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

2025

This Form is Open to Public Inspection

Part I Annual Report Identification Information

For calendar plan year 2025 or fiscal plan year beginning 01/01/2025 and ending 12/31/2025

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
BACKLUND INVESTMENT CO. EMPLOYEE STOCK OWNERSHIP PLAN AND TRUST

1b Three-digit plan number (PN) ▶ 004

1c Effective date of plan 01/01/2015

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)
BACKLUND INVESTMENT CO

4818 NORTH PROSPECT ROAD
PEORIA HEIGHTS, IL 61616

2b Employer Identification Number (EIN)
37-0898008

2c Plan Sponsor's telephone number
309-243-1040

2d Business code (see instructions)
522110

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.	10/15/2026	STEVE BACKLUND
	Signature of plan administrator	Date	Enter name of individual signing as plan administrator
SIGN HERE			
	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 [X] 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:	**4b**	EIN
a	Sponsor's name	**4d**	PN
c	Plan Name		

5	Total number of participants at the beginning of the plan year	**5**	232
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	**6a(1)**	166
a(2)	Total number of active participants at the end of the plan year	**6a(2)**	144
b	Retired or separated participants receiving benefits	**6b**	27
c	Other retired or separated participants entitled to future benefits	**6c**	35
d	Subtotal. Add lines **6a(2)**, **6b**, and **6c**.	**6d**	206
e	Deceased participants whose beneficiaries are receiving or are entitled to receive benefits.	**6e**	0
f	Total. Add lines **6d** and **6e**.	**6f**	206
g(1)	Number of participants with account balances as of the beginning of the plan year (only defined contribution plans complete this item)	**6g(1)**	213
g(2)	Number of participants with account balances as of the end of the plan year (only defined contribution plans complete this item)	**6g(2)**	206
h	Number of participants who terminated employment during the plan year with accrued benefits that were less than 100% vested.	**6h**	6
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 Characteristic Codes in the instructions:

2E 2O 2Q 3H

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

9a Plan funding arrangement (check all that apply)		**9b** Plan benefit arrangement (check all that apply)	
(1) [ ]	Insurance	**(1)** [ ]	Insurance
(2) [ ]	Code section 412(e)(3) insurance contracts	**(2)** [ ]	Code section 412(e)(3) insurance contracts
(3) [X]	Trust	**(3)** [X]	Trust
(4) [ ]	General assets of the sponsor	**(4)** [ ]	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

- **(1)** [X] **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)** [X] **H** (Financial Information)
- **(2)** [ ] **I** (Financial Information – Small Plan)
- **(3)** [ ] **A** (Insurance Information) – Number Attached _____
- **(4)** [X] **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 2025 Form M-1 annual report. If the plan was not required to file the 2025 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)	Service Provider Information	OMB No. 1210-0110
Department of the Treasury Internal Revenue Service Department of Labor Employee Benefits Security Administration Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation	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.**	**2025** **This Form is Open to Public Inspection.**

For calendar plan year 2025 or fiscal plan year beginning 01/01/2025 and ending 12/31/2025

A Name of plan	**B** Three-digit plan number (PN) ▶	
BACKLUND INVESTMENT CO. EMPLOYEE STOCK OWNERSHIP PLAN AND TRUST		004
C Plan sponsor's name as shown on line 2a of Form 5500	**D** Employer Identification Number (EIN)	
BACKLUND INVESTMENT CO	37-0898008	

Part I Service Provider Information (see instructions)

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

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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)

EPIC RETIREMENT PLAN SERVICES

16-1450952

(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	NONE	18495	Yes ☐ No ☐	Yes ☐ No ☐		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 ☐

(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
(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.	

(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

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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

2025

This Form is Open to Public Inspection

For calendar plan year 2025 or fiscal plan year beginning 01/01/2025 and ending 12/31/2025

A Name of plan
BACKLUND INVESTMENT CO. EMPLOYEE STOCK OWNERSHIP PLAN AND TRUST

B Three-digit plan number (PN) ▶ 004

C Plan sponsor's name as shown on line 2a of Form 5500
BACKLUND INVESTMENT CO

D Employer Identification Number (EIN)
37-0898008

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	250	15350
b Receivables (less allowance for doubtful accounts):			
(1) Employer contributions	1b(1)	302254	301129
(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)	4842813	5377500
(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)	241020	230130
(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)	434754	708417
(14) Value of funds held in insurance company general account (unallocated contracts)	1c(14)		
(15) Other	1c(15)		

		(a) Beginning of Year	(b) End of Year
1d Employer-related investments:			
(1) Employer securities	1d(1)	17219014	19577271
(2) Employer real property	1d(2)		
1e Buildings and other property used in plan operation	1e		
1f Total assets (add all amounts in lines 1a through 1e)	1f	23040105	26209797
Liabilities			
1g Benefit claims payable	1g		
1h Operating payables	1h		
1i Acquisition indebtedness	1i		
1j Other liabilities	1j		
1k Total liabilities (add all amounts in lines 1g through1j)	1k		
Net Assets			
1l Net assets (subtract line 1k from line 1f)	1l	23040105	26209797

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)	301129	
(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)		301129
b Earnings on investments:			
(1) Interest:			
(A) Interest-bearing cash (including money market accounts and certificates of deposit)	2b(1)(A)	223432	
(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)		223432
(2) Dividends: **(A)** Preferred stock	2b(2)(A)		
(B) Common stock	2b(2)(B)	1174280	
(C) Registered investment company shares (e.g. mutual funds)	2b(2)(C)	27534	
(D) Total dividends. Add lines **2b(2)(A)**, **(B)**, and **(C)**	2b(2)(D)		1201814
(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)	2358257	
(C) Total unrealized appreciation of assets. Add lines **2b(5)(A)** and **(B)**	2b(5)(C)		2358257

		(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)		5741
c Other income	2c		
d Total income. Add all **income** amounts in column (b) and enter total	2d		4090373
Expenses			
e Benefit payment and payments to provide benefits:			
(1) Directly to participants or beneficiaries, including direct rollovers	2e(1)	899527	
(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)		899527
f Corrective distributions (see instructions)	2f		
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)	18495	
(4) IQPA audit fees	2i(4)		
(5) Investment advisory and investment management fees	2i(5)	2654	
(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)	5	
(12) Total administrative expenses. Add lines **2i(1)** through **(11)**	2i(12)		21154
j Total expenses. Add all **expense** amounts in column (b) and enter total	2j		920681
Net Income and Reconciliation			
k Net income (loss). Subtract line **2j** from line **2d**	2k		3169692
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) [X] 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)** [X] 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: WIPFLI LLP **(2)** EIN: 39-0758449

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.)	**4a**		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.)	**4b**		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.)	**4c**		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.)	**4d**		X	
e Was this plan covered by a fidelity bond?	**4e**	X		6000000
f Did the plan have a loss, whether or not reimbursed by the plan's fidelity bond, that was caused by fraud or dishonesty?	**4f**		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?	**4g**		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?	**4h**		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.)	**4i**	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.)	**4j**		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?	**4k**		X	
l Has the plan failed to provide any benefit when due under the plan?	**4l**		X	
m If this is an individual account plan, was there a blackout period? (See instructions and 29 CFR 2520.101-3.)	**4m**		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.	**4n**			

5a Has a resolution to terminate the plan been adopted during the plan year or any prior plan year? [ ] Yes [X] 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

2025

This Form is Open to Public Inspection.

For calendar plan year 2025 or fiscal plan year beginning 01/01/2025 and ending 12/31/2025

A Name of plan
BACKLUND INVESTMENT CO. EMPLOYEE STOCK OWNERSHIP PLAN AND TRUST

B Three-digit plan number (PN) ▶ 004

C Plan sponsor's name as shown on line 2a of Form 5500
BACKLUND INVESTMENT CO

D Employer Identification Number (EIN)
37-0898008

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): 33-6134835

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

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 06 / 30 / 2020 (MM/DD/YYYY) and the Opinion Letter serial number Q703494A .

WIPFLI

Backlund Investment Co. Employee Stock Ownership Plan and Trust

Financial Statements and Supplemental Schedule

Including Independent Auditor's Report

As of December 31, 2025 and 2024

and for the Year Ended December 31, 2025

Independent Auditor's Report

To the Plan Trustees of Backlund Investment Co. Employee Stock Ownership Plan and Trust

Opinion on the 2025 Financial Statements

We have audited the financial statements of Backlund Investment Co. Employee Stock Ownership Plan and Trust (the Plan), an employee benefit plan subject to the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 (ERISA), which comprise the statement of net assets available for benefits as of December 31, 2025, and the related statement of changes in net assets available for benefits for the year ended December 31, 2025, and the related notes to the financial statements.

In our opinion, the accompanying financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the net assets available for benefits of Backlund Investment Co. Employee Stock Ownership Plan and Trust as of December 31, 2025, and the changes in its net assets available for benefits for the year ended December 31, 2025, in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

Basis for Opinion on the 2025 Financial Statements

We conducted our audit 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 Backlund Investment Co. Employee Stock Ownership Plan and Trust 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 audit opinion.

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Responsibilities of Management for the 2025 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.

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 Backlund Investment Co. Employee Stock Ownership Plan and Trust's ability to continue as a going concern for at least one year following 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 2025 Financial Statements

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.

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- 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 Backlund Investment Co. Employee Stock Ownership Plan and Trust'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 Backlund Investment Co. Employee Stock Ownership Plan and Trust's ability to continue as a going concern for a reasonable period of time.

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 - 2025 Supplemental Schedule Required by ERISA

Our audit was conducted for the purpose of forming an opinion on the financial statements as a whole. The supplemental schedule of Schedule H, line 4i - Schedule of Assets (Held at End of Year), as of December 31, 2025 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 (DOL) 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 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 GAAS.

In forming our opinion on the supplemental schedule, we evaluated whether the supplemental schedule, including its form and content, is presented in conformity with the DOL's Rules and Regulations for Reporting and Disclosure under ERISA.

In our opinion, the information in the accompanying supplemental schedule is fairly stated, in all material respects, in relation to the financial statements as a whole, and the form and content are presented in conformity with the DOL's Rules and Regulations for Reporting and Disclosure under ERISA.

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Other Matter - 2024 Financial Statement

The financial statements of Backlund Investment Co. Employee Stock Ownership Plan and Trust as of December 31, 2024, were audited by other auditors whose report dated July 29, 2025, expressed an unmodified opinion on those statements.

Wipfli LLP

Wipfli LLP
Lincolnshire, Illinois

October 15, 2026

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Backlund Investment Co. Employee Stock Ownership Plan and Trust

Statements of Net Assets Available for Benefits

As of December 31, 2025 and 2024

	2025	2024
Assets		
Investments at fair value		
Backlund Investment Co. common stocks	$19,577,271	$17,219,014
Illinois Credit Life Reinsurance Company, Ltd. common stock	230,130	241,020
Certificates of deposit	2,646,413	3,459,744
Mutual funds	708,417	434,754
Interest bearing cash	2,731,087	1,383,069
Total investments at fair value	25,893,318	22,737,601
Non-interest bearing cash	15,350	250
Receivables		
Company contributions	301,129	302,254
Net assets available for benefits	$26,209,797	$23,040,105

See accompanying notes to the financial statements.

Backlund Investment Co. Employee Stock Ownership Plan and Trust

Statement of Changes in Net Assets Available for Benefits

For the Year Ended December 31, 2025

	2025
Additions	
Investment income	
Net appreciation in fair value of common stock	$ 2,347,267
Net appreciation in fair value of other investments	16,730
Interest and dividends on other investments	250,966
Dividends on company stock	1,174,281
Total investment income	3,789,244
Contributions	
Company contributions	301,129
Total additions	4,090,373
Deductions	
Benefits paid to participants	899,527
Administrative expenses	21,154
Total deductions	920,681
Net increase	3,169,692
Net assets available for benefits	
Beginning of year	23,040,105
End of year	$26,209,797

See accompanying notes to the financial statements.

1. Description of Plan

The following description of the Backlund Investment Co. Employee Stock Ownership Plan and Trust (the Plan) provides only general information. Participants should refer to the plan document for a more complete description of the Plan's provisions.

General

The Plan is an employee stock ownership plan (ESOP) established effective January 1, 2015. The Plan covers all employees of Backlund Investment Co. (the Sponsor) and its subsidiaries including Better Banks and State Street Bank & Trust Company (collectively, the Company) who have completed one year of service, attained age 21, and enter the Plan on the first day of the Plan year coinciding with or following satisfaction of the eligibility requirements. The Plan is designed to comply with Section 4975(e)(7) and the regulations thereunder of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended (IRC), and is subject to the provisions of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974, as amended (ERISA).

Contributions

Each year, the Company may make contributions, in the form of common stock or cash, to the Plan. Contributions for each year are never less than the amount required to enable the Plan to meet its current distribution requirements, as defined by the Plan. Employee contributions are not permitted. Participants who are not employed on the last working day of a Plan year are generally not eligible for an allocation of Company contributions for such year. The Company may also elect to make a discretionary contribution to the Plan. During the year ended December 31, 2025, the Company made a 3% safe harbor contribution. For the year ended December 31, 2025, there were no discretionary contributions to the Plan. Contributions are subject to Internal Revenue Service (IRS) limitations.

Participant accounts

The Plan is a defined contribution plan under which a separate individual account is established for each participant. Each participant’s account is credited as of the last day of each Plan year with an allocation of Company safe harbor and discretionary contributions, if any, and forfeitures of terminated participants’ nonvested accounts. With regard to discretionary contributions and forfeitures, only those participants who are eligible employees of the Company as of the last day of the Plan year will receive an allocation. Allocations are based on a participant's eligible compensation, relative to total eligible compensation. Plan earnings or losses are allocated based on each participant's share of the investment at the beginning of the year, less distributions and withdrawals during the year.

1. Description of Plan (Continued)

Vesting

A participant is vested immediately in Company safe harbor contributions plus actual earnings thereon. Vesting in the Company's discretionary contribution portion of their account, plus actual earnings thereon, is based on years of credited service. A participant is 100% vested after six years of credited service using a graded vesting schedule. Notwithstanding the above, a participant is fully vested upon reaching normal retirement age, death, or permanent disability.

Voting rights

Each participant is entitled to exercise voting rights attributable to the shares allocated to his or her account and is notified by EPIC Retirement Plan Services, the Custodian, prior to the time that such rights are to be exercised. The Custodian is not permitted to vote any allocated share for which instructions have not been given by a participant.

Payment of benefits

Upon termination of employment, a participant may receive the vested portion of his or her account in a lump-sum distribution. The Plan also permits partial lump-sum distributions and certain installment distributions in accordance with the Plan's provisions. Distributions may be subject to the special rules applicable to Company common stock. The amount distributed is based upon the applicable account valuation date. If a terminated participant's vested balance is less than or equal to $5,000, the amount may be automatically distributed as a lump-sum. Balances invested in Company common stock may generally be distributed over a five-year installment period. For accounts exceeding $1,380,000, the five-year period shall be extended one additional year, up to a maximum of five additional years, for each $275,000 or fraction thereof that the balance exceeds $1,380,000. Distributions are made in cash based upon the immediately preceding valuation date.

Forfeited accounts

Plan forfeitures may be used to reduce future Company contributions, pay plan administrative expenses, or be allocated to participant accounts in accordance with the provisions of the Plan. At December 31, 2025 and 2024, forfeited nonvested accounts totaled $0 and $0, respectively. During 2025, $621 was allocated to participant accounts from forfeited nonvested accounts.

1. Description of Plan (Continued)

Put option

Under federal income tax regulations, the Company stock that is held by the Plan and its participants and is not readily tradable on an established market, or is subject to trading limitations, includes a put option. The put option is a right to demand that the Company buy any shares of its stock distributed to participants for which there is no market. The put price is representative of the current appraised value of the stock. The Company can pay for the purchase with interest over a period of five years. The purpose of the put option 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 common stock into investments which are more diversified. Participants who are at least age 55 with at least 10 years of participation service in the Plan may elect to diversify a portion of their account. Diversification is offered to each eligible participant over a six-year period. In each of the first five years, a participant may diversify up to 25% of the number of post-1986 shares allocated to his or her account, less any shares previously diversified. In the sixth year, the percentage changes to 50%. Participants who elect to diversify receive a rollover distribution to the Backlund Investment Co. Profit Sharing & 401(k) Plan, unless a participant elects otherwise.

2. Summary of Accounting Policies

Basis of Accounting

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

Use of Estimates

The preparation of financial statements in accordance 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 changes therein, and disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities. Actual results could differ from those estimates.

2. Summary of Accounting Policies (Continued)

Investment Valuation and Income Recognition

Investments are reported at fair value. Fair value is the price that would be received to sell an asset or paid to transfer a liability in an orderly transaction between market participants at the measurement date. See Note 4 for discussion of fair value measurements.

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

Payment of Benefits

Benefits are recorded when paid.

Expenses

Certain expenses of maintaining the Plan are paid by the Plan, unless otherwise paid by the Company. Expenses that are paid by the Company are excluded from these financial statements. Certain expenses incurred in connection with the general administration of the Plan that are paid by the Plan are recorded as deductions in the accompanying Statement of Net Assets Available for Benefits.

Subsequent Events

Subsequent events were evaluated through October 15, 2026, the date the financial statements were available to be issued.

3. Investments in Common Stock

The Plan's investments in the common stock at December 31, are presented in the following table:

	2025	2024
Backlund Investment Co.		
Number of shares	133,688	133,688
Estimated fair value	$19,577,271	$17,219,014
Illinois Credit Life Reinsurance Company, Ltd.		
Number of shares	3,000	3,000
Estimated fair value	$ 230,130	$ 241,020

It is not practical to determine the cost basis of the common stock.

4. Fair Value Measurements

The framework for measuring fair value 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) and the lowest priority to unobservable inputs (Level 3). The three levels of the fair value hierarchy under FASB ASC 820, *Fair Value Measurement*, are described as follows:

Level 1 - Inputs to the valuation technique 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 technique 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;
- 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.

4. Fair Value Measurements (Continued)

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

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

Following is a description of the valuation techniques used for assets measured at fair value. There have been no changes in the techniques used at December 31, 2025 and 2024.

Backlund Investment Co. common stock: The fair value of the Company common stock held by the Plan is determined based on an independent third-party appraisal. The valuation considers the Company's financial condition and operating performance and market data for comparable publicly traded banking institutions. The valuation utilizes an earnings value method and a book value method. The resulting values are weighted to determine an indicated value, which is then adjusted for a discount for lack of marketability to determine the fair value of a minority interest in the Company's common stock.

Illinois Credit Life Reinsurance Company, Ltd. common stock: Valued based on book value of Illinois Credit Life Reinsurance Company, Ltd., which is considered to approximate fair value.

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

Certificates of deposit and interest-bearing cash: Valued based on cost, which approximates fair value in a noninflationary economy and is protected up to the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation limit. Certain certificates of deposit are valued based on fair value by discounting the related cash flows based on current yields of similar instruments with comparable durations considering the credit worthiness of the issuer.

4. Fair Value Measurements (Continued)

Assets at Fair Value as of December 31, 2025	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Total
Backlund Investment Co. common stock	$ -	$ -	$19,577,271	$19,577,271
Illinois Credit Life Reinsurance Company, Ltd. common stock	-	-	230,130	230,130
Certificates of deposit	2,646,413	-	-	2,646,413
Mutual funds	708,417	-	-	708,417
Interest bearing cash	2,731,087	-	-	2,731,087
Total investments at fair value	$ 6,085,917	$ -	$19,807,401	$25,893,318

Assets at Fair Value as of December 31, 2024	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Total
Backlund Investment Co. common stock	$ -	$ -	$17,219,014	$17,219,014
Illinois Credit Life Reinsurance Company, Ltd. common stock	-	-	241,020	241,020
Certificates of deposit	3,459,744	-	-	3,459,744
Mutual funds	434,754	-	-	434,754
Interest bearing cash	1,383,069	-	-	1,383,069
Total investments at fair value	$ 5,277,567	$ -	$17,460,034	$22,737,601

5. Plan Termination

Although it has not expressed any intent to do so, the Company reserves the right to terminate the Plan at any time, subject to Plan provisions. Upon termination of the Plan, the Plan Administrator directs the Trustee to pay all liabilities and expenses of the Plan. Subsequently, the interest of each participant in the trust fund will be distributed to such participant or his or her beneficiary at the time prescribed by the Plan agreement and the IRC. In the event of Plan termination, participants would become 100% vested in their Company contributions.

6. Tax Status

The Plan is placing reliance on an opinion letter issued by the Internal Revenue Service (IRC) dated June 30, 2020, to the Plan provider indicating that the form of the pre-approved plan document is acceptable under the applicable provisions of the IRC. The Plan has been amended since receiving the opinion letter. However, the Plan Administrator believes that the Plan is designed and is currently being operated in compliance with the applicable requirements of the IRC and, therefore, believes that the Plan is qualified and the related trust is tax-exempt.

GAAP requires plan management to evaluate tax positions taken by the Plan and recognize a tax liability if the Plan has taken an uncertain position that more likely than not would not be sustained upon examination by the IRS. The Plan is subject to routine audits by taxing jurisdictions; however, there are currently no audits for any tax periods in progress.

7. Risks and Uncertainties

The Plan investments consist primarily 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, book value, market conditions, and other valuation techniques. Due to the level of risk associated with the investment in the common stock and to 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 participants' account balances and the amounts reported in the Statement of Net Assets Available for Benefits.

8. Related-Party and Party-In-Interest Transactions

Company contributions are held and managed by the Plan Trustees, which invests cash received, interest and dividends income and makes distributions to participants. Certain administrative functions of the Plan are performed by officers or employees of the Company. No such officer or employee receives compensation from the Plan.

The Plan invests in Company common stock, which constitutes a related-party and party-in-interest transactions. As described in Note 2, the Company may pay plan expenses. As of December 31, 2025 and 2024, the Plan held 133,688 and 133,688 shares of Company common stock, respectively. The Plan received $1,174,281 in dividends from this stock for the year ended December 31, 2025. The Plan has a number of service providers. Such providers are parties in interest under ERISA. The Plan also maintains interest-bearing cash accounts with the Company's subsidiary banks, which constitute related-party and party-in-interest transactions.

Backlund Investment Co. Employee Stock Ownership Plan and Trust

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

EIN: 37-0898008 Plan Number: 004

As of December 31, 2025

(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
Common stock:				
*	Backlund Investment Co.	133,688 shares**	$ -	$19,577,271
	Illinois Credit Life	3,000 shares**	-	230,130
	Total common stock		$ -	$19,807,401
Certificates of deposit:				
	Bankplus	Rate - 3.85% Matures 5/22/2026	$ 250,000	$ 250,377
	Capital One Bank	Rate - 4.65% Matures - 9/18/2028	350,000	362,682
	Enterprise Bank	Rate - 4.35% Matures - 3/3/2028	250,000	257,265
	First Business Bank	Rate - 4.00% Matures - 8/17/2026	250,000	254,182
	Goldman Sachs	Rate - 3.75% Matures 3/16/2026	250,000	250,411
	Morgan Stanley	Rate - 4.40% Matures - 3/15/2027	200,000	204,911
	UBS Bank Salt Lake City	Rate - 4.55% Matures - 11/29/2028	300,000	306,496
	UBS Bank Salt Lake City	Rate - 4.25% Matures - 2/22/2028	250,000	253,088
	Wells Fargo	Rate - 4.55% Matures - 12/20/2027	250,000	254,427
	Wells Fargo	Rate - 4.36% Matures - 2/22/2027	250,000	252,182
	Total certificates of deposit		$ 2,600,000	$ 2,646,413
Mutual funds:				
	JPMorgan	U.S. Government Money Market Fund	$ 708,422	$ 708,417

Backlund Investment Co. Employee Stock Ownership Plan and Trust

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

EIN: 37-0898008 Plan Number: 004

As of December 31, 2025

(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
Interest-bearing cash:				
*	Better Bank ICS	Rate - 2.90%	$ 1,658,966	$ 1,658,966
*	LPL Financial Cash	Rate - 0.70%	46	46
	OSAIC	Rate - 3.50%	1,067,065	1,067,065
*	State Street Bank & Trust	Rate - 0.15%	5,010	5,010
	Total interest-bearing cash		$ 2,731,087	$ 2,731,087

*Denotes a party-in-interest.

** The supplemental schedule of assets (held at end of year), as of December 31, 2025 that accompanies the financial statements does not disclose the historical cost of common stock held by the trustee. Disclosure of this information is required by the Department of Labor's Rules and Regulations for Reporting and Disclosure under ERISA.

Backlund Investment Co. Employee Stock Ownership Plan and Trust

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

EIN: 37-0898008 Plan Number: 004

As of December 31, 2025

(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
Common stock:				
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	Illinois Credit Life	3,000 shares**	-	230,130
	Total common stock		$ -	$19,807,401
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	First Business Bank	Rate - 4.00% Matures - 8/17/2026	250,000	254,182
	Goldman Sachs	Rate - 3.75% Matures 3/16/2026	250,000	250,411
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	UBS Bank Salt Lake City	Rate - 4.55% Matures - 11/29/2028	300,000	306,496
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	Wells Fargo	Rate - 4.55% Matures - 12/20/2027	250,000	254,427
	Wells Fargo	Rate - 4.36% Matures - 2/22/2027	250,000	252,182
	Total certificates of deposit		$ 2,600,000	$ 2,646,413
Mutual funds:				
	JPMorgan	U.S. Government Money Market Fund	$ 708,422	$ 708,417

Backlund Investment Co. Employee Stock Ownership Plan and Trust

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

EIN: 37-0898008 Plan Number: 004

As of December 31, 2025

(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
Interest-bearing cash:				
*	Better Bank ICS	Rate - 2.90%	$ 1,658,966	$ 1,658,966
*	LPL Financial Cash	Rate - 0.70%	46	46
	OSAIC	Rate - 3.50%	1,067,065	1,067,065
*	State Street Bank & Trust	Rate - 0.15%	5,010	5,010
	Total interest-bearing cash		$ 2,731,087	$ 2,731,087

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** The supplemental schedule of assets (held at end of year), as of December 31, 2025 that accompanies the financial statements does not disclose the historical cost of common stock held by the trustee. Disclosure of this information is required by the Department of Labor's Rules and Regulations for Reporting and Disclosure under ERISA.