after the date that 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 GAAS 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 GAAS, 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 Meridian Cooperative Savings 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 judgement, there are conditions or events, considered in the aggregate, that raise substantial doubt about Meridian Cooperative Savings Plan's ability to continue as a going concern for a reasonable period of time.

Our audits 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 audits 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 GAAS. 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 its 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).

McNair, McLeMore, Middlebrooks & Co., LLC

McNAIR, McLEMORE, MIDDLEBROOKS & CO., LLC

MERIDIAN COOPERATIVE SAVINGS PLAN
STATEMENTS OF NET ASSETS AVAILABLE FOR BENEFITS
DECEMBER 31

	<u>2023</u>	<u>2022</u>
Assets		
Investments at Fair Value	\$ 93,885,878	\$ 83,221,837
Receivables		
Employer Contribution	-	171,000
Participant Contributions	-	112,039
Notes Receivable from Participants	<u>1,226,813</u>	<u>1,173,238</u>
	<u>1,226,813</u>	<u>1,456,277</u>
Total Assets	95,112,691	84,678,114
Liabilities	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
Net Assets Available for Benefits	<u><u>\$ 95,112,691</u></u>	<u><u>\$ 84,678,114</u></u>

See accompanying notes which are an integral part of these financial statements.

MERIDIAN COOPERATIVE SAVINGS PLAN
STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN NET ASSETS AVAILABLE FOR BENEFITS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2023

Change in Net Assets Attributed to:

Investment Income

Net Appreciation in Fair Value of Investments	\$ 11,851,643
Interest and Dividends	<u>1,446,178</u>

Total Net Investment Income	<u>13,297,821</u>
------------------------------------	-------------------

Interest Income on Notes Receivable from Participants	<u>70,316</u>
--	---------------

Contributions

Employer	5,552,778
Participants	4,253,612
Rollovers	<u>566,913</u>

Total Contributions	<u>10,373,303</u>
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Deductions

Benefits Paid to Participants	13,072,754
Administrative Expenses	<u>234,109</u>

Total Deductions	<u>13,306,863</u>
-------------------------	-------------------

Net Increase	10,434,577
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Net Assets Available for Benefits

Beginning of Year	<u>84,678,114</u>
End of Year	<u><u>\$ 95,112,691</u></u>

See accompanying notes which are an integral part of these financial statements.

MERIDIAN COOPERATIVE SAVINGS PLAN

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

(1) Description of Plan

The following description of the Meridian Cooperative Savings Plan (the Plan) provides only general information. Participants should refer to the Plan agreement for a more complete description of the Plan's provisions.

General

The Plan is a defined contribution plan covering all eligible employees of Meridian Cooperative, Inc. (the Plan Sponsor, Meridian, or the Company), Arista Information Systems, Inc., and Futura Systems Company (wholly-owned or majority-owned subsidiaries of the Plan Sponsor). These entities are collectively referred to as "the participating employers." Employees become eligible after completion of 30 days of service for employee contributions and one year of service for employer contributions. The finance committee is responsible for oversight of the Plan. The finance committee determines the appropriateness of the Plan's investment offerings, monitors the investment performance, and reports to the Plan's board of directors. The Plan is subject to the provisions of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 (ERISA). The participating employers absorb certain costs of the Plan.

In December 2022, Securing a Strong Retirement Act (Secure 2.0) was passed into law. The provisions of Secure 2.0 continue the themes and reforms that began with the 2019 Secure Act. Most of the provisions will become effective in 2024 and forward, therefore there is no current impact to the Plan. Since the provisions include both required and optional elements, the Plan trustees will determine the optional provisions to elect.

Contributions

Each year, participants may contribute up to 100 percent of the annual compensation, as defined by the Plan or the maximum allowable by law. Participant contributions may be traditional elective deferrals (pre-tax) or Roth elective deferrals (after-tax). Participants who have attained age 50 before the end of the Plan year are eligible to make catch-up contributions. Participants may also contribute amounts representing distributions from other qualified retirement plans (rollover). The Plan also contains provisions for participant automatic enrollment for employees hired or re-hired after January 1, 2022 at 3% of eligible compensation if they do not elect an alternative deferral amount and this percentage will be automatically increased each subsequent Plan year by 1 percent up to a maximum of 5 percent. Participants direct the investment of contributions into various investment options offered by the Plan. Participants that do not select investment options will have their contributions invested in managed accounts, based on the individual. The participating employers match 100 percent of the first 5 percent of total pay that a participant contributes to the Plan.

Each participating employer also provides an Employer Non-Elective Contribution (the Employer Basic Contribution). The amount of the Employer Basic Contribution is specified below:

- (1) Meridian/Futura: 4% of Compensation for Employees with 1-3 Years of Service.
- (2) Meridian/Futura: 7% of Compensation for Employees with 4-9 Years of Service.
- (3) Meridian/Futura: 9% of Compensation for Employees with 10-14 Years of Service.
- (4) Meridian/Futura: 11% of Compensation for Employees with 15 or more Years of Service.
- (5) Arista: 7% of Compensation for Employees.

(1) Description of Plan (Continued)

For each Plan year, the participating employers may make an additional Employer Non-Elective Contribution (Gateway Contribution) in an amount necessary to satisfy the minimum gateway requirement described in Regulation 1.401(a)(4)-8(b)(1)(vi). The participating employers made no such contributions during 2023. During the year ended December 31, 2023 employer contributions totaled \$5,552,778. Contributions are subject to certain Internal Revenue Service (IRS) limitations.

Participant Accounts

Individual accounts are maintained for each participant. Each participant's account is credited with the participant's contributions, the Company's contributions, and qualified rollover contributions, and adjusted for gains and losses based on the investment performance of a participant's account, less any withdrawals, distributions, and allocation of administrative expenses that are paid by the Plan. Allocations are based on participant earnings, account balances, or specific participant transactions, as defined. The participant is entitled to a benefit equal to his or her vested account balance.

Vesting

Participants are immediately vested in all contributions plus earnings thereon.

Notes Receivable from Participants

Participants may borrow from their fund accounts a minimum of \$1,000 up to a maximum equal to the lesser of \$50,000 or 50 percent of their account balance, as adjusted for outstanding loans. The loans are secured by the balance in the participant's account and bear interest which is commensurate with local prevailing rates as determined by the Plan administrator. Interest rates ranged from 4.25 percent to 9.5 percent as of December 31, 2023. Principal and interest are paid through payroll deductions, if available.

Payment of Benefits

Upon termination of service due to death, disability, retirement, or other reason, a participant will receive a lump-sum amount equal to the value of the participant's vested interest in his or her account or in periodic installments over a period of years not exceeding the normal joint life expectancy of participant and spouse, if applicable. The Plan also allows for certain in-service distributions, including hardship withdrawals, prior to termination of employment.

Hardship Withdrawals

In the event funds are needed because of extreme financial hardship, as defined by law, the participant may be allowed to make a withdrawal from his/her vested account balance from eligible accounts, as defined by the Plan. In accordance with the Internal Revenue Code (the Code), benefits withdrawn prior to age 59½ may be subject to additional taxes.

(1) Description of Plan (Continued)

Investment Options and Investments

Participants direct the investment of all contributions into various investment options offered by the Plan. Participants may change their investment options at any time. As of December 31, 2023, the Plan offered diversified investments in mutual funds and one money market account as investment options for participants. Also, a self-directed brokerage account option is available to participants. Plan investments held in self-directed brokerage accounts as of December 31, 2023 consisted of cash, common stocks, mutual funds, unit investment trusts, and U.S. Governmental Securities.

(2) Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

The accounting policies of the Plan are maintained in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America (U.S. GAAP). The Financial Accounting Standards Board (FASB) provides authoritative guidance regarding U.S. GAAP through the *Accounting Standards Codification (ASC)* and related Accounting Standards Updates (ASUs). The following describes the more significant of those policies:

Basis of Accounting

The accompanying financial statements are prepared on the accrual basis of accounting.

Use of Estimates

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with U.S. GAAP requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of Plan assets, liabilities, and changes therein, and disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities. Actual results could differ from those estimates.

Investment Valuation and Income Recognition

The Plan's 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 Finance Committee determines the Plan's valuation policies utilizing information provided by the investment advisors, trustee, and recordkeeper. See Note 4 for discussion of fair value measurements.

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

Contributions

Contributions from Plan participants and the matching contributions from the Employer are recorded in the year in which the employee contributions are withheld from compensation.

(2) Summary of Significant Accounting Policies (Continued)

Notes Receivable from Participants

Notes receivable from participants are measured at their unpaid principal balance plus any accrued but unpaid interest. Interest income is recorded on the accrual basis. Related fees are recorded as administrative expenses and are expensed when they are incurred. Delinquent loans are treated as distributions based upon the terms of the Plan document.

Payment of Benefits

Benefits are recorded when paid.

Excess Contributions Payable

Amounts payable to participants for contributions in excess of amounts allowed by the IRS are recorded as a liability with a corresponding reduction to contributions, when applicable.

Administrative Expenses

Certain expenses of maintaining the Plan are paid directly by the participating employers and are excluded from these financial statements. Fees related to participant withdrawals and the administration of notes receivable from participants are charged directly to the participant's account and are included in administrative expenses. Investment-related expenses are included in net appreciation (depreciation) in fair value of investments.

(3) Information Prepared and Certified by the Trustee (Unaudited)

Charles Schwab Trust Bank (Schwab), the trustee of the Plan as of December 31, 2023 and 2022, has certified to the completeness and accuracy of the following data included in the accompanying financial statements.

- Investments, at fair value, and notes receivable from participants as shown in the statements of net assets available for benefits as of December 31, 2023 and 2022.
- Net appreciation (depreciation) in fair value of investments, interest and dividend income, and interest income on notes receivable from participants as shown in the statement of changes in net assets available for benefits for the year ended December 31, 2023.

The Plan's independent auditors did not perform auditing procedures with respect to this information, except for comparing such information to the related information included in the financial statements, including related footnote disclosures, and supplemental information.

(4) Fair Value Measurements

The FASB issued a statement that defines fair value and establishes a framework for measuring fair value. That framework provides a fair value hierarchy that prioritizes the inputs to valuation techniques used to measure fair value. The hierarchy gives the highest priority to unadjusted quoted prices in active markets for identical assets or liabilities (level 1 measurements) and the lowest priority to unobservable inputs (level 3 measurements). The three levels of the fair value hierarchy are described below:

Level 1 Inputs to the valuation methodology are unadjusted quoted prices for identical assets or liabilities in active markets that the Plan has the ability to access.

Level 2 Inputs to the valuation methodology include:

- Quoted prices for similar assets or liabilities in active markets;
- Quoted prices for identical or similar assets or liabilities in inactive markets;
- Inputs other than quoted prices that are observable for the asset or liability; and
- Inputs that are derived principally from or corroborated by observable market data by correlation or other means.

If the asset or liability has a specified (contractual) term, the level 2 input must be observable for substantially the full term of the asset or liability.

Level 3 Inputs to the valuation methodology are unobservable and significant to the fair value measurement.

The asset's 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 used need to maximize the use of observable inputs and minimize the use of unobservable inputs.

Following is a description of the valuation methodologies used for assets measured at fair value. There have been no changes in the methodologies used at December 31, 2023 and 2022.

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

Money Market Account: Valued at the daily closing price as reported by the account. The account held by the Plan is an open-end account that is registered with the SEC. This account is required to publish its daily NAV and transact at that price. The account held by the Plan is deemed to be actively traded.

Self-Directed Brokerage Account: Investments held in self-directed brokerage accounts consisted of cash, common stocks, mutual funds, unit investment trusts, and U.S. government securities. The carrying amount of cash approximates fair value. Common stocks and unit investment trusts are valued at the closing price reported on the active market on which the individual securities are traded. Mutual funds are valued at the NAV of shares held by the Plan at year-end.

The methods described above may produce a fair value calculation that may not be indicative of net realizable value or reflective of future fair values.

(4) Fair Value Measurements (Continued)

Furthermore, while the Plan believes its valuation methods are appropriate and consistent with other market participants, the use of different methodologies or assumptions to determine the fair value of certain financial instruments could result in a different fair value measurement at the reporting date.

The following table sets forth by level, within the fair value hierarchy, the Plan's assets at fair value as of December 31:

2023	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Total
Mutual Funds	\$ 88,144,040	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 88,144,040
Money Market Account	2,760,602	-	-	2,760,602
Self-Directed Brokerage Account	2,981,236	-	-	2,981,236
	<u>\$ 93,885,878</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ 93,885,878</u>
2022				
Mutual Funds	\$ 75,170,282	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 75,170,282
Money Market Account	3,007,594	-	-	3,007,594
Self-Directed Brokerage Account	5,043,961	-	-	5,043,961
	<u>\$ 83,221,837</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ 83,221,837</u>

(5) Income Tax Status

The Company adopted Prototype Non-Standardized Pre-Approved Profit Sharing/Money Purchase/Cash or Deferred Arrangement from Schwab Retirement Plan Services. The prototype plan sponsor has received a favorable determination letter from the IRS, dated September 21, 2020, which states that its prototype plan, in form, meets the requirements of Section 401(a) of the Code and, therefore, is tax-exempt under the provisions of Section 401(a). The Plan document has been amended since receiving the determination letter. The Plan has not received a determination letter specific to the Plan itself; however, the Plan Administrator and management believes the Plan is designed and is currently being operated in compliance with the applicable requirements of the Code. The Plan Administrator and management also maintains that the Plan has been administered in accordance with all applicable laws and, accordingly, no provision has been made for income taxes in the accompanying financial statements.

U.S. GAAP requires Plan management to evaluate uncertain tax positions taken by the Plan. The financial statement effects of a tax position are recognized when the position is more likely than not, based on the technical merits, to be sustained upon examination by the IRS. The Plan administrator has analyzed the tax positions taken by the Plan, and has concluded that as of December 31, 2023, there are no uncertain positions taken or expected to be taken. The Plan has recognized no interest or penalties related to uncertain tax positions. The Plan is subject to routine audits by taxing jurisdictions; however, there are currently no audits for any tax periods in progress.

(6) Related Party and Party-in-Interest Transactions

Certain Plan assets are investment options offered through Schwab or its affiliates; therefore, these transactions qualify as party-in-interest transactions.

Such transactions, while considered party-in-interest transactions under ERISA regulations, are permitted under the provisions of the Plan and are specifically exempted from the prohibition of party-in-interest transactions under ERISA. Administrative expenses on the statement of changes in net assets available for benefits include amounts paid by the Plan to Schwab and investment advisors for administrative services.

(7) Plan Termination

Although it has not expressed an intent to do so, the participating employers have the right under the Plan to discontinue contributions at any time and to terminate the Plan subject to the provisions of ERISA.

(8) Risks and Uncertainties

The Plan invests in various investment securities, including mutual funds, money market accounts, and investments held in self-directed brokerage accounts. Investment securities are exposed to various risks such as interest rate risk, market volatility, 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 statements of net assets available for benefits and the statement of changes in net assets available for benefits.

(9) Subsequent Events

Management has evaluated events subsequent to December 31, 2023 through October 10, 2024, the date these financial statements were available to be issued.

**SUPPLEMENTAL SCHEDULE
(SEE INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT)**

MERIDIAN COOPERATIVE SAVINGS PLAN
EIN: 58-1257418
FORM 5500 SCHEDULE H, PART IV, LINE 4i
SCHEDULE OF ASSETS (HELD AT END OF YEAR)
DECEMBER 31, 2023

PLAN: 002

(A)	(B)	(C)	(D)	(E)
*	Identity of Issue, Borrower, Lessor or Similar Party	Description of Investment	** Cost	Current Value
	Mutual Funds			
*	Schwab International Index	Mutual Fund		\$ 13,158,644
*	Schwab S&P 500 Index	Mutual Fund		13,840,690
*	Schwab Small-Cap Index	Mutual Fund		2,521,803
	Vanguard Emerging Markets Index	Mutual Fund		5,377,279
	Vanguard Growth Index	Mutual Fund		8,003,546
	Vanguard Mid-Cap Growth Index	Mutual Fund		1,852,553
	Vanguard Mid-Cap Index	Mutual Fund		3,227,131
	Vanguard Mid-Cap Value Index	Mutual Fund		1,901,448
	Vanguard REIT Index	Mutual Fund		3,213,025
	Vanguard Short-Term Bond Index	Mutual Fund		8,005,325
	Vanguard Small-Cap Value Index	Mutual Fund		3,732,733
	Vanguard Small-Cap Growth Index	Mutual Fund		1,620,752
	Vanguard Total Bond Market Index	Mutual Fund		12,900,727
	Vanguard Value Index	Mutual Fund		6,840,289
	Vanguard Intermediate-Term Government Bond Indc	Mutual Fund		<u>1,948,095</u>
	Total Mutual Funds			88,144,040
	Money Market Account			
*	Schwab Bank Savings Account	Money Market Account		2,760,602
	Self-Directed Brokerage Account			
		Self-Directed Brokerage		2,981,236
		4.25% - 9.5% Interest Rates		
		Maturing at Various Dates		
*	Participant Loans	through January 2029		<u>1,226,813</u>
				<u><u>\$ 95,112,691</u></u>

* Party-in-interest

** All funds are participant-directed investments. Cost amounts are not required for participant-directed funds.

Meridian Cooperative Savings Plan
Schedule C, Part I, Line 3 - Service Provider Indirect Compensation Information
December 31, 2023

EIN: 58-1257418

Plan Number: 002

Received By Charles Schwab & Co., Inc. (EIN: 94-1737782)

Fund Family/Provider	EIN	Formula
Allianz Global Investors	Not Available	Rate of 0.22% of average daily balance of asset(s)
Baird	39-6037917	Rate of 0.27% of average daily balance of asset(s)
Baron Capital Group, Inc.	13-3107580	Rate of 0.40% of average daily balance of asset(s)
Boston Trust & Walden Funds	Not Available	Rate of 0.40% of average daily balance of asset(s)
Brandes	33-0635360	Rate of 0.40% of average daily balance of asset(s)
Columbia Threadneedle	93-0577450	Rate of 0.50% of average daily balance of asset(s)
FEDERATED FUNDS	Not Available	Rate of 0.50% of average daily balance of asset(s)
FMI Funds	39-1861095	Rate of 0.40% of average daily balance of asset(s)
Franklin Templeton Investments	94-3167260	Rate of 0.23% of average daily balance of asset(s)
Gabelli	13-3340139	Rate of 0.40% of average daily balance of asset(s)
Parnassus	94-6579180	Rate of 0.40% of average daily balance of asset(s)
TIAA Investments	13-1624203	Rate of 0.40% of average daily balance of asset(s)
Tributary Funds	Not Available	Rate of 0.40% of average daily balance of asset(s)

Schedule H, line 4i - Schedule of Assets (Held at End of Year)

NAME OF PLAN SPONSOR:	Meridian Cooperative, Inc.
NAME OF PLAN:	Meridian Cooperative Savings Plan
EIN:	58-1257418
PLAN NUMBER:	002

(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	(d) Cost	(e) Current Value
*	PARTICIPANT LOANS	Loans (4.25% - 9.50%)		1,226,813
*	SCHWAB BANK SAVINGS	Money Market / Cash Equivalent		2,760,602
	PCRA	Self-Directed Brokerage Account		2,981,236
*	SCHWAB INTERNATIONAL INDEX FD	Registered Investment Company		13,158,644
*	SCHWAB S&P 500 INDEX FUND	Registered Investment Company		13,840,689
*	SCHWAB SMALL-CAP INDEX FUND	Registered Investment Company		2,521,803
	VANGUARD EMRG MKTS INDEX ADM	Registered Investment Company		5,377,279
	VANGUARD GROWTH INDEX ADMIRAL	Registered Investment Company		8,003,546
	VANGUARD MDCP GRTH INDEX ADM	Registered Investment Company		1,852,553
	VANGUARD MID CAP INDEX ADMIRAL	Registered Investment Company		3,227,131
	VANGUARD MID CAP VALUE IDX ADM	Registered Investment Company		1,901,448
	VANGUARD REAL ESTATE INDEX ADM	Registered Investment Company		3,213,025
	VANGUARD SHORT TERM BD IDX ADM	Registered Investment Company		8,005,326
	VANGUARD SM CAP VAL INDEX ADM	Registered Investment Company		3,732,733
	VANGUARD SMALL CAP GRTH INDEX	Registered Investment Company		1,620,752
	VANGUARD TTL BOND MKT IDX ADM	Registered Investment Company		12,900,727
	VANGUARD VALUE INDEX ADM	Registered Investment Company		6,840,289
	VGD INTERM TERM TRSY IDX ADM	Registered Investment Company		1,948,095

* Party-in-interest