| AMERISAFE INC    |  |  |
|------------------|--|--|
| Form 10-Q        |  |  |
| October 27, 2017 |  |  |

**UNITED STATES** 

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

WASHINGTON, DC 20549

FORM 10-Q

QUARTERLY REPORT PURSUANT TO SECTION 13 OR 15(d) OF

THE SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934

FOR THE QUARTERLY PERIOD ENDED SEPTEMBER 30, 2017

Commission file number:

001-12251

AMERISAFE, INC.

(Exact Name of Registrant as Specified in Its Charter)

Texas 75-2069407

(State of Incorporation) (I.R.S. Employer Identification Number)

2301 Highway 190 West, DeRidder, Louisiana 70634 (Address of Principal Executive Offices) (Zip Code)

Registrant's telephone number, including area code: (337) 463-9052

Indicate by check mark whether the Registrant: (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 has submitted electronically and posted on its corporate Web site, if any, every Interactive Data File required to be submitted and posted pursuant to Rule 405 of Regulation S-T (§232.405 of this chapter) during the preceding 12 months (or for such shorter period that the registrant was required to submit and post such files). Yes No

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant is a large accelerated filer, an accelerated filer, a non-accelerated filer, a smaller reporting company, or an emerging growth company. See the definitions of "large accelerated filer," "accelerated filer," "accelerated filer," "smaller reporting company," and "emerging growth company" in Rule 12b-2 of the Exchange Act. (Check one):

Large accelerated filer Accelerated filer

Non-accelerated filer (Do not check if a smaller reporting company) Smaller reporting company

Emerging growth company

If an emerging growth company, indicate by check mark if the registrant has elected not to use the extended transition period for complying with any new or revised financial accounting standards provided pursuant to Section 13(a) of the Exchange Act.

Indicate by check mark whether the Registrant is a shell company (as defined in Rule 12b-2 of the Exchange Act). Yes No

As of October 24, 2017, there were 19,244,023 shares of the Registrant's common stock, par value \$.01 per share, outstanding.

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#### FORWARD-LOOKING STATEMENTS

This report contains forward-looking statements within the meaning of Section 27A of the Securities Act of 1933 and 21E of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934. You should not place undue reliance on these statements. These forward-looking statements include statements that reflect the current views of our senior management with respect to our financial performance and future events with respect to our business and the insurance industry in general. Statements that include the words "expect," "intend," "plan," "believe," "project," "forecast," "estimate," "may," "should," "ar similar statements of a future or forward-looking nature identify forward-looking statements. Forward-looking statements address matters that involve risks and uncertainties. Accordingly, there are or will be important factors that could cause our actual results to differ materially from those indicated in these statements. We believe that these factors include, but are not limited to, the following:

- the cyclical nature of the workers' compensation insurance industry;
- general economic conditions, including recession, inflation, performance of financial markets, interest rates, unemployment rates and fluctuating asset values;
- •increased competition on the basis of types of insurance offered, premium rates, coverage availability, payment terms, claims management, safety services, policy terms, overall financial strength, financial ratings and reputation; •thanges in relationships with independent agencies;
- developments in capital markets that adversely affect the performance of our investments;
- technology breaches or failures, including those resulting from a malicious cyber attack on the Company or its policyholders and medical providers;
- decreased level of business activity of our policyholders caused by decreased business activity generally, and in particular in the industries we target;
- greater frequency or severity of claims and loss activity, including as a result of natural or man-made catastrophic events, than our underwriting, reserving or investment practices anticipate based on historical experience or industry data:
- nedverse developments in economic, competitive, judicial or regulatory conditions within the workers' compensation insurance industry;
- loss of the services of any of our senior management or other key employees;
- changes in regulations, laws, rates, or rating factors applicable to the Company, its policyholders or the agencies that sell its insurance;
- changes in legal theories of liability under our insurance policies;
- changes in rating agency policies, practices or ratings;
- changes in the availability, cost or quality of reinsurance and the failure of our reinsurers to pay claims in a timely manner or at all;
- decreased demand for our insurance;
- the effects of U.S. involvement in hostilities with other countries and large-scale acts of terrorism, or the threat of hostilities or terrorist acts; and
- other risks and uncertainties described from time to time in the Company's filings with the Securities and Exchange Commission ("SEC").

The foregoing factors should not be construed as exhaustive and should be read together with the other cautionary statements included in this report, and under the caption "Risk Factors" in Item 1A of our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2016. If one or more events related to these or other risks or uncertainties materialize, or if our underlying assumptions prove to be incorrect, actual results may differ materially from what we anticipate.

## PART I - FINANCIAL INFORMATION

Item 1. Financial Statements.

## AMERISAFE, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES

### CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEETS

(in thousands, except share data)

|                                                                                   | September 30, 2017 (unaudited) | December 31, 2016 |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------|-------------------|
| Assets                                                                            |                                |                   |
| Investments:                                                                      |                                |                   |
| Fixed maturity securities—held-to-maturity, at amortized cost (fair value         |                                |                   |
| \$610,151 and \$568,931 in 2017 and 2016, respectively)                           | \$ 598,658                     | \$ 562,434        |
| Fixed maturity securities—available-for-sale, at fair value (cost \$462,892 and   |                                |                   |
| \$479,871 in 2017 and 2016, respectively)                                         | 467,256                        | 479,097           |
| Equity securities—available-for-sale, at fair value (cost \$7,499 and \$0 in 2017 |                                |                   |
| and 2016, respectively)                                                           | 7,801                          | 33                |
| Short-term investments                                                            | 69,526                         | 29,580            |
| Other investments                                                                 | 1,280                          | 13,330            |
| Total investments                                                                 | 1,144,521                      | 1,084,474         |
| Cash and cash equivalents                                                         | 80,378                         | 58,936            |
| Amounts recoverable from reinsurers                                               | 84,958                         | 83,666            |
| Premiums receivable, net of allowance                                             | 185,497                        | 183,005           |
| Deferred income taxes                                                             | 31,572                         | 33,811            |
| Accrued interest receivable                                                       | 11,235                         | 11,360            |
| Property and equipment, net                                                       | 6,320                          | 6,636             |
| Deferred policy acquisition costs                                                 | 20,906                         | 19,300            |
| Other assets                                                                      | 17,861                         | 37,668            |
| Total assets                                                                      | \$ 1,583,248                   | \$ 1,518,856      |
| Liabilities and shareholders' equity                                              |                                |                   |
| Liabilities:                                                                      |                                |                   |
| Reserves for loss and loss adjustment expenses                                    | \$ 755,026                     | \$ 742,776        |
| Unearned premiums                                                                 | 165,820                        | 162,028           |
| Reinsurance premiums payable                                                      | _                              | 28                |
| Amounts held for others                                                           | 35,604                         | 31,974            |
| Policyholder deposits                                                             | 48,003                         | 49,130            |
| Insurance-related assessments                                                     | 30,293                         | 31,742            |
| Federal income tax payable                                                        | 1,909                          | 4,017             |
| Accounts payable and other liabilities                                            | 41,827                         | 31,510            |
| Payable for investments purchased                                                 | 9,821                          | 9,501             |

| Total liabilities                                                        | 1,088,303    | 1,062,706    |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------|--------------|
| Shareholders' equity:                                                    |              |              |
| Common stock: voting—\$0.01 par value authorized shares—50,000,000       |              |              |
| in 2017 and 2016; 20,502,273 and 20,488,385 shares issued and 19,244,023 |              |              |
| and 19,230,135 shares outstanding in 2017 and 2016, respectively         | 204          | 204          |
| Additional paid-in capital                                               | 209,622      | 208,390      |
| Treasury stock at cost (1,258,250 shares in 2017 and 2016)               | (22,370      | ) (22,370 )  |
| Accumulated earnings                                                     | 304,456      | 270,418      |
| Accumulated other comprehensive income (loss), net                       | 3,033        | (492)        |
| Total shareholders' equity                                               | 494,945      | 456,150      |
| Total liabilities and shareholders' equity                               | \$ 1,583,248 | \$ 1,518,856 |

See accompanying notes.

## AMERISAFE, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES

## CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF INCOME

(in thousands, except share and per share data)

(unaudited)

|                                                | September 30, |            | Nine Months<br>September 30<br>2017 |            |
|------------------------------------------------|---------------|------------|-------------------------------------|------------|
| Revenues                                       |               |            |                                     |            |
| Gross premiums written                         | \$87,035      | \$88,837   | \$269,152                           | \$292,443  |
| Ceded premiums written                         | (1,992        | ) (2,945   | (6,581)                             | (8,046)    |
| Net premiums written                           | \$85,043      | \$85,892   | \$262,571                           | \$284,397  |
| Net premiums earned                            | \$85,118      | \$89,918   | \$258,779                           | \$276,607  |
| Net investment income                          | 7,788         | 8,006      | 21,969                              | 20,251     |
| Net realized gains (losses) on investments     | (192          | ) 181      | (761)                               | 974        |
| Fee and other income                           | 90            | 101        | 284                                 | 272        |
| Total revenues                                 | 92,804        | 98,206     | 280,271                             | 298,104    |
| Expenses                                       |               |            |                                     |            |
| Loss and loss adjustment expenses incurred     | 48,394        | 50,526     | 151,038                             | 146,413    |
| Underwriting and certain other operating costs | 7,218         | 8,104      | 23,363                              | 25,325     |
| Commissions                                    | 6,030         | 6,362      | 18,424                              | 19,731     |
| Salaries and benefits                          | 6,033         | 6,298      | 18,899                              | 18,403     |
| Policyholder dividends                         | 1,573         | 889        | 4,107                               | 3,195      |
| Total expenses                                 | 69,248        | 72,179     | 215,831                             | 213,067    |
| Income before income taxes                     | 23,556        | 26,027     | 64,440                              | 85,037     |
| Income tax expense                             | 6,979         | 8,131      | 18,858                              | 26,245     |
| Net income                                     | \$16,577      | \$17,896   | \$45,582                            | \$58,792   |
| Net income available to common shareholders    | \$16,577      | \$17,896   | \$45,582                            | \$58,792   |
| Earnings per share                             |               |            |                                     |            |
| Basic                                          | \$0.86        | \$0.94     | \$2.38                              | \$3.08     |
| Diluted                                        | \$0.86        | \$0.93     | \$2.37                              | \$3.06     |
| Shares used in computing earnings per share    |               |            |                                     |            |
| Basic                                          | 19,171,912    | 19,121,947 | 19,161,529                          | 19,092,298 |
| Diluted                                        | 19,236,114    | 19,190,191 | 19,235,955                          | 19,186,398 |
| Cash dividends declared per common share       | \$0.20        | \$0.18     | \$0.60                              | \$0.54     |

See accompanying notes.

## AMERISAFE, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES

## CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF COMPREHENSIVE INCOME

(in thousands)

(unaudited)

|                                                  | Three Months  |          | Nine Mon      | nths     |
|--------------------------------------------------|---------------|----------|---------------|----------|
|                                                  | Ended         |          | Ended         |          |
|                                                  | September 30, |          | September 30, |          |
|                                                  | 2017          | 2016     | 2017          | 2016     |
| Net income                                       | \$16,577      | \$17,896 | \$45,582      | \$58,792 |
| Other comprehensive income:                      |               |          |               |          |
| Unrealized gain (loss) on securities, net of tax | 617           | (1,713)  | 3,525         | 4,009    |
| Comprehensive income                             | \$17,194      | \$16,183 | \$49,107      | \$62,801 |

See accompanying notes.

## AMERISAFE, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES

# CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN SHAREHOLDERS' EQUITY

(in thousands, except share data)

(unaudited)

|                    |            |        | Additional |              |            |             | Accumula  | ated        |
|--------------------|------------|--------|------------|--------------|------------|-------------|-----------|-------------|
|                    |            |        |            |              |            |             | Other     |             |
|                    |            |        | Paid-In    |              |            | Accumulate  | edCompreh | ensive      |
|                    |            |        |            |              |            |             | Income    |             |
|                    | Common Sto | ck     | Capital    | Treasury Sto | ck         | Earnings    | (Loss)    | Total       |
|                    | Shares     | Amoun  | ts         | Shares       | Amounts    |             |           |             |
| Balance at         |            |        |            |              |            |             |           |             |
| December 31, 2016  | 20,488,385 | \$ 204 | \$208,390  | (1,258,250)  | \$(22,370) | \$ 270,418  | \$ (492   | ) \$456,150 |
| Comprehensive      |            |        |            |              |            |             |           |             |
| income             | _          | _      | _          | _            | _          | 45,582      | 3,525     | 49,107      |
| Restricted common  |            |        |            |              |            |             |           |             |
| stock              |            |        |            |              |            |             |           |             |
|                    |            |        |            |              |            |             |           |             |
| issued             | 13,888     | _      | 396        | _            | _          | <del></del> | _         | 396         |
| Share-based        |            |        |            |              |            |             |           |             |
| compensation       | _          | _      | 836        | _            | _          | <u> </u>    | _         | 836         |
| Dividends to       |            |        |            |              |            |             |           |             |
| shareholders       | _          | _      | _          | _            | _          | (11,544     | ) —       | (11,544)    |
| Balance at         |            |        |            |              |            |             |           |             |
| September 30, 2017 | 20,502,273 | \$ 204 | \$209,622  | (1,258,250)  | \$(22,370) | \$ 304,456  | \$ 3,033  | \$494,945   |

See accompanying notes.

## AMERISAFE, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES

## CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF CASH FLOWS

(in thousands)

(unaudited)

| Operating activities         \$45,582         \$58,792           Act income         \$45,582         \$58,792           Adjustments to reconcile net income to net cash provided by operating activities:         760         884           Deferred income taxes         342         (532         )           Net realized (gains) losses on investments         761         (959         )           Net realized losses on disposal of assets         2         1           Share-based compensation         1,283         1,143           Changes in operating assets and liabilities:         remiums receivable, net         (2,492         (15,623         )           Accrued interest receivable         125         (263         )           Deferred policy acquisition costs         (1,606         49           Amounts held by others         (7,848         1,016           Other assets         (5,131         (2,929         )           Reserves for loss and loss adjustment expenses         12,250         18,243           Uncarned premiums         3,792         7,790           Reinsurance balances         (1,320         ) (11,892           Amounts held for others and policyholder deposits         2,503         6,557           Accounts payable and other liabilities                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |                                                                                   | Nine Month<br>September 2017 |           |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------|-----------|
| Adjustments to reconcile net income to net cash provided by operating activities:         760         884           Depreciation         10,815         12,306           Net amortization of investments         342         (532         0           Deferred income taxes         342         (532         )           Net realized (gains) losses on investments         761         (959         )           Net realized losses on disposal of assets         2         1           Share-based compensation         1,283         1,143           Changes in operating assets and liabilities:         ************************************                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              | Operating activities                                                              |                              |           |
| Depreciation         760         884           Net amortization of investments         10,815         12,306           Deferred income taxes         342         (532         )           Net realized (gains) losses on investments         761         (959         )           Net realized losses on disposal of assets         2         1           Share-based compensation         1,283         1,143           Changes in operating assets and liabilities:         1         (2,492         ) (15,623         )           Premiums receivable, net         (2,492         ) (15,623         )         Accrued interest receivable         125         (263         )           Accured interest receivable, net         (2,492         ) (15,623         )         Accured interest receivable         125         (263         )         Accured interest receivable         12,123         1,136         (263         )         1         2         2         1         2         2         1         2 </td <td></td> <td>\$45,582</td> <td>\$58,792</td>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |                                                                                   | \$45,582                     | \$58,792  |
| Net amortization of investments         10,815         12,306           Deferred income taxes         342         (532         )           Net realized (gains) losses on investments         761         (959         )           Net realized losses on disposal of assets         2         1           Share-based compensation         1,283         1,143           Changes in operating assets and liabilities:         2         1           Premiums receivable, net         (2,492         (15,623         )           Accrued interest receivable         125         (263         )           Deferred policy acquisition costs         (1,606         49           Amounts held by others         27,848         1,016           Other assets         (5,131         (2,929         )           Reserves for loss and loss adjustment expenses         12,250         18,243           Unearned premiums         3,792         7,790           Reinsurance balances         (1,320         ) (11,892           Accounts payable and other liabilities         6,813         8,285           Net cash provided by operating activities         102,327         82,868           Investing activities         (86,615         ) (16,482)           Purchases of inv                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 | Adjustments to reconcile net income to net cash provided by operating activities: |                              |           |
| Deferred income taxes   342   (532   1)     Net realized (gains) losses on investments   761   (959   1)     Net realized losses on disposal of assets   2   1     Share-based compensation   1,283   1,143     Changes in operating assets and liabilities:     Premiums receivable, net   (2,492   (15,623   1)     Accrued interest receivable   125   (263   1)     Deferred policy acquisition costs   (1,606   49   1)     Amounts held by others   27,848   1,016     Other assets   (5,131   (2,929   1)     Reserves for loss and loss adjustment expenses   12,250   18,243     Uncarned premiums   3,792   7,790     Reinsurance balances   (1,320   (11,892   1)     Amounts held for others and policyholder deposits   2,503   6,557     Accounts payable and other liabilities   6,813   8,285     Net cash provided by operating activities   102,327   82,868     Investing activities   102,327   82,868     Investing activities   (149,981   (102,830   1)     Purchases of investments held-to-maturity   (149,981   (102,830   1)     Purchases of short-term investments   (86,615   (161,482   1)     Proceeds from maturities of investments held-to-maturity   112,715   136,896     Proceeds from sales and maturities of investments available-for-sale   82,270   75,470     Proceeds from sales and maturities of short-term investments   17,610   8,033     Proceeds from redemptions of other investments   9,000   —     Purchases of property and equipment   (446   (1,091   )     Net cash used in investing activities   69,236   (57,136   )     Financing activities   - 837     Tax benefit from share-based payments   - 976     Dividends to share-based payments   (11,649   (10,414   )       | Depreciation                                                                      | 760                          | 884       |
| Net realized (gains) losses on investments         761         (959 )           Net realized losses on disposal of assets         2         1           Share-based compensation         1,283         1,143           Changes in operating assets and liabilities:         2         (2,492 )         (15,623 )           Premiums receivable, net         (2,492 )         (15,623 )         Accrued interest receivable         125 (263 )         (263 )         Deferred policy acquisition costs         (1,606 )         49           Amounts held by others         27,848   1,016 (0.000)         (0.000)         (0.000)         (0.000)         (0.000)         (0.000)         (0.000)         (0.000)         (0.000)         (0.000)         (0.000)         (0.000)         (0.000)         (0.000)         (0.000)         (0.000)         (0.000)         (0.000)         (0.000)         (0.000)         (0.000)         (0.000)         (0.000)         (0.000)         (0.000)         (0.000)         (0.000)         (0.000)         (0.000)         (0.000)         (0.000)         (0.000)         (0.000)         (0.000)         (0.000)         (0.000)         (0.000)         (0.000)         (0.000)         (0.000)         (0.000)         (0.000)         (0.000)         (0.000)         (0.000)         (0.000)         (0.000) <td>Net amortization of investments</td> <td>10,815</td> <td>12,306</td>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    | Net amortization of investments                                                   | 10,815                       | 12,306    |
| Net realized losses on disposal of assets         2         1           Share-based compensation         1,283         1,143           Changes in operating assets and liabilities:         1         (2,492         (15,623         )           Premiums receivable, net         (2,492         (15,623         )           Accrued interest receivable         125         (263         )           Deferred policy acquisition costs         (1,606         )         49           Amounts held by others         27,848         1,016         Other assets         (5,131         (2,929         )           Reserves for loss and loss adjustment expenses         12,250         18,243         1,790         Reserves for loss and loss adjustment expenses         (1,320         1(1,892         )         7,790         Reserves for loss and loss adjustment expenses         (1,320         1(1,892         )         3,792         7,790         Reserves for loss and loss adjustment expenses         (1,320         1(1,892         )         4,790         1,1892         )         3,792         7,790         Reserves for loss and loss adjustment expenses         1(1,320         1(1,892         )         4,865         1         1,823         1,1892         )         4,866         1,532         8,285         1                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   | Deferred income taxes                                                             | 342                          | (532)     |
| Share-based compensation         1,283         1,143           Changes in operating assets and liabilities:         7         1,2492         1,15,623         1,15,623         1,15,623         1,15,623         1,15,623         1,15,623         1,15,623         1,15,623         1,15,623         1,15,623         1,15,623         1,15,623         1,15,623         1,15,623         1,15,623         1,15,623         1,15,623         1,15,623         1,15,623         1,15,623         1,15,623         1,15,623         1,15,623         1,15,623         1,15,623         1,15,623         1,15,623         1,15,623         1,15,623         1,15,623         1,15,623         1,15,623         1,15,623         1,15,623         1,15,623         1,15,623         1,15,623         1,15,623         1,15,623         1,15,623         1,15,623         1,15,623         1,15,623         1,15,623         1,15,623         1,15,623         1,15,623         1,15,623         1,15,623         1,15,623         1,15,623         1,15,623         1,15,623         1,15,623         1,15,623         1,15,623         1,15,623         1,15,623         1,15,623         1,15,623         1,15,623         1,15,623         1,15,623         1,15,623         1,15,623         1,15,623         1,15,623         1,15,623         1,15,623         1,15,623                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     | Net realized (gains) losses on investments                                        | 761                          | (959)     |
| Changes in operating assets and liabilities:       2,492                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       | Net realized losses on disposal of assets                                         | 2                            | 1         |
| Premiums receivable, net         (2,492 ) (15,623 )           Accrued interest receivable         125 (263 )           Deferred policy acquisition costs         (1,606 ) 49           Amounts held by others         27,848 1,016           Other assets         (5,131 ) (2,929 )           Reserves for loss and loss adjustment expenses         12,250 18,243           Unearned premiums         3,792 7,790           Reinsurance balances         (1,320 ) (11,892 )           Amounts held for others and policyholder deposits         2,503 6,557           Accounts payable and other liabilities         6,813 8,285           Net cash provided by operating activities         102,327 82,868           Investing activities         102,327 82,868           Purchases of investments held-to-maturity         (149,981) (102,830)           Purchases of investments available-for-sale         (86,615 ) (161,482)           Purchases of short-term investments         (53,789 ) (12,132 )           Proceeds from maturities of investments held-to-maturity         112,715 136,896           Proceeds from sales and maturities of investments available-for-sale         82,270 75,470           Proceeds from sales and maturities of short-term investments         17,610 8,033           Proceeds from sales and maturities of short-term investments         9,000 —           Pu                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 | Share-based compensation                                                          | 1,283                        | 1,143     |
| Accrued interest receivable         125         (263         )           Deferred policy acquisition costs         (1,606         )         49           Amounts held by others         27,848         1,016         0           Other assets         (5,131         )         (2,929         )           Reserves for loss and loss adjustment expenses         12,250         18,243         18,243           Unearned premiums         3,792         7,790         Reinsurance balances         (1,320         )         (11,892         )           Amounts held for others and policyholder deposits         2,503         6,557         Accounts payable and other liabilities         6,813         8,285           Net cash provided by operating activities         102,327         82,868           Investing activities         102,327         82,868           Investing activities         (86,615         (161,482)           Purchases of investments held-to-maturity         (149,981)         (102,830)           Purchases of short-term investments         (53,789)         (12,132)           Proceeds from maturities of investments held-to-maturity         112,715         136,896           Proceeds from sales and maturities of investments available-for-sale         82,270         75,470                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     | Changes in operating assets and liabilities:                                      |                              |           |
| Deferred policy acquisition costs                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |                                                                                   | (2,492)                      | (15,623)  |
| Amounts held by others       27,848       1,016         Other assets       (5,131       (2,929       )         Reserves for loss and loss adjustment expenses       12,250       18,243         Unearned premiums       3,792       7,790         Reinsurance balances       (1,320       (11,892       )         Amounts held for others and policyholder deposits       2,503       6,557         Accounts payable and other liabilities       6,813       8,285         Net cash provided by operating activities       102,327       82,868         Investing activities       102,327       82,868         Inversing activities       (149,981)       (102,830)         Purchases of investments held-to-maturity       (149,981)       (102,830)         Purchases of investments available-for-sale       (86,615)       (161,482)         Purchases of short-term investments       (53,789)       (12,132)         Proceeds from maturities of investments available-for-sale       82,270       75,470         Proceeds from sales and maturities of investments available-for-sale       82,270       75,470         Proceeds from sales and maturities of short-term investments       17,610       8,033         Proceeds from redemptions of other investments       9,000       —                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               | Accrued interest receivable                                                       | 125                          | (263)     |
| Amounts held by others       27,848       1,016         Other assets       (5,131       (2,929       )         Reserves for loss and loss adjustment expenses       12,250       18,243         Unearned premiums       3,792       7,790         Reinsurance balances       (1,320       (11,892       )         Amounts held for others and policyholder deposits       2,503       6,557         Accounts payable and other liabilities       6,813       8,285         Net cash provided by operating activities       102,327       82,868         Investing activities       102,327       82,868         Investing activities       (149,981)       (102,830)         Purchases of investments held-to-maturity       (149,981)       (102,830)         Purchases of investments available-for-sale       (86,615)       (161,482)         Purchases of short-term investments       (53,789)       (12,132)         Proceeds from maturities of investments available-for-sale       82,270       75,470         Proceeds from sales and maturities of investments available-for-sale       82,270       75,470         Proceeds from sales and maturities of short-term investments       17,610       8,033         Proceeds from redemptions of other investments       9,000       —                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               | Deferred policy acquisition costs                                                 | (1,606)                      | 49        |
| Reserves for loss and loss adjustment expenses Unearned premiums 3,792 7,790 Reinsurance balances (1,320 ) (11,892 ) Amounts held for others and policyholder deposits 2,503 6,557 Accounts payable and other liabilities 6,813 8,285 Net cash provided by operating activities Investing activities Purchases of investments held-to-maturity (149,981) (102,830) Purchases of investments available-for-sale (86,615 ) (161,482) Purchases of short-term investments (53,789 ) (12,132 ) Proceeds from maturities of investments available-for-sale Proceeds from sales and maturities of investments available-for-sale Proceeds from sales and maturities of investments Proceeds from sales and maturities of investments Proceeds from redemptions of other investments (53,789 ) (12,132 ) Proceeds from redemptions of other investments (53,789 ) (12,132 ) Proceeds from sales and maturities of short-term investments (53,789 ) (12,132 ) Proceeds from sales and maturities of investments available-for-sale Proceeds from redemptions of other investments (69,230 ) (57,470 ) Purchases of property and equipment (446 ) (1,091 ) Net cash used in investing activities Financing activities Proceeds from stock option exercises  Proceeds from stock option exercises  7 837 Tax benefit from share-based payments (11,649 ) (10,414 )                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |                                                                                   | 27,848                       | 1,016     |
| Reserves for loss and loss adjustment expenses       12,250       18,243         Unearned premiums       3,792       7,790         Reinsurance balances       (1,320)       (11,892)         Amounts held for others and policyholder deposits       2,503       6,557         Accounts payable and other liabilities       6,813       8,285         Net cash provided by operating activities       102,327       82,868         Investing activities       149,981       (102,830)         Purchases of investments held-to-maturity       (149,981)       (102,830)         Purchases of investments available-for-sale       (86,615)       (161,482)         Purchases of short-term investments       (53,789)       (12,132)         Proceeds from maturities of investments held-to-maturity       112,715       136,896         Proceeds from sales and maturities of investments available-for-sale       82,270       75,470         Proceeds from sales and maturities of short-term investments       17,610       8,033         Proceeds from redemptions of other investments       9,000       —         Purchases of property and equipment       (446)       (1,091)         Net cash used in investing activities       (69,236)       (57,136)         Financing activities       —       837                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             | · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·                                             | (5,131)                      |           |
| Unearned premiums  Reinsurance balances  (1,320 ) (11,892 ) Amounts held for others and policyholder deposits  Accounts payable and other liabilities  Reinsurance balances  Accounts payable and other liabilities  Reinsurance balances  Accounts payable and other liabilities  Reinsurance balances  Reinsurance balances  (88,613                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         | Reserves for loss and loss adjustment expenses                                    | 12,250                       |           |
| Amounts held for others and policyholder deposits  Accounts payable and other liabilities  Net cash provided by operating activities Investing activities Purchases of investments held-to-maturity Purchases of investments available-for-sale Purchases of short-term investments Proceeds from maturities of investments held-to-maturity Proceeds from sales and maturities of investments available-for-sale Proceeds from redemptions of other investments Purchases of property and equipment  Purchases of property and equipment  (446 ) (1,091 ) Net cash used in investing activities Proceeds from stock option exercises Proceeds from share-based payments  Proceeds from share-based payments  Dividends to shareholders  (11,649 ) (10,414 )                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    | · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·                                             | 3,792                        |           |
| Amounts held for others and policyholder deposits Accounts payable and other liabilities 6,813 8,285 Net cash provided by operating activities 102,327 82,868 Investing activities Purchases of investments held-to-maturity (149,981) (102,830) Purchases of investments available-for-sale (86,615) (161,482) Purchases of short-term investments (53,789) (12,132) Proceeds from maturities of investments held-to-maturity 112,715 136,896 Proceeds from sales and maturities of investments available-for-sale 82,270 75,470 Proceeds from sales and maturities of short-term investments 17,610 8,033 Proceeds from redemptions of other investments 9,000 Purchases of property and equipment (446) (1,091) Net cash used in investing activities Financing activities Proceeds from stock option exercises - 837 Tax benefit from share-based payments - 976 Dividends to shareholders (11,649) (10,414)                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               | Reinsurance balances                                                              |                              |           |
| Accounts payable and other liabilities 6,813 8,285 Net cash provided by operating activities 102,327 82,868 Investing activities Purchases of investments held-to-maturity (149,981) (102,830) Purchases of investments available-for-sale (86,615) (161,482) Purchases of short-term investments (53,789) (12,132) Proceeds from maturities of investments held-to-maturity 112,715 136,896 Proceeds from sales and maturities of investments available-for-sale 82,270 75,470 Proceeds from sales and maturities of short-term investments 17,610 8,033 Proceeds from redemptions of other investments 9,000 — Purchases of property and equipment (446) (1,091) Net cash used in investing activities (69,236) (57,136) Financing activities Proceeds from stock option exercises — 837 Tax benefit from share-based payments — 976 Dividends to shareholders (11,649) (10,414)                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             | Amounts held for others and policyholder deposits                                 |                              |           |
| Net cash provided by operating activities Investing activities Purchases of investments held-to-maturity Purchases of investments available-for-sale Purchases of short-term investments Proceeds from maturities of investments held-to-maturity Proceeds from sales and maturities of investments available-for-sale Proceeds from sales and maturities of investments available-for-sale Proceeds from sales and maturities of investments available-for-sale Proceeds from sales and maturities of short-term investments Proceeds from redemptions of other investments Proceeds from redemptions of other investments Purchases of property and equipment Vet cash used in investing activities Financing activities Proceeds from stock option exercises Proceeds from share-based payments Dividends to shareholders  102,327 82,868 1449,981 (102,830) (102,830) (101,414)                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            | * *                                                                               | •                            |           |
| Investing activities Purchases of investments held-to-maturity Purchases of investments available-for-sale Purchases of short-term investments (53,789 ) (12,132 ) Proceeds from maturities of investments held-to-maturity Proceeds from sales and maturities of investments available-for-sale Proceeds from sales and maturities of short-term investments Proceeds from redemptions of other investments Proceeds from redemptions of other investments Purchases of property and equipment Purchases of property and equipment (446 ) (1,091 ) Net cash used in investing activities Proceeds from stock option exercises Proceeds from stock option exercises Proceeds from share-based payments Dividends to shareholders  (11,649 ) (10,414 )                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |                                                                                   |                              |           |
| Purchases of investments held-to-maturity  Purchases of investments available-for-sale  Purchases of short-term investments  Proceeds from maturities of investments held-to-maturity  Proceeds from sales and maturities of investments available-for-sale  Proceeds from sales and maturities of investments available-for-sale  Proceeds from sales and maturities of short-term investments  Proceeds from redemptions of other investments  Proceeds from redemptions of other investments  Purchases of property and equipment  Net cash used in investing activities  Proceeds from stock option exercises  Proceeds from stock option exercises  Proceeds from share-based payments  Dividends to shareholders  (11,649)  (102,830)  (102,830)  (102,830)  (102,830)  (102,830)  (102,830)  (102,830)  (102,830)  (102,830)  (102,830)  (102,830)  (102,830)  (102,830)  (102,830)  (102,830)  (102,830)  (102,830)  (102,830)  (102,830)  (102,830)  (102,830)  (102,830)  (102,830)  (102,830)  (102,830)  (102,830)  (102,830)  (102,830)  (102,830)  (102,830)  (102,830)  (102,830)  (102,830)  (102,830)  (102,830)  (102,830)  (102,830)  (102,830)  (102,830)  (102,830)  (102,830)  (102,830)  (102,830)  (102,830)  (102,830)  (102,830)  (102,830)  (102,830)  (102,830)  (102,830)  (102,830)  (102,830)  (102,830)  (102,830)  (102,830)  (102,830)  (102,830)  (102,830)  (102,830)  (102,830)  (102,830)  (102,830)  (102,830)  (102,830)  (102,830)  (102,830)  (102,830)  (102,830)  (102,830)  (102,830)  (102,830)  (102,830)  (102,830)  (102,830)  (102,830)  (102,830)  (102,830)  (102,830)  (102,830)  (102,830)  (102,830)  (102,830)  (102,830)  (102,830)  (102,830)  (102,830)  (102,830)  (102,830)  (102,830)  (102,830)  (102,830)  (102,830)  (102,830)  (102,830)  (102,830)  (102,830)  (102,830)  (102,830)  (102,830)  (102,830)  (102,830)  (102,830)  (102,830)  (102,830)  (102,830)  (102,830)  (102,830)  (102,830)  (102,830)  (102,830)  (102,830)  (102,830)  (102,830)  (102,830)  (102,830)  (102,830)  (102,830)  (102,830)  (102,830)  (102,830)  (102,830)  (102,830) |                                                                                   |                              | ·         |
| Purchases of short-term investments  Proceeds from maturities of investments held-to-maturity  Proceeds from sales and maturities of investments available-for-sale  Proceeds from sales and maturities of short-term investments  Proceeds from redemptions of other investments  Proceeds from redemptions of other investments  Purchases of property and equipment  Net cash used in investing activities  Proceeds from stock option exercises  Proceeds from share-based payments  Dividends to shareholders  (53,789 ) (12,132 )  112,715 136,896  82,270 75,470  17,610 8,033  Proceeds from redemptions of other investments  9,000 —  (446 ) (1,091 )  (57,136 )  (69,236 ) (57,136 )  Financing activities  Proceeds from stock option exercises  Proceeds from share-based payments  — 837  Tax benefit from share-based payments  — 976  Dividends to shareholders                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |                                                                                   | (149,981)                    | (102,830) |
| Purchases of short-term investments (53,789 ) (12,132 ) Proceeds from maturities of investments held-to-maturity 112,715 136,896 Proceeds from sales and maturities of investments available-for-sale 82,270 75,470 Proceeds from sales and maturities of short-term investments 17,610 8,033 Proceeds from redemptions of other investments 9,000 — Purchases of property and equipment (446 ) (1,091 ) Net cash used in investing activities (69,236 ) (57,136 ) Financing activities Proceeds from stock option exercises — 837 Tax benefit from share-based payments — 976 Dividends to shareholders (11,649 ) (10,414 )                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   | ·                                                                                 |                              |           |
| Proceeds from maturities of investments held-to-maturity  Proceeds from sales and maturities of investments available-for-sale  82,270  75,470  Proceeds from sales and maturities of short-term investments  17,610  8,033  Proceeds from redemptions of other investments  9,000  Purchases of property and equipment  (446 ) (1,091 )  Net cash used in investing activities  Financing activities  Proceeds from stock option exercises                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    | Purchases of short-term investments                                               |                              |           |
| Proceeds from sales and maturities of investments available-for-sale  Proceeds from sales and maturities of short-term investments  17,610  8,033  Proceeds from redemptions of other investments  9,000  Purchases of property and equipment  Net cash used in investing activities  Financing activities  Proceeds from stock option exercises  Proceeds from share-based payments  Dividends to shareholders  82,270  75,470  8,033  Proceeds from redemptions of other investments  9,000  —  (446  ) (1,091  ) (57,136  )  75,470  17,610  8,033  —  837  —  837  Tax benefit from share-based payments  —  976  Dividends to shareholders                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                | Proceeds from maturities of investments held-to-maturity                          |                              |           |
| Proceeds from sales and maturities of short-term investments  Proceeds from redemptions of other investments  Purchases of property and equipment  Net cash used in investing activities  Financing activities  Proceeds from stock option exercises  Proceeds from share-based payments  Dividends to shareholders  17,610  8,033  (446 ) (1,091 )  (69,236 ) (57,136 )  - 837  - 976  (11,649 ) (10,414 )                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    | · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·                                             |                              | 75,470    |
| Proceeds from redemptions of other investments  Purchases of property and equipment  Net cash used in investing activities  Financing activities  Proceeds from stock option exercises  Proceeds from share-based payments  Dividends to shareholders  9,000  (446 ) (1,091 )  (69,236 ) (57,136 )  - 837  - 976  (11,649 ) (10,414 )                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          | Proceeds from sales and maturities of short-term investments                      |                              |           |
| Purchases of property and equipment (446 ) (1,091 ) Net cash used in investing activities (69,236 ) (57,136 ) Financing activities Proceeds from stock option exercises — 837 Tax benefit from share-based payments — 976 Dividends to shareholders (11,649 ) (10,414 )                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        | Proceeds from redemptions of other investments                                    | 9,000                        | _         |
| Net cash used in investing activities (69,236 ) (57,136 ) Financing activities  Proceeds from stock option exercises — 837  Tax benefit from share-based payments — 976  Dividends to shareholders (11,649 ) (10,414 )                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         | <u>-</u>                                                                          | (446)                        | (1,091)   |
| Financing activities  Proceeds from stock option exercises  Tax benefit from share-based payments  Dividends to shareholders  - 837  - 976  (11,649) (10,414)                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |                                                                                   | (69,236)                     | (57,136)  |
| Proceeds from stock option exercises — 837  Tax benefit from share-based payments — 976  Dividends to shareholders (11,649) (10,414)                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           | · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·                                             |                              |           |
| Tax benefit from share-based payments — 976 Dividends to shareholders (11,649) (10,414)                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |                                                                                   | _                            | 837       |
| Dividends to shareholders (11,649 ) (10,414 )                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |                                                                                   |                              | 976       |
|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |                                                                                   | (11,649)                     | (10,414)  |
|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                | Net cash used in financing activities                                             |                              |           |

| Change in cash and cash equivalents              | 21,442   | 17,131   |
|--------------------------------------------------|----------|----------|
| Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of period | 58,936   | 69,481   |
| Cash and cash equivalents at end of period       | \$80,378 | \$86,612 |

See accompanying notes.

AMERISAFE, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES

NOTES TO UNAUDITED CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

(unaudited)

#### Note 1. Basis of Presentation

AMERISAFE, Inc. (the "Company") is an insurance holding company incorporated in the state of Texas. The accompanying unaudited condensed consolidated financial statements include the accounts of AMERISAFE and its subsidiaries: American Interstate Insurance Company ("AIIC") and its insurance subsidiaries, Silver Oak Casualty, Inc. ("SOCI") and American Interstate Insurance Company of Texas ("AIICTX"), Amerisafe Risk Services, Inc. ("RISK") and Amerisafe General Agency, Inc. ("AGAI"). AIIC and SOCI are property and casualty insurance companies organized under the laws of the state of Nebraska. AIICTX is a property and casualty insurance company organized under the laws of the state of Texas. RISK, a wholly owned subsidiary of the Company, is a claims and safety service company currently servicing only affiliated insurance companies. AGAI, a wholly owned subsidiary of the Company, is a general agent for the Company. AGAI sells insurance, which is underwritten by AIIC, SOCI and AIICTX, as well as by nonaffiliated insurance carriers. The assets and operations of AGAI are not significant to that of the Company and its consolidated subsidiaries.

The terms "AMERISAFE," the "Company," "we," "us" or "our" refer to AMERISAFE, Inc. and its consolidated subsidiaries, the context requires.

The Company provides workers' compensation insurance for small to mid-sized employers engaged in hazardous industries, principally construction, trucking, logging and lumber, manufacturing, and agriculture. Assets and revenues of AIIC represent at least 95% of comparable consolidated amounts of the Company for each of 2017 and 2016.

In the opinion of management of the Company, the accompanying unaudited condensed consolidated financial statements contain all adjustments (consisting of normal recurring accruals) necessary to present fairly the financial position, the results of operations and cash flows for the periods presented. The unaudited condensed consolidated financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the instructions to Form 10-Q under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 and therefore do not include all information and footnotes to be in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States ("GAAP"). The results for the interim periods are not necessarily indicative of the results of operations that may be expected for the year. The unaudited condensed consolidated financial statements contained herein should be read in conjunction with our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2016.

The preparation of financial statements in accordance with GAAP requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities and disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities at the date of the financial statements and the reported amounts of revenues and expenses during the reporting period. Actual results could differ from those estimates.

Adopted Accounting Guidance

In March 2016, the Financial Accounting Standards Board ("FASB") issued Accounting Standards Update ("ASU") 2016-09, Compensation – Stock Compensation (Topic 718): Improvements to Employee Share-Based Payment Accounting. The new guidance requires that all tax effects related to share-based payments be made through the income statement at the time of settlement as opposed to recognizing excess tax benefits in additional paid-in capital. It also requires the cash flows resulting from share-based payments to be included as an operating activity. In addition to the changes, the guidance permits reporting entities to elect to estimate forfeitures related to share-based payments or recognize them as they occur. The threshold to qualify for equity classification has also been revised to permit withholding up to the maximum statutory tax rates in the applicable jurisdictions. The adoption of this new guidance in the first quarter of 2017 did not have a material impact on our financial condition and results of operations.

### Prospective Accounting Guidance

In May 2014, the FASB Issued ASU 2014-09 (Topic 606): Revenue from Contracts with Customers. The guidance revises the criteria for revenue recognition and requires that the revenue recognized reflect the transfer of promised goods or services to customers in an amount that represents the consideration to which the entity expects to be entitled in exchange for those goods or services. The standard is effective for us in the first quarter of 2018. Revenue from insurance contracts is excluded from the scope of the new guidance and as a result, adoption of this guidance is not expected to have a material impact on our financial condition and results of operations.

In January 2016, the FASB issued ASU 2016-01, Financial Instruments – Overall (Subtopic 825-10): Recognition and Measurement of Financial Assets and Financial Liabilities. This guidance requires fair value measurement for equity investments (not including those that result in consolidation of the investee or use the equity method of accounting) and the recognition of changes in fair value to be presented as a component of net income. The guidance also revises the disclosure requirements related to fair value changes of liabilities presented in comprehensive income, eliminates disclosure related to the methods and assumptions underlying fair value for financial instruments measured at amortized cost, and simplifies impairment assessments for equity investments without readily determinable fair values. This standard is effective for us in the first quarter of 2018. Based on the equity investments currently held by the Company, there would not be a material impact on the Company's financial condition and results of operations if the new guidance were to be adopted in the current accounting period. The impact on the Company's results of operations and financial position at the date of adoption of the updated guidance will be determined by the equity investments held by the Company and the economic conditions at that time.

In February 2016, the FASB issued ASU 2016-02, Leases (Topic 842). Under current guidance for lessees, leases are only included on the balance sheet if certain criteria, classifying the contract as a capital lease, are met. The new guidance requires a lessee to recognize a lease liability and a right of use asset for all leases extending beyond twelve months. The new guidance is effective for us in the first quarter of 2019. Upon adoption, leases will be recognized and measured at the beginning of the earliest period presented using a modified retrospective approach. Adoption of the guidance is not expected to have a material effect on the Company's consolidated financial statements as the Company does not have any significant leases.

In June 2016, the FASB issued ASU 2016-13, Financial Instruments – Credit Losses (Topic 326): Measurement of Credit Losses. The new guidance replaces the methodology of credit loss impairment which currently delays the recognition of credit losses until a probable loss has been incurred. The new guidance requires credit losses for securities measured at amortized cost to be determined using current expected credit loss estimates. These estimates are to be derived from historical, current and reasonable supporting forecasts, including prepayments and estimates, and will be recorded through a valuation allowance account that will run through the income statement. The same method will be used for available-for-sale securities, but the valuation allowance will be limited to the amount by which the fair value is below amortized cost. The standard is effective for us in the first quarter of 2020. The Company will continue to monitor the impact as the implementation date approaches.

All other issued but not yet effective accounting and reporting standards as of September 30, 2017 are either not applicable to the Company or are not expected to have a material impact on the Company.

### Note 2. Stock Options and Restricted Stock

As of September 30, 2017, the Company has three equity incentive plans: the AMERISAFE 2005 Equity Incentive Plan (the "2005 Incentive Plan"), the AMERISAFE Non-Employee Director Restricted Stock Plan (the "Restricted Stock Plan") and the AMERISAFE 2012 Equity and Incentive Compensation Plan (the "2012 Incentive Plan"). In connection with the approval of the 2012 Incentive Plan by the Company's shareholders, no further grants will be made under the 2005 Incentive Plan. All grants made under the 2005 Incentive plan continue in effect, subject to the terms and conditions of the 2005 Incentive Plan. See Note 12 to our consolidated financial statements included in our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2016 for additional information regarding the Company's incentive plans.

During the nine months ended September 30, 2017, the Company granted 7,434 and 6,454 shares of restricted common stock to executive officers and non-employee directors, respectively. The market value of the restricted shares granted totaled \$0.7 million. During the nine months ended September 30, 2016, the Company granted 27,077 and 5,952 shares of restricted common stock to executive officers and non-employee directors, respectively. The market value of the restricted shares granted totaled \$1.9 million.

During the nine months ended September 30, 2017, no options to purchase shares of common stock were exercised. During the nine months ended September 30, 2016, options to purchase 68,879 shares of common stock were exercised. In connection with these exercises, the Company received \$0.8 million of stock option proceeds.

The Company recognized share-based compensation expense of \$0.3 million in the quarters ended September 30, 2017 and 2016. The Company recognized share-based compensation expense of \$1.3 million in the nine months ended September 30, 2017 and \$1.1 million for the same period of 2016.

### Note 3. Earnings Per Share

The Company computes earnings per share ("EPS") in accordance with FASB Accounting Standards Codification ("ASC") Topic 260, Earnings Per Share. The Company has no participating unvested common shares which contain nonforfeitable rights to dividends and applies the treasury stock method in computing basic and diluted earnings per share.

Basic EPS is calculated by dividing income available to common shareholders by the weighted-average number of common shares outstanding during the period.

The diluted EPS calculation includes potential common shares assumed issued under the treasury stock method, which reflects the potential dilution that would occur if any outstanding options or warrants were exercised or restricted stock becomes vested, and includes the "if converted" method for participating securities if the effect is dilutive.

|                                                       | Three Months Ended September 30, |                  | Nine Months<br>September 30 |            |
|-------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------|------------------|-----------------------------|------------|
|                                                       | 2017                             | 2016             | 2017                        | 2016       |
|                                                       | (in thousands                    | , except share a | and per share a             | mounts)    |
| Basic EPS:                                            |                                  | _                | _                           |            |
| Net income available to common shareholders - basic   | \$16,577                         | \$17,896         | \$45,582                    | \$58,792   |
| Basic weighted average common shares                  | 19,171,912                       | 19,121,947       | 19,161,529                  | 19,092,298 |
| Basic earnings per common share                       | \$0.86                           | \$0.94           | \$2.38                      | \$3.08     |
| Diluted EPS:                                          |                                  |                  |                             |            |
| Net income available to common shareholders - diluted | \$16,577                         | \$17,896         | \$45,582                    | \$58,792   |
| Diluted weighted average common shares:               |                                  |                  |                             |            |
| Weighted average common shares                        | 19,171,912                       | 19,121,947       | 19,161,529                  | 19,092,298 |
| Stock options and restricted stock                    | 64,202                           | 68,244           | 74,426                      | 94,100     |
| Diluted weighted average common shares                | 19,236,114                       | 19,190,191       | 19,235,955                  | 19,186,398 |
| Diluted earnings per common share                     | \$0.86                           | \$0.93           | \$2.37                      | \$3.06     |

### Note 4. Investments

The gross unrealized gains and losses on, and the amortized cost and fair value of, those investments classified as held-to-maturity at September 30, 2017 are summarized as follows:

|                                   |            | Gross      | Gross      |           |
|-----------------------------------|------------|------------|------------|-----------|
|                                   |            | Unrealized | Unrealized |           |
|                                   | Amortized  | [          |            | Fair      |
|                                   | Cost       | Gains      | Losses     | Value     |
|                                   | (in thousa | nds)       |            |           |
| States and political subdivisions | \$430,470  | \$ 10,348  | \$ (573    | \$440,245 |

| Corporate bonds                                  | 121,942   | 498       | (192    | ) 122,248   |
|--------------------------------------------------|-----------|-----------|---------|-------------|
| U.S. agency-based mortgage-backed securities     | 10,928    | 750       | (2      | ) 11,676    |
| U.S. Treasury securities and obligations of U.S. |           |           |         |             |
|                                                  |           |           |         |             |
| government agencies                              | 33,672    | 642       | (94     | ) 34,220    |
| Asset-backed securities                          | 1,646     | 132       | (16     | ) 1,762     |
| Totals                                           | \$598,658 | \$ 12,370 | \$ (877 | ) \$610,151 |

The gross unrealized gains and losses on, and the cost or amortized cost and fair value of, those investments classified as available-for-sale at September 30, 2017 are summarized as follows:

|                                                  | Cost or          | Gross         | Gross      |           |
|--------------------------------------------------|------------------|---------------|------------|-----------|
|                                                  | Amortized        | Unrealized    | Unrealized | Fair      |
|                                                  | Cost (in thousan | Gains<br>nds) | Losses     | Value     |
| Fixed maturity:                                  |                  |               |            |           |
| States and political subdivisions                | \$236,666        | \$ 6,229      | \$ (1,243  | \$241,652 |
| Corporate bonds                                  | 151,339          | 699           | (54        | 151,984   |
| U.S. agency-based mortgage-backed securities     | 13,408           | 8             | (748       | 12,668    |
| U.S. Treasury securities and obligations of U.S. |                  |               |            |           |
|                                                  |                  |               |            |           |
| government agencies                              | 61,479           | 71            | (598       | 60,952    |
| Total fixed maturity                             | 462,892          | 7,007         | (2,643     | 467,256   |
| Equity securities                                | 7,499            | 302           | _          | 7,801     |
| Other investments                                | 1,000            | 280           | _          | 1,280     |
| Totals                                           | \$471,391        | \$ 7,589      | \$ (2,643  | \$476,337 |

The gross unrealized gains and losses on, and the amortized cost and fair value of, those investments classified as held-to-maturity at December 31, 2016 are summarized as follows:

|                                              |                  | Gross         | Gross       |           |
|----------------------------------------------|------------------|---------------|-------------|-----------|
|                                              | Amortized        | Unrealized    | Unrealized  | Fair      |
|                                              | Cost (in thousar | Gains<br>nds) | Losses      | Value     |
| States and political subdivisions            | \$394,875        | \$ 7,622      | \$ (3,014   | \$399,483 |
| Corporate bonds                              | 143,858          | 423           | (265        | ) 144,016 |
| Commercial mortgage-backed securities        | 70               | _             | <del></del> | 70        |
| U.S. agency-based mortgage-backed securities | 9,967            | 948           |             | 10,915    |
| U.S. Treasury securities and obligations     |                  |               |             |           |
| of U.S. government agencies                  | 11,737           | 746           | (67         | ) 12,416  |
| Asset-backed securities                      | 1,927            | 163           | (59         | 2,031     |
| Totals                                       | \$562,434        | \$ 9,902      | \$ (3,405   | \$568,931 |

The gross unrealized gains and losses on, and the cost or amortized cost and fair value of, those investments classified as available-for-sale at December 31, 2016 are summarized as follows:

|                                              | Cost or          | Gross         | Gross      |             |
|----------------------------------------------|------------------|---------------|------------|-------------|
|                                              | Amortized        | Unrealized    | Unrealized | l Fair      |
|                                              | Cost (in thousar | Gains<br>nds) | Losses     | Value       |
| Fixed maturity:                              |                  |               |            |             |
| States and political subdivisions            | \$231,168        | \$ 4,340      | \$ (3,215  | ) \$232,293 |
| Corporate bonds                              | 182,350          | 436           | (271       | ) 182,515   |
| U.S. agency-based mortgage-backed securities | 10,428           | 17            | (1,103     | ) 9,342     |
| U.S. Treasury securities and obligations     |                  |               |            |             |
|                                              |                  |               |            |             |
| of U.S. government agencies                  | 55,925           |               | (978       | ) 54,947    |
| Total fixed maturity                         | 479,871          | 4,793         | (5,567     | ) 479,097   |
| Equity securities                            | _                | 33            | _          | 33          |
| Other investments                            | 10,000           | 3,330         | _          | 13,330      |
| Totals                                       | \$489,871        | \$ 8.156      | \$ (5.567  | ) \$492,460 |

A summary of the amortized cost and fair value of investments in fixed maturity securities, classified as held-to-maturity at September 30, 2017, by contractual maturity, is as follows:

|                                              | Amortized   | Fair      |
|----------------------------------------------|-------------|-----------|
|                                              | Cost        | Value     |
| Maturity:                                    | (in thousar | ius)      |
| Within one year                              | \$113,488   | \$113,988 |
| After one year through five years            | 239,333     | 243,851   |
| After five years through ten years           | 98,935      | 101,450   |
| After ten years                              | 134,328     | 137,424   |
| U.S. agency-based mortgage-backed securities | 10,928      | 11,676    |
| Asset-backed securities                      | 1,646       | 1,762     |
| Totals                                       | \$598,658   | \$610,151 |

A summary of the amortized cost and fair value of investments in fixed maturity securities, classified as available-for-sale at September 30, 2017, by contractual maturity, is as follows:

|                                              | Amortized Fair   |           |  |
|----------------------------------------------|------------------|-----------|--|
|                                              | Cost (in thousar | Value     |  |
| Maturity:                                    | (in thousan      | ids)      |  |
| Within one year                              | \$85,898         | \$86,051  |  |
| After one year through five years            | 160,278          | 161,077   |  |
| After five years through ten years           | 32,117           | 32,427    |  |
| After ten years                              | 171,191          | 175,033   |  |
| U.S. agency-based mortgage-backed securities | 13,408           | 12,668    |  |
| Totals                                       | \$462,892        | \$467,256 |  |

The following table summarizes the fair value and gross unrealized losses on securities, aggregated by major investment category and length of time that the individual securities have been in a continuous unrealized loss position:

Less Than 12 Months Greater Total
Fair Value Gross Fair Value Gross Fair Value Gross

InvestmentsUnrealized InvestmentsInrealized InvestmentsUnrealized

|                                              | with                  | Losses   | with      | Losses   | with      | Losses   |
|----------------------------------------------|-----------------------|----------|-----------|----------|-----------|----------|
|                                              | Unrealized            |          | Unrealize | ed       | Unrealize | d        |
|                                              | Losses<br>(in thousan | nds)     | Losses    |          | Losses    |          |
| September 30, 2017                           | ,                     |          |           |          |           |          |
| Held-to-Maturity                             |                       |          |           |          |           |          |
| Fixed maturity securities:                   |                       |          |           |          |           |          |
| States and political subdivisions            | \$61,279              | \$ 205   | \$22,658  | \$ 368   | \$83,937  | \$ 573   |
| Corporate bonds                              | 46,074                | 183      | 3,041     | 9        | 49,115    | 192      |
| U.S. agency-based mortgage-backed securities | 2,993                 | 2        | _         | _        | 2,993     | 2        |
| U.S. Treasury securities and obligations of  |                       |          |           |          |           |          |
| U.S.                                         |                       |          |           |          |           |          |
|                                              |                       |          |           |          |           |          |
| government agencies                          | 24,242                | 45       | 3,977     | 49       | 28,219    | 94       |
| Asset-backed securities                      | _                     |          | 1,023     | 16       | 1,023     | 16       |
| Total held-to-maturity securities            | 134,588               | 435      | 30,699    | 442      | 165,287   | 877      |
| Available-for Sale                           |                       |          |           |          |           |          |
| Fixed maturity securities:                   |                       |          |           |          |           |          |
| States and political subdivisions            | \$16,373              | \$ 101   | \$26,213  | \$ 1,142 | \$42,586  | \$ 1,243 |
| Corporate bonds                              | 15,357                | 35       | 4,845     | 19       | 20,202    | 54       |
| U.S. agency-based mortgage-backed securities | 5,359                 | 19       | 3,497     | 729      | 8,856     | 748      |
| U.S. Treasury securities and obligations of  |                       |          |           |          |           |          |
| U.S.                                         |                       |          |           |          |           |          |
|                                              |                       |          |           |          |           |          |
| government agencies                          | 51,182                | 550      | 4,002     | 48       | 55,184    | 598      |
| Total available-for-sale securities          | 88,271                | 705      | 38,557    | 1,938    | 126,828   | 2,643    |
| Total                                        | \$222,859             | \$ 1,140 | \$69,256  | \$ 2,380 | \$292,115 | \$ 3,520 |
| 13                                           |                       |          |           |          |           |          |
|                                              |                       |          |           |          |           |          |

|                                              | Less Than 12 Months Greater |              | 12 Month<br>Greater<br>Fair Valu |              | Total<br>Fair Value | e of         |
|----------------------------------------------|-----------------------------|--------------|----------------------------------|--------------|---------------------|--------------|
|                                              | Investmen                   | ts           | Investme                         | nts          | Investmen           | ts           |
|                                              | with                        | Gross        | with                             | Gross        | with                | Gross        |
|                                              | Unrealized                  | l Unrealized | Unrealize                        | edUnrealized | Unrealized          | d Unrealized |
|                                              | Losses<br>(in thousan       | Losses       | Losses                           | Losses       | Losses              | Losses       |
| December 31, 2016                            | (III tilousul               | ids)         |                                  |              |                     |              |
| Held-to-Maturity                             |                             |              |                                  |              |                     |              |
| Fixed maturity securities:                   |                             |              |                                  |              |                     |              |
| States and political subdivisions            | \$157,507                   | \$ 3,014     | \$—                              | \$ —         | \$157,507           | \$ 3,014     |
| Corporate bonds                              | 44,654                      | 202          | 6,292                            | 63           | 50,946              | 265          |
| U.S. Treasury securities and obligations of  |                             |              |                                  |              |                     |              |
| U.S.                                         |                             |              |                                  |              |                     |              |
|                                              |                             |              |                                  |              |                     |              |
| government agencies                          | 3,968                       | 67           | _                                | _            | 3,968               | 67           |
| Asset-backed securities                      | _                           | —            | 1,173                            | 59           | 1,173               | 59           |
| Total held-to-maturity securities            | 206,129                     | 3,283        | 7,465                            | 122          | 213,594             | 3,405        |
| Available-for Sale                           |                             |              |                                  |              |                     |              |
| Fixed maturity securities:                   |                             |              |                                  |              |                     |              |
| States and political subdivisions            | \$73,505                    | \$ 2,976     | \$4,523                          | \$ 239       | \$78,028            | \$ 3,215     |
| Corporate bonds                              | 41,419                      | 111          | 7,922                            | 160          | 49,341              | 271          |
| U.S. agency-based mortgage-backed securities | 3,702                       | 48           | 3,607                            | 1,055        | 7,309               | 1,103        |
| U.S. Treasury securities and obligations of  |                             |              |                                  |              |                     |              |
| U.S.                                         |                             |              |                                  |              |                     |              |
|                                              |                             |              |                                  |              |                     |              |
| government agencies                          | 54,947                      | 978          | _                                | _            | 54,947              | 978          |
| Total available-for-sale securities          | 173,573                     | 4,113        | 16,052                           | 1,454        | 189,625             | 5,567        |
| Total                                        | \$379,702                   | \$ 7,396     | \$23,517                         | \$ 1,576     | \$403,219           | \$ 8,972     |

At September 30, 2017, the Company held 169 individual fixed maturity securities that were in an unrealized loss position, of which 48 individual fixed maturity securities were in a continuous unrealized loss position for longer than 12 months.

The Company holds investments in a limited partnership hedge fund accounted for under the equity method. The carrying value of this investment is \$1.3 million at September 30, 2017.

Investment income is recognized as it is earned. The discount or premium on fixed maturity securities is amortized using the "constant yield" method. Anticipated prepayments, where applicable, are considered when determining the amortization of premiums or discounts. Realized investment gains and losses are determined using the specific identification method.

We regularly review our investment portfolio to evaluate the necessity of recording impairment losses for other-than-temporary declines in the fair value of specific investments. We consider various factors in determining if a decline in the fair value of an individual security is other-than-temporary. The key factors we consider are:

- any reduction or elimination of preferred dividends, or nonpayment of scheduled principal or interest payments;
- the financial condition and near-term prospects of the issuer of the applicable security, including any specific events that may affect its operations or earnings;
- how long and by how much the fair value of the security has been below its cost or amortized cost;
- any downgrades of the security by a rating agency;
- our intent not to sell the security for a sufficient time period for it to recover its value;
- the likelihood of being forced to sell the security before the recovery of its value; and
- an evaluation as to whether there are any credit losses on debt securities.

We reviewed all securities with unrealized losses in accordance with the impairment policy described above. The Company determined that the unrealized losses in the fixed maturity securities portfolio related primarily to changes in market interest rates since the date of purchase, current conditions in the capital markets and the impact of those conditions on market liquidity and prices generally. We expect to recover the carrying value of these securities as it is not more likely than not that we will be required to sell the securities before the recovery of the amortized cost basis.

During the nine months ended September 30, 2017 and 2016, there were no impairment losses recognized for other-than-temporary declines in the fair value of our investments

Net realized losses in the nine months ended September 30, 2017 were \$0.8 million resulting from called fixed maturity securities. Net realized gains in the nine months ended September 30, 2016 were \$1.0 million resulting from the sale of fixed maturity securities classified as available-for-sale.

#### Note 5. Income Taxes

In accordance with FASB ASC Topic 740, "Income Taxes," we provide for the recognition and measurement of deferred income tax benefits based on the likelihood of their realization in future years. As of September 30, 2017, the Company had no material unrecognized tax benefits and no adjustments to liabilities or operations were required.

The Company recognizes interest and penalties related to uncertain tax positions in income tax expense. There were no uncertain tax positions recognized for the periods ended September 30, 2017 and 2016.

Tax years 2013 through 2016 are subject to examination by the federal and state taxing authorities.

#### Note 6. Loss Reserves

We record reserves for estimated losses under insurance policies that we write and for loss adjustment expenses related to the investigation and settlement of policy claims. Our reserves for loss and loss adjustment expenses represent the estimated cost of all reported and unreported loss and loss adjustment expenses incurred and unpaid as of a given point in time. The reserves for loss and loss adjustment expenses are estimated using individual case-basis valuations, statistical analyses and estimates based upon experience for unreported claims and their associated loss and loss adjustment expenses. Such estimates may be more or less than the amounts ultimately paid when the claims are settled. The estimates are subject to the effects of trends in loss severity and frequency. Although considerable variability is inherent in these estimates, management believes that the reserves for loss and loss adjustment expenses are adequate. The estimates are continually reviewed and adjusted as necessary as experience develops or new information becomes known. Any adjustments are included in current operations. See Note 9 to our consolidated financial statements included in our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2016 for additional information regarding the Company's loss and loss adjustment expense development.

The following table provides the Company's liability for unpaid claims and claim adjustment expenses, net of related amounts recoverable from reinsurers, for nine months ended September 30, 2017 and 2016:

|                                             | Nine Months Ended |           |  |
|---------------------------------------------|-------------------|-----------|--|
|                                             | September 30,     |           |  |
|                                             | 2017              | 2016      |  |
|                                             | (in thousan       | ids)      |  |
| Balance, beginning of period                | \$742,776         | \$718,033 |  |
| Less amounts recoverable from reinsurers    |                   |           |  |
| on unpaid loss and loss adjustment expenses | 78,256            | 64,858    |  |
| Net balance, beginning of period            | 664,520           | 653,175   |  |
| Add incurred related to:                    |                   |           |  |
| Current accident year                       | 178,562           | 187,819   |  |
| Prior accident years                        | (27,524)          | (41,406)  |  |
| Total incurred                              | 151,038           | 146,413   |  |
| Less paid related to:                       |                   |           |  |
| Current accident year                       | 31,749            | 31,209    |  |
| Prior accident years                        | 108,284           | 108,485   |  |
| Total paid                                  | 140,033           | 139,694   |  |
| Net balance, end of period                  | 675,525           | 659,894   |  |
| Add amounts recoverable from reinsurers     |                   |           |  |
| on unpaid loss and loss adjustment expenses | 79,501            | 76,382    |  |
| Balance, end of period                      | \$755,026         | \$736,276 |  |

The foregoing reconciliation reflects favorable development of the net reserves at September 30, 2017 and September 30, 2016. The favorable development reduced loss and loss adjustment expense incurred by \$27.5 million and \$41.4 million in 2017 and 2016, respectively. The revisions to the Company's reserves reflect new information gained by claims adjusters in the normal course of adjusting claims and is reflected in the financial statements when the information becomes available. It is typical for more serious claims to take several years or longer to settle and the Company continually revises estimates as more information about claimants' medical conditions and potential disability becomes known and the claims get closer to being settled. Multiple factors can cause both favorable and unfavorable loss development. The favorable loss development we experienced across accident years was largely due to favorable case reserve development from closed claims and claims where the worker had reached maximum medical improvement.

### Note 7. Comprehensive Income and Accumulated Other Comprehensive Income

Comprehensive income was \$17.2 million for the three months ended September 30, 2017, compared to \$16.2 million for the three months ended September 30, 2016. Comprehensive income was \$49.1 million for the nine months ended September 30, 2017, compared to \$62.8 million for the same period in 2016. The difference between net income as reported and comprehensive income was due to changes in unrealized gains and losses, net of tax on available-for-sale securities.

Comprehensive income includes net income plus unrealized gains (losses) on our available-for-sale investment securities, net of tax. In reporting comprehensive income on a net basis in the statements of income, we used a 35 percent tax rate. The following table illustrates the changes in the balance of each component of accumulated other comprehensive income for each period presented in the interim financial statements.

|                                             | 820 (1,5 |         | Nine Mo<br>Ended<br>Septemb<br>2017 |         |
|---------------------------------------------|----------|---------|-------------------------------------|---------|
| Beginning balance                           | \$2,416  | \$8,309 | \$(492)                             | \$2,587 |
| Other comprehensive income (loss) before    |          |         |                                     |         |
| reclassification                            | 820      | (1,589) | 4,032                               | 4,286   |
| Amounts reclassified from accumulated other |          |         |                                     |         |
| comprehensive income                        | (203)    | (124)   | (507)                               | (277)   |
| Net current period other comprehensive      |          |         |                                     |         |
| income (loss)                               | 617      | (1,713) | 3,525                               | 4,009   |
| Ending balance                              | \$3,033  | \$6,596 | \$3,033                             | \$6,596 |

The sale or other-than-temporary impairment of an available-for-sale security results in amounts being reclassified from accumulated other comprehensive income to current period net income. The effects of reclassifications out of accumulated other comprehensive income by the respective line items of net income are presented in the following table.

|                                    | Three    |         |        |         |                                |
|------------------------------------|----------|---------|--------|---------|--------------------------------|
|                                    | Months   | ;       | Nine M | onths   |                                |
| Component of Accumulated Other     | Ended    |         | Ended  |         | Affected line item in the      |
| Comprehensive Income               | Septem   | ber 30, | Septem | ber 30, | statement of income            |
|                                    | 2017     | 2016    | 2017   | 2016    |                                |
|                                    | (in thou | ısands) |        |         |                                |
| Unrealized gains on available-for- |          |         |        |         | Net realized gains (losses) on |
|                                    |          |         |        |         |                                |
| sale securities                    | \$312    | \$191   | \$780  | \$426   | investments                    |
|                                    | 312      | 191     | 780    | 426     | Income before income taxes     |
|                                    | (109)    | (67)    | (273)  | (149)   | Income tax expense             |
|                                    | \$203    | \$124   | \$507  | \$277   | Net income                     |

### Note 8. Fair Value Measurements

The Company carries available-for-sale securities at fair value in our consolidated financial statements and determines fair value measurements and disclosure in accordance with FASB ASC Topic 820, Fair Value Measurements and Disclosures.

The Company determines the fair values of its financial instruments based on the fair value hierarchy established in ASC Topic 820, which requires an entity to maximize the use of observable inputs and minimize the use of unobservable inputs when measuring fair value. The standard defines fair value, describes three levels of inputs that may be used to measure fair value, and expands disclosures about fair value measurements.

Fair value is defined in ASC Topic 820 as the price that would be received to sell an asset or paid to transfer a liability in an orderly transaction between market participants at the measurement date. Fair value is the price to sell an asset or transfer a liability and, therefore, represents an exit price, not an entry price. Fair value is the exit price in the principal market (or, if lacking a principal market, the most advantageous market) in which the reporting entity would transact. Fair value is a market-based measurement, not an entity-specific measurement, and, as such, is determined based on the assumptions that market participants would use in pricing the asset or liability. The exit price objective of a fair value measurement applies regardless of the reporting entity's intent and/or ability to sell the asset or transfer the liability at the measurement date.

ASC Topic 820 requires the use of valuation techniques that are consistent with the market approach, the income approach and/or the cost approach. The market approach uses prices and other relevant information generated by market transactions involving identical or comparable assets and liabilities. The income approach uses valuation techniques to convert future amounts, such as cash flows or earnings, to a single present value amount on a discounted basis. The cost approach is based on the amount that currently would be required to replace the service capacity of an asset, also known as current replacement cost. Valuation techniques used to measure fair value are to be consistently applied.

In ASC Topic 820, inputs refer broadly to the assumptions that market participants would use in pricing the asset or liability, including assumptions about risk, for example, the risk inherent in a particular valuation technique used to measure fair value (such as a pricing model) and/or the risk inherent in the inputs to the valuation technique. Inputs may be observable or unobservable:

- Observable inputs are inputs that reflect the assumptions market participants would use in pricing the asset or liability developed based on market data obtained from sources independent of the reporting entity.
- Unobservable inputs are inputs that reflect the reporting entity's own assumptions about the assumptions market participants would use in pricing the asset or liability developed based on the best information available in the circumstances.

Valuation techniques used to measure fair value are intended to maximize the use of observable inputs and minimize the use of unobservable inputs. ASC Topic 820 establishes a fair value hierarchy that prioritizes the use of inputs used in valuation techniques into the following three levels:

- Level 1 inputs are quoted prices (unadjusted) in active markets for identical assets or liabilities that the reporting entity has the ability to access at the measurement date.
- Level 2 inputs are inputs other than quoted prices included within Level 1 that are observable for the asset or liability, either directly or indirectly. Level 2 inputs include quoted prices for similar assets or liabilities in active markets, quoted prices for identical or similar assets or liabilities in markets that are not active, inputs other than quoted prices that are observable for the asset or liability, or inputs that are derived principally from or corroborated by observable market data.
  - Level 3 inputs are unobservable inputs for the asset or liability. Unobservable inputs are to be used to measure fair value to the extent that observable inputs are not available, thereby allowing for situations in which there is little, if any, market activity for the asset or liability at the measurement date.

In general, fair value is based upon quoted market prices, where available. If such quoted market prices are not available, fair value is based upon internally developed models that primarily use, as inputs, observable market-based parameters.

The fair values of the Company's investments are based upon prices provided by an independent pricing service. The Company has reviewed these prices for reasonableness and has not adjusted any prices received from the independent provider. Securities reported at fair value utilizing Level 1 inputs represent assets whose fair value is determined based upon observable unadjusted quoted market prices for identical assets in active markets. Level 2 securities

represent assets whose fair value is determined using observable market information such as previous day trade prices, quotes from less active markets or quoted prices of securities with similar characteristics. There were no transfers between Level 1 and Level 2 during the nine months ended September 30, 2017.

At September 30, 2017, assets and liabilities measured at fair value on a recurring basis are summarized below:

|                                                                       | Septemb          | er 30, 2017     |         |               |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------|-----------------|---------|---------------|
|                                                                       | Level 1          | Level 2         | Level 3 | Total<br>Fair |
|                                                                       | Inputs (in thous | Inputs<br>ands) | Inputs  | Value         |
| Financial instruments carried at fair value, classified as a part of: |                  |                 |         |               |
| Securities available for sale—fixed maturity:                         |                  |                 |         |               |
| States and political subdivisions                                     | <b>\$</b> —      | \$241,652       | \$ —    | \$241,652     |
| Corporate bonds                                                       |                  | 151,984         | _       | 151,984       |
| U.S. agency-based mortgage-backed securities                          | _                | 12,668          | _       | 12,668        |
| U.S. Treasury securities                                              | 60,952           |                 |         | 60,952        |
| Total securities available for sale—fixed maturity                    | 60,952           | 406,304         | _       | 467,256       |
| Securities available for sale—equity:                                 |                  |                 |         |               |
| Domestic common stock                                                 | 7,801            | _               |         | 7,801         |
| Total available for sale                                              | \$68,753         | \$406,304       | \$ —    | \$475,057     |

At September 30, 2017, assets and liabilities measured at amortized cost are summarized below:

|                                              | September 30, 2017 |           |        |           |  |
|----------------------------------------------|--------------------|-----------|--------|-----------|--|
|                                              | Level              |           | Level  | Total     |  |
|                                              | 1                  | Level 2   | 3      | Fair      |  |
|                                              |                    |           |        |           |  |
|                                              | Inputs             | Inputs    | Inputs | Value     |  |
|                                              | (in thou           | sands)    |        |           |  |
| Securities held-to-maturity—fixed maturity:  |                    |           |        |           |  |
| States and political subdivisions            | <b>\$</b> —        | \$440,245 | \$ —   | \$440,245 |  |
| Corporate bonds                              | _                  | 122,248   | _      | 122,248   |  |
| U.S. agency-based mortgage-backed securities |                    | 11,676    | _      | 11,676    |  |
| U.S. Treasury securities                     | 6,785              |           |        | 6,785     |  |
| Obligations of U.S. government agencies      |                    | 27,435    |        | 27,435    |  |
| Asset-backed securities                      | _                  | 1,762     | _      | 1,762     |  |
| Total held-to-maturity                       | \$6,785            | \$603,366 | \$ —   | \$610,151 |  |

At December 31, 2016, assets and liabilities measured at fair value on a recurring basis are summarized below:

| Decembe | er 31, 2016 |       |       |
|---------|-------------|-------|-------|
| Level 1 | Level 2     | Level | Total |
|         |             | 3     | Fair  |

|                                                                     | Inputs Inputs (in thousands) |           | Inputs | Value     |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------|-----------|--------|-----------|
| Financial instruments carried at fair value, classified as part of: |                              |           |        |           |
| Securities available for sale—fixed maturity:                       |                              |           |        |           |
| States and political subdivisions                                   | <b>\$</b> —                  | \$232,293 | \$ —   | \$232,293 |
| Corporate bonds                                                     |                              | 182,515   |        | 182,515   |
| U.S. agency-based mortgage-backed securities                        |                              | 9,342     | _      | 9,342     |
| U.S. Treasury securities and obligations                            |                              |           |        |           |
|                                                                     |                              |           |        |           |
| of U.S. government agencies                                         | 54,947                       | _         | _      | 54,947    |
| Total available for sale—fixed maturity                             | \$54,947                     | \$424,150 | \$ —   | \$479,097 |
| Securities available for sale—equity:                               |                              |           |        |           |
| Domestic common stock                                               | 33                           | _         | _      | 33        |
| Total available for sale                                            | \$54,980                     | \$424,150 | \$ —   | \$479,130 |

At December 31, 2016, assets and liabilities measured at amortized cost are summarized below:

|                                              | Decemb<br>Level<br>1 | per 31, 2016<br>Level 2 |        | vel | Total<br>Fair |
|----------------------------------------------|----------------------|-------------------------|--------|-----|---------------|
|                                              | Inputs (in thou      | Inputs sands)           | Inputs |     | Value         |
| Securities held-to-maturity—fixed maturity:  |                      |                         |        |     |               |
| States and political subdivisions            | \$                   | \$399,483               | \$     |     | \$399,483     |
| Corporate bonds                              |                      | 144,016                 |        | _   | 144,016       |
| Commercial mortgage-backed securities        |                      | 70                      |        |     | 70            |
| U.S. agency-based mortgage-backed securities |                      | 10,915                  |        | _   | 10,915        |
| U.S. Treasury securities                     | 6,779                |                         |        |     | 6,779         |
| Obligations of U.S. government agencies      | _                    | 5,637                   |        | _   | 5,637         |
| Asset-backed securities                      |                      | 2,031                   |        |     | 2,031         |
| Total held-to-maturity                       | \$6,779              | \$562,152               | \$     | _   | \$568,931     |

The Company determines fair value amounts for financial instruments using available third-party market information. When such information is not available, the Company determines the fair value amounts using appropriate valuation methodologies. Nonfinancial instruments such as real estate, property and equipment, deferred policy acquisition costs, deferred income taxes and loss and loss adjustment expense reserves are excluded from the fair value disclosure.

At September 30, 2017, the Company held two securities measured at fair value on a nonrecurring basis due to a recognized impairment of \$0.3 million. The securities are valued using Level 2 inputs and had a value of \$0.3 million at September 30, 2017. The securities were valued at fair value at the time of impairment and are currently being carried at the adjusted amortized cost. The fair value of the securities was \$0.4 million at September 30, 2017.

Cash and Cash Equivalents —The carrying amounts reported in the accompanying consolidated balance sheets for these financial instruments approximate their fair values, which are characterized as Level 1 assets.

Investments —The fair values for fixed maturity and equity securities are based on prices obtained from an independent pricing service. Equity and treasury securities are characterized as Level 1 assets, as their fair values are based on quoted prices in active markets. Fixed maturity securities, other than treasury securities, are characterized as Level 2 assets, as their fair values are determined using observable market inputs.

Short Term Investments —The carrying amounts reported in the accompanying consolidated balance sheets for these financial instruments approximate their fair values. These securities are characterized as Level 2 assets in the fair value hierarchy.

Other Investments —Other investments consist of a limited partnership interest that is accounted for under the equity method valued using the net asset value provided by the general partner of the limited partnership, which approximates the fair value of the interest. The limited partnership's objective is to generate absolute returns by

investing long and short in publicly-traded global securities. Redemptions are allowed monthly following a 60-day notice with no lock up periods. The Company has no unfunded commitments related to the limited partnership hedge fund.

The following table summarizes the carrying values and corresponding fair values for financial instruments:

|                                            | As of September 30, 2017 |           | As of December 31, 2016 |           |
|--------------------------------------------|--------------------------|-----------|-------------------------|-----------|
|                                            | Carrying                 | Fair      | Carrying                | Fair      |
|                                            | Amount (in thousand      | Value     | Amount                  | Value     |
| Assets:                                    |                          |           |                         |           |
| Fixed maturity securities—held-to-maturity | y\$598,658               | \$610,151 | \$562,434               | \$568,931 |
| Fixed maturity securities—available-for-sa | le 467,256               | 467,256   | 479,097                 | 479,097   |
| Equity securities                          | 7,801                    | 7,801     | 33                      | 33        |
| Short-term investments                     | 69,526                   | 69,526    | 29,580                  | 29,580    |
| Other investments                          | 1,280                    | 1,280     | 13,330                  | 13,330    |
| Cash and cash equivalents                  | 80 378                   | 80 378    | 58 936                  | 58 936    |

### Note 9. Treasury Stock

The Company's Board of Directors initiated a share repurchase program in February 2010. In October 2016, the Board reauthorized this program with a limit of \$25.0 million with no expiration date. There were no shares repurchased under this program in the nine months ended September 30, 2017. Since the beginning of this plan, the Company has repurchased a total of 1,258,250 shares for \$22.4 million, or an average price of \$17.78, including commissions.

### Note 10. Commitments and Contingencies

In February 2015, the Company was notified of an adverse verdict against its subsidiary, AIIC, related to a 2009 workers' compensation claim in the State of Iowa. The verdict was for \$25.3 million, of which \$0.3 million was for actual damages and \$25.0 million was awarded for punitive damages. The Company posted an appeal bond in the amount of \$27.8 million, as required by law. AIIC appealed both the verdict and the damage awards. On May 19, 2017, the Supreme Court of Iowa reversed the judgments for actual and punitive damages and remanded the case for a new trial, presently scheduled for first quarter 2018. On July 24, 2017, the \$27.8 million appeal bond was returned to AIIC.

The Company maintains reinsurance against catastrophic losses, including court ordered judgments. As of September 30, 2017, the Company's total reserve for the claim was \$2.3 million. The \$2.3 million reserve does not include payments that the Company has previously paid in this case. The payments, plus the \$2.3 million reserve, total \$5.4 million. The Company's retention is \$5.0 million before its reinsurance providers are obligated to reimburse the Company for additional costs. The Company presently believes that the reserve amount, together with its reinsurance coverage, is adequate to satisfy this claim.

#### Note 11. Subsequent Events

On October 23, 2017, the Company's Board of Directors declared a quarterly cash dividend of \$0.20 per share payable on December 28, 2017 to shareholders of record as of December 14, 2017. The Board considers the payment of a regular cash dividend each calendar quarter.

On October 23, 2017, the Company's Board of Directors declared an extraordinary cash dividend of \$3.50 per share payable on December 28, 2017 to shareholders of record on December 14, 2017.

Item 2. Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations.

The following discussion should be read in conjunction with the accompanying unaudited condensed consolidated financial statements and the related notes included in Item 1 of Part I of this Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q, together with "Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations" included in our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2016.

We begin our discussion with an overview of our Company to give you an understanding of our business and the markets we serve. We then discuss our critical accounting policies. This is followed with a discussion of our results of operations for the three and nine months ended September 30, 2017 and 2016. This discussion includes an analysis of certain significant period-to-period variances in our consolidated statements of operations. Our cash flows and financial condition are discussed under the caption "Liquidity and Capital Resources."

#### **Business Overview**

AMERISAFE is a holding company that markets and underwrites workers' compensation insurance through its insurance subsidiaries. Workers' compensation insurance covers statutorily prescribed benefits that employers are obligated to provide to their employees who are injured in the course and scope of their employment. Our business strategy is focused on providing this coverage to small to mid-sized employers engaged in hazardous industries, principally construction, trucking, logging and lumber, manufacturing, and agriculture. Employers engaged in hazardous industries pay substantially higher than average rates for workers' compensation insurance compared to employers in other industries, as measured per payroll dollar. The higher premium rates are due to the nature of the work performed and the inherent workplace danger of our target employers. Hazardous industry employers also tend to have less frequent but more severe claims as compared to employers in other industries due to the nature of their businesses. We provide proactive safety reviews of employers' workplaces. These safety reviews are a vital component of our underwriting process and also promote safer workplaces. We utilize intensive claims management practices that we believe permit us to reduce the overall cost of our claims. In addition, our audit services ensure that our policyholders pay the appropriate premiums required under the terms of their policies and enable us to monitor payroll patterns that cause underwriting, safety or fraud concerns. We believe that the higher premiums typically paid by our policyholders, together with our disciplined underwriting and safety, claims and audit services, provide us with the opportunity to earn attractive returns for our shareholders.

We actively market our insurance in 27 states through independent agencies, as well as through our wholly owned insurance agency subsidiary. We are also licensed in an additional 20 states, the District of Columbia and the U.S. Virgin Islands.

#### **Critical Accounting Policies**

Understanding our accounting policies is key to understanding our financial statements. Management considers some of these policies to be very important to the presentation of our financial results because they require us to make significant estimates and assumptions. These estimates and assumptions affect the reported amounts of our assets, liabilities, revenues and expenses and related disclosures. Some of the estimates result from judgments that can be subjective and complex and, consequently, actual results in future periods might differ from these estimates.

Management believes that the most critical accounting policies relate to the reporting of reserves for loss and loss adjustment expenses, including losses that have occurred but have not been reported prior to the reporting date, amounts recoverable from reinsurers, premiums receivable, assessments, deferred policy acquisition costs, deferred income taxes, the impairment of investment securities and share-based compensation. These critical accounting policies are more fully described in Item 7, "Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results

of Operations" of our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2016.

#### **Results of Operations**

The following table summarizes our consolidated financial results for the three and nine months ended September 30, 2017 and 2016.

|                                   | Three Mor<br>Ended<br>September |          | Nine Months Ended<br>September 30, |           |  |  |
|-----------------------------------|---------------------------------|----------|------------------------------------|-----------|--|--|
|                                   | 2017 2016                       |          | 2017                               | 2016      |  |  |
|                                   | (dollars in (unaudited          | -        | except per share data)             |           |  |  |
| Gross premiums written            | \$87,035                        | \$88,837 | \$269,152                          | \$292,443 |  |  |
| Net premiums earned               | 85,118                          | 89,918   | 258,779                            | 276,607   |  |  |
| Net investment income             | 7,788                           | 8,006    | 21,969                             | 20,251    |  |  |
| Total revenues                    | 92,804                          | 98,206   | 280,271                            | 298,104   |  |  |
| Total expenses                    | 69,248                          | 72,179   | 215,831                            | 213,067   |  |  |
| Net income                        | 16,577                          | 17,896   | 45,582                             | 58,792    |  |  |
| Diluted earnings per common share | \$0.86                          | \$0.93   | \$2.37                             | \$3.06    |  |  |
| Other Key Measures                |                                 |          |                                    |           |  |  |
| Net combined ratio (1)            | 81.4 %                          | 80.3 %   | 83.5                               | 6 77.0 %  |  |  |
| Return on average equity (2)      | 13.6 %                          | 14.2 %   | 12.8                               | 6 16.3 %  |  |  |
| Book value per share (3)          | \$25.72                         | \$26.51  | \$25.72                            | \$26.51   |  |  |

- (1) The net combined ratio is calculated by dividing the sum of loss and loss adjustment expenses incurred, underwriting and certain other operating costs, commissions, salaries and benefits, and policyholder dividends by net premiums earned in the current period.
- (2) Return on average equity is calculated by dividing the annualized net income by the average shareholders' equity for the applicable period.
- (3)Book value per share is calculated by dividing shareholders' equity by total outstanding shares, as of the end of the period.

Consolidated Results of Operations for Three Months Ended September 30, 2017 Compared to September 30, 2016

Gross Premiums Written. Gross premiums written for the quarter ended September 30, 2017 were \$87.0 million, compared to \$88.8 million for the same period in 2016, a decrease of 2.0%. The decrease was attributable to a \$1.6 million decrease in annual premiums on voluntary policies written during the period. The effective loss cost multiplier, or ELCM, for our voluntary business was 1.69 for the third quarter ended September 30, 2017 compared to 1.71 for the same period in 2016.

Net Premiums Written. Net premiums written for the quarter ended September 30, 2017 were \$85.0 million, compared to \$85.9 million for the same period in 2016, a decrease of 1.0%. The decrease was primarily attributable to the decrease in gross premiums written. As a percentage of gross premiums earned, ceded premiums were 2.3% for the third quarter of 2017 compared to 3.2% for the third quarter of 2016. The decrease in ceded premiums as a percentage of gross premiums earned reflects a \$0.3 million decrease in the third quarter of 2017 resulting from a decrease in reinsurance rates. The prior year third quarter ceded premiums included an increase of \$0.5 million due to unfavorable ceded loss development during the period. For additional information, see Item 1, "Business—Reinsurance" in our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2016.

Net Premiums Earned. Net premiums earned for the third quarter of 2017 were \$85.1 million, compared to \$89.9 million for the same period in 2016, a decrease of 5.3%. The decrease was attributable to a decrease in net premiums written.

Net Investment Income. Net investment income for the quarter ended September 30, 2017 was \$7.8 million, compared to \$8.0 million for the same period in 2016. The decrease of \$0.2 million was largely due to the change in value of a limited partnership hedge fund investment. In last year's third quarter, there was a significant gain in value of the hedge fund. The change in value of this investment is recorded in investment income each quarter. Average invested assets, including cash and cash equivalents, were \$1.2 billion in the quarter ended September 30, 2017 and 2016. The pre-tax investment yield on our investment portfolio was 2.6% and 2.7% per annum during the quarters ended September 30, 2017 and 2016, respectively. The tax-equivalent yield on our investment portfolio was 3.2% per annum for the quarter ended September 30, 2017 and 2016. The tax-equivalent yield is calculated using the effective interest rate and the appropriate marginal tax rate.

Net Realized Gains (Losses) on Investments. Net realized losses on investments for the three months ended September 30, 2017 totaled \$0.2 million compared to net realized gains of \$0.2 million for the same period in 2016. Net realized losses in the third quarter of 2017 were attributable to called fixed maturity securities. Net realized gains in the third quarter of 2016 were attributable to the sale of fixed maturity securities classified as available-for-sale.

Loss and Loss Adjustment Expenses Incurred. Loss and loss adjustment expenses ("LAE") incurred totaled \$48.4 million for the three months ended September 30, 2017, compared to \$50.5 million for the same period in 2016, a decrease of \$2.1 million, or 4.2%. The current accident year loss and LAE incurred were \$58.7 million, or 69.0% of net premiums earned, compared to \$61.1 million, or 67.9% of net premiums earned for the same period in 2016. We recorded favorable prior accident year development of \$10.3 million in the third quarter of 2017, compared to favorable prior accident year development of \$10.5 million in the same period of 2016, as further discussed below in "Prior Year Development." Our net loss ratio was 56.9% in the third quarter of 2017, compared to 56.2% for the same period of 2016.

Underwriting and Certain Other Operating Costs, Commissions and Salaries and Benefits. Underwriting and certain other operating costs, commissions and salaries and benefits for the quarter ended September 30, 2017 were \$19.3 million, compared to \$20.8 million for the same period in 2016, a decrease of 7.1%. This decrease was primarily due to a \$1.3 million decrease in insurance related assessments, a \$0.3 million decrease in commission expense and a \$0.3 million decrease in compensation expense. Offsetting these decreases was a \$0.4 million increase in premium taxes. Our expense ratio was 22.7% in the third quarter of 2017 compared to 23.1% in the third quarter of 2016.

Income Tax Expense. Income tax expense for the three months ended September 30, 2017 was \$7.0 million, compared to \$8.1 million for the same period in 2016. The decrease was attributable to a decrease in the pre-tax income to \$23.6 million in the quarter ended September 30, 2017 from \$26.0 million in the same period in 2016. Also, the effective tax rate decreased to 29.6% in the quarter ended September 30, 2017 from 31.2% in the same period in 2016. The decrease in the tax rate resulted from a higher proportion of tax-exempt income to underwriting income in the quarter relative to the third quarter of 2016.

Consolidated Results of Operations for Nine Months Ended September 30, 2017 Compared to September 30, 2016

Gross Premiums Written. Gross premiums written for the first nine months of 2017 were \$269.2 million, compared to \$292.4 million for the same period in 2016, a decrease of 8.0%. The decrease was attributable to a \$13.6 million decrease in annual premiums on voluntary policies written during the period, an \$8.4 million decrease in premiums resulting from payroll audits and related premium adjustments for policies written in previous quarters and a \$0.6 million decrease in assumed premium from mandatory pooling arrangements. The ELCM for our voluntary business was 1.67 for the nine months ended September 30, 2017 compared to 1.73 for the same period in 2016.

Net Premiums Written. Net premiums written for the nine months ended September 30, 2017 were \$262.6 million, compared to \$284.4 million for the same period in 2016, a decrease of 7.7%. The decrease was primarily attributable to the decrease in gross premiums written. As a percentage of gross premiums earned, ceded premiums were 2.5% and 2.8% for the first nine months of 2017 and 2016, respectively. The decrease in ceded premiums as a percentage of gross premiums earned reflects a decrease of \$0.3 million of ceded premiums in 2017 resulting from a prior period accrual adjustment compared to an increase of \$0.7 million in the prior year due to ceded losses during the period. For additional information, see Item 1, "Business—Reinsurance" in our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2016.

Net Premiums Earned. Net premiums earned for the first nine months of 2017 were \$258.8 million, compared to \$276.6 million for the same period in 2016, a decrease of 6.4%. The decrease was attributable to the decrease in net premiums written during the period.

Net Investment Income. Net investment income for the first nine months of 2017 was \$22.0 million, compared to \$20.3 million for the same period in 2016, an increase of 8.5%. The increase was largely due to an increase in interest income resulting from redemption premiums on corporate bonds called prior to maturity. Average invested assets, including cash and cash equivalents were \$1.2 billion in the nine months ended September 30, 2017 and 2016. The pre-tax investment yield on our investment portfolio was 2.5% per annum during the nine months ended September 30, 2017, compared to 2.4% per annum during the same period in 2016. The tax-equivalent yield on our investment portfolio was 3.2% per annum for the first nine months of 2017 and 2016. The tax-equivalent yield is calculated using the effective interest rate and the appropriate marginal tax rate.

Net Realized Gains (Losses) on Investments. Net realized losses on investments for the nine months ended September 30, 2017 totaled \$0.8 million, compared to net realized gains of \$1.0 million for the same period in 2016. Net realized losses in the first nine months of 2017 were attributable to called fixed maturity securities. Net realized gains in the first nine months of 2016 were attributable to the sale of fixed maturity securities classified as available-for-sale.

Loss and Loss Adjustment Expenses Incurred. Loss and LAE incurred totaled \$151.0 million for the nine months ended September 30, 2017, compared to \$146.4 million for the same period in 2016, an increase of \$4.6 million, or 3.2%. The current accident year loss and LAE incurred were \$178.6 million, or 69.0% of net premiums earned, compared to \$187.8 million, or 67.9% of net premiums earned, for the same period in 2016. We recorded favorable prior accident year development of \$27.5 million in the first nine months of 2017, compared to favorable prior accident year development of \$41.4 million in the same period of 2016, as further discussed below in "Prior Year Development." Our net loss ratio was 58.4% in the first nine months of 2017, compared to 52.9% for the same period of 2016.

Underwriting and Certain Other Operating Costs, Commissions and Salaries and Benefits. Underwriting and certain other operating costs, commissions and salaries and benefits for the nine months ended September 30, 2017 were \$60.7 million, compared to \$63.5 million for the same period in 2016, a decrease of 4.4%. This decrease was primarily due to a \$2.1 million decrease in insurance related assessments and a \$1.3 million decrease in commission expense. Offsetting these decreases were a \$0.6 million increase in premium taxes and a \$0.5 million increase in compensation expense. Our expense ratio was 23.5% in the first nine months of 2017 compared to 22.9% in the same period of 2016.

Income Tax Expense. Income tax expense for the nine months ended September 30, 2017 was \$18.9 million, compared to \$26.2 million for the same period in 2016. The decrease was attributable to a decrease in pre-tax income to \$64.4 million in the first nine months of 2017 from \$85.0 million in the first nine months of 2016. The effective tax rate decreased to 29.3% for the nine months ended September 30, 2017 from 30.9% for the nine months ended September 30, 2016. The decrease in the tax rate resulted from a higher proportion of tax-exempt income to underwriting income for the nine months ended September 30, 2017 compared with the nine months ended September 30, 2016.

# Liquidity and Capital Resources

Our principal sources of operating funds are premiums, investment income and proceeds from sales and maturities of investments. Our primary uses of operating funds include payments of claims and operating expenses. Currently, we pay claims using cash flow from operations and invest the remaining funds.

Net cash provided by operating activities was \$102.3 million for the nine months ended September 30, 2017, which represented a \$19.5 million increase from \$82.9 million in net cash provided by operating activities for the nine months ended September 30, 2016. This increase in operating cash flow was attributable to a \$26.8 million decrease in amounts held by others resulting from the return of an appeal bond as further discussed above in Note 10, a \$4.0 million decrease in federal taxes paid and a \$1.1 million increase in reinsurance recoveries. Offsetting these amounts were an \$8.6 million decrease in premium collections, a \$2.5 million increase in underwriting expenses paid and a \$1.3 million increase in losses paid.

Net cash used in investing activities was \$69.2 million for the nine months ended September 30, 2017, compared to net cash used in investment activities of \$57.1 million for the same period in 2016. Cash provided by sales and maturities of investments totaled \$212.6 million for the nine months ended September 30, 2017, compared to \$220.4 million for the same period in 2016. A total of \$290.4 million in cash was used to purchase investments in the nine months ended September 30, 2017, compared to \$276.4 million in purchases for the same period in 2016.

Net cash used in financing activities in the nine months ended September 30, 2017 was \$11.6 million compared to net cash used in financing activities of \$8.6 million for the same period in 2016. In the nine months ended September 30, 2017, \$11.6 million of cash was used for dividends paid to shareholders compared to \$10.4 million in the same period of 2016. During the nine months ended September 30, 2017, there was no tax benefit from share-based compensation

compared to \$1.0 million for the same period in 2016. There were no proceeds from stock option exercises during the year compared to \$0.8 million in the same period in 2016.

#### Investment Portfolio

Our investment portfolio, including cash and cash equivalents, totaled \$1.2 billion at September 30, 2017 compared to \$1.1 billion at December 31, 2016. Purchases of fixed maturity securities are classified as available-for-sale or held-to-maturity at the time of purchase based on the individual security. The reported value of our fixed maturity securities classified as held-to-maturity, as defined by FASB ASC Topic 320, Investments-Debt and Equity Securities, was equal to their amortized cost, and thus was not impacted by changing interest rates. Our equity securities and fixed maturity securities classified as available-for-sale were reported at fair value.

The composition of our investment portfolio, including cash and cash equivalents, as of September 30, 2017, is shown in the following table:

|                                                                      | Carrying     | Percenta;<br>of | ge |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------|-----------------|----|
|                                                                      | Value        | Portfolio       |    |
|                                                                      | (in thousand | ls)             |    |
| Fixed maturity securities—held-to-maturity:                          |              |                 |    |
| States and political subdivisions                                    | \$430,470    | 35.2            | %  |
| Corporate bonds                                                      | 121,942      | 10.0            | %  |
| U.S. agency-based mortgage-backed securities                         | 10,928       | 0.9             | %  |
| U.S. Treasury securities and obligations of U.S. government agencies | 33,672       | 2.7             | %  |
| Asset-backed securities                                              | 1,646        | 0.1             | %  |
| Total fixed maturity securities—held-to-maturity                     | 598,658      | 48.9            | %  |
| Fixed maturity securities—available-for-sale:                        |              |                 |    |
| States and political subdivisions                                    | 241,652      | 19.7            | %  |
| Corporate bonds                                                      | 151,984      | 12.4            | %  |
| U.S. agency-based mortgage-backed securities                         | 12,668       | 1.0             | %  |
| U.S. Treasury securities and obligations of U.S. government agencies | 60,952       | 5.0             | %  |
| Total fixed maturity securities—available-for-sale                   | 467,256      | 38.1            | %  |
| Equity securities                                                    | 7,801        | 0.6             | %  |
| Short-term investments                                               | 69,526       | 5.7             | %  |
| Other investments                                                    | 1,280        | 0.1             | %  |
| Cash and cash equivalents                                            | 80,378       | 6.6             | %  |
| Total investments, including cash and cash equivalents               | \$1,224,899  | 100.0           | %  |

Our securities classified as available-for-sale are "marked to market" as of the end of each calendar quarter. As of that date, unrealized gains and losses are recorded to Accumulated Other Comprehensive Income (Loss), except when such securities are deemed to be other-than-temporarily impaired. For our securities classified as held-to-maturity, unrealized gains and losses are not recorded in the financial statements until realized or until a decline in fair value, below amortized cost, is deemed to be other-than-temporary.

During the three and nine months ended September 30, 2017 and 2016, there were no impairment losses recognized for other-than-temporary declines in the fair value of our investments.

#### Prior Year Development

The Company recorded favorable prior accident year development of \$10.3 million in the three months ended September 30, 2017. The table below sets forth the favorable development for the three and nine months ended September 30, 2017 and 2016 for accident years 2012 through 2016 and, collectively, for all accident years prior to 2012.

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|                       | Month<br>Ended<br>Septen<br>2017 | Three Months onths Ended ded September 30, eptember 30, 117 millions) |      | Nine Months<br>Ended<br>September 30,<br>2017 |      | Nine Months<br>Ended<br>September 30,<br>2016 |      |
|-----------------------|----------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------|------|-----------------------------------------------|------|-----------------------------------------------|------|
| Accident Year         |                                  |                                                                       |      |                                               |      |                                               |      |
| 2016                  | \$—                              | \$                                                                    | _    | \$                                            | _    | \$                                            | _    |
| 2015                  | 3.4                              |                                                                       | _    |                                               | 7.8  |                                               | _    |
| 2014                  | 3.0                              |                                                                       | 5.1  |                                               | 10.5 |                                               | 12.8 |
| 2013                  | 1.3                              |                                                                       | 1.9  |                                               | 5.2  |                                               | 11.4 |
| 2012                  | 1.1                              |                                                                       | 0.9  |                                               | 1.6  |                                               | 8.3  |
| Prior to 2012         | 1.5                              |                                                                       | 2.6  |                                               | 2.4  |                                               | 8.9  |
| Total net development | \$10.3                           | \$                                                                    | 10.5 | \$                                            | 27.5 | \$                                            | 41.4 |

The table below sets forth the number of open claims as of September 30, 2017 and 2016, and the number of claims reported and closed during the three and nine months then ended.

|                                    | Three Months<br>Ended |         | Nine Months<br>Ended |         |  |
|------------------------------------|-----------------------|---------|----------------------|---------|--|
|                                    | September 30,         |         | September 30,        |         |  |
|                                    | 2017                  | 2016    | 2017                 | 2016    |  |
| Open claims at beginning of period | 4,841                 | 5,141   | 5,195                | 5,300   |  |
| Claims reported                    | 1,428                 | 1,535   | 3,904                | 4,145   |  |
| Claims closed                      | (1,190)               | (1,456) | (4,020)              | (4,225) |  |
| Open claims at end of period       | 5,079                 | 5,220   | 5,079                | 5,220   |  |

The number of open claims at September 30, 2017 decreased by 141 claims as compared to the number of open claims at September 30, 2016. At September 30, 2017, our incurred amounts for certain accident years, particularly 2015, 2014 and 2013, developed more favorably than management previously expected. The revisions to the Company's reserves reflect new information gained by claims adjusters in the normal course of adjusting claims and is reflected in the financial statements when the information becomes available. It is typical for more serious claims to take several years or longer to settle and the Company continually revises estimates as more information about claimants' medical conditions and potential disability becomes known and the claims get closer to being settled. Multiple factors can cause both favorable and unfavorable loss development. The favorable loss development we experienced across accident years was largely due to favorable case reserve development from closed claims and claims where the worker had reached maximum medical improvement.

The assumptions we used in establishing our reserves were based on our historical claims data. However, as of September 30, 2017, actual results for certain accident years have been better than our assumptions would have predicted. We do not presently intend to modify our assumptions for establishing reserves in light of recent results. However, if actual results for current and future accident years are consistent with, or different than, our results in these recent accident years, our historical claims data will reflect this change and, over time, will impact the reserves we establish for future claims.

Our reserves for loss and loss adjustment expenses are inherently uncertain and our focus on providing workers' compensation insurance to employers engaged in hazardous industries results in our receiving relatively fewer but more severe claims than many other workers' compensation insurance companies. As a result of this focus on higher severity, lower frequency business, our reserve for loss and loss adjustment expenses may have greater volatility than other workers' compensation insurance companies. For additional information, see Item 1, "Business—Loss Reserves" in our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2016.

### Item 3. Quantitative and Qualitative Disclosures About Market Risk.

Market risk is the risk of potential economic loss principally arising from adverse changes in the fair value of financial instruments. The major components of market risk affecting us are credit risk, interest rate risk and equity price risk. We currently have no exposure to foreign currency risk.

Since December 31, 2016, there have been no material changes in the quantitative or qualitative aspect of our market risk profile. For additional information regarding the Company's exposure to certain market risks, see Item 7A, "Quantitative and Qualitative Disclosures About Market Risk" in our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended

December 31, 2016.

Item 4. Controls and Procedures.

Under the supervision and with the participation of our management, including our Chief Executive Officer and Chief Financial Officer, we have evaluated the effectiveness of our disclosure controls and procedures (as defined in Rule 13a-15(e) under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended (the "Exchange Act")) as of the end of the period covered by this report. Based on that evaluation, our Chief Executive Officer and Chief Financial Officer concluded that our disclosure controls and procedures were effective as of the end of the period covered by this report to provide reasonable assurance that information we are required to disclose in reports that are filed or submitted under the Exchange Act is recorded, processed, summarized and reported within the time periods specified in the rules and forms specified by the SEC. We note that the design of any system of controls is based in part upon certain assumptions about the likelihood of future events, and there can be no assurance that any design will succeed in achieving the stated goals under all potential future conditions.

Because of its inherent limitations, management does not expect that our disclosure controls and procedures and our internal controls over financial reporting will prevent or detect all misstatements. Also, projections of any evaluation of effectiveness to future periods are subject to the risk that controls may become inadequate because of changes in conditions or that the degree of compliance with policies and procedures may deteriorate. Any control system, no matter how well designed and operated, is based upon certain assumptions and can only provide reasonable, not absolute assurance that its objectives will be met. Further, no evaluation of controls can provide absolute assurance that misstatements due to errors or fraud will not occur or that all control issues and instances of fraud, if any within the Company, have been detected.

There have not been any changes in our internal control over financial reporting during the period covered by this report that have materially affected, or are reasonably likely to materially affect, our internal control over financial reporting.

#### PART II—OTHER INFORMATION

Item 2. Unregistered Sales of Equity Securities and Use of Proceeds.

The Board of Directors initially authorized the Company's share repurchase program in February 2010. In October 2016, the Board reauthorized this program with no expiration date. As of September 30, 2017, we had repurchased a total of 1,258,250 shares of our outstanding common stock for \$22.4 million. The Company had \$25.0 million available for future purchases at September 30, 2017 under this program. There were no shares repurchased during the nine months ended September 30, 2017 and 2016. The purchases may be effected from time to time depending upon market conditions and subject to applicable regulatory considerations. It is anticipated that future purchases will be funded from available capital.

# Item 6. Exhibits.

# Exhibit

| No.     | Description                                                                                                                                                         |
|---------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 31.1    | Certification of G. Janelle Frost filed pursuant to Section 302 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002                                                                   |
| 31.2    | Certification of Neal A. Fuller filed pursuant to Section 302 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002                                                                     |
| 32.1    | Certification of G. Janelle Frost and Neal A. Fuller filed pursuant to 18 U.S.C. Section 1350, as adopted pursuant to Section 906 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002 |
| 101.INS | XBRL Instance Document                                                                                                                                              |
| 101.SCH | XBRL Taxonomy Extension Schema Document                                                                                                                             |
| 101.CAL | XBRL Taxonomy Extension Calculation Linkbase Document                                                                                                               |
| 101.LAB | XBRL Taxonomy Extension Label Linkbase Document                                                                                                                     |
| 101.PRE | XBRL Taxonomy Extension Presentation Linkbase Document                                                                                                              |
| 101.DEF | XBRL Taxonomy Extension Definition Linkbase Document                                                                                                                |

#### **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.

#### AMERISAFE, INC.

October 27, 2017 /s/ G. Janelle Frost
G. Janelle Frost
President, Chief Executive Officer and Director
(Principal Executive Officer)

October 27, 2017 /s/ Neal A. Fuller
Neal A. Fuller
Executive Vice President and Chief Financial Officer
(Principal Financial and Accounting Officer)

# EXHIBIT INDEX

# Exhibit

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