

# FINANCIAL STATEMENTS TOGETHER WITH INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT

**DECEMBER 31, 2010** 

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#### INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT

Plan Administrator and the Commerce Department of the State of Minnesota Minnesota Workers' Compensation Assigned Risk Plan Minneapolis, Minnesota

We have audited the balance sheet of the Minnesota Workers' Compensation Assigned Risk Plan (the Plan) as of December 31, 2010 and 2009, and the related statements of income and comprehensive income, changes in policyholders' surplus, and cash flows for the years then ended. These financial statements are the responsibility of the plan administrator. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audits.

We conducted our audits in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. An audit also includes assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall financial statement presentation. We believe that our audits provide a reasonable basis for our opinion.

In our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the Minnesota Workers' Compensation Assigned Risk Plan as of December 31, 2010 and 2009, and the results of its operations and its cash flows for the years then ended in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

St. Paul, Minnesota June 15, 2011 Olsen Thielen & Co., Ltd.

# BALANCE SHEET DECEMBER 31, 2010 AND 2009

ASSETS		
	2010	2009
INVESTMENTS: Fixed Maturities - at Fair Value Equity Securities - at Fair Value	\$ 240,987,099	\$ 245,866,552
(Cost: 2010 - \$57,409,580; 2009 - \$56,310,025) Short-Term Investments	66,763,058 3,282,440	59,673,328 10,321,526
Total Investments	311,032,597	315,861,406
Cash Accrued Interest and Dividends	231,206	947,549 1,820,244
Premiums Receivable	1,105,212 6,033,986	6,677,637
Reinsurance Recoverable on Unpaid Losses	354,000,000	389,000,000
Reinsurance Recoverable on Paid Losses Deferred Service Carrier Fees	7,439,611 2,016,862	5,264,842 1,933,477
Deferred Policy Acquisition Costs	779,126	1,537,727
Due From Broker for Security Sales Other Assets	792 288,259	2,589 81,578
TOTAL ASSETS	\$ 682,927,651	\$ 723,127,049
LIABILITIES AND POLICYHOLDE	RS' SURPLUS	
LIABILITIES:		
Reserve for Losses Reserve for Loss Adjustment Expenses	\$ 549,000,000 23,000,000	\$ 604,000,000 24,000,000
Unearned Premiums	15,738,612	18,799,778
Due to Broker for Pending Purchases Special Compensation Fund Assessment Payable	1,009,305 1,284,139	- 1,587,778
Servicing Carrier Administration Fee Payable	1,381,279	1,355,664
Other Liabilities	777,326 592,190,661	718,331
Total Liabilities	392,190,001	650,461,551
POLICYHOLDERS' SURPLUS: Restricted - Terrorism Coverage	3,441,775	3,176,271
Appropriated for State of Minnesota	40,736,990	22,665,498
Unassigned	43,589,788 2,968,437	57,641,364
Accumulated Other Comprehensive Income (Loss) Total Policyholders' Surplus	90,736,990	(10,817,635) 72,665,498
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND POLICYHOLDERS' SURPLUS	\$ 682,927,651	\$ 723,127,049

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

# STATEMENT OF INCOME AND COMPREHENSIVE INCOME YEARS ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2010 AND 2009

REVENUES:	2010	2009
Net Earned Premiums	\$ 33,387,581	\$ 35,879,827
Net Investment Income	10,106,816	15,033,506
Net Realized Capital Gains (Losses)	3,192,579	(4,571,602)
Total Revenues	46,686,976	46,341,731
LOSSES AND EXPENSES INCURRED:		
Losses and Loss Adjustment Expenses	9,619,497	15,628,187
Servicing Carrier Fees	4,569,965	4,734,809
Special Compensation Fund Assessments	944,284	1,011,996
Deficient Premium Assessment Paid to Reinsurer	_	9,390,787
Other Underwriting Expenses	4,602,312	5,199,801
Total Losses and Expenses Incurred	19,736,058	35,965,580
NET INCOME	26,950,918	10,376,151
OTHER COMPREHENSIVE INCOME:		
Change in Unrealized Appreciation (Depreciation) of Investments	13,786,072	24,815,118
Other Comprehensive Income	13,786,072	24,815,118
COMPREHENSIVE INCOME	\$ 40,736,990	\$ 35,191,269

# STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN POLICYHOLDERS' SURPLUS YEARS ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2010 AND 2009

RESTRICTED - TERRORISM COVERAGE: Beginning of Year Transfer From Unassigned Surplus End of Year	2010 \$ 3,176,271 265,504 3,441,775	2009 \$ 2,882,153 294,118 3,176,271
APPROPRIATED FOR STATE OF MINNESOTA: Beginning of Year Transfer From Unassigned Surplus Distributions to the State of Minnesota End of Year	22,665,498 40,736,990 (22,665,498) 40,736,990	22,665,498 
UNASSIGNED: Beginning of Year Net Income Transfer to Restricted - Terrorism Coverage Transfer to Appropriated for State of Minnesota End of Year	57,641,364 26,950,918 (265,504) (40,736,990) 43,589,788	70,224,829 10,376,151 (294,118) (22,665,498) 57,641,364
ACCUMULATED OTHER COMPREHENSIVE INCOME (LOSS): Beginning of Year Change in Unrealized Appreciation (Depreciation) of Investments End of Year	(10,817,635) 13,786,072 2,968,437	(35,632,753) 24,815,118 (10,817,635)
TOTAL POLICYHOLDERS' SURPLUS	\$ 90,736,990	\$ 72,665,498

# STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS YEARS ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2010 AND 2009

CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES: Premiums Collected, Net of Reinsurance Investment Income Received Loss and Loss Adjustment Expenses Paid Deficient Premium Assessment Paid to Reinsurer Special Compensation Fund Assessments Paid Underwriting and Other Expenses Paid Net Cash Used In Operating Activities	2010 \$ 30,970,066 10,668,491 (32,794,266) - (1,247,923) (8,619,132) (1,022,764)	2009 \$ 34,916,599 15,118,778 (34,109,619) (9,390,787) (1,548,281) (9,501,603) (4,514,913)
CASH FLOWS FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES: Purchases of Fixed Maturities Purchases of Equity Securities Proceeds From Sales and Paydowns of Fixed Maturities Proceeds From Sales of Equity Securities Due to/Due From Broker for Security Purchases and Sales Net Change in Short-Term Investments Distributions to the State of Minnesota Net Cash Provided By Investing Activities	(481,922,961) (25,765,317) 498,272,579 24,337,430 1,011,102 7,039,086 (22,665,498) 306,421	(140,589,402) (24,875,386) 146,004,354 24,370,328 (1,156,542) 839,129 
NET INCREASE (DECREASE) IN CASH	(716,343)	77,568
CASH at Beginning of Year	947,549	869,981
CASH at End of Year	\$ 231,206	\$ 947,549

# **NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

#### **NOTE 1 - DESCRIPTION OF PLAN**

The Minnesota Workers' Compensation Assigned Risk Plan (the Plan) is the source of workers' compensation and employers' liability coverage for Minnesota employers who have been unable to obtain an insurance policy through the voluntary market. Coverage provided through the Plan is substantially the same as coverage available from licensed workers' compensation insurance companies.

The Plan was established in 1982 and contracts with servicing contractors who review applications, issue policies, collect premiums, pay claims, and perform other administrative duties for the Plan per contractual requirements. To the extent that the assets of the Plan are inadequate to meet its obligations, the Commissioner of the Minnesota Department of Commerce shall assess all licensed workers' compensation insurance companies doing business in the state of Minnesota an amount sufficient to fully fund the obligations of the Plan. The assessment of each insurer shall be in a proportion equal to the proportion that the amount of workers' compensation insurance written by that insurer in Minnesota during the calendar year preceding the assessment bears to the total workers' compensation insurance written in Minnesota during the same calendar year by all licensed insurers. No assessments were made in either 2010 or 2009. The servicing contractors bear no share of the Plan's liabilities.

Since inception, the Plan has contracted with seven servicing contractors to administer the program. These contractors are as follows:

- Berkley Risk Administrators Company, LLC (BRAC);
- RTW, Inc. (RTW);
- SFM Risk Solutions, Inc. (SFM);
- Employers Insurance of Wausau, a Mutual Company (EIW);
- Occupational Healthcare Management Services (OHMS);
- Deferred Compensation Administrators, Inc. (DCA); and
- St. Paul Risk Services, Inc. (SPRS)

Policies are allocated to servicing carriers according to each carrier's contractual percentage participation in the program. The percentage participations have varied over time, as outlined in the following chart:

			Percenta	age Particip	oation		
Policy Inception Period	BRAC	RTW	SFM	EIW	OHMS	DCA	SPRS
Inception - 6/30/83	7.0%	-%	-%	30.0%	-%	3.0%	60.0%
7/1/83 - 12/31/86	18.0	_	_	67.0	_	15.0	_
1/1/87 - 3/31/89	50.0	_	_	33.0	_	17.0	-
4/1/89 - 3/31/92	65.0	_	_	35.0	_	_	_
4/1/92 - 3/31/94	50.0	_	_	50.0	_	_	_
4/1/94 - 3/31/97	50.0	_	_	25.0	25.0	_	_
4/1/97 - 6/30/00	50.0	_	_	50.0	_	_	_
7/1/00 - 6/30/04	100.0	_	_	_	_	_	_
7/1/04 - 12/31/09	75.0	25.0	_	_	_	_	_
1/1/10 - 12/31/10	33.3	33.3	33.3	_	_	_	_

# **NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

# **NOTE 2 - SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES**

#### **Basis of Presentation**

The Plan's financial statements are prepared in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America (GAAP).

### **Risks and Uncertainties**

Certain risks and uncertainties are inherent in the Plan's day-to-day operations and in the process of preparing its financial statements. The more significant of those risks and uncertainties, as well as the Plan's methods for mitigating, quantifying, and minimizing such risks, are presented below and throughout the notes to the financial statements.

#### **Financial Statements Risk**

The preparation of financial statements requires the plan administrator to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported financial statement balances, as well as the disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities. The most significant of these amounts is the liability for loss and loss adjustment expense (LAE) reserves. While the plan administrator believes the reserve for losses and LAE makes a reasonable provision to cover the ultimate liability, it is reasonably possible that the actual ultimate loss and LAE costs may vary from amounts provided, and the variance could be material to the financial statements.

# **Investments Risk**

The Plan is exposed to risks that issuers of securities owned by the Plan will default or that interest rates will change and cause a decrease in the value of its investments. The Plan mitigates these risks by investing in high-grade securities and by matching maturities of its investments with the anticipated payouts of its liabilities.

#### **Premiums Receivable Risk**

Premiums receivable represent amounts to be received from insureds. Premiums are calculated based upon information provided by the insured. Audits are performed on the information provided after the policy expiration date. These audits may result in an additional premium billing or a premium refund. Any difference between the initial premium and the audit premium is reflected in current operations when the audit premium is billed or premium refund is recorded.

#### **Investments**

The Plan's entire fixed maturity and equity investment portfolios are classified as available-for-sale, in accordance with the Financial Accounting Standards Board (FASB) *Accounting Standards Codification*. Accordingly, the Plan carries these investments on the balance sheet at estimated fair value.

Short-term investments include investments maturing within one year and money market instruments and are carried at cost, which approximates fair value.

Realized gains and losses from sales of investments are reflected in earnings based on the average cost of the investments sold. The difference between the cost and estimated fair value of investments is monitored. If any investments experience a decline in value that the Plan believes is other than temporary, the asset is written down for the decline and a realized loss is reflected in earnings. Changes in unrealized appreciation or depreciation resulting from changes in the fair value of investments are reflected directly in policyholders' surplus as accumulated other comprehensive income (loss).

#### NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

# NOTE 2 - SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (Continued)

### **Deferred Costs and Fees**

Policy acquisition costs, such as commissions and premium taxes which vary with and are primarily related to the production of business, are deferred and amortized over the effective period of the related insurance policies. If deferred policy acquisition costs were to exceed the sum of unearned premiums and related anticipated investment income less related losses and loss adjustment expenses, the excess costs would be expensed immediately.

Service carrier fees, which are primarily related to the production and maintenance of business, are deferred and amortized over the effective period of the related insurance policies.

#### **Unearned Premiums**

Premiums are earned ratably over the terms of the policies. Unearned premiums are calculated on the daily pro-rata method and represent the unexpired portion of premiums written.

#### Losses and LAE

The reserves for losses and LAE represent an estimate of the ultimate net cost of all claims that have occurred and are unpaid. The reserves are based on loss factors determined by independent consulting actuaries, using statistical analyses and projections and the historical loss experience of the Plan, and give effect to estimates of trends in claim severity and frequency. As claim settlements occur that differ from reserves estimates, these differences are included in current operations.

For policies with inception dates prior to April 1, 1992, the servicing contractors were responsible for all allocated and unallocated LAE incurred in the settlement of losses. Allocated loss adjustment expenses (ALAE) include legal fees and related expenses (expert testimony, investigations, etc.), medical examinations, and other costs paid to third parties associated with the defense and settlement of particular claims. Unallocated loss adjustment expenses (ULAE) include that portion of the cost of settling claims that cannot be attributed to a specific claim and are more in the nature of an overhead expense (servicing contractors' claim adjuster salaries, rent, etc.).

For polices with inception dates after April 1, 1992, the Plan is responsible for legal and related expenses incurred in the settlement of losses and, accordingly, a liability for these amounts has been established. All other ALAE and all ULAE continue to be the responsibility of the servicing contractors.

# **Special Compensation Fund Assessments**

The Minnesota Department of Labor and Industry currently assesses all insurers writing workers' compensation insurance in Minnesota. The assessment pays for the operation of the Special Compensation Fund (SCF). The SCF pays the cost of administration by the State of Minnesota of the workers' compensation laws; reimburses supplementary benefits paid to claimants; reimburses certain benefits paid to claimants with qualifying, prior registered conditions; and pays claims of injured employees of uninsured employers.

In March 2002, legislation was passed by the Minnesota state legislature and signed into law to change the method of assessing insured employers from a loss-based assessment to a premium-based assessment. This change was effective beginning in 2003, from which point the obligating event for assessment liability became the writing of, or becoming obligated to write or renew, the premiums on which the future assessments are to be based. According to MN Senate File 3136, the premium-based method of assessment is to be collected through a policyholder surcharge.

# **NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

# **NOTE 2 - SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (Continued)**

# **Special Compensation Fund Assessments (Continued)**

The special compensation fund assessment payable represents those assessments currently due based on pure premiums and the estimated liabilities for future SCF assessments based on SCF surcharges collected on policies with an effective date on or after January 1, 2003.

# **Restricted Surplus - Terrorism Coverage**

As a result of the "Terrorism Risk Insurance Act" passed by Congress and signed into law by the President in November 2002, the Plan is required to restrict a portion of its surplus for terrorism. Through December 31, 2008, the Plan restricted \$1 for every \$5,000 of payroll covered by the Plan's policies. The "Terrorism Risk Insurance Program Reauthorization Act of 2007" extends this program through 2014 and may require additional amounts to be restricted in future years.

#### **Income Taxes**

The Plan is exempt from paying income taxes under Section 501 of the Internal Revenue Code. Accordingly, no provision for income taxes is included in the accompanying financial statements.

# **Subsequent Events**

In preparing these financial statements, the Plan has evaluated for recognition or disclosure the events or transactions that occurred through June 15, 2011, the date the financial statements were available to be issued.

# **NOTE 3 - CASH PROVIDED BY OPERATING ACTIVITIES**

A reconciliation of cash provided by (used in) operating activities to the amount reflected in the statement of cash flows is as follows:

	2010	2009
Net Cash Flow From Operating Activities:		
Net Income	\$ 26,950,918	\$ 10,376,151
Adjustments to Reconcile Net Income to		
Net Cash Used In Operating Activities:		
Net Realized Capital (Gains) Losses	(3,192,579)	4,571,602
Amortization and Accretion	(153,357)	11,517
Changes in Operating Assets and Liabilities:		
Reserve for Losses and Loss Adjustment Expenses	(56,000,000)	(36,000,000)
Reinsurance Recoverable on Paid Losses	(2,174,769)	1,518,568
Reinsurance Recoverable on Unpaid Losses	35,000,000	16,000,000
Unearned Premiums	(3,061,166)	(2,317,958)
Premiums Receivable	643,651	1,354,730
Deferred Service Carrier Fees	(83,385)	168,949
Deferred Policy Acquisition Costs	758,601	162,909
Special Compensation Fund Assessment Payable	(303,639)	(536,285)
Servicing Carrier Administration Fee Payable	25,615	(80,417)
Other Liabilities	58,995	59,376
Accrued Interest and Dividends	715,032	73,755
Other Assets	(206,681)	122,190
Net Cash Used In Operating Activities	<b>\$</b> (1,022,764)	<u>\$ (4,514,913)</u>

# **NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

# **NOTE 4 - REINSURANCE**

The Plan is reinsured by the Minnesota Workers' Compensation Reinsurance Association (WCRA). There is not, nor has there ever been, any other applicable reinsurance. The following table lists the selected per-occurrence retentions by accident year for the past fourteen years:

	Loss only
Accident Year	Per-Occurrence Retention
1997	\$ 270,000
1998	280,000
1999	290,000
2000	310,000
2001	330,000
2002	350,000
2003	360,000
2004	360,000
2005	380,000
5006	780,000
2007	800,000
2008	820,000
2009	1,720,000
2010	1,800,000

A contingent liability exists with respect to reinsurance ceded to the extent that the reinsurer is unable to meet its obligations assumed under the reinsurance agreement.

The effect of ceded reinsurance on premiums written, premiums earned, and losses and LAE is reflected in the following table:

	2010	2009
Premium Written:		
Direct	\$ 30,413,304	\$ 33,768,135
Ceded	(266,958)	(55,158)
Net Premiums Written	\$ 30,146,346	\$ 33,712,977
Premiums Earned:		
Direct	\$ 33,654,539	\$ 35,934,985
Ceded	(266,958)	(55,158)
Net Premiums Earned	\$ 33,387,581	\$ 35,879,827
Losses and Loss Adjustment Expenses Incurred:		
Direct	\$ 25,678,881	\$ 27,422,049
Ceded	(16,059,384)	(11,793,862)
Net Losses and Loss Adjustment Expenses Incurred	\$ 9,619,497	\$ 15,628,187

# **NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

# **NOTE 5 - INVESTMENTS**

# **Invested Amounts, Investment Income and Gains and Losses**

The amortized cost, gross unrealized appreciation and depreciation, and the estimated fair values of investments in fixed maturities are as follows:

	2010			
	Amortized Cost	Gross Unrealized Appreciation	Gross Unrealized Depreciation	Estimated Fair Value
U.S. Treasury Securities and Other Obligations Mortgage-Backed Securities	\$ 122,041,599 125,330,541	\$ 3,227,841 3,409,502	\$ (6,572,562) (6,449,822)	\$ 118,696,878 122,290,221
<b>Total Fixed Maturities</b>	\$ 247,372,140	\$ 6,637,343	<u>\$ (13,022,384)</u>	\$ 240,987,099
	2009			
		Gross	Gross	
	Amortized Cost	Unrealized Appreciation	Unrealized Depreciation	Estimated Fair Value
U.S. Treasury Securities and Other Obligations Mortgage-Backed Securities	\$ 150,522,453 109,525,037	\$ 4,795,707 3,446,446	\$ (11,791,840) (10,631,251)	\$ 143,526,320 102,340,232
<b>Total Fixed Maturities</b>	\$ 260,047,490	\$ 8,242,153	\$ (22,423,091)	\$ 245,866,552

The amortized cost and estimated fair value of investments in fixed maturities at December 31, 2010 by contractual maturity are shown below. Expected maturities will likely differ from contractual maturities, as borrowers may have the right to call or prepay obligations with or without call or prepayment penalties.

	Amortized Cost	Estimated Fair Value
Due in One Year or Less	\$ 9,812,752	\$ 9,887,896
Due After One Year Through Five Years	66,724,802	67,631,413
Due After Five Years Through Ten Years	20,376,303	19,550,183
Due in More Than Ten Years	25,127,742	21,627,386
Mortgage-Backed Securities	125,330,541	122,290,221
	\$ 247,372,140	\$ 240,987,099

The gross unrealized appreciation and depreciation on equity securities are as follows:

	2010	2009
Unrealized Appreciation Unrealized Depreciation	\$ 10,398,232 (1,044,754)	\$ 6,770,788 (3,407,485)
Net Unrealized Gains (Losses) on Equity Securities	\$ 9,353,478	\$ 3,363,303

# **NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

# **NOTE 5 - INVESTMENTS (Continued)**

# Invested Amounts, Investment Income and Gains and Losses (Continued)

At December 31, 2010 and 2009, gross unrealized losses and fair value, aggregated by investment category and length of time that individual securities have been in a continuous unrealized loss position, are as follows:

	2010						
	Less Than 12 Months		12 Month	12 Months or More		Total	
Description	Fair Value	Unrealized Losses	Fair Value	Unrealized Losses	Fair Value	Unrealized Losses	
U.S. Treasury Securities and Other Obligations Mortgage-Backed Securities Equity Securities	\$ 6,301,606 41,270,826 6,227,784	(677,019)	\$ 24,420,093 7,565,105 4,213,979	\$ (5,102,430) (5,772,802) (640,583)		\$ (6,572,563) (6,449,821) (1,044,754)	
	\$ 53,800,216	\$ (2,551,323)	\$ 36,199,177	\$ (11,515,815)	\$ 89,999,393	\$ (14,067,138)	
			2	009			
	Less Than 12 Months 12 Months or More		ns or More	Total			
	Fair	Unrealized	Fair	Unrealized	Fair	Unrealized	
Description	Value	Losses	Value	Losses	Value	Losses	
U.S. Treasury Securities							
and Other Obligations	\$ 42,414,107	\$ (4,125,877)	\$ 25,520,795	\$ (7,665,963)	\$ 67,934,902	\$ (11,791,840)	
Mortgage-Backed Securities	20,210,261	(1,815,899)	13,210,786	(8,815,352)	33,421,047	(10,631,251)	
Equity Securities	967,952	(108,638)	15,143,124	(3,298,847)	16,111,076	(3,407,485)	
	\$ 63,592,320	\$ (6,050,414)	\$ 53,874,705	\$ (19,780,162)	<u>\$ 117,467,025</u>	\$ (25,830,576)	

The Plan has concluded that no investments have impairment that is other-than-temporary at December 31, 2010. The Plan believes that its unrealized losses in fixed maturities and equity securities are caused by market conditions influenced by the existing economic downturn, as opposed to deterioration in the fundamentals of individual investments, and intends to maintain its investments through this downturn.

Net investment income for 2010 and 2009 is summarized as follows (fixed maturities include interest on short-term investments):

	2010	2009
Fixed Maturities	\$ 9,559,177	\$ 14,591,324
Equity Securities	996,223	865,408
Total	10,555,400	15,456,732
Investment Expenses	(448,584)	(423,226)
Net Investment Income	<u>\$ 10,106,816</u>	\$ 15,033,506

Cash proceeds received from sales of investments in fixed maturities during 2010 and 2009 were \$498,272,579 and \$146,004,354, respectively. In 2010 and 2009, gross gains of \$18,053,087 and \$5,757,296 and gross losses of \$(14,532,186) and \$(6,757,633), respectively, were realized on those sales.

Gross gains of \$2,132,463 and \$1,812,910 and gross losses of \$(2,460,785) and \$(5,384,175) were realized on sales of equity securities in 2010 and 2009, respectively.

# **NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

# **NOTE 5 - INVESTMENTS (Continued)**

# **Fair Value of Financial Instruments**

The FASB *Accounting Standards Codification* establishes a three-tier fair value hierarchy that prioritizes the inputs used in measuring fair value, as follows: Level 1, defined as observable inputs (i.e. quoted prices in active markets); Level 2, defined as inputs other than quoted prices in active markets that are either directly or indirectly observable; and, Level 3, defined as unobservable inputs for which little or no market data exists, which then requires an entity to develop its own assumptions.

The Plan utilizes a pricing service to estimate its fair value measurements for its fixed maturities and equity securities. Since fixed maturities other than U.S. Treasury securities generally do not trade on a daily basis, most fair value estimates for fixed maturities are based on observable market information rather than quoted prices. Accordingly, the estimates of fair value for fixed maturities, other than U.S. Treasury securities, are included in Level 2 of the Standard's hierarchy. U.S. Treasury securities are included in Level 1.

All equity securities owned by the Plan have active markets and are included in Level 1 of the Standard's hierarchy.

The Plan's fixed maturities and equity investments fair value measurements at December 31, 2010 and 2009 are as follows:

	Total	Quoted Prices for Identical Assets (Level 1)	Other Observable Inputs (Level 2)	Unobservable Inputs (Level 3)
2010:				
Fixed Maturities Equity Securities	\$ 240,987,099 66,763,058	\$ 68,853,451 66,763,058	\$ 172,133,648 	\$ <u>-</u>
Totals	\$ 307,750,157	\$ 135,616,509	\$ 172,133,648	<u> </u>
2009:				
Fixed Maturities Equity Securities	\$ 245,866,552 59,673,328	\$ 68,420,080 59,673,328	\$ 177,446,472 	\$ – 
Totals	\$ 305,539,880	\$ 128,093,408	\$ 177,446,472	\$

# **NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

# NOTE 6 - LIABILITY FOR LOSSES AND LOSS ADJUSTMENT EXPENSES

A reconciliation of beginning and end of year balances in the liability for unpaid losses and loss adjustment expenses (LAE), net of reinsurance recoverable for the years ended December 31, 2010 and 2009, is as follows:

	2010	2009
Liability for Losses and LAE at Beginning of Year Reinsurance Recoverable on Unpaid Losses - Beginning of Year Net Liability for Losses and LAE at Beginning of Year	\$ 628,000,000 (389,000,000) 239,000,000	\$ 664,000,000 (405,000,000) 259,000,000
Provision for Losses and LAE for Claims Incurred: Current Year Prior Years Total Incurred	33,647,000 (24,027,503) 9,619,497	34,563,000 (18,934,813) 15,628,187
Losses and LAE Payments for Claims Incurred: Current Year Prior Years Total Paid	5,309,180 25,310,317 30,619,497	5,217,525 30,410,662 35,628,187
Net Liability for Losses and LAE at End of Year	218,000,000	239,000,000
Reinsurance Recoverable on Unpaid Losses - End of Year Liability for Losses and LAE at End of Year	354,000,000 \$ 572,000,000	389,000,000 \$ 628,000,000

As a result of changes in estimates of insured events in prior years, the losses and LAE incurred, net of reinsurance, decreased by approximately \$24,000,000 in 2010 and \$19,000,000 in 2009.

#### **NOTE 7 - CONTINGENCIES**

Since inception, the Plan has contracted with seven servicing contractors to provide policy issuance, premium accounting, and claim settlement services in exchange for a service fee based upon standard written premium. Contingent liabilities exist with respect to the performance of the above services to the extent that the servicing carriers are unable to meet their obligations under terms of the general services agreement.

The Plan, through EIW, has purchased annuities to settle certain claims with the claimant as payee but for which the Plan remains contingently liable. The Plan eliminated its loss reserves for these claims at the time the annuities were purchased. A contingent liability exists to the extent that the issuer of the annuity contracts becomes unable to fulfill its contractual obligations. The issuer, Employers Life Insurance Company of Wausau, is an affiliate of EIW. The present value of all annuity contracts still in force at December 31, 2010 was approximately \$2.8 million.

The Plan is presently not engaged in any litigation that it considers will have a material adverse effect on its business. As is common with other insurance providers, the Plan is regularly engaged in the defense of claims arising out of the conduct of the insurance business.

# **NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

#### **NOTE 8 - OTHER COMPREHENSIVE INCOME**

Comprehensive income is defined as any change in policyholders' surplus originating from non-owner transactions. The Plan has identified those changes as being comprised of net income and change in unrealized appreciation or depreciation on investments. The components of comprehensive income (loss), other than net income, are as follows:

	2010	2009
Unrealized Appreciation Arising During the Period Less Reclassification Adjustment for Realized	\$ 16,978,651	\$ 20,243,516
Capital Gains (Losses) Included in Net Income	3,192,579	(4,571,602)
Total Other Comprehensive Income	\$ 13,786,072	\$ 24,815,118

# **NOTE 9 - POLICYHOLDERS' SURPLUS**

A Minnesota law requires the Plan to transfer its "excess surplus" (as defined in the statute) to the general fund of the State of Minnesota. The amount appropriated by the Plan for the State of Minnesota was \$40,736,990 at December 31, 2010 and \$22,665,498 at December 31, 2009.

# NOTE 10 - DEFICIENT PREMIUM ASSESSMENT PAID TO REINSURER

During 2009, the Plan's reinsurer assessed all of its member insurers and self-insurers to recover recent underwriting and investment losses. Payment of this "deficient premium assessment" to the reinsurer was to be in installments over a five-year period, or in a discounted lump sum. The Plan paid the entire assessment during 2009 and, accordingly, has reflected that amount in the accompanying statement of income and comprehensive income.