

FIRST BANCSHARES INC /MS/
Form 10-Q
May 16, 2011

U. S. SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20549

FORM 10-Q

QUARTERLY REPORT UNDER SECTION 13 OR 15 (D)
OF THE SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934

FOR THE QUARTERLY PERIOD ENDED: March 31, 2011

OR

TRANSITION REPORT PURSUANT TO SECTION 13 OR 15 (D)
OF THE SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934

COMMISSION FILE NUMBER: 33-94288

THE FIRST BANCSHARES, INC.

(EXACT NAME OF ISSUER AS SPECIFIED IN ITS CHARTER)

MISSISSIPPI
(STATE OF INCORPORATION)

64-0862173
(I.R.S. EMPLOYER IDENTIFICATION NO.)

6480 U.S. HIGHWAY 98 WEST
HATTIESBURG, MISSISSIPPI
(ADDRESS OF PRINCIPAL
EXECUTIVE OFFICES)

39402
(ZIP CODE)

(601) 268-8998
(ISSUER'S TELEPHONE NUMBER,
INCLUDING AREA CODE)

NONE
(FORMER NAME, ADDRESS AND FISCAL YEAR, IF CHANGED SINCE LAST REPORT)

INDICATE BY CHECK MARK WHETHER THE ISSUER: (1) HAS FILED ALL REPORTS REQUIRED TO BE FILED BY SECTION 13 OR 15 (D) OF THE SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934 DURING THE PRECEDING 12 MONTHS (OR FOR SUCH SHORTER PERIOD THAT THE REGISTRANT WAS REQUIRED TO FILE SUCH REPORTS), AND (2) HAS BEEN SUBJECT TO SUCH FILING REQUIREMENTS FOR THE PAST 90 DAYS.

YES NO

INDICATE BY CHECK MARK WHETHER THE REGISTRANT IS A LARGE ACCELERATED FILER, AN ACCELERATED FILER, OR A NON-ACCELERATED FILER. SEE DEFINITION OF "ACCELERATED FILER

AND LARGE ACCELERATED FILER” IN RULE 12B-2 OF THE EXCHANGE ACT.

LARGE ACCELERATED FILER ACCELERATED FILER NON-ACCELERATED FILER

ON March 31, 2011, 3,066,072 SHARES OF THE ISSUER'S COMMON STOCK, PAR VALUE \$1.00 PER SHARE, WERE ISSUED AND OUTSTANDING.

TRANSITIONAL DISCLOSURE FORMAT (CHECK ONE):

YES NO

INDICATE BY CHECK MARK WHETHER THE REGISTRANT IS A SHELL COMPANY (AS DEFINED IN RULE 12B-2 OF THE EXCHANGE ACT): YES NO

PART I - FINANCIAL INFORMATION

ITEM NO. 1. FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

THE FIRST BANCSHARES, INC.

CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEETS

(\$ amounts in thousands)

ASSETS	(Unaudited) March 31, 2011	December 31, 2010
Cash and due from banks	\$ 8,835	\$ 12,450
Interest-bearing deposits with banks	50,373	12,443
Federal funds sold	5,002	9,083
Total cash and cash equivalents	64,210	33,976
Securities held-to-maturity, at amortized cost	3	3
Securities available-for-sale, at fair value	107,403	104,534
Other securities	2,600	2,599
Total securities	110,006	107,136
Loans held for sale	1,913	2,938
Loans	334,879	329,635
Allowance for loan losses	(4,302)	(4,617)
Loans, net	332,490	327,956
Premises and equipment	15,374	14,994
Interest receivable	2,018	2,023
Cash surrender value of life insurance	6,130	6,084
Goodwill	702	702
Other assets	10,324	10,174
	\$ 541,254	\$ 503,045
LIABILITIES AND STOCKHOLDERS' EQUITY		
LIABILITIES:		
Deposits:		
Noninterest-bearing	\$ 51,128	\$ 48,312
Interest-bearing	383,536	348,167
TOTAL DEPOSITS	434,664	396,479
Interest payable	387	411

Edgar Filing: FIRST BANCSHARES INC /MS/ - Form 10-Q

Borrowed funds	30,088	30,107
Subordinated debentures	10,310	10,310
Other liabilities	8,198	8,639
TOTAL LIABILITIES	483,647	445,946
STOCKHOLDERS' EQUITY:		
Preferred stock, no par value, \$1,000 per share liquidation, 10,000,000 shares authorized; 17,123 issued and outstanding at March 31, 2011 and at December 31, 2010	16,939	16,939
Common stock, par value \$1 per share, 10,000 shares authorized; 3,092,566 and 3,058,716 shares issued at March 31, 2011 and at December 31, 2010	3,093	3,059
Additional paid-in capital	23,408	23,419
Retained earnings	15,023	14,723
Accumulated other comprehensive loss	(392)	(577)
Treasury stock, at cost, 26,494 shares at March 31, 2011 and at December 31, 2010	(464)	(464)
TOTAL STOCKHOLDERS' EQUITY	57,607	57,099
	\$ 541,254	\$ 503,045

THE FIRST BANCSHARES, INC.
CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF INCOME

(\$ amounts in thousands, except earnings and dividends per share)

	(Unaudited)	
	Three Months Ended	
	March 31,	
	2011	2010
INTEREST INCOME:		
Interest and fees on loans	\$5,014	\$5,010
Interest and dividends on securities:		
Taxable interest and dividends	370	568
Tax exempt interest	330	301
Interest on federal funds sold	19	5
TOTAL INTEREST INCOME	5,733	5,884
INTEREST EXPENSE:		
Interest on deposits	1,181	1,727
Interest on borrowed funds	301	367
TOTAL INTEREST EXPENSE	1,482	2,094
NET INTEREST INCOME	4,251	3,790
PROVISION FOR LOAN LOSSES	348	165
NET INTEREST INCOME AFTER PROVISION FOR LOAN LOSSES	3,903	3,625
OTHER INCOME:		
Service charges on deposit accounts	559	577
Other service charges and fees	356	371
Gain on sale of investment securities	-	-
Impairment loss on securities:		
Total other-than-temporary impairment loss	(1,802)	(755)
Less: Portion of loss recognized in other comprehensive income	1,802	648
Net impairment loss recognized in earnings	-	(107)
TOTAL OTHER INCOME	915	841
OTHER EXPENSES:		
Salaries and employee benefits	2,256	2,103
Occupancy and equipment	537	517
Other	1,731	1,078
TOTAL OTHER EXPENSES	4,524	3,698
INCOME BEFORE INCOME TAXES (BENEFIT)	294	768

INCOME TAXES (BENEFIT)	(207)	232
NET INCOME	501	536
PREFERRED DIVIDENDS	86	62
PREFERRED STOCK ACCRETION	-	14
NET INCOME APPLICABLE TO COMMON STOCKHOLDERS	\$415	\$460
NET INCOME APPLICABLE TO COMMON STOCKHOLDERS:		
BASIC	\$.14	\$.15
DILUTED	.14	.15
DIVIDENDS PER SHARE – COMMON	.0375	.075

THE FIRST BANCSHARES, INC.
CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF CHANGES IN STOCKHOLDERS' EQUITY

	Common Stock	Preferred Stock	Stock Warrants	Additional Paid-in Capital	Retained Earnings	Accumulated Other Compre- hensive Income(Loss)	Treasury Stock	Total
Balance, January 1, 2010	\$3,046	\$4,773	\$-	\$ 23,418	\$12,944	\$ (101)	\$(464)	\$43,616
Net income	-	-	-	-	536	-	-	536
Net change in unrealized gain (loss) on available- for-sale securities, net of tax	-	-	-	-	-	461	-	461
Net change in unrealized gain(loss) on derivative, net of tax	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1
Accretion of preferred stock discount	-	14	-	-	(14)	-	-	-
Dividends on preferred stock	-	-	-	-	(62)	-	-	(62)
Dividends on common stock, \$.075 per share	-	-	-	-	(226)	-	-	(226)
Balance, March 31, 2010	\$3,046	\$4,787	\$-	\$ 23,418	\$13,178	\$ 361	\$(464)	\$44,326
Balance, January 1, 2011	\$3,059	\$16,939	\$284	\$ 23,135	\$14,723	\$ (577)	\$(464)	\$57,099
Net income	-	-	-	-	501	-	-	501
Net change in unrealized gain (loss) on available- for-sale securities, net of tax	-	-	-	-	-	184	-	184
Net change in unrealized gain (loss)on derivative, net of tax	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1
Dividends on preferred Stock	-	-	-	-	(86)	-	-	(86)
Dividends on common stock, \$.0375 per share	-	-	-	-	(115)	-	-	(115)
Restricted stock grant Compensation expense	34	-	-	(34)	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	23	-	-	-	23

Edgar Filing: FIRST BANCSHARES INC /MS/ - Form 10-Q

Balance, March 31, 2011	\$3,093	\$16,939	\$284	\$ 23,124	\$15,023	\$ (392)	\$(464)	\$57,607
----------------------------	---------	----------	-------	-----------	----------	-----------	----------	----------

3

THE FIRST BANCSHARES, INC.

CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF CASH FLOWS

(\$ Amounts in Thousands)	(Unaudited)	
	Three Months Ended March 31,	
	2011	2010
CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES:		
NET INCOME	\$501	\$536
Adjustments to reconcile net income to net cash provided by operating activities:		
Depreciation, amortization and accretion	241	321
Impairment loss on securities	-	107
Provision for loan losses	348	165
Loss on sale/writedown of ORE	7	40
Restricted stock expense	23	-
Increase in cash value of life insurance	(46)	(77)
Federal Home Loan Bank stock dividends	(1)	(1)
Changes in:		
Interest receivable	5	79
Loans held for sale	1,026	2,396
Interest payable	(24)	(173)
Other, net	(194)	(1,479)
NET CASH PROVIDED BY OPERATING ACTIVITIES	1,886	1,914
CASH FLOWS FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES:		
Maturities and calls of securities available-for-sale	9,622	14,874
Purchases of securities available-for-sale	(12,333)	(12,250)
Net increase in loans	(6,362)	(16,728)
Net additions in premises and equipment	(546)	(213)
NET CASH USED IN INVESTING ACTIVITIES	(9,619)	(14,317)
CASH FLOWS FROM FINANCING ACTIVITIES:		
Increase in deposits	38,185	35,321
Net decrease in borrowed funds	(19)	(26)
Dividends paid on common stock	(113)	(226)
Dividends paid on preferred stock	(86)	(62)
NET CASH PROVIDED BY FINANCING ACTIVITIES	37,967	35,007
NET INCREASE IN CASH	30,234	22,604
CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS AT BEGINNING OF PERIOD	33,976	15,991
CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS AT END OF PERIOD	\$64,210	\$38,595
SUPPLEMENTAL DISCLOSURES:		
CASH PAYMENTS FOR INTEREST	\$1,506	\$2,267

CASH PAYMENTS FOR INCOME TAXES	161	180
LOANS TRANSFERRED TO OTHER REAL ESTATE	455	1,353
ISSUANCE OF RESTRICTED STOCK GRANTS	34	-

4

THE FIRST BANCSHARES, INC.

NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (UNAUDITED)

NOTE A — BASIS OF PRESENTATION

The accompanying unaudited consolidated financial statements have been prepared in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles for interim financial statements and with the instructions to Form 10-Q of the Securities and Exchange Commission. Accordingly, they do not include all of the information and footnotes required by generally accepted accounting principles for complete financial statements. However, in the opinion of management, all adjustments (consisting of normal recurring adjustments) considered necessary for a fair presentation have been included. Operating results for the three months ended March 31, 2011, are not necessarily indicative of the results that may be expected for the year ending December 31, 2011. For further information, please refer to the consolidated financial statements and footnotes thereto included in the Company's Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2010.

NOTE B — SUMMARY OF ORGANIZATION

The First Bancshares, Inc., Hattiesburg, Mississippi (the "Company"), was incorporated June 23, 1995, under the laws of the State of Mississippi for the purpose of operating as a bank holding company. The Company's primary asset is its interest in its wholly-owned subsidiary, The First, A National Banking Association (the Bank).

At March 31, 2011, the Company had approximately \$541.3 million in assets, \$336.8 million in loans, \$434.7 million in deposits, and \$57.6 million in stockholders' equity. For the three months ended March 31, 2011, the Company reported a net income of \$501,000 (\$415,000 applicable to common stockholders).

In the first quarter of 2011, the Company declared and paid a dividend of \$.0375 per common share.

NOTE C – PREFERRED STOCK AND WARRANT

On February 6, 2009, as part of the U.S. Department of Treasury's ("Treasury") Capital Purchase Program ("CPP"), the Company received a \$5.0 million equity investment by issuing 5 thousand shares of Series A, no par value preferred stock to the Treasury pursuant to a Letter Agreement and Securities Purchase Agreement that was previously disclosed by the Company. The Company also issued a warrant to the Treasury allowing it to purchase 54,705 shares of the Company's common stock at an exercise price of \$13.71. The warrant can be exercised immediately and has a term of 10 years.

The non-voting Series A preferred shares issued, with a liquidation preference of \$1 thousand per share, will pay a cumulative cash dividend quarterly at 5% per annum during the first five years the preferred shares are outstanding, resetting to 9% thereafter if not redeemed. The CPP also includes certain restrictions on dividend payments of the Company's lower ranking equity and the ability to purchase its outstanding common shares.

The Company allocated the proceeds received from the Treasury, net of transaction costs, on a pro rata basis to the Series A preferred stock and the warrant based on their relative fair values. The Company assigned \$.3 million and \$4.7 million to the warrant and the Series A preferred stock, respectively. The resulting discount on the Series A preferred stock was fully accreted up to the \$5.0 million liquidation amount in 2010 at the time of the exchange that is described in the following paragraphs.

On September 29, 2010, and pursuant to the terms of the letter agreement between the Company and the United States Department of the Treasury (“Treasury”), the Company closed a transaction whereby Treasury exchanged its 5,000 shares of Fixed Rate Cumulative Perpetual Preferred Stock, Series UST, (the “CPP Preferred Shares”) for 5,000 shares of a new series of preferred stock designated Fixed Rate Cumulative Perpetual Preferred Stock, Series CD (the “CDCI Preferred Shares”). On the same day, and pursuant to the terms of the letter agreement between the Company and Treasury, the Company issued an additional 12,123 CDCI Preferred Shares to Treasury for a purchase price of \$12,123,000. As a result of the CDCI Transactions, the Company is no longer participating in the TARP Capital Purchase Program being administered by Treasury and is now participating in Treasury’s TARP Community Development Capital Initiative (the “CDCI”). The terms of the CDCI Transactions are more fully set forth in the Exchange Letter Agreement and the Purchase Letter Agreement.

The Letter Agreement, pursuant to which the Preferred Shares were exchanged, contains limitations on the payment of dividends on the common stock to no more than 100% of the aggregate per share dividend and distributions for the immediate prior fiscal year (dividends of \$0.15 per share were declared and paid in 2010) and on the Company’s ability to repurchase its common stock, and continues to subject the Company to certain of the executive compensation limitations included in the Emergency Economic Stabilization Act of 2008 (EESA), as previously disclosed by the Company.

The most significant difference in terms between the CDCI Preferred Shares and the CPP Preferred Shares is the dividend rate applicable to each. The CPP Preferred Shares entitled the holder to an annual dividend of 5% of the liquidation value of the shares, payable quarterly in arrears; by contrast, the CDCI Preferred Shares entitle the holder to an annual dividend of 2% of the liquidation value of the shares, payable quarterly in arrears. Other differences in terms between the CDCI Preferred Shares and the CPP Preferred Shares, including, without limitation, the restrictions on common stock dividends and on redemption of common stock and other securities exist. The terms of the CDCI Preferred Shares are more fully set forth in the Articles of Amendment creating the CDCI Preferred Shares, which Articles of Amendment were filed with the Mississippi Secretary of State on September 27, 2010.

As a condition to participation in the CDCI, the Company was required to obtain certification as a Community Development Financial Institution (a “CDFI”) from Treasury’s Community Development Financial Fund. On September 28, 2010, the Company was notified that its application for CDFI certification had been approved. In order to become certified and maintain its certification as a CDFI, the Company is required to meet the CDFI eligibility requirements set forth in 12 C.F.R. 1805.201(b).

NOTE D — EARNINGS APPLICABLE TO COMMON STOCKHOLDERS

Basic per share data is calculated based on the weighted-average number of common shares outstanding during the reporting period. Diluted per share data includes any dilution from potential common stock outstanding, such as stock options.

	For the Three Months Ended March 31, 2011		
	Net Income (Numerator)	Shares (Denominator)	Per Share Data
Basic per share	\$415,000	3,054,789	\$.14
Effect of dilutive shares:			
Restricted stock grants	-	5,271	
Diluted per share	\$415,000	3,060,060	\$.14

	For the Three Months Ended March 31, 2010		
	Net Income (Numerator)	Shares (Denominator)	Per Share Data
Basic per share	\$460,000	3,019,869	\$.15
Diluted per share	\$460,000	3,019,869	\$.15

The Company granted 33,850 shares of restricted stock in the first quarter of 2011.

NOTE E — COMPREHENSIVE INCOME

The following table discloses Comprehensive Income for the periods reported in the Consolidated Statements of Income:

(In thousands)

	Quarter Ended March 31,	
	2011	2010
Net Income	\$501	\$536
Other Comprehensive Income, net of tax:		
Unrealized holding gains on available-for-sale securities during the period	184	461
Unrealized gain on derivative carried at fair value during the period	1	1
Comprehensive Income	\$686	\$998
Unrealized holding gains on available-for-sale securities during the period, net of tax	\$184	\$461

Edgar Filing: FIRST BANCSHARES INC /MS/ - Form 10-Q

Unrealized gain on derivative carried at fair value during the period, net of tax	1	1
Accumulated Other Comprehensive Loss, beginning of period	(577) (101
Accumulated Other Comprehensive Income (Loss), end of period	\$(392) \$361

7

NOTE F — FAIR VALUE OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES

The Company groups its financial assets measured at fair value in three levels, based on the markets in which the assets are traded and the reliability of the assumptions used to determine fair value. These levels are:

- Level 1: Valuations for assets and liabilities traded in active exchange markets, such as the New York Stock Exchange. Valuations are obtained from readily available pricing sources for market transactions involving identical assets or liabilities.
- Level 2: Valuations for assets and liabilities traded in less active dealer or broker markets. Valuations are obtained from third party pricing services for identical or comparable assets or liabilities which use observable inputs other than Level 1 prices, such as quoted prices for similar assets or liabilities; quoted prices in markets that are not active; or other inputs that are observable or can be corroborated by observable market data for substantially the full term of the assets and liabilities.
- Level 3: Unobservable inputs that are supported by little or no market activity and that are significant to the fair value of the assets or liabilities.

Following is a description of the valuation methodologies used for instruments measured at fair value on a recurring basis and recognized in the accompanying balance sheets.

Available-for-Sale Securities

The fair value of available-for-sale securities is determined by various valuation methodologies. Where quoted market prices are available in an active market, securities are classified within Level 1. If quoted market prices are not available, then fair values are estimated by using pricing models or quoted prices of securities with similar characteristics. Level 2 securities include U.S. Treasury securities, obligations of U.S. government corporations and agencies, obligations of states and political subdivisions, mortgage-backed securities and collateralized mortgage obligations. In certain cases where Level 1 or Level 2 inputs are not available, securities are classified within Level 3 of the hierarchy.

The following table presents the Company's assets that are measured at fair value on a recurring basis and the level within the hierarchy in which the fair value measurements fell as of March 31, 2011 and December 31, 2010 (in thousands):

March 31, 2011

	Fair Value Measurements Using			
	Fair Value	Quoted Prices in Active Markets for Identical Assets (Level 1)	Significant Other Observable Inputs (Level 2)	Significant Unobservable Inputs (Level 3)
Obligations of U.S. Government Agencies	\$26,561	\$-	\$ 26,561	\$ -
Municipal securities	52,048	-	52,048	-
Mortgage-backed securities	21,333	-	21,333	-
Corporate obligations	6,484	-	4,053	2,431
Other	977	977	-	-
Total	\$107,403	\$977	\$ 103,995	\$ 2,431

December 31, 2010

	Fair Value Measurements Using			
	Fair Value	Quoted Prices in Active Markets for Identical Assets (Level 1)	Significant Other Observable Inputs (Level 2)	Significant Unobservable Inputs (Level 3)
Obligations of U.S. Government Agencies	\$22,855	\$-	\$22,855	\$ -
Municipal securities	54,673	-	54,673	-
Mortgage-backed securities	18,318	-	18,318	-
Corporate obligations	7,702	-	5,083	2,619
Other	986	986	-	-
Total	\$104,534	\$986	\$100,929	\$ 2,619

The following is a reconciliation of activity for assets measured at fair value based on significant unobservable (non-market) information.

(Dollars in thousands)	Bank-Issued Trust Preferred Securities	
	2011	2010
Balance, January 1	\$2,619	\$3,233
Transfers into Level 3	-	-
Transfers out of Level 3	-	-
Other-than-temporary impairment loss included in earnings	-	(472)
Unrealized loss included in comprehensive income	(188)	(142)
Balance at March 31, 2011 and December 31, 2010	\$2,431	\$2,619

Following is a description of the valuation methodologies used for assets measured at fair value on a non-recurring basis and recognized in the accompanying balance sheets, as well as the general classification of such assets pursuant to the valuation hierarchy.

Impaired Loans

Loans for which it is probable that the Company will not collect all principal and interest due according to contractual terms are measured for impairment. Allowable methods for estimating fair value include using the fair value of the collateral for collateral dependent loans or, where a loan is determined not to be collateral dependent, using the discounted cash flow method.

If the impaired loan is identified as collateral dependent, then the fair value method of measuring the amount of impairment is utilized. This method requires obtaining a current independent appraisal of the collateral and applying a discount factor to the value. If the impaired loan is determined not to be collateral dependent, then the discounted cash flow method is used. This method requires the impaired loan to be recorded at the present value of expected future cash flows discounted at the loan's effective interest rate. The effective interest rate of a loan is the contractual interest rate adjusted for any net deferred loan fees or costs, or premium or discount existing at origination or acquisition of the loan. Impaired loans are classified within Level 2 of the fair value hierarchy.

Other Real Estate Owned

Other real estate owned acquired through loan foreclosure is initially recorded at fair value less estimated costs to sell, establishing a new cost basis. The adjustment at the time of foreclosure is recorded through the allowance for loan losses. Due to the subjective nature of establishing the fair value, the actual fair value of the other real estate owned or foreclosed asset could differ from the original estimate. If it is determined the fair value declines subsequent to foreclosure, a valuation allowance is recorded through non-interest expense. Operating costs associated with the assets are also recorded as non-interest expense. Gains and losses on the disposition of other real estate owned and foreclosed assets are netted and posted to other non-interest expense. Other real estate owned measured at fair value on a non-recurring basis at March 31, 2011, amounted to \$3.9 million. Other real estate owned is classified within Level 2 of the fair value hierarchy.

The following table presents the fair value measurement of assets measured at fair value on a nonrecurring basis and the level within the fair value hierarchy in which the fair value measurements fell at March 31, 2011 and December 31, 2010.

March 31, 2011

	Fair Value	Fair Value Measurements Using		
		Quoted Prices in Active Markets for Identical Assets (Level 1)	Significant Other Observable Inputs (Level 2)	Significant Unobservable Inputs (Level 3)
Impaired loans	\$4,571	\$-	\$4,571	\$ -
Other real estate owned	\$3,913	\$-	\$3,913	\$ -

December 31, 2010

	Fair Value	Fair Value Measurements Using		
		Quoted Prices in Active Markets for Identical Assets (Level 1)	Significant Other Observable Inputs (Level 2)	Significant Unobservable Inputs (Level 3)
Impaired loans	\$4,529	\$-	\$4,529	\$ -
Other real estate owned	\$3,995	\$-	\$3,995	\$ -

The following methods and assumptions were used to estimate the fair value of each class of financial instrument for which it is practicable to estimate that value:

Cash and Cash Equivalents – For such short-term instruments, the carrying amount is a reasonable estimate of fair value.

Investment in securities available-for-sale and held-to-maturity – The fair value measurement for securities available-for-sale was discussed earlier. The same measurement approach was used for securities held-to-maturity.

Loans – The fair value of loans is estimated by discounting the future cash flows using the current rates at which similar loans would be made to borrowers with similar credit ratings and for the same remaining maturities.

Deposits – The fair values of demand deposits are, as required by ASC Topic 825, equal to the carrying value of such deposits. Demand deposits include noninterest-bearing demand deposits, savings accounts, NOW accounts, and money market demand accounts. The fair value of variable rate term deposits, those repricing within six months or less, approximates the carrying value of these deposits. Discounted cash flows have been used to value fixed rate term deposits and variable rate term deposits repricing after six months. The discount rate used is based on interest rates currently being offered on comparable deposits as to amount and term.

Short-Term Borrowings – The carrying value of any federal funds purchased and other short-term borrowings approximates their fair values.

FHLB and Other Borrowings – The fair value of the fixed rate borrowings are estimated using discounted cash flows, based on current incremental borrowing rates for similar types of borrowing arrangements. The carrying amount of any variable rate borrowing approximates its fair value.

Subordinated Debentures – The subordinated debentures bear interest at a variable rate and the carrying value approximates the fair value.

Off-Balance Sheet Instruments – Fair values of off-balance sheet financial instruments are based on fees charged to enter into similar agreements. However, commitments to extend credit do not represent a significant value until such commitments are funded or closed. Management has determined that these instruments do not have a distinguishable fair value and no fair value has been assigned.

	As of March 31, 2011		As of December 31, 2010	
	Carrying Amount	Estimated Fair Value	Carrying Amount	Estimated Fair Value
	(In thousands)			
Financial Instruments:				
Assets:				
Cash and cash equivalents	\$64,210	\$64,210	\$33,977	\$33,977
Securities available-for-sale	107,403	107,403	104,534	104,534
Securities held-to-maturity	3	3	3	3
Other securities	2,600	2,600	2,599	2,599
Loans, net	332,490	344,211	327,956	339,927
Liabilities:				
Noninterest-bearing deposits	\$51,128	\$51,128	\$48,312	\$48,312
Interest-bearing deposits	383,536	384,341	348,167	349,565
Subordinated debentures	10,310	10,310	10,310	10,310
FHLB and other borrowings	30,088	30,088	30,107	30,107

NOTE G — LOANS

Loans typically provide higher yields than the other types of earning assets, and thus one of the Company's goals is for loans to be the largest category of the Company's earning assets. At March 31, 2011 and December 31, 2010, respectively, loans accounted for 67.1% and 72.1% of earning assets. The Company controls and mitigates the inherent credit and liquidity risks through the composition of its loan portfolio.

The following table shows the composition of the loan portfolio by category:

Composition of Loan Portfolio

	March 31, 2011		December 31, 2010	
	Amount	Percent of Total	Amount	Percent of Total
	(Dollars in thousands)			
Mortgage loans held for sale	\$ 1,913	0.6 %	\$ 2,938	0.9 %
Commercial, financial and agricultural	47,590	14.1	48,427	14.6
Real Estate:				
Mortgage-commercial	112,417	33.4	109,073	32.8
Mortgage-residential	101,843	30.2	102,425	30.8
Construction	62,800	18.6	58,962	17.7
Consumer and other	10,229	3.1	10,748	3.2
Total loans	336,792	100 %	332,573	100 %
Allowance for loan losses	(4,302)		(4,617)	
Net loans	\$ 332,490		\$ 327,956	

In the context of this discussion, a "real estate mortgage loan" is defined as any loan, other than a loan for construction purposes, secured by real estate, regardless of the purpose of the loan. The Company follows the common practice of financial institutions in the Company's market area of obtaining a security interest in real estate whenever possible, in addition to any other available collateral. This collateral is taken to reinforce the likelihood of the ultimate repayment of the loan and tends to increase the magnitude of the real estate loan portfolio component. Generally, the Company limits its loan-to-value ratio to 80%. Management attempts to maintain a conservative philosophy regarding its underwriting guidelines and believes it will reduce the risk elements of its loan portfolio through strategies that diversify the lending mix.

Loans held for sale consist of mortgage loans originated by the Bank and sold into the secondary market. Commitments from investors to purchase the loans are obtained upon origination.

The following tables represent how the allowance for loan losses is allocated to a particular loan type as well as the percentage of the category to total loans at March 31, 2011 and December 31, 2010.

Allocation of the Allowance for Loan Losses

	March 31, 2011 (Dollars in thousands)		
	Amount	% of loans in each category to total loans	
Commercial Non Real Estate	\$473	10.65	%
Commercial Real Estate	2,966	68.87	
Consumer Real Estate	808	18.00	
Consumer	55	2.48	
Unallocated	-	-	
Total	\$4,302	100	%

	December 31, 2010 (Dollars in thousands)		
	Amount	% of loans in each category to total loans	
Commercial Non Real Estate	\$757	15.90	%
Commercial Real Estate	2,817	62.20	
Consumer Real Estate	902	18.04	
Consumer	140	2.90	
Unallocated	1	.96	
Total	\$4,617	100	%

The following table represents the Company's impaired loans at March 31, 2011 and December 31, 2010. This table excludes performing troubled debt restructurings.

	March 31, 2011	December 31, 2010
	(In thousands)	
Impaired Loans:		
Impaired loans without a valuation allowance	\$1,567	\$2,406
Impaired loans with a valuation allowance	3,004	2,123
Total impaired loans	\$4,571	\$4,529
Allowance for loan losses on impaired loans at period end	772	738
Total nonaccrual loans	4,024	4,212
Past due 90 days or more and still accruing	480	1,071
Average investment in impaired loans	4,161	14,486
Interest recognized on impaired loans for the three month period ended March 31, 2011 and year ended December 31, 2010	-	208

The following tables provide the ending balances in the Company's loans and allowance for loan losses, broken down by portfolio segment as of March 31, 2011 and December 31, 2010. The tables also provide additional detail as to the amount of our loans and allowance that correspond to individual versus collective impairment evaluation. The impairment evaluation corresponds to the Company's systematic methodology for estimating its Allowance for Loan Losses.

March 31, 2011

	Real Estate	Installment and Other	Commercial, Financial and Agriculture	Total
	(In thousands)			
Loans				
Individually evaluated	\$4,383	\$43	\$ 145	\$4,571
Collectively evaluated	271,673	9,032	49,603	330,308
Total	\$276,056	\$9,075	\$ 49,748	\$334,879
Allowance for Loan Losses				
Individually evaluated	\$705	\$11	\$ 56	\$772
Collectively evaluated	3,007	101	422	3,530
Total	\$3,712	\$112	\$ 478	\$4,302

December 31, 2010

	Real Estate	Installment and Other	Commercial, Financial and Agriculture	Total
	(In thousands)			
Loans				
Individually evaluated	\$4,091	\$48	\$ 390	\$4,529
Collectively evaluated	266,504	9,083	49,519	325,106
Total	\$270,595	\$9,131	\$ 49,909	\$329,635
Allowance for Loan Losses				
Individually evaluated	\$464	\$10	\$ 264	\$738
Collectively evaluated	3,254	132	493	3,879
Total	\$3,718	\$142	\$ 757	\$4,617

The amount of interest income that would have been recognized on impaired loans using the cash-basis would have been \$101,395 for the period ended March 31, 2011. The Company had no loan commitments to borrowers in non-accrual status at March 31, 2011 and 2010.

The following tables provide additional detail of impaired loans broken out according to class as of March 31, 2011 and December 31, 2010. The recorded investment included in the following table represents customer balances net of any partial charge-offs recognized on the loans, net of any deferred fees and costs. As nearly all of our impaired loans at March 31, 2011 are on nonaccrual status, recorded investment excludes any insignificant amount of accrued interest receivable on loans 90-days or more past due and still accruing. The unpaid balance represents the recorded balance prior to any partial charge-offs.

March 31, 2011

	Recorded Investment	Unpaid Balance	Related Allowance (In thousands)	Average Recorded Investment YTD	Interest Income Recognized YTD
Impaired loans with no related allowance:					
Commercial installment	\$12	\$12	\$-	\$12	\$-
Commercial real estate	1,223	1,223	-	1,726	-
Consumer real estate	318	318	-	232	-
Consumer installment	14	14	-	14	-
Total	\$1,567	\$1,567	\$-	\$1,984	\$-
Impaired loans with a related allowance:					
Commercial installment	\$133	\$133	\$56	\$123	\$-
Commercial real estate	1,744	1,744	548	1,354	-
Consumer real estate	1,098	1,098	157	689	-
Consumer installment	29	29	11	11	-
Total	\$3,004	\$3,004	\$772	\$2,177	\$-
Total Impaired Loans					
Commercial installment	\$145	\$145	\$56	\$135	\$-
Commercial real estate	2,967	2,967	548	3,080	-
Consumer real estate	1,416	1,416	157	921	-
Consumer installment	43	43	11	25	-
Total Impaired Loans	\$4,571	\$4,571	\$772	\$4,161	\$-

December 31, 2010

	Recorded Investment	Unpaid Balance	Related Allowance (In thousands)	Average Recorded Investment YTD	Interest Income Recognized YTD
Impaired loans with no related allowance:					
Commercial installment	\$12	\$12	\$-	\$387	\$1
Commercial real estate	2,230	2,230	-	7,884	72
Consumer real estate	147	149	-	2,185	8
Consumer installment	15	15	-	183	1
Total	\$2,404	\$2,406	\$-	\$10,639	\$82
Impaired loans with a related allowance:					
Commercial installment	\$113	\$377	\$264	\$481	\$17
Commercial real estate	966	1,370	401	2,421	89

Edgar Filing: FIRST BANCSHARES INC /MS/ - Form 10-Q

Consumer real estate	280	343	63	796	20
Consumer installment	23	33	10	149	-
Total	\$1,382	\$2,123	\$738	\$3,847	\$126

Total Impaired Loans

Commercial installment	\$125	\$389	\$264	\$868	\$18
Commercial real estate	3,196	3,600	401	10,305	161
Consumer real estate	427	492	63	2,981	28
Consumer installment	38	48	10	332	1
Total Impaired Loans	\$3,786	\$4,529	\$738	\$14,486	\$208

The book balance of troubled debt restructurings at March 31, 2011, is \$7,038,000. Approximately \$292,000 in specific reserves have been established with respect to these loans as of March 31, 2011. As of March 31, 2011, the Company had no additional amounts committed on any loan classified as a troubled debt restructuring.

The gross interest income that would have been recorded in the period that ended if the nonaccrual loans had been current in accordance with their original terms and had been outstanding throughout the period or since origination, if held for part of the period for March 31, 2011 and 2010, was \$109,000 and \$95,000, respectively.

The following tables summarize by class our loans classified as past due in excess of 30 days or more in addition to those loans classified as non-accrual:

March 31, 2011

	(In thousands)				
	Past Due 30 to 89 Days	Past Due 90 Days or More and Still Accruing	Non-Accrual	Total Past Due and Non-Accrual	Total Loans
Real Estate-construction	\$487	\$-	\$ 1,240	\$ 1,727	\$62,800
Real Estate-mortgage	2,639	220	1,076	3,935	101,843
Real Estate-non farm nonresidential	509	225	1,522	2,256	112,417
Commercial	404	-	144	548	47,590
Obligations of states and political subdivisions in the U.S.	-	-	-	-	1,089
Consumer	205	35	42	282	9,140
Total	\$4,244	\$480	\$ 4,024	\$ 8,748	\$334,879

December 31, 2010
(In thousands)

	Past Due 30 to 89 Days	Past Due 90 Days or More and Still Accruing	Non-Accrual	Total Past Due and Non-Accrual	Total Loans
Real Estate-construction	\$593	\$1	\$ 1,433	\$ 2,027	\$58,962
Real Estate-mortgage	3,673	153	893	4,719	102,426
Real Estate-non farm non residential	438	737	1,452	2,627	109,073
Commercial	740	144	386	1,270	48,427
Consumer	262	36	48	346	10,747
Total	\$5,706	\$1,071	\$ 4,212	\$ 10,989	\$329,635

The Company categorizes loans into risk categories based on relevant information about the ability of borrowers to service their debt, such as: current financial information, historical payment experience credit documentation, public information, and current economic trends, among other factors. The Company uses the following definitions for risk ratings, which are consistent with the definitions used in supervisory guidance:

Special Mention. Loans classified as special mention have a potential weakness that deserves management's close attention. If left uncorrected, these potential weaknesses may result in deterioration of the repayment prospects for the loan or of the Company's credit position at some future date.

Substandard. Loans classified as substandard are inadequately protected by the current net worth and paying capacity of the obligor or of the collateral pledged, if any. Loans so classified have a well-defined weakness or weaknesses that jeopardize the liquidation of the debt. They are characterized by the distinct possibility that the institution will sustain some loss if the deficiencies are not corrected.

Doubtful. Loans classified as doubtful have all the weaknesses inherent in those classified as substandard, with the added characteristic that the weaknesses make collection or liquidation in full, on the basis of currently existing facts, conditions, and values, highly questionable and improbable.

Loans not meeting the criteria above that are analyzed individually as part of the above described process are considered to be pass rated loans.

As of March 31, 2011 and December 31, 2010, and based on the most recent analysis performed, the risk category of loans by class of loans was as follows:

March 31, 2011

	Real Estate Commercial	Real Estate Mortgage	Installment and Other	Commercial, Financial and Agriculture	Total
Pass	\$ 194,929	\$52,197	\$7,955	\$ 46,505	\$301,586
Special Mention	4,739	520	61	3	5,323
Substandard	20,392	6,285	290	1,081	28,048
Doubtful	-	-	-	1	1
Subtotal	220,060	59,002	8,306	47,590	334,958
Less:					
Unearned Discount	79	-	-	-	79
Loans, net of unearned discount	\$ 219,981	\$59,002	\$8,306	\$ 47,590	\$334,879

December 31, 2010

	Real Estate Commercial	Real Estate Mortgage	Installment and Other	Commercial, Financial and Agriculture	Total
Pass	\$ 187,657	\$53,776	\$8,764	\$ 47,500	\$297,697
Special Mention	5,154	125	70	14	5,363
Substandard	17,820	6,130	297	2,215	26,462
Doubtful	-	-	-	180	180
Subtotal	210,631	60,031	9,131	49,909	329,702
Less:					
Unearned Discount	67	-	-	-	67
Loans, net of unearned discount	\$ 210,564	\$60,031	\$9,131	\$ 49,909	\$329,635

NOTE H — SECURITIES

The following disclosure of the estimated fair value of financial instruments is made in accordance with authoritative guidance. The estimated fair value amounts have been determined using available market information and appropriate valuation methodologies. However, considerable judgment is necessarily required to interpret market data to develop the estimates of fair value. Accordingly, the estimates presented herein are not necessarily indicative of the amounts that could be realized in a current market exchange. The use of different market assumptions and/or estimation methodologies may have a material effect on the estimated fair value amounts.

A summary of the amortized cost and estimated fair value of available-for-sale securities and held-to-maturity securities at March 31, 2011, follows:

	March 31, 2011			
	Amortized Cost	Gross Unrealized Gains	Gross Unrealized Losses	Estimated Fair Value
Available-for-sale securities:				
Obligations of U.S. Government Agencies	\$26,511	\$154	\$104	\$26,561
Tax-exempt and taxable obligations of states and municipal subdivisions	50,948	1,236	136	52,048
Mortgage-backed securities	20,717	683	67	21,333
Corporate obligations	8,560	8	2,084	6,484
Other	1,255	-	278	977
Total	\$107,991	\$2,081	\$2,669	\$107,403
Held-to-maturity securities:				
Mortgage-backed securities	\$3	\$-	\$-	\$3

NOTE I — ALLOWANCE FOR LOAN LOSSES

The Company has developed policies and procedures for evaluating the overall quality of its credit portfolio and the timely identification of potential problem loans. Management's judgment as to the adequacy of the allowance is based upon a number of assumptions which it believes to be reasonable, but which may not prove to be accurate, particularly given the Company's short operating history and rapid growth. Thus, there can be no assurance that charge-offs in future periods will not exceed the allowance for loan losses or that additional increases in the loan loss allowance will not be required.

The Company's allowance consists of two parts. The first part is determined in accordance with authoritative guidance regarding contingencies. The Company's determination of this part of the allowance is based upon quantitative and qualitative factors. A loan loss history based upon the three year quarterly moving average is utilized in determining the appropriate allowance. Historical loss factors are determined by graded and ungraded loans by loan type. These historical loss factors are applied to the loans by loan type to determine an indicated allowance. The loss factors of peer groups are considered in the determination of the allowance and are used to assist in the establishment of a long-term loss history for areas in which this data is unavailable and incorporated into the qualitative factors to be considered. The historical loss factors may also be modified based upon other qualitative factors including but not limited to local and national economic conditions, trends of delinquent loans, changes in lending policies and underwriting standards, concentrations, and management's knowledge of the loan portfolio. These factors require judgment upon the part of management and are based upon state and national economic reports received from various institutions and agencies including the Federal Reserve Bank, United States Bureau of Economic Analysis, Bureau of Labor Statistics, meetings with the Company's loan officers and loan committee, and data and guidance received or obtained from the Company's regulatory authorities.

The second part of the allowance is determined in accordance with authoritative guidance regarding loan impairment. Impaired loans are determined based upon a review by internal loan review and senior loan officers.

The sum of the two parts constitutes management's best estimate of an appropriate allowance for loan losses. When the estimated allowance is determined, it is presented to the Company's audit committee for review and approval on a quarterly basis.

A loan is considered impaired when, based on current information and events, it is probable that the Company will be unable to collect the scheduled payments of principal or interest when due according to the contractual terms of the loan agreement. Factors considered by management in determining impairment include payment status, collateral value, and the probability of collecting scheduled principal and interest payments when due. Loans that experience insignificant payment delays and payment shortfalls generally are not classified as impaired. Management determines the significance of payment delays and payment shortfalls on a case-by-case basis, taking into consideration all of the circumstances surrounding the loan and the borrower, including the length of the delay, the reasons for the delay, the borrower's prior payment record, and the amount of the shortfall in relation to the principal and interest owed.

Impairment is measured on a loan by loan basis, and a specific allowance is assigned to each loan determined to be impaired. Impaired loans not deemed collateral dependent are analyzed according to the ultimate repayment source, whether that is cash flow from the borrower, guarantor or some other source of repayment. Impaired loans are deemed collateral dependent if in the Company's opinion the ultimate source of repayment will be generated from the liquidation of collateral.

The Company discontinues accrual of interest on loans when management believes, after considering economic and business conditions and collection efforts, that a borrower's financial condition is such that the collection of interest is doubtful. Generally, the Company will place a delinquent loan in nonaccrual status when the loan becomes 90 days or more past due. At the time a loan is placed in nonaccrual status, all interest which has been accrued on the loan but remains unpaid is reversed and deducted from earnings as a reduction of reported interest income. No additional interest is accrued on the loan balance until the collection of both principal and interest becomes reasonably certain.

NOTE J – SUBSEQUENT EVENTS

Subsequent events have been evaluated by management through the date the financial statements were issued.

NOTE K – RECLASSIFICATION

Certain amounts in the 2010 financial statements have been reclassified for comparative purposes to conform to the current period financial statement presentation.

ITEM NO. 2 MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS OF FINANCIAL CONDITION AND RESULTS OF OPERATIONS

FINANCIAL CONDITION

The following discussion contains "forward-looking statements" relating to, without limitation, future economic performance, plans and objectives of management for future operations, and projections of revenues and other financial items that are based on the beliefs of the Company's management, as well as assumptions made by and information currently available to the Company's management. The words "expect," "estimate," "anticipate," and "believe," as well as similar expressions, are intended to identify forward-looking statements. The Company's actual results may differ materially from the results discussed in the forward-looking statements, and the Company's operating performance each quarter is subject to various risks and uncertainties that are discussed in detail in the Company's filings with the Securities and Exchange Commission, including the "Risk Factors" section in the Company's most recently filed Form 10-K.

The First represents the primary asset of the Company. The First reported total assets of \$539.7 million at March 31, 2011, compared to \$510.4 million at December 31, 2010. Loans increased \$4.2 million, or 1.3%, during the first three months of 2011. Deposits at March 31, 2011, totaled \$445.6 million compared to \$408.3 million at December 31, 2010. For the three month period ended March 31, 2011, The First reported net income of \$.7 million compared to \$.6 million for the three months ended March 31, 2010.

NONPERFORMING ASSETS AND RISK ELEMENTS. Diversification within the loan portfolio is an important means of reducing inherent lending risks. At March 31, 2011, The First had no concentrations of ten percent or more of total loans in any single industry or any geographical area outside its immediate market areas.

At March 31, 2011, The First had loans past due as follows:

	(\$ In Thousands)
Past due 30 through 89 days	\$ 4,244
Past due 90 days or more and still accruing	480

The accrual of interest is discontinued on loans which become ninety days past due (principal and/or interest), unless the loans are adequately secured and in the process of collection. Nonaccrual loans totaled \$4.0 million at March 31, 2011, a decrease of \$.2 million from December 31, 2010. Any other real estate owned is carried at fair value, determined by an appraisal. Other real estate owned totaled \$3.9 million at March 31, 2011. A loan is classified as a restructured loan when the interest rate is materially reduced or the term is extended beyond the original maturity date because of the inability of the borrower to service the debt under the original terms. At March 31, 2011, the Bank had \$5.9 million in commercial loans and \$1.1 million in consumer loans that were modified as troubled debt restructurings. Of these amounts considered as troubled debt restructurings \$2.6 million was 1-4 family performing in accordance with the modified terms and \$1.8 million was commercial loans performing in accordance with modified terms.

LIQUIDITY AND CAPITAL RESOURCES

Liquidity is adequate with cash and cash equivalents of \$64.2 million as of March 31, 2011. In addition, loans and investment securities repricing or maturing within one year or less exceeded \$141.5 million at March 31, 2011. Approximately \$45.4 million in loan commitments could fund within the next six months and other commitments, primarily standby letters of credit, totaled \$.9 million at March 31, 2011.

There are no known trends or any known commitments or uncertainties that will result in The First's liquidity increasing or decreasing in a material way.

Total consolidated equity capital at March 31, 2011, was \$57.6 million, or approximately 10.6% of total assets. The Company currently has adequate capital positions to meet the minimum capital requirements for all regulatory agencies. The Company's capital ratios as of March 31, 2011, were as follows:

Tier 1 leverage	12.87	%
Tier 1 risk-based	18.26	%
Total risk-based	19.44	%

On June 30, 2006, The Company issued \$4,124,000 of floating rate junior subordinated deferrable interest debentures to The First Bancshares Statutory Trust 2 in which the Company owns all of the common equity. The debentures are the sole asset of the Trust. The Trust issued \$4,000,000 of Trust Preferred Securities (TPSs) to investors. The Company's obligations under the debentures and related documents, taken together, constitute a full and unconditional guarantee by the Company of the Trust's obligations under the preferred securities. The preferred securities are redeemable by the Company in 2011, or earlier in the event the deduction of related interest for federal income taxes is prohibited, treatment as Tier 1 capital is no longer permitted, or certain other contingencies arise. The preferred securities must be redeemed upon maturity of the debentures in 2036. Interest on the preferred securities is the three month London Interbank Offer Rate (LIBOR) plus 1.65% and is payable quarterly. The terms of the subordinated debentures are identical to those of the preferred securities. On July 27, 2007, The Company issued \$6,186,000 of floating rate junior subordinated deferrable interest debentures to The First Bancshares Statutory Trust 3 in which the Company owns all of the common equity. The debentures are the sole asset of Trust 3. The Trust issued \$6,000,000 of Trust Preferred Securities (TPSs) to investors. The Company's obligations under the debentures and related documents, taken together, constitute a full and unconditional guarantee by the Company of the Trust's obligations under the preferred securities. The preferred securities are redeemable by the Company in 2012, or earlier in the event the deduction of related interest for federal income taxes is prohibited, treatment as Tier 1 capital is no longer permitted, or certain other contingencies arise. The preferred securities must be redeemed upon maturity of the debentures in 2037. Interest on the preferred securities is the three month LIBOR plus 1.40% and is payable quarterly. The terms of the subordinated debentures are identical to those of the preferred securities. In accordance with the authoritative guidance, the trusts are not included in the consolidated financial statements.

RESULTS OF OPERATIONS

The Company had a consolidated net income of \$501,000 for the three months ended March 31, 2011, compared with consolidated net income of \$536,000 for the same period last year.

Net interest income increased to \$4.3 million from \$3.8 million for the three months ended March 31, 2011, or an increase of 12.2% as compared to the same period in 2010. Earning assets through March 31, 2011, increased \$24.0 million, or 5.0% and interest-bearing liabilities also increased \$10.2 million or 2.5% when compared to March 31, 2010.

Non interest income for the three months ended March 31, 2011, was \$915,000 compared to \$841,000 for the same period in 2010, reflecting an increase of \$74,000 or 8.8%. Included in noninterest income is service charges on deposit accounts, which for the three months ended March 31, 2011, totaled \$559,000 compared to \$577,000 for the same period in 2010.

The provision for loan losses was \$348,000 in the first three months of 2011 compared with \$165,000 for the same period in 2010. The allowance for loan losses of \$4.3 million at March 31, 2011 (approximately 1.3% of loans) is considered by management to be adequate to cover losses inherent in the loan portfolio. The level of this allowance is dependent upon a number of factors, including the total amount of past due loans, general economic conditions, and management's assessment of potential losses. This evaluation is inherently subjective as it requires estimates that are susceptible to significant change. Ultimately, losses may vary from current estimates and future additions to the allowance may be necessary.

Thus, there can be no assurance that charge-offs in future periods will not exceed the allowance for loan losses or that additional increases in the loan loss allowance will not be required. Management evaluates the adequacy of the allowance for loan losses quarterly and makes provisions for loan losses based on this evaluation.

Non interest expense increased by \$826,000 or 22.3% for the three months ended March 31, 2011, when compared with the same period in 2010. This increase is primarily related to nonrecurring events including compromises of contingent claims.

ITEM NO. 3. CONTROLS AND PROCEDURES

As of March 31, 2011, (the "Evaluation Date"), we carried out an evaluation, under the supervision of and with the participation of our Chief Executive Officer and our Chief Financial Officer, of the effectiveness of the design and operation of our disclosure controls and procedures, as such term is defined under Rule 13a-15(e) promulgated under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended. Based on this evaluation, our Chief Executive Officer and our Chief Financial Officer concluded that our disclosure controls and procedures are effective to ensure that information we are required to disclose in reports that we file or submit under the Exchange Act is recorded, processed, summarized, and reported within the time periods specified in SEC rules and forms.

There have been no changes, significant or otherwise, in our internal controls over financial reporting that occurred during the quarter ended March 31, 2011, that have materially affected, or are reasonably likely to affect, our internal control over financial reporting.

ITEM NO. 4. RECENT ACCOUNTING PRONOUNCEMENTS

In January 2010, the Financial Accounting Standards Board ("FASB") issued Accounting Standards Update ("ASU") No. 2010-06 "Improving Disclosures about Fair Value Measurements." This guidance requires increased fair value disclosures. There are two components to the increased disclosure requirements set forth in the update: (1) a description of, as well as the disclosure of, the dollar amount of transfers in or out of level one or level two and (2) in the reconciliation for fair value measurements using significant unobservable inputs (level 3), a reporting entity should present separately information about purchases, sales, issuances and settlements (that is, gross amounts shall be disclosed as opposed to a single net figure). Increased disclosures regarding the transfers in/out of level one and two were required for interim and annual periods beginning after December 15, 2009. Increased disclosures regarding the level three fair value reconciliation are required for fiscal years beginning after December 15, 2010. Where necessary, the Company has added the required disclosures to our financial statement footnotes.

In December 2010, the FASB issued ASU No. 2010-28, "When to Perform Step 2 of the Goodwill Impairment Test for Reporting Units with Zero or Negative Carrying Amounts." This standard modifies Step 1 of the goodwill impairment test for reporting units with zero or negative carrying amounts. For those reporting units, an entity is required to perform Step 2 of the goodwill impairment test if it is more likely than not that a goodwill impairment exists. In determining whether it is more likely than not that a goodwill impairment exists, an entity should consider whether there are any adverse qualitative factors indicating that an impairment may exist such as if an event occurs or circumstances change that would more likely than not reduce the fair value of a reporting unit below its carrying amount. ASU 2010-28 is effective for fiscal years beginning after December 15, 2010 and is not expected to have a significant impact on the Company's financial statements.

In December 2010, the FASB issued ASU No. 2010-29, "Disclosure of Supplementary Pro Forma Information for Business Combinations." This guidance provides clarification regarding the acquisition date that should be used for reporting the pro forma financial information disclosures required by Topic 805 when comparative financial statements are presented. ASU 2010-29 also requires entities to provide a description of the nature and amount of material, nonrecurring pro forma adjustments that are directly attributable to the business combination. ASU 2010-29 is effective for the Company prospectively for business combinations occurring after December 15, 2010.

In April 2011, the FASB issued ASU No. 2011-01, "Deferral of the Effective Date of Disclosures about Troubled Debt Restructurings." The accounting standard was an update to amend previous guidance with respect to troubled debt restructurings. This updated guidance is designed to assist creditors with determining whether or not a restructuring constitutes a troubled debt restructuring. In particular, additional guidance has been added to help creditors determine whether a concession has been granted and whether a debtor is experiencing financial difficulties. Both of these conditions are required to be met for a restructuring to constitute a troubled debt restructuring. The amendments in the update are effective for the first interim period beginning on or after June 15, 2011, and should be applied retrospectively to the beginning of the annual period of adoption. The Company is currently evaluating the possible effects of this guidance on its financial statement disclosures.

PART II — OTHER INFORMATION

ITEM 1. LEGAL PROCEEDINGS

On October 8, 2007 The First Bancshares, Inc. (the "Company") and its subsidiary, The First, A National Banking Association (the "Bank") were formally named as defendants and served with a First Amended Complaint in litigation styled Nick D. Welch v. Oak Grove Land Company, Inc., Fred McMurry, David E. Johnson, J. Douglas Seidenburg, The First, a National Banking Association, The First Bancshares, Inc., and John Does 1 through 10, Civil Action No. 2006-236-CV4, pending in the Circuit Court of Jones County, Mississippi, Second Judicial District (the "First Amended Complaint").

The allegations by Welch against the Company and the Bank include counts of 1) Intentional Misrepresentation and Omission; 2) Negligent Misrepresentation and/or Omission; 3) Breach of Fiduciary Duty; 4) Breach of Duty of Good Faith and Fair Dealing; and 5) Civil Conspiracy. The First Amended Complaint served by Welch on October 8, 2007 added the Company and the Bank as defendants in this ongoing litigation. The Plaintiff seeks damages from all the defendants, including \$2,957,385.00, annual dividends for the year 2006 in the amount of \$.30 per share, punitive damages, and attorneys' fees and costs, and is more fully described in Form 8-K filed by the Company on October 10, 2007. The Company and the Bank both deny any liability to Welch, and they intend to defend vigorously against this lawsuit.

The Defendants removed the case to the United States District Court for the Southern District of Mississippi, Hattiesburg Division, on March 12, 2008 based upon the Court's federal question jurisdiction. On April 11, 2008, the Plaintiff filed a Motion to Remand the case to the Circuit Court of Jones County, Mississippi. The Motion to Remand was granted, and the case is currently pending in the Circuit Court of Jones County, Mississippi, Second Judicial District. The case was set for trial on February 7, 2011 in the Circuit Court of Jones County, Mississippi.

On March 7, 2011 an Agreed Order of Dismissal was entered in the litigation as previously disclosed by the Company on Form 8-K filed on March 8, 2011.

ITEM 1A. RISK FACTORS

There are no material changes in the Company's risk factors since December 31, 2010. Please refer to the Annual Report on Form 10-K of The First Bancshares, Inc., filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on March 31, 2011.

ITEM 2. UNREGISTERED SALES OF EQUITY SECURITY AND USE OF PROCEEDS

Not Applicable

ITEM 3. DEFAULTS UPON SENIOR SECURITIES

Not Applicable

ITEM 4. REMOVED AND RESERVED

ITEM 5. OTHER INFORMATION

Not Applicable

ITEM 6. EXHIBITS

(a) Exhibits

Exhibit No.

- | | |
|------|--|
| 31.1 | Certification of principal executive officer pursuant to Section 302 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002. |
| 31.2 | Certification of principal financial officer pursuant to Section 302 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002. |
| 32.1 | Certification of principal executive officer pursuant to 18 U. S. C. Section 1350, as adopted pursuant to Section 906 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002. |
| 32.2 | Certification of principal financial officer pursuant to 18 U. S. C. Section 1350, as adopted pursuant to Section 906 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002. |

- (b) The Company filed two reports on Form 8-K during the quarter ended March 31, 2011

SIGNATURES

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, the Registrant has duly caused this report to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned thereunto duly authorized.

THE FIRST BANCSHARES, INC.
(Registrant)

5-16-11
(Date)

/s/ M. RAY (HOPPY) COLE, JR.
M. Ray (Hoppy) Cole, Jr.
Chief Executive Officer

5-16-11
(Date)

/s/ DEEDEE LOWERY
DeeDee Lowery, Executive
Vice President and Chief Financial
Officer