

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

2024

This Form is Open to Public Inspection

Part I Annual Report Identification Information

For calendar plan year 2024 or fiscal plan year beginning 01/01/2024 and ending 12/31/2024

- 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.) [x] a single-employer plan [] a DFE (specify) ____
B This return/report is: [] 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: [x] 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: RYAN LAWN & TREE, INC. EMPLOYEE STOCK OWNERSHIP PLAN
1b Three-digit plan number (PN): 002
1c Effective date of plan: 01/01/1998
2a Plan sponsor's name (employer, if for a single-employer plan): RYAN LAWN & TREE, INC.
2b Employer Identification Number (EIN): 48-1078206
2c Plan Sponsor's telephone number: 913-381-1505
2d Business code (see instructions): 561730

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.

Table with 4 columns: SIGN HERE, Signature of plan administrator, Date, Enter name of individual signing as plan administrator. Includes rows for employer/plan sponsor and DFE.

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

Form 5500 (2024) v. 240311

3a Plan administrator's name and address <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 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	828
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)	428
	6a(2)	427
	6b	0
	6c	81
	6d	508
	6e	1
	6f	509
	6g(1)	445
6g(2)	500	
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:
2I 2P 2Q 3I

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)	9b Plan benefit arrangement (check all that apply)
(1) <input type="checkbox"/> Insurance	(1) <input type="checkbox"/> Insurance
(2) <input type="checkbox"/> Code section 412(e)(3) insurance contracts	(2) <input type="checkbox"/> Code section 412(e)(3) insurance contracts
(3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Trust	(3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Trust
(4) <input type="checkbox"/> General assets of the sponsor	(4) <input type="checkbox"/> General assets of the sponsor

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	b General Schedules
(1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> R (Retirement Plan Information)	(1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> H (Financial Information)
(2) <input type="checkbox"/> MB (Multiemployer Defined Benefit Plan and Certain Money Purchase Plan Actuarial Information) - signed by the plan actuary	(2) <input type="checkbox"/> I (Financial Information – Small Plan)
(3) <input type="checkbox"/> SB (Single-Employer Defined Benefit Plan Actuarial Information) - signed by the plan actuary	(3) <input type="checkbox"/> A (Insurance Information) – Number Attached _____
(4) <input type="checkbox"/> DCG (Individual Plan Information) – Number Attached _____	(4) <input type="checkbox"/> C (Service Provider Information)
(5) <input type="checkbox"/> MEP (Multiple-Employer Retirement Plan Information)	(5) <input type="checkbox"/> D (DFE/Participating Plan Information)
	(6) <input type="checkbox"/> 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 2024 Form M-1 annual report. If the plan was not required to file the 2024 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 H (Form 5500) <small>Department of the Treasury Internal Revenue Service</small> <small>Department of Labor Employee Benefits Security Administration</small> <small>Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation</small>	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.	<small>OMB No. 1210-0110</small> 2024 This Form is Open to Public Inspection
--	--	--

For calendar plan year 2024 or fiscal plan year beginning 01/01/2024 and ending 12/31/2024	
A Name of plan RYAN LAWN & TREE, INC. EMPLOYEE STOCK OWNERSHIP PLAN	B Three-digit plan number (PN) ▶ 002
C Plan sponsor's name as shown on line 2a of Form 5500 RYAN LAWN & TREE, INC.	D Employer Identification Number (EIN) 48-1078206

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)	264485
(2) Participant contributions	1b(2)	
(3) Other	1b(3)	
c General investments:		
(1) Interest-bearing cash (include money market accounts & certificates of deposit)	1c(1)	106171
(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)	
(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)	
(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)	59279040	69158880
(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	59649696	69678996
Liabilities			
g Benefit claims payable.....	1g		
h Operating payables.....	1h		
i Acquisition indebtedness.....	1i	2066942	1810019
j Other liabilities.....	1j	18863	0
k Total liabilities (add all amounts in lines 1g through 1j).....	1k	2085805	1810019
Net Assets			
l Net assets (subtract line 1k from line 1f).....	1l	57563891	67868977

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)	4995716	
(B) Participants.....	2a(1)(B)		
(C) Others (including rollovers).....	2a(1)(C)		
(2) Noncash contributions.....	2a(2)		
(3) Total contributions. Add lines 2a(1)(A) , (B) , (C) , and line 2a(2)	2a(3)		4995716
b Earnings on investments:			
(1) Interest:			
(A) Interest-bearing cash (including money market accounts and certificates of deposit).....	2b(1)(A)	5588	
(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)		
(F) Other.....	2b(1)(F)		
(G) Total interest. Add lines 2b(1)(A) through (F)	2b(1)(G)		5588
(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)		
(D) Total dividends. Add lines 2b(2)(A) , (B) , and (C)	2b(2)(D)		0
(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)	9879840	
(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)		
c Other income	2c		
d Total income. Add all income amounts in column (b) and enter total	2d		14881144

Expenses

e Benefit payment and payments to provide benefits:			
(1) Directly to participants or beneficiaries, including direct rollovers	2e(1)	4525297	
(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)		4525297
f Corrective distributions (see instructions)	2f		
g Certain deemed distributions of participant loans (see instructions)	2g		
h Interest expense	2h		50761
i Administrative expenses:			
(1) Salaries and allowances	2i(1)		
(2) Contract administrator fees	2i(2)		
(3) Recordkeeping fees	2i(3)		
(4) IQPA audit fees	2i(4)		
(5) Investment advisory and investment management fees	2i(5)		
(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)		0
j Total expenses. Add all expense amounts in column (b) and enter total	2j		4576058

Net Income and Reconciliation

k Net income (loss). Subtract line 2j from line 2d	2k		10305086
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: PICKETT CHANEY & MCMULLEN LLP

(2) EIN: 48-1246310

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.)		X	
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.)		X	
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.)		X	
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.)		X	
e Was this plan covered by a fidelity bond?	X		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?		X	
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?		X	
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?		X	
i Did the plan have assets held for investment? (Attach schedule(s) of assets if "Yes" is checked, and see instructions for format requirements.)	X		
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.)		X	
k Were all the plan assets either distributed to participants or beneficiaries, transferred to another plan, or brought under the control of the PBGC?		X	
l Has the plan failed to provide any benefit when due under the plan?		X	
m If this is an individual account plan, was there a blackout period? (See instructions and 29 CFR 2520.101-3.)		X	
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) <small>Department of the Treasury Internal Revenue Service</small> <small>Department of Labor Employee Benefits Security Administration</small> <small>Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation</small>	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.	<small>OMB No. 1210-0110</small> 2024 This Form is Open to Public Inspection.
--	---	---

For calendar plan year 2024 or fiscal plan year beginning 01/01/2024 and ending 12/31/2024

A Name of plan <u>RYAN LAWN & TREE, INC. EMPLOYEE STOCK OWNERSHIP PLAN</u>	B Three-digit plan number (PN) ▶	<u>002</u>
C Plan sponsor's name as shown on line 2a of Form 5500 <u>RYAN LAWN & TREE, INC.</u>	D Employer Identification Number (EIN) <u>48-1078206</u>	

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): 45-6062081

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: <input type="checkbox"/> last contributing employer <input type="checkbox"/> alternative <input type="checkbox"/> reasonable approximation (see instructions for required attachment).....	14a	
b The plan year immediately preceding the current plan year. <input type="checkbox"/> 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. <input type="checkbox"/> 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

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

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 ___/___/____ (MM/DD/YYYY) and the Opinion Letter serial number _____.

**RYAN LAWN & TREE, INC.
EMPLOYEE STOCK OWNERSHIP PLAN**

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS AND
INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT
DECEMBER 31, 2024 AND 2023



INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT

To the Trustees of Ryan Lawn & Tree, Inc. Employee Stock Ownership Plan
Overland Park, Kansas

Scope and Nature of the ERISA Section 103(a)(3)(C) Audit for the 2024 Financial Statements

We have performed an audit of the financial statements of Ryan Lawn & Tree, Inc. Employee Stock Ownership 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 statement of net assets available for benefits as of December 31, 2024, and the related statement of changes in net assets available for benefits for the year then ended, and the related notes to the financial statements ("2024 financial statements").

Management, having determined it is permissible in the circumstances, has elected to have the audit of the Plan's 2024 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 a certification from a qualified institution as of and for the year ended December 31, 2024, stating that the certified investment information, as described in Note 5 to the financial statements, is complete and accurate.

Opinion on the 2024 Financial Statements

In our opinion, based on our audit and on the procedures performed as described in the Auditors' Responsibilities for the Audit of the 2024 Financial Statements section:

- The amounts and disclosures in the accompanying 2024 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 2024 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 on the 2024 Financial Statements

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 Auditors' Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements section of our report. We are required to be independent of the 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.

Emphasis of Matter

As discussed in Note 3, the financial statements include investments in Ryan Lawn & Tree, Inc. stock valued at \$69,158,880 (99.25% of total assets) at December 31, 2024, whose fair value has been

estimated based upon an independent appraisal in the absence of readily determinable fair values. Our opinion is not modified with respect to that matter.

Responsibilities of Management for the 2024 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 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.

Auditors' Responsibilities for the Audit of the 2024 Financial Statements

Except as described in the Scope and Nature of the ERISA Section 103(a)(3)(C) Audit of the 2024 Financial Statements 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 auditors' 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 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 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 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 2024 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 Matter – 2024 Supplemental Schedule Required by ERISA

The supplemental Schedule of Assets as of December 31, 2024, 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.

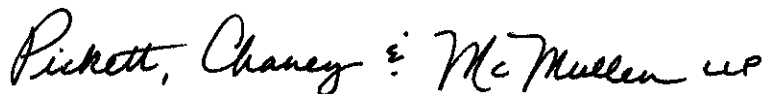
In forming our opinion on the supplemental schedule, we evaluated whether the supplemental schedule, other than the information agreed to or derived from the certified investment information, including their form and content, are presented in conformity with the Department of Labor's Rules and Regulations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

Other Matter – Auditors' Report on the 2023 Financial Statements

We have audited the statement of net assets available for benefits of Ryan Lawn & Tree, Inc. Employee Stock Ownership Plan as of December 31, 2023 and the related statement of changes in net assets available for benefits for the year ended December 31, 2023 (not presented herein), and in our report dated September 11, 2024, we expressed an unmodified opinion on those financial statements.



Overland Park, Kansas
October 2, 2025

**RYAN LAWN & TREE, INC.
EMPLOYEE STOCK OWNERSHIP PLAN**

**STATEMENTS OF NET ASSETS AVAILABLE FOR BENEFITS
DECEMBER 31, 2024 AND 2023**

	2024			2023		
	Allocated	Unallocated	Total	Allocated	Unallocated	Total
ASSETS						
Cash	\$ 5		\$ 5	\$ 106,171		\$ 106,171
Contributions receivable	95,907		95,907	264,485		264,485
Investment, at fair value - Money market fund	424,204		424,204			
Investment, at estimated fair value - Common stock of Ryan Lawn & Tree, Inc. (18,296 shares at 2024 and 2023)	<u>62,963,240</u>	<u>\$ 6,195,640</u>	<u>69,158,880</u>	<u>53,072,632</u>	<u>\$ 6,206,408</u>	<u>59,279,040</u>
Total assets	63,483,356	6,195,640	69,678,996	53,443,288	6,206,408	59,649,696
LIABILITIES						
Distributions payable			-	18,863		18,863
Notes payable - related parties		<u>1,810,019</u>	<u>1,810,019</u>		<u>2,066,942</u>	<u>2,066,942</u>
Total liabilities	<u>-</u>	<u>1,810,019</u>	<u>1,810,019</u>	<u>18,863</u>	<u>2,066,942</u>	<u>2,085,805</u>
NET ASSETS AVAILABLE FOR BENEFITS	<u>\$ 63,483,356</u>	<u>\$ 4,385,621</u>	<u>\$ 67,868,977</u>	<u>\$ 53,424,425</u>	<u>\$ 4,139,466</u>	<u>\$ 57,563,891</u>

See notes to financial statements.

**RYAN LAWN & TREE, INC.
EMPLOYEE STOCK OWNERSHIP PLAN**

**STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN NET ASSETS AVAILABLE FOR BENEFITS
YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2024**

	<u>Allocated</u>	<u>Unallocated</u>	<u>Total</u>
ADDITIONS TO NET ASSETS ATTRIBUTED TO:			
Investment income:			
Interest income	\$ 5,588		\$ 5,588
Net appreciation in fair value of common stock	8,845,439	\$ 1,034,401	9,879,840
Total investment income	8,851,027	1,034,401	9,885,428
Employer contributions	4,688,055	307,661	4,995,716
Allocation of 276.50 shares of common stock of Ryan Lawn & Tree, Inc.	1,045,169	(1,045,169)	-
Total additions	14,584,251	296,893	14,881,144
DEDUCTIONS FROM NET ASSETS ATTRIBUTED TO:			
Distribution of benefits to participants	4,525,297		4,525,297
Other fees	23		23
Interest expense		50,738	50,738
Total deductions	4,525,320	50,738	4,576,058
NET INCREASE	10,058,931	246,155	10,305,086
NET ASSETS AVAILABLE FOR BENEFITS:			
Beginning of year	53,424,425	4,139,466	57,563,891
End of year	\$ 63,483,356	\$ 4,385,621	\$ 67,868,977

See notes to financial statements.

RYAN LAWN & TREE, INC. EMPLOYEE STOCK OWNERSHIP PLAN

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS DECEMBER 31, 2024 AND 2023

1. DESCRIPTION OF THE PLAN

The Ryan Lawn & Tree, Inc. Employee Stock Ownership Plan (the “Plan”) was adopted by the Trustees of Ryan Lawn & Tree, Inc. (the “Company” or the “Sponsor”) in 1998.

The Plan is administered by the Trustees of the Plan (the “Trustees”). Alerus Financial, N.A. serves as the Plan’s custodian. The following description of 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 exists for the benefit of all eligible employees of the Company. Contributions are made to the Plan by the Company in amounts determined by the Trustees. Alerus Retirement and Benefits serves as the Plan’s third-party administrator. The Plan is subject to the provisions of the Employment Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 (“ERISA”).

In 2019, the Plan purchased 3,176 shares of common stock using the proceeds of 2 related party notes payable. This represents all remaining outstanding shares of the Company common stock. See note 7 for a description of these borrowings.

The borrowings are collateralized by the unallocated shares of common stock. Accordingly, the financial statements of the Plan as of December 31, 2024 and 2023, and for the year ended December 31, 2024, present separately the assets and liabilities and changes therein pertaining to (a) the accounts of employees with vested rights in allocated common stock (allocated) and (b) common stock not yet allocated to employees (unallocated).

As the Plan makes each payment of principal and interest, an appropriate percentage of stock will be allocated to eligible employees’ accounts in accordance with applicable regulations under the Internal Revenue Code (“IRC”).

Eligibility – Employees of the Company become participants on the earlier of January 1 or July 1, upon reaching the age of 19, and having 6 months of service.

Contributions – Contributions to the Plan are determined by the Company’s Trustees. A participant must be employed on the last day of the Plan year, and have worked 1,000 hours during the Plan year, in order to receive his or her allocation of the contribution for that year.

Participants’ Accounts – Contributions are allocated to each participant in an amount that bears proportionally to the ratio of each participant’s compensation to the total compensation of all participants eligible to receive a contribution. The employer contributed \$4,995,716 during 2024.

Forfeitures are allocated to the account of each participant in the same manner as contributions. There was \$145,494 in forfeitures allocated during the 2024 Plan year.

Participants are allocated a share of the Plan’s income and expenses based upon the ratio that their individual account balance bears to the total of all participants’ account balances. Such Plan income includes the increase/decrease in fair value of Plan investments, interest income, dividends and interest expense.

Segregation of Accounts – The Plan document was amended effective December 31, 2023, and requires the accounts of former participants to be placed into a cash position in exchange for their shares. As of December 31, 2024 and 2023, \$421,602 and \$100,098 of participant funds are held in cash and a money market fund, respectively.

Payment of Benefits – Participants are eligible for benefit distribution upon retirement, termination of employment, or death. Active employees age 55 and older with ten years of service may request benefit distributions prior to retirement (see diversification paragraph below). When a participant's employment is terminated because of retirement, permanent disability, or death, the full value of the participant's account will be distributed to the participant or his or her beneficiary. When a participant's employment is terminated for any other reason, a vested percentage of the value of his or her account will be distributed following the end of the Plan year in which his or her break in service occurs. Benefits are distributed in a lump sum payment or in installments over a period of not more than the assumed life of the terminated employee. For participant account balances less than \$1,000, the full amount is paid in a single lump sum or rolled over into an IRA.

In-Service Withdrawals – The Plan was amended effective January 1, 2022, to allow for an in-service withdrawal of all or a portion of a participant's fully vested account upon reaching the age of 62.

Vesting – A participant's account is 20% vested after two years of service, with an additional 20% accruing with each additional year of service. Full vesting occurs after six years of service.

Dividends on Company Common Stock – Participants of the Plan may receive cash dividends on the Company's common stock directly based on the number of shares of Company stock held in their account. There were no dividends declared during 2024.

Expenses – The Company pays all professional expenses of the Plan.

Voting Rights – Each participant is entitled to exercise certain voting rights attributable to the shares allocated to his or her account and is notified by the Trustee prior to the time that such rights are to be exercised. The Trustee is permitted to vote any share for which a participant has not given instructions.

Put Option – Under federal income tax regulations, the employer securities that are held by the Plan and its participants and that are not readily tradable on an established market, or that are subject to trading limitations, include a put option (liquidity put). The liquidity put is a right to demand that the Company buy shares of its stock held by the participant for which there is no market. The put price is representative of the estimated fair value of the stock as of the most recent valuation date. The terms of the payment for the purchase of such stock are set forth in the Plan document and may be either in a lump sum or in installments. The purpose of the liquidity put is to ensure that the participant has the ability to ultimately obtain cash.

Diversification – Diversification is offered to participants close to retirement so that they may have the opportunity to move part of the value of their investment in Company stock into investments that are more diversified. Each participant in the Plan who has reached the age of 55 with 10 years of participation under the Plan has the ability to direct a portion of their account attributable to Company Stock to the Company's 401(k) plan.

Termination of the Plan – Although the Company has not expressed any intent to do so, it has the right to discontinue its contributions at any time and to terminate the Plan subject to the provisions set forth in the Plan and under ERISA. Upon such termination of the Plan, participants will become 100% vested in their accounts and the trustees shall pay and discharge all liabilities and expenses of the trust fund. The trustee at its discretion will either distribute the remaining assets of the trust fund or liquidate them and distribute the net proceeds in cash to the participants on the date the Plan was terminated in the proportion that his or her account bears to the total value of all outstanding participant accounts.

2. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Basis of Accounting and Presentation – The accompanying financial statements have been prepared on the accrual basis of accounting in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

Investment Valuation and Income Recognition – The investments are valued at estimated 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. Purchases and sales of securities are recorded on a trade-date basis. Dividends are recorded on the ex-dividend date. Interest income is recognized as earned.

Use of Estimates – The preparation of financial statements in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities and disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities at the date of the financial statements and the reported amounts of revenues and expenses during the reporting period. Actual results could differ from those estimates.

Allocations – The financial statements of the Plan present separately the assets and liabilities and changes therein pertaining to (a) the accounts of employees with rights in allocated stock (“allocated”) and (b) stock not yet allocated to employees (“unallocated”), including shares that are committed to be released. Shares are released from collateral and become allocated generally in the period in which debt service is actually paid.

Contributions – Contributions are reported in the year services are rendered to the Company by the Plan participants.

Payment of Benefits – Benefit payments are reported in the year paid.

Date of Management’s Review – Subsequent events have been evaluated through October 2, 2025, which is the date the financial statements were available to be issued, and there were no material events requiring recognition or disclosure.

3. FAIR VALUE MEASUREMENTS

FASB ASC 820, *Fair Value Measurement*, provides the 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 hierarchy consists of three broad levels, described as follows:

Level 1 – Inputs consist of unadjusted quoted prices for identical assets in active markets that the plan has the ability to access.

Level 2 – Inputs consist of 1) quoted prices for similar assets in active markets, 2) quoted prices for identical or similar assets in inactive markets, 3) inputs other than quoted prices that are observable, and 4) inputs that are derived principally from or corroborated by observable market data by correlation or other means. If the asset has a specified (contractual) term, the level 2 input must be observable for substantially the full term.

Level 3 – Inputs consist of unobservable inputs where there is little or no market activity, and the reporting entity makes estimates and assumptions related to the pricing of the asset including assumptions regarding risk.

The assets 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.

The following is a description of the valuation methodology used for assets measured at fair value. There have been no changes in methodologies used at December 31, 2024 and 2023.

Common Stock of Ryan Lawn & Tree, Inc. – The fair value of the common stock held by the Plan is based on an independent appraisal. This appraisal was based on the Market Approach – *Guideline Public Company Method* (6 different methods) and the Income Approach – *Discounted Future Returns Method* (1 method). These methods take into account historical and projected cash flows and net income, return on assets, return on equity, market comparables and estimated fair value of company assets and liabilities. The methods also take into account a provision for income taxes even though the Company is organized as an S Corporation. Plan management has also considered that a market participant would also recognize a discount for lack of marketability.

Money Market Fund – Valued at the published net asset value (NAV) of shares held by the plan at year end.

The preceding methods described may produce a fair value calculation that may not be indicative of net realizable value or reflective of future fair values. Furthermore, although 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 Plan's investment is reported at fair value as follows at December 31, 2024 and 2023:

	<u>Fair Value</u>	<u>Fair Value Measurements Using:</u>		
		<u>Level 1</u>	<u>Level 2</u>	<u>Level 3</u>
December 31, 2024:				
Money market fund	\$ 424,204	\$ 424,204		
Common Stock of Ryan Lawn & Tree, Inc.	<u>69,158,880</u>			<u>\$ 69,158,880</u>
	<u>\$ 69,583,084</u>	<u>\$ 424,204</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ 69,158,880</u>

	<u>Fair Value</u>	<u>Fair Value Measurements Using:</u>		
		<u>Level 1</u>	<u>Level 2</u>	<u>Level 3</u>
December 31, 2023:				
Common Stock of Ryan Lawn & Tree, Inc.	<u>\$ 59,279,040</u>			<u>\$ 59,279,040</u>
	<u>\$ 59,279,040</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ 59,279,040</u>

The following represents the Plan's investment in Company common stock:

	<u>2024</u>		<u>2023</u>	
	<u>Allocated</u>	<u>Unallocated</u>	<u>Allocated</u>	<u>Unallocated</u>
Company Stock of Ryan Lawn & Tree, Inc.:				
Number of Shares	<u>16,656.942</u>	<u>1,639.058</u>	<u>16,380.442</u>	<u>1,915.558</u>
Cost	<u>\$ 2,468,413</u>	<u>\$ 1,690,927</u>	<u>\$ 2,204,767</u>	<u>\$ 1,954,573</u>
Estimated fair value	<u>\$ 62,963,240</u>	<u>\$ 6,195,640</u>	<u>\$ 53,072,632</u>	<u>\$ 6,206,408</u>

The following table provides further details of Level 3 fair value measurements at December 31, 2024:

	<u>Company Stock of Ryan Lawn & Tree, Inc.</u>
Beginning Balance	\$ 59,279,040
Realized gains/(losses)	
Unrealized gains/(losses) relating to investments still held at year end	9,879,840
Purchases	-
Sales	-
	<u>\$ 69,158,880</u>
The amount of total gains/(losses) for the period included in changes in net assets attributable to the change in unrealized gains/(losses) relating to assets still held at year end	
	<u>\$ 9,879,840</u>

The following table represents the Plan's level 3 financial instruments, the valuation techniques used to measure the fair value of those financial instruments, and the significant unobservable inputs and the ranges of values for those inputs.

<u>Investment</u>	<u>Fair Value 12/31/2024</u>	<u>Valuation Technique</u>	<u>Significant Unobservable Inputs</u>
Common Stock of Ryan Lawn, & Tree, Inc	\$ 69,158,880	Market Approach <i>Guideline Public Company Method</i>	- Liquidity, Coverage & Leverage Ratios - Profitability & Return Ratios - Growth rates - Market Pricing Multiples - Premium for Control - Discount for lack of marketability
		Income Approach <i>Discounted Future Returns Method</i>	- Earnings Stream - Discount Rate - Terminal Value - Sustainable Long-Term Growth Rate - Premium for Control - Discount for lack of marketability

The valuation process involves plan management's selection of an independent appraiser under contract with the right to cancel such contract at any time. Plan management accumulates the data for the appraiser from the financial statements of the Company. The appraiser prepares a preliminary report which plan management, along with the ESOP Trustees, review in detail, discuss and approve.

4. INVESTMENT RISK AND CONCENTRATIONS

The Plan's primary investment consists of the Company's common stock, which is exposed to various risks, such as interest rate, market, and credit risks, as well as valuation assumptions based on earnings, cash flows, and other such techniques. Due to the level of risk associated with the investment in the common stock and the uncertainties inherent in estimates and assumptions, it is at least reasonably possible that changes in the value of the common stock will occur in the near term and that such changes could materially affect the amounts reported in the statement of net assets available for benefits.

The Company stock held by the Plan comprises 99% of total plan assets at December 31, 2024 and 2023. The fair value of the Company stock is directly impacted by the business performance and expectations of the Company. The Company results may be positively or negatively impacted by economic, business, and political conditions at the national, state, and local levels. Such conditions include inflation, unemployment, recession, and availability of qualified professionals, among other things. Due to the level of risk associated with the businesses of the Company, it is reasonably possible that changes in the values of the Company's stock will occur in the near term and such changes could materially affect the amounts reported in the statements of net assets available for benefits.

5. INFORMATION CERTIFIED BY THE CUSTODIAN

The Plan Administrator has elected the method of annual reporting compliance permitted by 29 CFR 2520.103-8 of the Department of Labor Rules and Regulations for Reporting and Disclosures under ERISA. Accordingly, Alerus Financial, N.A., the custodian of the Plan, has certified that the following data included in the accompanying financial statements and supplemental schedule is complete and accurate with respect to investments as of December 31, 2024, and for the year ended December 31, 2024:

- Investments, at estimated fair value
- Investments, at fair value
- Interest income
- Net appreciation in estimated fair value of investments
- Schedule of assets (held at end of year)

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

6. TAX STATUS

The Company adopted a Non-Standardized Employee Stock Ownership Pre-Approved Plan which received a favorable opinion letter from the IRS on June 30, 2020, which stated that the Plan and related trust are designed in accordance with applicable sections of the IRC. The Plan has been amended since the date of the opinion letter. However, the Company believes that the Plan is currently designed and being operated in compliance with the applicable requirements of the IRC and that, therefore, the Plan qualifies under Section 401(a) and the related trust is tax-exempt as of December 31, 2024. Therefore, no provision for income taxes has been included in the Plan's financial statements.

Generally accepted accounting principles requires Plan management to evaluate tax positions taken by the Plan and recognizes a tax liability (or asset) if the Plan has taken an uncertain tax position that more likely than not would not be sustained upon examination by the applicable taxing authorities. The Plan is subject to routine audits by taxing jurisdictions; however, there are currently no audits for any tax periods in progress.

7. NOTES PAYABLE – RELATED PARTY

The Plan borrowed funds from the former majority owners in 2019 to fund the purchase of 2,354 shares of the Company’s common stock. Unallocated shares are collateral for the loan. The agreement, dated May 1, 2019, calls for monthly principal and interest payments of \$20,165. The loan bears an interest rate of 2.70% with a maturity date of May 1, 2029. The balance of the note at December 31, 2024 and 2023, was \$1,006,429 and \$1,218,130, respectively.

The Plan borrowed funds from the Company in 2019 to fund the purchase of 822 shares of the Company’s common stock. Unallocated shares are collateral for the loan. The agreement, dated July 26, 2019, calls for monthly principal and interest payments of \$5,473. The loan bears an interest rate of 2.47% with a maturity date of July 26, 2039. The balance of the note at December 31, 2024 and 2023, was \$803,590 and \$848,812, respectively.

Scheduled principal payments for the next 5 years and thereafter, are as follows:

2025	\$ 263,840
2026	270,944
2027	278,238
2028	285,729
2029	151,309
Thereafter	<u>559,959</u>
	<u>\$ 1,810,019</u>

8. EXEMPT PARTY-IN-INTEREST TRANSACTIONS

The Plan invests in the Company common stock and has indebtedness with the Company and with the former majority owners. These are related party and party-in-interest transactions. The Company pays all the Plan expenses, except interest expense. The Plan has a number of service providers. Such providers are party-in-interest under ERISA.

* * * * *

RYAN LAWN & TREE, INC. EMPLOYEE STOCK OWNERSHIP PLAN

FORM 5500, SCHEDULE H, PART IV, LINE 4i
SCHEDULE OF ASSETS (HELD AT END OF YEAR) – DECEMBER 31, 2024

Employer Identification Number: 48-1078206 Plan Identification Number: 002

(a)	(b)	(c)	(d)	(e)
	Identity of Issue, Borrower, Lessor or Similar Party	Description of Investment Including Maturity Date, Rate of Interest, Collateral, Par or Maturity Value	Cost	Current Value
*	Common Stock of Ryan Lawn & Tree, Inc.	Common Stock, 18,296 shares	\$ 4,159,340	\$ 69,158,880
	Vanguard Federal Money Market	Mney Market Fund	<u>424,204</u>	<u>424,204</u>
	Total Investments		<u>\$ 4,583,544</u>	<u>\$ 69,583,084</u>

* Represents a party-in-interest.

RYAN LAWN & TREE, INC. EMPLOYEE STOCK OWNERSHIP PLAN

FORM 5500, SCHEDULE H, PART IV, LINE 4i
SCHEDULE OF ASSETS (HELD AT END OF YEAR) – DECEMBER 31, 2024

Employer Identification Number: 48-1078206 Plan Identification Number: 002

(a)	(b)	(c)	(d)	(e)
	Identity of Issue, Borrower, Lessor or Similar Party	Description of Investment Including Maturity Date, Rate of Interest, Collateral, Par or Maturity Value	Cost	Current Value
*	Common Stock of Ryan Lawn & Tree, Inc.	Common Stock, 18,296 shares	\$ 4,159,340	\$ 69,158,880
	Vanguard Federal Money Market	Mney Market Fund	<u>424,204</u>	<u>424,204</u>
	Total Investments		<u>\$ 4,583,544</u>	<u>\$ 69,583,084</u>

* Represents a party-in-interest.