

**THE PREMIUM BRAND**<sup>™</sup>

# **2024 Annual Report**



We wrap our future in every package.™

# EST. 1932

# A Family Business Four Generations Strong

Notice of 2025 Annual Meeting and Proxy Statement

# **TO OUR SHAREHOLDERS**

Our 2024 fiscal year was rather challenging for our Company. While we experienced a dip in sales and increased input costs that negatively impacted our results, we also uncovered new opportunities that we believe will benefit our Company greatly in the future. We finished the year with a sales total of \$223,645,000. Total sales were off 11.1% compared to our 2023 fiscal year. The Company reported an overall pre-tax loss of \$4,692,000, equal to \$0.52 per share. The post-tax loss was \$3,381,000, equal to \$0.37 per share. We once again experienced sales growth in our Frozen Food division while our Meat Snack division suffered a drop in sales that can be attributed to a number of factors. Commodity costs held steady in the Frozen Food division throughout the year, while the key components used to produce our meat snacks (mainly beef and pork) reached high levels early in the year and stayed at those levels as the year progressed. The impact of higher than usual inflation once again impacted input costs and contributed to softer consumer spending in grocery stores, resulting in lower sales to retail customers. Despite the challenges we faced, we have maintained our commitment to producing the finest meat snacks and frozen bakery products available in the marketplace, and we will continue to do so in the years to come.

#### SALES AND MARKETING HIGHLIGHTS

Fiscal year 2024 began as a challenging year for the Chicago Dry Sausage and Meat Snack division, but we saw the tide beginning to turn as we approached the end of year. We grew significantly with key accounts like Kroger and Dollar Tree, and we continued to pursue growth in the wholesale channel. We have leveraged our excellent relationships with key customers to enter into exciting new projects that will manifest throughout fiscal year 2025.

We launched a new line of smaller beef jerky products targeting the value channel that is off to a great start, and we've continued to introduce our new Roasted Garlic Beef Jerky in numerous channels of trade. We also launched a multipack Sliced Pepperoni, a multipack Summer Sausage, and a large 32 oz. Summer Sausage during the fiscal year.

Our partnerships with 4 outstanding colleges as the primary sponsor of their collegiate bass fishing teams - Simpson University, the University of Missouri, Purdue University, and the University of Tennessee - have been very successful. Each of these prestigious universities has teams that are comprised of ethical, dedicated anglers who are excellent representatives of the sport, outdoor conservation, and Bridgford Foods, and we're proud to have them as partners.

Our professional fishing team has continued to drive strong ROI for Bridgford Foods. Our anglers participated in many tournaments and generated millions of impressions and a great amount of brand awareness in 2024. Our social media presence continues to grow and our anglers continue to be excellent representatives and ambassadors of our brand.

In the Frozen Food division, sales rose in 2024 to \$58,408,000, a gain of 1.3% over the prior year. This marks five consecutive years of growth within the division. Flour prices moderated in 2024, but nearly all other inputs increased in cost at some point during the year. The effects of inflation were felt especially on the retail side of our Frozen Food division, but our foodservice business experienced nice sales increases that more than offset the losses we incurred on the retail side. We are pleased that we were able to experience gains in both our sales and our profitability without having to raise prices throughout the year. Sales to school districts continue to soar, and for the third consecutive year, we have seen record high sales of our whole grain-rich line of products that we primarily provide to school districts.

#### **OPERATIONS**

The success of our Meat Snack division is often directly tied to the price we pay for both beef and pork. There are many other factors that contribute to our profitability, but the beef and pork markets are the most significant metrics that impact our operating results. Prices of both these important inputs were up in 2024 compared to the prior year. The wheat market softened in 2024. Despite rising costs of most inputs used to produce our frozen bread products, the relief we experienced on flour prices resulted in our ingredient costs being relatively flat in 2024. We are closely monitoring all our costs, and as pressure is placed on margins, we regularly analyze whether or not it is prudent to raise prices.

Respectfully,

Michael W. Bridgford

Our efforts to increase sales are ongoing, throughout all segments of our business, and we believe we will achieve significant sales gains in both divisions in our 2025 fiscal year.

We are once again proud to report that all five of our processing facilities have maintained SQF (Safe Quality Foods) certification with passing scores, and in many cases we are scoring in the high 90% range. This certification is important to our customers as it is evidence that we follow strict food safety protocols across all divisions of our company which allow us to provide our customers with the highest quality meat snacks and bread products available in the nation.

#### FINANCIAL MATTERS

Our working capital totaled \$61,536,000 at November 1, 2024, \$7,960,000 (11.5%) lower than at the beginning of the fiscal year, and our working capital ratio decreased to 4.7 to 1 at November 1, 2024, compared to 4.9 to 1 at November 3, 2023. The decrease in working capital resulted from operating losses and unfavorable commodity costs increases of approximately \$4,378,000. We did not contribute toward our defined benefit pension plan during the 2024 fiscal year. The defined benefit plan was frozen in the 3rd quarter of 2006 and replaced with a 401(k) defined contribution plan.

We maintain a line of credit with Wells Fargo Bank for up to \$7,500,000 on November 30, 2024, with an unused commitment fee of 0.35% of the available loan amount. The amended line of credit expires November 30, 2025. The Company had nothing outstanding on the line of credit as of November 1, 2024.

Shareholders' equity totaled \$128,136,000, a decrease of \$1,399,000 (1.1%) compared to the end of the prior year. Net loss from operations before taxes and other income (expense) was \$6,267,000 for the fiscal year ended November 1, 2024.

Our frozen defined benefit pension plan recognized a gain of \$3,112,000 in Shareholders' equity. The Citigroup Pension Liability Index decreased from 5.96% in fiscal year 2023 to 5.16% in fiscal year 2024. This rate is used to compute the present value of our defined benefit pension obligations. The expected return on assets decreased from 7.00% in fiscal year 2023 to 5.00% in fiscal year 2024 due to a derisking strategy that shifts away from equities to fixed income.

We did not repurchase any shares of the Company's common stock during 2024. Shareholders' equity per share was \$14.12 at November 1, 2024 compared to \$14.27 at November 3, 2023.

Management assessed the effectiveness of the Company's internal control over financial reporting for the fiscal year ended November 1, 2024. Based on that assessment, these controls were believed to be effective as of November 1, 2024.

#### SUMMARY

2024 was a difficult year for our company. While we are pleased with many of the things that were achieved during the year, we are not blind to the fact that we experienced a net loss during the year, and we need to take decisive action to reverse that trend going into our 2025 fiscal year. We are taking aggressive steps to increase sales in our Meat Snack division, and we are optimistic that we will see a significant improvement in sales in the upcoming year. Our Frozen Food division is also expecting modest gains in sales in 2025. The thing that gives us the most confidence in our ability to reduce costs and increase sales is the incredible team we have representing us throughout the nation. Many of our employees in administrative, processing/production, and sales roles have been with our Company for many years. They care deeply about producing high-quality products and representing us with integrity and professionalism in the sales field. We are confident that 2025 and the years to come will see continued improvement and encouraging results. Our family's 4th generation continues to work extremely hard to carry on the wonderful traditions that were established by our founder, H.H. Bridgford. These individuals are spread out across the country handling a wide variety of responsibilities across all our divisions, including management, sales, operations, information technology, and accounting. We know there will be challenges in the years to come, but we are ready to meet them and make this Company the best that it can be. Thank you for your continued support of Bridgford Foods.

Baron R.H. Bridgford II

President

andy Matthews Morales Cindy Matthews-Morales Chief Financial Officer



February 21, 2025

Chairman

# UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Washington, D.C. 20549

# **FORM 10-K**

☑ ANNUAL REPORT PURSUANT TO SECTION 13 OR 15(d) OF THE SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934

For the fiscal year ended November 1, 2024

Commission file number: 000-02396



# **BRIDGFORD FOODS CORPORATION**

(Exact name of Registrant as specified in its charter)

California

(State or Other Jurisdiction of Incorporation)

95-1778176

(I.R.S. Employer Identification No.)

1707 South Good-Latimer Expressway, Dallas, Texas 75226

(Address of principal executive offices)

(214) 428-1535

(Registrant's telephone number, including area code)

Securities registered pursuant to Section 12(b) of the Act:

Title of each class	Trading Symbol(s)	Name of each exchange on which registered
Common Stock	BRID	Nasdaq Global Market

Securities registered pursuant to Section 12(g) of the Act: None

Indicate by check mark if the registrant is a well-known seasoned issuer, as defined in Rule 405 of the Securities Act. Yes 🗆 No 🖂

Indicate by check mark if the registrant is not required to file reports pursuant to Section 13 or Section 15(d) of the Act. Yes 🗆 No 🗵

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  $\boxtimes$  No  $\square$ 

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant has submitted electronically every Interactive Data File required to be submitted pursuant to Rule 405 of Regulation S-T ( $\S232.405$  of this chapter) during the preceding 12 months (or for such shorter period that the registrant was required to submit such files). Yes  $\boxtimes$  No  $\square$ 

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," "smaller reporting company," and "emerging growth company" in Rule 12b-2 of the Exchange Act:

Large accelerated filer $\Box$	Accelerated filer □	Emerging growth company $\Box$
Non-accelerated filer 🗵	Smaller reporting 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.  $\Box$ 

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant has filed a report on and attestation to its management's assessment of the effectiveness of its internal control over financial reporting under Section 404(b) of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act (15 U.S.C. 7262(b)) by the registered public accounting firm that prepared or issued its audit report.  $\Box$ 

If securities are registered pursuant to Section 12(b) of the Act, indicate by check mark whether the financial statements of the registrant included in the filing reflect the correction of an error to previously issued financial statements.  $\Box$ 

Indicate by check mark whether any of those error corrections are restatements that required a recovery analysis of incentive-based compensation received by any of the registrant's executive officers during the relevant recovery period pursuant to 240.10D-1(b).

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

The aggregate market value of voting and non-voting stock held by non-affiliates of the registrant on April 19, 2024, the last business day of the registrant's most recently completed second fiscal quarter, was approximately \$18,589,000.

As of January 29, 2025, there were 9,076,832 shares of common stock outstanding.

# DOCUMENTS INCORPORATED BY REFERENCE

Portions of the registrant's definitive proxy statement on Schedule 14A relating to the registrant's 2025 annual meeting of stockholders, to be filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission within 120 days after the end of the fiscal year covered by this Annual Report on Form 10-K, are incorporated by reference in Part III, Items 10-14, within this Annual Report on Form 10-K.

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# **Cautionary Note Regarding Forward-Looking Statements**

This Annual Report on Form 10-K (this "Report") contains "forward-looking statements" within the meaning of the federal securities laws, which statements are subject to considerable risks and uncertainties. These forward-looking statements are intended to qualify for the safe harbor from liability established by the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995. All statements included or incorporated by reference in this Report, other than statements of historical fact, are forward-looking statements. You can identify forward-looking statements by the use of words such as "anticipate," "believe," "continue" "could," "expect," "intend," "may," "will," or the negative of such terms, or other comparable terminology. Forward-looking statements also include the assumptions underlying or relating to such statements.

In particular, forward-looking statements included or incorporated by reference in this Report relate to, among other things: general economic and business conditions; the impact of competitive products and pricing; success of operating initiatives; development and operating costs; advertising and promotional efforts; adverse publicity; acceptance of new product offerings; changes in business strategy or development plans; availability, terms and deployment of capital; availability of qualified personnel; commodity, labor, and employee benefit costs; supply chain constraints and resulting cost pressures; macroeconomic conditions, including the impact of inflation on our results of operations; changes in, or failure to comply with, government regulations; weather conditions; relationships with customers and suppliers.

Our forward-looking statements are based on our management's current assumptions and expectations about future events and trends, which affect or may affect our business, strategy, operations or financial performance. Although we believe that these forward-looking statements are based upon reasonable assumptions, they are subject to numerous known and unknown risks and uncertainties and are made in light of information currently available to us. Our actual financial condition and results could differ materially from those anticipated in these forward-looking statements as a result of various factors, including those set forth in the section entitled Risk Factors beginning on page 6 of this Report. You should read this Report with the understanding that our actual future results may be materially different from and worse than what we expect.

Moreover, we operate in an evolving environment. New risk factors and uncertainties emerge from time to time and it is not possible for our management to predict all risk factors and uncertainties, nor can we assess the impact of all factors on our business or the extent to which any factor, or combination of factors, may cause actual results to differ materially from those contained in any forward-looking statements.

Forward-looking statements speak only as of the date they were made, and, except to the extent required by law or the Nasdaq listing rules, we undertake no obligation to update or review any forward-looking statement because of new information, future events or other factors.

We qualify all of our forward-looking statements by these cautionary statements.

### PART I

### Item 1. Business

### **Background of Business**

Bridgford Foods Corporation (collectively with its subsidiaries, "Bridgford", the "Company", "we", or "our"), a California corporation, was organized in 1952. We originally began operations in 1932 as a retail meat market in San Diego, California and evolved into a meat wholesaler for hotels and restaurants, a distributor of frozen food products, a processor and packer of meat, and a manufacturer and distributor of frozen food products for sale on a retail and wholesale basis. Currently, we are primarily engaged in the manufacturing, marketing, and distribution of an extensive line of frozen and snack food products throughout the United States. We have not been involved in any bankruptcy, receivership, or similar proceedings since inception nor have we been party to any merger, acquisition, etc. or acquired or disposed of any material amounts of assets during the past five years other than the sale of our real property located at 170 N. Green Street in Chicago in June 2022. Substantially all of our assets have been acquired in the ordinary course of business.

### **Description of Business**

Bridgford currently operates in two business segments - the processing and distribution of frozen food products and the processing and distribution of snack food products. For information regarding the separate financial performance of the business segments refer to Note 7 of the Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements included in this Report.

The following table shows sales, as a percentage of consolidated sales, for each business segment during the last two fiscal years:

	2024	2023
Frozen Food Products	26%	23%
Snack Food Products	74%	77%
	100%	100%

We manufacture nearly all of our food products and distribute an extensive line of biscuits, bread dough items, roll dough items, dry sausage products and beef jerky. Our direct store delivery network consists of non-refrigerated snack food products. Our frozen food products division serves both food service and retail customers.

Although we have recently introduced several new products, most of these products have not contributed significantly to our revenue growth for the fiscal year 2024. Our sales are not subject to material seasonal variations. Historically we have been able to respond quickly to the receipt of orders and, accordingly, do not maintain a significant sales backlog. Neither Bridgford nor its industry generally has unusual demands or restrictions on working capital items. During the last fiscal year, we did not enter into any new markets or any significant contractual or other material relationships.

#### **Product Distribution Methods**

Our products are delivered to customers using several distinct distribution channels. The distribution channel utilized is dependent upon the needs of our customers, the most efficient proximity to the delivery point, trade customs, and operating segment as well as product type, life, and stability. Among our customers are many of the country's largest broadline and specialty food service distributors. These and other largeend purchasers occasionally go through extensive qualification procedures and our manufacturing capabilities are subjected to thorough review by the end purchasers prior to our approval as a vendor. Large end purchasers typically select suppliers that can consistently meet increased volume requirements on a national basis during peak promotional periods. We believe that our manufacturing flexibility, national presence, and long-standing customer relationships should allow us to compete effectively with other manufacturers seeking to provide similar products to our current large food service end purchasers, although no assurances can be given.

The factors that contribute to higher or lower margins generated from each method of distribution depend upon the accepted selling price, level of involvement by our employees in setting up and maintaining displays, distance traveled, and fuel consumed by our Companyowned fleet as well as freight and shipping costs depending on the distance the product travels to the delivery point. Management is continually evaluating the profitability of product delivery methods, analyzing alternate methods, and weighing economic inputs to determine the most efficient and cost-effective method of delivery to fulfill the needs of our customers.

#### **Major Product Classes**

#### **Frozen Food Products**

Our frozen food products division serves both food service and retail customers. We sell approximately 130 unique frozen food products through approximately 820 wholesalers, cooperatives, and distributors.

# Frozen Food Products – Food Service Customers

The food service industry is composed of establishments that serve food outside the home and includes restaurants, the food operations of health care providers, schools, hotels, resorts, corporations, and other traditional and non-traditional food service outlets. Growth in this industry has been driven by the increase in away-from-home meal preparation, which has accompanied the expanding number of both dual income and single-income households. Another trend within the food service industry is the growth in the number of non-traditional food service outlets such as convenience stores, retail stores and supermarkets. These non-traditional locations often lack extensive cooking, storage, or preparation facilities resulting in a need for pre-cooked and prepared foods similar to those we provide. The expansion in the food service industry has also been accompanied by the continued consolidation and growth of broadline and specialty food service distributors, many of which are long-standing customers.

### Frozen Food Products – Retail Customers

The majority of our existing and targeted retail customers are involved in the resale of branded and private label packaged foods. The same trends which have contributed to the increase in away-from-home meal preparation have also fueled the growth in easy to prepare, microwaveable frozen and refrigerated convenience foods. Among the fastest growing segments is the frozen and refrigerated hand-held foods market. This growth has been driven by improved product quality and variety and the increasing need for inexpensive and healthy food items that require minimal preparation. Despite rapid growth, many categories of frozen and refrigerated hand-held foods have achieved minimal household penetration. We believe we have been successful in establishing and maintaining supply relationships with certain selected leading retailers in this market.

#### Frozen Food Products – Sales and Marketing

Our frozen food business covers the United States. Products produced by the Frozen Food Products segment are generally supplied to food service and retail distributors who take title to the product upon shipment receipt. The Company plans to shift away from Company-leased long-haul vehicles toward less costly transportation methods such as common carriers. In addition to regional sales managers, we maintain a network of independent food service and retail brokers covering most of the United States. Brokers are compensated on a commission basis. We believe that our broker relationships, in close cooperation with our regional sales managers, are a valuable asset providing significant new products and customer opportunities. Regional sales managers perform several significant functions for us, including identifying and developing new business opportunities and providing customer service and support to our distributors and end purchasers through the effective use of our broker network.

Our annual advertising expenditure is directed towards retail and institutional (foodservice) customers. These customers participate in various special promotional and marketing programs and direct advertising allowances we sponsor. We also invest in general consumer advertising in various periodicals, and coupons to advertise in major markets. We direct advertising toward food service customers with campaigns in major industry publications and through our participation in trade shows throughout the United States. Our advertising strategy includes our presence on social media and online distribution of promotional material.

#### Snack Food Products

During fiscal year 2024, our snack food products division sold approximately 170 different items through customer-owned distribution centers and a direct-store-delivery network serving approximately 21,000 supermarkets, mass merchandise and convenience retail stores located in 50 states.

Products produced or distributed by the Snack Food Products segment are supplied to customers through either direct delivery to customer warehouses or direct-store-delivery to retail locations. We utilize customer managed warehouse distribution centers to lower distribution cost. Product delivered to the customer's warehouse is then distributed to the store where it is resold to the end consumer. Our direct-store-delivery system focus emphasizes high quality service and supply of our premium branded products to our customers. We also provide the service of setting up and maintaining the display and restocking our products.

#### Snack Food Products — Customers

Our customers are comprised of large retail chains and smaller "independent" or non-chain operators. This part of our business is highly competitive. Proper placement of our product lines is critical to selling success since most items could be considered "impulse" items which are often consumed shortly after purchase. Our ability to sell successfully to this distribution channel depends on aggressive marketing and maintaining relationships with key buyers.

## Snack Food Products — Sales and Marketing

Snack food products are distributed across the United States. Regional sales managers perform several significant functions including identifying and developing new business opportunities and providing customer service and support to our customers. We also utilize the services of brokers, where appropriate, to support efficient product distribution and customer satisfaction. Bridgford is the primary sponsor for several professional anglers that compete at the highest level of competitive bass fishing. In addition to our Bridgford Pro Fishing team, which consists of Pro Anglers from the Bass Master Elites, FLW Tour, and Major League Fishing, we have also launched our Bridgford Outdoors Ambassador program to continue to grow and support others who share our passion for the outdoors.

# **Product Planning and Research and Development**

We continually monitor the consumer acceptance of each product within our extensive product line. Individual products are regularly added to and deleted from our product line. Historically, the addition or deletion of any individual product has not had a material effect on our operations at the end of the fiscal year. We believe that a key factor in the success of our products is our system of carefully targeted research and testing of our products to ensure high quality and that each product matches an identified market opportunity. The emphasis in new product introductions in the past several years has been on single-serve items. We are constantly striving to develop new products to complement our existing product lines and improve processing techniques and formulas. We utilize an in-house test kitchen and consultants to research and experiment with unique food preparation methods, improve quality control and analyze new ingredient mixtures.

#### Competition

Our products are sold under highly competitive conditions. All food products can be considered competitive with other food products, but we consider our principal competitors to include national, regional, and local producers and distributors of refrigerated, frozen and nonrefrigerated snack food products. Several of our competitors include large companies with substantially greater financial and marketing resources than ours. Existing competitors may broaden their product lines and potential competitors may enter or increase their focus on our markets, resulting in greater competition for us. We believe that our products compete favorably with those of our competitors. Such competitors' products compete against ours for retail shelf space, institutional distribution, and customer preference. Innovation, high quality and consistency are the major attributes of our products.

### **Effect of Government Regulations**

Our operations are subject to extensive inspection and regulation by the United States Department of Agriculture (the "USDA"), the Food and Drug Administration (the "FDA"), and by other federal, state, and local authorities regarding the processing, packaging, storage, transportation, distribution, and labeling of products that we manufacture, produce and process. Our processing facilities and products are subject to continuous inspection by the USDA and/or other federal, state, and local authorities. The USDA has issued strict regulations concerning the control of listeria monocytogenes in ready-to-eat meat and poultry products and contamination by food borne pathogens such as E. coli and salmonella and implemented a system of regulation known as the Hazard Analysis Critical Control Points ("HACCP") program. The HACCP program requires all meat and poultry processing plants to develop and implement sanitary operating procedures and other program requirements. OSHA oversees safety compliance and establishes certain employer responsibilities to help "assure safe and healthful working conditions" and keep the workplace free of recognized hazards or practices likely to cause death or serious injury. We believe that we are currently in compliance with governmental laws and regulations and that we maintain the necessary permits and licenses relating to our operations.

To date, federal, state, and local environmental laws and regulations, including those relating to the discharge of materials into the environment, and the resources we expend to comply with such regulations, have not had a material effect on our business.

#### **Importance of Key Customers**

Sales to Wal-Mart® comprised 27.8% of revenues in fiscal year 2024 and 25.4% of total accounts receivable was due from Wal-Mart® as of November 1, 2024. Sales to Wal-Mart® comprised 29.1% of revenues in fiscal year 2023 and 26.5% of total accounts receivable was due from Wal-Mart® as of November 3, 2023. Sales to Dollar General® comprised 14.2% of revenues in fiscal year 2024 and 20.2% of total accounts receivable was due from Dollar General® as of November 1, 2024. Sales to Dollar General® comprised 16.3% of revenues in fiscal year 2023 and 20.5% of total accounts receivable was due from Dollar General® as of November 3, 2023.

#### Sources and Availability of Raw Materials

We purchase large quantities of pork, beef, and flour. These ingredients are generally available from a number of different suppliers although the availability of these ingredients is subject to seasonal variation. We build ingredient inventories to take advantage of downward trends in seasonal prices or anticipated supply limitations.

We purchase bulk flour under short-term fixed price contracts at current market prices. The contracts are usually effective for and settle within three months or less. We monitor and manage our ingredient costs to help negate volatile daily swings in market prices when possible. We do not participate in the commodity futures market or hedging to limit commodity exposure.

#### Employees

We had 662 employees (648 full-time employees) as of November 1, 2024, approximately 42% of whose employment relationship is governed by collective bargaining agreements. These agreements either "have expired" or "will expire" between June 2025 and February 2028. We believe that our relationship with all of our employees is favorable and that any pending contracts will be settled favorably.

### Availability of SEC Filings and Code of Conduct on Internet Website

We maintain a website at www.bridgford.com. Available through the "Investors" link on this website, free of charge, are our annual reports on Form 10-K, quarterly reports on Form 10-Q, current reports on Form 8-K and amendments thereto, and reports filed under Section 16 of the Exchange Act, filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission (the "SEC"). Our Code of Conduct is also available on the website through the "Governance" link. The information contained on the website is not incorporated by reference into this filing. Further, our reference to the website URL is intended to be an inactive textual reference only.

#### Item 1A. Risk Factors

In addition to the other matters set forth in this Report, the continuing operations and the price of our common stock are subject to the following risks, each of which could materially adversely affect our business, financial condition, and results of operations. The risks described below are only the risks that we currently believe are material to our business. However, additional risks not presently known, or risks that are currently believed to be immaterial, may also impair our business operations.

# We are subject to general risks in the food industry, including, among other things, risk relating to changes in consumer preferences and product contamination as well as general economic conditions, any of which, if realized, could negatively impact our operating results and financial position.

The food industry, and the markets within the food industry in which we compete, are subject to various risks, including the following: evolving consumer preferences, nutritional and health-related concerns, federal, state, and local food inspection and processing controls, consumer product liability claims, risks of product tampering, and the availability and expense of liability insurance. The meat and poultry industries are subject to scrutiny due to the association of meat and poultry products with recent outbreaks of illness, and on rare occasions even death, caused by food borne pathogens. Outbreaks of disease and other events, which may be beyond our control, could significantly affect demand for and consumer perception of our food products and result in negative publicity that may have an adverse effect on our ability to market our products successfully. Product recalls are also sometimes required in the food industry to withdraw contaminated or mislabeled products from the market. Additionally, the failure to identify and react appropriately to changes in consumer trends, demands and preferences could lead to, among other things, reduced demand, and price reduction for our products. Changes in consumer eating habits may also result in the enactment or amendment of laws and regulations that impact the sourcing, ingredients, and nutritional content of our food products. Finally, we may be adversely affected by changes in domestic or foreign economic conditions, including inflation or deflation, interest rates, availability of capital markets, consumer spending rates, and energy availability and costs (including fuel surcharges). We have been experiencing high levels of inflations these past few years, which has had varying impacts on our business. Such prolonged periods of inflation decrease consumers' discretionary spending, which negatively impacts our results of operations. These and other general risks related to the food industry, if realized by us, could have a significant adverse effect on demand for our products, as well as the costs and availability of raw materials, ingredients, and packaging materials, thereby negatively affecting our operating results and financial position.

# Climate change and related climate change regulations, including with respect to greenhouse gas effects, may negatively affect our results of operations.

Climate change and rising global temperatures may contribute to changing weather patterns, droughts, heavier or more frequent storms and wildfires, and increased frequency and severity of natural disasters. If such climate change has a negative impact on agricultural productivity, we may have decreased availability or less favorable pricing for the raw materials necessary for our operations. Increased frequency or duration of extreme weather conditions could cause disruptions in our operations and supply chain, or impact demand for our products.

Increasing concern over climate change also may result in additional legal or regulatory requirements designed to manage greenhouse gas emissions, climate risks, and resulting environmental impacts. If such requirements are enacted, we could experience significant cost increases in our operations and supply chain.

Further, such requirements may obligate us to make certain climate-related disclosures and set goals for reducing our carbon footprint. While we are committed to mitigating our impact on the environment and managing greenhouse gas emissions, there can be no assurance that we will accomplish such goals. If we fail to achieve any such goals related to climate change or the related expectations from stakeholders and consumers are not met, the resulting negative publicity could adversely impact our results of operations in part as a consequence of changes in consumer preferences for our products.

#### Fluctuations in commodity prices and the availability of raw materials could negatively impact our financial results.

We purchase large quantities of commodity pork, beef, and flour. Historically, market prices for products we process have fluctuated in response to a number of factors, including changes in the United States government farm support programs, changes in international agricultural and trading policies, weather, and other conditions during the growing and harvesting seasons. Our operating results are heavily dependent upon the prices paid for raw materials, as well as the available supply of commodities. Commodity costs have and may continue to fluctuate due to political and economic conditions, including the ongoing conflict between Ukraine and Russia. The marketing of our value-added products does not lend itself to instantaneous changes in selling prices. In addition, if we increase prices to offset higher costs, we could experience lower demand for our products and sales volumes. Conversely, decreases in our commodity and other input costs may create pressure on us to decrease our prices. Changes in selling prices are relatively infrequent and do not compare with the volatility of commodity markets. If there is a lag between when costs increase and when we are able to increase selling prices, our profits margins may suffer. Production and pricing of commodities, on the other hand, are determined by constantly changing market forces of supply and demand over which we have limited or no control. Such factors include, among other things, weather patterns throughout the world, outbreaks of disease, the global level of supply inventories and demand for grains and other feed ingredients, as well as agricultural and energy policies of domestic and foreign governments. While fluctuations in significant cost structure components, such as ingredient commodities and fuel prices, have had a significant impact on profitability over the last three years, the impact of general price inflation on our financial position and results of operations has been significant. However, current inflationary market conditions may have a negative impact on future earnings. Future volatility of general price inflation or deflation and raw material cost and availability could adversely affect our financial results.

# We are subject to extensive government regulations and a failure to comply with such regulations could negatively impact our financial results.

Our operations are subject to extensive inspection and regulation by the USDA, FDA and by other federal, state, and local authorities regarding the processing, packaging, storage, transportation, distribution, and labeling of products that are manufactured, produced, and processed by us. Our processing facilities and products are subject to continuous inspection by the USDA and/or other federal, state, and local authorities. The USDA has issued strict regulations concerning the control of listeria monocytogenes in ready-to-eat meat and poultry products and contamination by food borne pathogens such as E. coli and salmonella and implemented a system of regulation known as the HACCP program. The HACCP program requires all meat and poultry processing plants to develop and implement sanitary operating procedures and other program requirements. OSHA oversees safety compliance and establishes certain employer responsibilities to help "assure safe and healthful working conditions" and keep the workplace free of recognized hazards or practices likely to cause death or serious injury. We believe that we are currently in compliance with governmental laws and regulations and that we maintain necessary permits and licenses relating to our operations.

A failure to obtain or a loss of necessary permits and licenses could delay or prevent us from meeting current product demand and could adversely affect our operating performance. Furthermore, we are routinely subject to new or modified laws, regulations, and accounting standards. If found to be out of compliance with applicable laws and regulations in these or other areas, we could be subject to civil remedies, including fines, injunctions, recalls, or asset seizures, as well as potential criminal sanctions, any of which could have a significant adverse effect on our financial results.

#### We depend on our key management, the loss of which could negatively impact our operations.

Our executive officers and certain other key employees have been primarily responsible for the development and expansion of our business, and the loss of the services of one or more of these individuals could adversely affect us. Our success will be dependent in part upon our continued ability to recruit, motivate, and retain qualified personnel. We cannot assure that we will be successful in this regard. We have no employment or non-competition agreements with key personnel. However, we have consulting agreements with each of (1) our former Vice President and current director Allan L. Bridgford Sr., (2) our former Chief Financial Officer and current director Raymond F. Lancy, (3) our former director and President of Bridgford Food Processing Corporation Allan Bridgford Jr.

# We depend on our major customers and any loss of such customers could have a negative impact on our profitability.

Sales to Wal-Mart® comprised 27.8% of revenues in fiscal year 2024 and 25.4% of total accounts receivable was due from Wal-Mart® as of November 1, 2024. Sales to Dollar General® comprised 14.2% of revenues in fiscal year 2024 and 20.2% of total accounts receivable was due from Dollar General® as of November 1, 2024. Many of our customers, such as supermarkets, warehouse clubs, and food distributors have consolidated in recent years. Such consolidation has produced large, sophisticated customers with increased buying power who are more capable of operating with reduced inventories while demanding lower pricing and increased promotional programs. These customers also may use their shelf space for their own private label products. Failure to respond to these trends could reduce our volume and cause us to lower prices or increase promotional spending for our product lines, which could adversely affect our profitability.

# Labor shortages and increased turnover or increases in employee and employee-related costs could have adverse effects on our profitability.

We have historically experienced some level of ordinary course of business turnover of employees. A number of factors have had and may continue to have adverse effects on the labor force available to us, including reduced employment pools, federal unemployment subsidies, and other government regulations, which include laws and regulations related to workers' health and safety, wage and hour practices and immigration. Labor shortages and increased turnover rates within our team members have led to and could in the future lead to increased costs, such as increased overtime to meet demand and increased wage rates to attract and retain employees and could negatively affect our ability to efficiently operate our production facilities or otherwise operate at full capacity. An overall or prolonged labor shortage, lack of skilled labor, increased turnover or labor inflation could have a material adverse impact on our operations, results of operations, liquidity, or cash flows.

### Disputes with labor unions could have an adverse impact on our operations and financial results.

As of November 1, 2024, approximately 278 of our employees were covered by collective bargaining agreements. We depend on the availability of, and good relations with, our teams' members. If we fail to maintain good relations, we may experience strikes or work stoppages, which could have a material adverse impact on our operations, results of operations, liquidity, or cash flows.

# Our business and reputation could suffer if we experience security breaches and other disruptions to our information technology infrastructure.

We are dependent on information technology systems, some of which are managed by third-parties, to process, transmit, and store electronic information and to manage or support a variety of business processes and activities, including distribution, invoicing, and collection of payment. We also collect and store confidential data from our customers and suppliers in data centers, which are owned by third parties and maintained on their information technology networks. These complex systems are an important part of ongoing operations. Any failure of these systems could disrupt our operations and could have a material adverse effect on our business, results of operations, and financial condition. Further, despite our internal controls and security measures, there can be no assurance that we will be able to evade cyberattacks, disruptions, or security breaches. We have implemented cyber-security initiatives to mitigate our exposure to these risks, but these measures may not be adequate Although we have not suffered any significant cyber incidents that resulted in material business impact, we have from time to time been, and expect to continue to be, the target of malicious cyber threat actors.

# With approximately 80% of our stock beneficially owned by the Bridgford family, there are risks that they can exert significant influence or control over our corporate matters.

Members of the Bridgford family beneficially own, in the aggregate, approximately 80% of our outstanding stock. In addition, two members of the Bridgford family currently serve on the Board of Directors and two members of the Bridgford family serve on the Executive Committee. As a result, members of the Bridgford family have the ability to exert substantial influence or actual control over our management and affairs and over substantially all matters requiring action by our shareholders, including amendments to by-laws, election and removal of directors, any proposed merger, consolidation or sale of all or substantially all of our assets and other corporate transactions. This concentration of ownership may also delay or prevent a change in control otherwise favored by our other shareholders and could depress our stock price. Additionally, as a result of the Bridgford family's significant ownership of the outstanding voting stock, we have relied on the "controlled company" exemption from certain corporate governance requirements of the NASDAQ stock market. Therefore, among other things, we have elected not to implement the rule that provides for a nominating committee to identify and recommend nominees to the Board of Directors and have instead elected to have the full Board of Directors perform such function. However, we have not elected to rely on the exemption with respect to our compensation committee, which is made up entirely of independent directors and has sole authority to determine the compensation of our executive officers, including our Chairman of the Board.

# We participate in Multiemployer Pension Plans which could negatively impact our operations and profitability.

We participate in "multiemployer" pension plans administered by labor unions on behalf of their employees. We make monthly contributions for healthcare and pension benefit obligations. The contribution amount may change depending upon the ability of participating companies to fund these pension liabilities as well as the actual and expected returns on pension plan assets. Volatility in the capital markets or interest rates can impact the market value of plan assets and cause volatility in the net periodic benefit cost and our future funding requirements. The exact amount of cash contributions made to the pension plans in any year is dependent upon a number of factors, including minimum funding requirements. In addition, should we withdraw from the union and cease participation in a union plan, federal law could impose a penalty for additional contributions to the plan. The penalty would be recorded as an expense in the consolidated statement of operations. The ultimate amount of the withdrawal liability is dependent upon several factors including the funded status of the plan and contributions made by other participating companies. We continue to participate in other multiemployer union plans. In the event of a full or partial withdrawal from these plans, the impact on our financial statements could be material.

#### Eminent domain and land risk regulations could negatively impact our financial results and financial position.

We own real property on which we operate our processing and/or our distribution operations. As is the case with any owner of real property, we may be subject to eminent domain proceedings that can impact the value of investments we have made in real property as well as potentially disrupt our business operations. If subject to eminent domain proceedings or other government takings, we may not be adequately compensated.

#### Item 1B. Unresolved Staff Comments

None.

# Item 1C. Cybersecurity

We maintain an information security and cybersecurity program, as well as a cybersecurity governance framework, which are designed to protect our information systems against operational risks related to cybersecurity.

# Cybersecurity Risk Management and Strategy

We recognize the importance of assessing, identifying, and managing material risks associated with cybersecurity threats which include, among other things, operational risks, intellectual property theft, fraud or extortion, harm to employees or customers, violation of privacy or security laws and related litigation and legal risk, and reputational risks.

We have developed and implemented a cybersecurity risk management program overseen by our Audit Committee intended to protect the confidentiality, integrity, and availability of our critical systems and information, and detect and contain any cybersecurity incidents that impact us. The program is integrated into our overall risk management systems and processes, and includes a cybersecurity risk assessment process that routinely evaluates potential impacts of cybersecurity risks on our business, including risks from cybersecurity threats associated with our use of third-party service providers. These assessments inform our cybersecurity risk mitigation strategies. The results are regularly shared with our information technology committee comprised of our Vice President of Information Technology, our Information Technology Manager, our President and our Chief Financial Officer (the "IT Steering Committee") and the Audit Committee of our Board as part of the committees' involvement in managing and overseeing cybersecurity risks.

Our cybersecurity risk management program also includes processes to triage, assess the severity of, escalate, contain, investigate, and remediate an incident, as well as to comply with potentially applicable legal obligations and mitigate brand and reputational damage. If a cybersecurity incident is determined to be a potentially material cybersecurity incident, our disclosure controls and procedures define the steps to determine materiality and disclose such a material cybersecurity incident.

In addition, we engage an independent third-party provider in connection with our cybersecurity risk management program to monitor cybersecurity threats and provide certain security measures. We regularly engage with this provider to aid in the identification and remediation of potential threats. This provider has qualifications that include Microsoft Certified: Security, Compliance, and Identity Fundamentals, Certified Information Systems Security Professional (CISSP), Certified Hacking Forensic Investigator, Certified Ethical Hacker (CEH) and Security+.

While we believe that our business strategy, results of operations or financial condition have not been materially adversely affected by any cybersecurity incidents, cybersecurity threats are pervasive and, similar to other institutions, we, as well as our employees, customers, regulators, service providers, and other third parties have experienced a significant increase in information security and cybersecurity risk in recent years and will likely continue to be the potential target of cyber attacks. We continue to assess the risks and changes in the cyber environment and invest in enhancements to our cybersecurity capabilities as deemed necessary to promote advancements in our cybersecurity capabilities.

# **Cybersecurity Governance**

Our cybersecurity risk management program is overseen by the Audit Committee and led by the IT Steering Committee. Our Audit Committee is responsible in overseeing risks from cybersecurity threats, and has the authority to regularly review the adequacy of our cybersecurity, information and technology security, and data privacy programs, procedures, and policies. Our IT Steering Committee, led by the Vice President of Information Technology, is primarily responsible for monitoring, assessing, and managing material risks from cybersecurity threats.

The Audit Committee regularly receives updates from the IT Steering Committee / management with respect to our efforts to manage data protection, cybersecurity, and information and technology risks, and assesses the results of reviews from internal audits. Materials presented to our Audit Committee by our IT Steering Committee include updates on our data security posture, results from internal audit and third-party assessments, our incident response plan, and certain cybersecurity threat risks or incidents and developments, as well as the steps management has taken to respond to such risks. The Audit Committee / IT Steering Committee also regularly engages with management on technology risk-related topics.

Our processes also allow for our Board and the Audit Committee to be informed of key cybersecurity risks outside the regular reporting schedule. While the Audit Committee meets periodically, the Audit Committee is authorized to meet with management or individual directors at any time it deems appropriate to discuss matters relevant to the committee. Our policy is for the Board and the Audit Committee to receive prompt and timely information regarding any cybersecurity risk (including any incident) that meets reporting thresholds, as well as ongoing updates regarding any such risk.

### Item 2. Properties

We own the following properties as of November 1, 2024:

	Building Square	
Property Location	Footage	Acreage
Anaheim, California *	100,000	5.0
Dallas, Texas *	94,000	4.0
Dallas, Texas *	30,000	2.0
Dallas, Texas *	16,000	1.0
Dallas, Texas *	3,200	1.5
Statesville, North Carolina *	42,000	8.0
Chicago, Illinois **	177,000	8.0

<sup>\* -</sup> property used by Frozen Food Products Segment.

\*\* - property used by Snack Food Products Segment.

We utilize each of the foregoing properties for processing, warehousing, distributing and administrative purposes. We also lease warehouse and/or office facilities throughout the United States through month-to-month rental agreements. We believe that our properties are generally adequate to satisfy our foreseeable needs. Additional properties may be acquired and/or plants expanded if favorable opportunities and conditions arise.

# Item 3. Legal Proceedings

No material legal proceedings were pending against us as of November 1, 2024, or as of the date of filing of this Report. We are likely to be subject to claims arising from time to time in the ordinary course of our business. In certain of such actions, plaintiffs may request punitive or other damages that may not be covered by insurance and, accordingly, no assurance can be given with respect to the ultimate outcome of any such possible future claims or litigation or their effect on us. Any adverse litigation trends and outcomes could significantly and negatively affect our financial results.

### Item 4. Mine Safety Disclosures

Not applicable.

### PART II

# Item 5. Market for Registrant's Common Equity, Related Stockholder Matters and Issuer Purchases of Equity Securities

# **Common Stock and Dividend Data**

Our common stock is traded on the Nasdaq Global Market under the symbol "BRID".

As of January 22, 2025, there were 1,031 shareholders of record in our common stock.

The payment of future dividends, if any, will be at the discretion of our Board of Directors and will depend upon future earnings, financial requirements, and other factors.

#### **Unregistered Sales of Equity Securities**

During the period covered by this Report, we did not sell or issue any equity securities that were not registered under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended.

#### **Repurchases of Equity Securities by the Issuer**

Our stock repurchase program was approved by our Board of Directors in November 1999 and was expanded in June 2005. Under the stock repurchase program, we are authorized, at the discretion of management and our Board of Directors, to purchase up to an aggregate of 2,000,000 shares of our common stock on the open market. During fiscal years 2024 and 2023, we did not repurchase any shares of our common stock pursuant to our stock repurchase program previously authorized by the Board of Directors. As of November 1, 2024, 120,113 shares remained authorized for repurchase under the program.

Item 6. [Reserved]

# Item 7. Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations

For a complete understanding, this Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations should be read in conjunction with the Consolidated Financial Statements and Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements contained in this Report.

Certain statements under "Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations" and elsewhere in this Report constitute forward-looking statements within the meaning of the Securities Act of 1933 and the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (refer to Part I, Item 1. Business for more information).

# **Results of Operations (dollars in thousands)**

# Fiscal Year Ended November 1, 2024 (52 weeks) Compared to Fiscal Year Ended November 3, 2023 (53 weeks)

# Net Sales-Consolidated

Net sales in fiscal year 2024 decreased \$27,991 (11.1%) when compared to the prior fiscal year. The changes in net sales were comprised as follows:

Impact on Net Sales-Consolidated	%	\$
Selling price per pound	-0.4	(1,138)
Unit sales volume in pounds	-8.8	(23,988)
Returns activity	-0.1	377
Promotional activity	-1.8	(3,242)
Decrease in net sales	-11.1	(27,991)

# **Net Sales-Frozen Food Products Segment**

Net sales in the Frozen Food Products segment in fiscal year 2024 increased \$770 (1.3%) compared to the prior fiscal year. The changes in net sales were comprised as follows:

Impact on Net Sales-Frozen Food Products	%	\$
Selling price per pound	3.2	2,117
Unit sales volume in pounds	-1.3	(837)
Returns activity	0.3	177
Promotional activity	-0.9	(687)
Increase in net sales	1.3	770

The increase in net sales for fiscal year 2024 primarily relates to higher selling prices per pound partially offset by lower unit sales volume in pounds. The increase in net sales was primarily driven by a significant increase in volume to institutional customers and an increase in selling price per pound due to price increases implemented during the fourth quarter of fiscal year 2023. Other institutional Frozen Food Products sales, including sheet dough and rolls, increased 8% by volume and retail sales volume decreased 8%. Returns activity decreased compared to the 2023 fiscal year. Promotional activity was higher in fiscal year 2024 as a percentage of sales due to increased sales to high promotion customers.

# Net Sales-Snack Food Products Segment

Net sales in the Snack Food Products segment in fiscal year 2024 decreased \$28,761 (14.8%) compared to the prior fiscal year. The changes in net sales were comprised as follows:

Impact on Net Sales-Snack Food Products	%	\$
Selling price per pound	-1.6	(3,254)
Unit sales volume in pounds	-11.1	(23,152)
Returns activity	-0.3	200
Promotional activity	-1.8	(2,555)
Decrease in net sales	-14.8	(28,761)

Net sales of Snack Food Products decreased due to lower sales through our direct-store-delivery distribution channel during the fiscal year 2024. The weighted average selling price per pound decreased compared to fiscal year 2023 due to changes in product mix. Unit sales volume in pounds was lower compared to the prior fiscal year. We believe demand decreased primarily due to inflationary pressure on consumer spending habits as consumers have pulled back on meat product purchases. Returns activity was lower in dollars but higher as a percentage of sales compared to the 2023 fiscal year. Promotional offers increased due to higher promotional deductions and billbacks by customers compared to fiscal year 2023.

# Cost of Products Sold and Gross Margin-Consolidated

Cost of products sold from continuing operations decreased on a consolidated basis by \$13,962 (7.7%) during fiscal year 2024 compared to the prior fiscal year. The gross margin decreased from 28.0% to 25.2% during fiscal year 2024 compared to the prior fiscal year.

		Consolidated	Commodity \$
Change in Cost of Products Sold by Segment	\$	%	(Decrease) Increase
Frozen Food Products Segment	(776)	-0.4	(522)
Snack Food Products Segment	(13,186)	-7.3	4,900
Total	(13,962)	-7.7	4,378

# Cost of Products Sold and Gross Margin-Frozen Food Products Segment

Cost of products sold in the Frozen Food Products segment decreased by \$776 (1.8%) in fiscal year 2024 compared to the prior fiscal year. Lower unit sales volume in pounds and changes in the product mix were the primary contributing factors to this decrease. The cost of purchased flour decreased approximately \$522 contributing to the decrease in costs of goods sold. The gross margin percentage increased from 25.1% to 27.4% during fiscal year 2024 compared to the prior fiscal year.

# Cost of Products Sold and Gross Margin–Snack Food Products Segment

Cost of products sold in the Snack Food Products segment decreased by \$13,186 (9.5%) during fiscal year 2024 compared to the prior fiscal year due primarily to lower unit sales volume in our direct-store-delivery distribution channel. The cost of meat commodities increased approximately \$4,900 during fiscal year 2024 compared to the prior fiscal year due to unfavorable fluctuations in commodity markets. We increased our net realizable value reserve by \$1,174 during fiscal year 2024 after determining that the market value on some meat products was less than the costs associated with production and sale of the product. We maintained a net realizable reserve of \$1,467 on products as of November 1, 2024. The gross margin earned in this segment decreased from 28.8% to 24.4% during fiscal year 2024.

# Selling, General and Administrative Expenses-Consolidated

Selling, general and administrative expenses ("SG&A") in fiscal year 2024 decreased \$3,118 (4.8%) when compared to the prior fiscal year. The decrease in this category did not directly correspond to the change in sales.

The table below summarizes the primary expense variances in this category:

	er 1, 2024 Veeks)	November 3, 2023 (53 Weeks)	Expense (Decrease) Increase	
Wages and bonus	\$ 23,464	\$ 26,716	\$	(3,252)
Pension cost	(248)	(1,160)		912
Product advertising	7,935	8,732		(797)
Healthcare cost	3,331	2,721		610
Outside consultants	2,773	2,322		451
Vehicle repairs and maintenance	1,820	1,590		230
Other SG&A	23,374	24,646		(1,272)
Total - SG&A	 62,449	65,567		(3,118)

Lower sales commissions paid on reduced sales resulted in lower wages and bonus expenses in the 2024 fiscal year compared to the 2023 fiscal year. The increase in pension cost was a result of lower values in pension plan assets caused by the performance of the underlying markets that support them as well as lower pension discount rates resulting in higher liability. Costs for product advertising decreased mainly as a result of lower payments under brand licensing agreements in the Snack Food Products segment during fiscal year 2024. Healthcare costs have increased due to unfavorable claim trends. Outside consulting costs increased due to higher legal fees, advisory services, inspection and product testing fees. Vehicle repairs and maintenance on vehicles have increased compared to the prior fiscal year period mainly due to an aging fleet. None of the changes individually or as a group of expenses in "Other SG&A" were significant enough to merit separate disclosure. The major components comprising the decrease of "Other SG&A" expenses were lower provision for doubtful accounts, lower postage and insurance expenses and higher rental income partially offset by higher travel and business expense.

# Selling, General and Administrative Expenses-Frozen Food Products Segment

SG&A expenses in the Frozen Food Products segment decreased by \$241 (1.7%) during fiscal year 2024 compared to the prior fiscal year. The overall decrease in SG&A expenses was due to lower unit sales volume in pounds, lower equipment rental and lower fuel expenses related to a reduction in the number of company-owned long-haul trucks partially offset by an increase in insurance expenses and broker commissions.

# Selling, General and Administrative Expenses-Refrigerated and Snack Food Products Segment

SG&A expenses in the Snack Food Products segment decreased by \$2,877 (5.6%) during fiscal year 2024 compared to the prior fiscal year. Most of the decrease was due to the significantly lower unit sales volume in pounds and the corresponding decrease in wages and bonuses, and lower payments under brand licensing agreements.

# Loss on Sale of Property, Plant and Equipment

Losses on the sale of property, plant and equipment were due to the ordinary disposal of assets located in both the Frozen Food Products segment, \$96 and \$75, for fiscal years 2024 and 2023, respectively, and Snack Food Products segments, \$50 and \$86, for fiscal years 2024 and 2023, respectively.

# Income Taxes

Income tax for fiscal years 2024 and 2023, respectively, was as follows:

	<b>November 1, 2024</b>	November 3, 2023
(Benefit on) provision for income taxes	\$ (1,311)	\$1,021
Effective tax rate	27.9%	22.7%

We recorded a tax benefit of \$1,311 and tax provision of \$1,021, for fiscal years 2024 and 2023, respectively, related to federal and state taxes, based on the Company's expected annual effective tax rate. The effective tax rate was 27.9% and 22.7% for fiscal years 2024 and 2023, respectively. In addition, the effective tax rates for fiscal years 2024 and 2023 were impacted by such items as non-deductible meals and entertainment, non-taxable gains and losses on life insurance policies and state income taxes. (Refer to Note 4 of Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements included within this Report for more information).

## Liquidity and Capital Resources (dollars in thousands)

The principal source of operating cash flows is cash receipts from the sale of our products, net of costs to manufacture, store, market and deliver such products. We normally fund our operations from cash balances and cash flow generated from operations. Additionally, we have maintained a revolving line of credit with Wells Fargo Bank, N.A. pursuant to the terms of the credit agreement dated March 1, 2018, as amended to date. On November 30, 2024, we entered into a sixth amendment to the credit agreement with Wells Fargo Bank, N.A., and also executed a new revolving line of credit note pursuant to the amendment. Under the terms of this amendment and the revolving line of credit note, we may borrow up to \$7,500 from time to time up to November 30, 2025. As of November 1, 2024, we had \$1,084 of current debt on equipment loans, \$61,536 of net working capital and \$7,500 available under our revolving line of credit with Wells Fargo Bank, N.A. Refer to Note 5 to the Consolidated Financial Statements and the "Revolving Credit Facility" and "Loan Covenants" included within this Report for further information. The Company was in compliance with all loan covenants as of November 1, 2024.

All of our operating segments have been impacted by inflation, including higher costs for labor, freight and specific materials related to product manufacturing and delivery through fiscal year 2024. Additionally, commodity costs, including meat and flour costs, have and may continue to fluctuate due to both political and economic conditions, including the ongoing conflict between Ukraine and Russia. Despite higher commodity costs like we experienced in fiscal year 2024, we may not be able to increase our product prices in a timely manner or sufficiently to offset such increased commodity or other costs due to consumer price sensitivity, pricing in relation to competitors and the reluctance of retailers to accept a price increase. Instances of higher interest rates, general price inflation or deflation, raw materials costs, labor shortages or supply chain issues could adversely affect the Company's financial results and its liquidity. Higher product prices and promotions could potentially lower demand for our product and decrease volume. Management believes there are various options available to generate additional liquidity to repay debt or fund operations such as mortgaging real estate, should that be necessary. Our ability to increase liquidity will depend upon, among other things, our business plans and the performance of operating divisions and economic conditions. If we are unable to increase liquidity through mortgaging real estate or additional borrowing, or generate positive cash flow necessary to fund operations, we may not be able to compete successfully, which could negatively impact our business, operations, and financial condition. With the cash expected to be generated from the Company's operations, we anticipate that we will maintain sufficient liquidity or exercise a portion of the line of credit to operate our business for at least the next twelve months. We will continue to monitor the impact of inflation and interest rate volatility on our liquidity and, if necessary, take action to preserve

# Cash flows (used in) provided by operating activities:

		November 1, 2024 (52 Weeks)		November 3, 2023 (53 Weeks)	
Net (loss) income	\$	(3,381)	\$	3,474	
Adjustments to reconcile net (loss) income to net cash (used in) provided by operating					
activities:					
Depreciation and amortization		6,540		6,558	
(Recoveries on) provision for losses on accounts receivable		(126)		147	
Provision for (reduction in) promotional allowances		307		(679)	
Loss on sale of property, plant and equipment		146		161	
Deferred income taxes, net		(720)		(631)	
Changes in assets and liabilities		(3,263)		(5,045)	
Net cash (used in) provided by operating activities	\$	(497)	\$	3,985	

For the fifty-two weeks ended November 1, 2024, net cash used in operating activities was \$497, a decrease of \$4,482 in cash flows compared to the fifty-three weeks ended November 3, 2023. The decrease in net cash provided by operating activities primarily relates to a net loss of \$3,381, an increase in refundable income taxes of \$1,240 and an increase of other non-current assets of \$3,320, partially offset by a decrease in inventory of \$7,235 due to selling down inventory finished goods to adjust to lower consumer demand. During fiscal year 2024, we did not contribute towards our defined benefit pension plan. Plan funding strategies may be adjusted depending upon economic conditions, investment options, tax deductibility, or legislative changes in funding requirements.

Our cash conversion cycle (defined as days of inventory and trade receivables less days of trade payables outstanding) was equal to 84 days for the fifty-two weeks ended November 1, 2024, and 83 days for the fifty-three weeks ended November 3, 2023.

For the fifty-three weeks ended November 3, 2023, net cash provided by operating activities was \$3,985. The result was primarily related to net income of \$3,474 and a reduction in accounts receivable of \$6,480, partially offset by a decrease in accounts payable of \$6,457 and lower non-current liabilities of \$1,836. During fiscal year 2023, we did not contribute towards our defined benefit pension plan.

# Cash flows used in investing activities:

	Novemb (52 V	November 3, 2023 (53 Weeks)		
Proceeds from sale of property, plant and equipment	\$	69	\$	227
Additions to property, plant and equipment		(3,902)		(2,603)
Net cash used in investing activities	\$	(3,833)	\$	(2,376)

Additions to property, plant and equipment include the acquisition of equipment, upgrading of facilities to maintain operating efficiency and investments in cost effective technologies to lower costs. In general, we capitalize the cost of additions and improvements and expense the cost for repairs and maintenance. We may also capitalize costs related to improvements that extend the life, increase the capacity, or improve the efficiency of existing machinery and equipment. Specifically, capitalization of upgrades of facilities to maintain operating efficiency include acquisitions of machinery and equipment used on packaging lines and refrigeration equipment used to process food products.

The table below highlights the additions to property, plant and equipment for the fifty-two and fifty-three weeks ended:

	Novembe (52 W	oer 3, 2023 Weeks)	
Building and leasehold improvements	\$	-	\$ 192
Furniture and fixture		92	-
Temperature control		-	-
Processing equipment		215	506
Packaging lines		2,595	205
Vehicles for sales and/or delivery		2,372	1,390
Quality control and communication systems		-	66
Computer software and hardware		345	-
Forklifts		52	39
Change in projects in process		(1,769)	205
Additions to property, plant and equipment	\$	3,902	\$ 2,603

Expenditures for additions to property, plant and equipment during the fifty-two weeks ended November 1, 2024, include projects in process of \$755 related to the production facilities in Chicago and Statesville.

	November 1, (52 Week	November 3, 2023 (53 Weeks)		
Payment of capital lease obligations	\$	(103)	\$	(1,151)
Repayments of bank borrowings		(1,045)		(1,083)
Net cash used in financing activities	\$	(1,148)	\$	(2,234)

Our stock repurchase program was approved by the Board of Directors in November 1999 and was expanded in June 2005. Under the stock repurchase program, we were authorized, at the discretion of management and the Board of Directors, to purchase up to an aggregate of 2,000,000 shares of our common stock on the open market. As of the end of fiscal year 2024, 120,113 shares remained authorized for repurchase under the program.

The Company leased three long-haul trucks received during fiscal year 2019. The six-year leases for these trucks would have expired in fiscal year 2025. We returned one long-haul truck on June 22, 2023, for a loss of \$12 and returned remaining two long-haul trucks on July 11, 2024, for a loss of \$90, in an effort to reduce the overall cost of delivering products as we transitioned deliveries to common carriers. All long-haul trucks under this lease agreement have been returned as of November 1, 2024. The Company leased one box truck for a market value of \$27 on April 17, 2023, and that lease term is two years.

The Company leased one refrigerated truck received on May 10, 2024, for a net present value of \$166. The seven-year lease for this truck will expire in fiscal year 2031. Amortization of equipment as a finance lease was \$44 during the fifty-two weeks ended November 1, 2024.

# **Equipment Note Payable**

The following table reflects major components of our line of credit and borrowing agreements as of November 1, 2024, and November 3, 2023, respectively.

	Novem	November 3, 2023		
Revolving credit facility	\$	-	\$	-
Equipment notes:				
3.68% note due 04/16/27, out of lockout 04/17/22		2,786		3,831
Total debt		2,786		3,831
Less current debt		(1,084)		(1,045)
Total long-term debt	\$	1,702	<u>\$</u>	2,786

# **Revolving Credit Facility**

On November 30, 2023, we entered into a fifth amendment to the credit agreement with Wells Fargo Bank, N.A. dated March 1, 2018, as amended, and also executed a revolving line of credit note pursuant to the amendment. The revolving line of credit note replaces the existing note that expired by its terms on November 30, 2023. Under the terms of this amendment and the revolving line of credit note, we may borrow up to \$7,500 from time to time up to November 30, 2024, at an interest rate equal to (a) the daily simple secured overnight financing rate plus 2.0%, or if unavailable, (b) the prime rate, in each case as determined by the bank. The line of credit has an unused commitment fee of 0.35% of the available loan amount, payable on a quarterly basis. Amounts may be repaid and reborrowed during the term of the note. Accrued interest is payable on the first day of each month and the outstanding principal balance and remaining interest are due and payable on November 30, 2024. Refer to Subsequent Events under Note 1 to the Consolidated Financial Statements included within this Report for further information.

### Loan Covenants

The Wells Fargo Loan Agreements and the credit agreement contain various affirmative and negative covenants that limit the use of funds and define other provisions of the loans. Material financial covenants are listed below, and the capitalized terms are defined in the applicable agreements:

- Total Liabilities divided by Tangible Net Worth not greater than 2.0 to 1.0 at each fiscal quarter end,
- Quick Ratio not less than 1.25 to 1.0 at each fiscal quarter end,
- Fixed Charge Coverage Ratio not less than 1.25 to 1.0 at each fiscal quarter end.

As of November 1, 2024, the Company was in compliance with all covenants under the Wells Fargo Loan Agreements and the credit agreement.

Aggregate contractual maturities of debt in future fiscal years are as follows as of November 1, 2024:

Fiscal Years	Debt Payable			
2025	\$ 1,084			
2026	\$ 1,124			
2027	\$ 578			

# Impact of Inflation

Our operating results are heavily dependent upon the prices paid for raw materials. The marketing of our value-added products does not lend itself to instantaneous changes in selling prices. Changes in selling prices are relatively infrequent and do not compare with the volatility of commodity markets. All of our operating segments have been impacted by inflation, including higher costs for labor, freight, and specific materials. We expect this trend to continue through fiscal year 2025. Management is of the opinion that the Company's financial position and its capital resources are sufficient to provide for its operating needs and capital expenditures for fiscal year 2025. However, future volatility of general price inflation or deflation and raw material cost and availability could adversely affect our financial results.

# **Off-Balance Sheet Arrangements**

We do not currently have any off-balance sheet arrangements within the meaning of Item 303(b) of Regulation S-K.

# **Contractual Obligations**

Except as described above, we had no other debt or other contractual obligations within the meaning of Item 303(b) of Regulation S-K, as of November 1, 2024.

# **Critical Accounting Policies and Estimates**

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles requires management to make certain 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 revenues and expenses during the respective reporting periods. Actual results could differ from those estimates. Amounts estimated related to liabilities for self-insured workers' compensation, employee healthcare and pension benefits are especially subject to inherent uncertainties and these estimated liabilities may ultimately settle at amounts not originally estimated. We record promotions, returns allowances, bad debt and inventory allowances based on recent and historical trends. Management believes its current estimates are reasonable and based on the best information available at the time. To the extent there are material differences between the estimates and the actual results, future results of operations could be affected.

Disclosure concerning our policies on credit risk, revenue recognition, cash surrender or contract value for life insurance policies, deferred income tax and the recoverability of our long-lived assets are provided in Notes 1 and 4 of the Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements included in this Report.

# **Recently Issued Accounting Pronouncements and Regulations**

Various accounting standard-setting bodies have been active in soliciting comments and issuing statements, interpretations, and exposure drafts. For information on new accounting pronouncements and the impact, if any, on our financial position or results of operations, see Note 1 of the Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements included within this Report.

# Item 7A. Quantitative and Qualitative Disclosures About Market Risk

Not applicable for a smaller reporting company.

# Item 8. Consolidated Financial Statements and Supplementary Data

The Consolidated Financial Statements required by this Item are set forth in Part IV, Item 15 of this Report.

### Item 9. Changes in and Disagreements With Accountants on Accounting and Financial Disclosure

Not applicable.

#### Item 9A. Controls and Procedures

# Evaluation of disclosure controls and procedures

Disclosure controls and procedures are designed to help ensure that information required to be disclosed by us in our Exchange Act reports is recorded, processed, summarized and reported within the time periods specified in the SEC's rules, regulations and forms, and that such information is collected and communicated to our management, including our Chairman of the Board and Chief Financial Officer, as appropriate to allow timely decisions regarding required disclosure.

Our management, with the participation and under the supervision of our Chairman of the Board and Chief Financial Officer, has evaluated the effectiveness of our disclosure controls and procedures (as defined in Exchange Act Rule 13a-15(e)) as of the end of the period covered by this Report. Based on this evaluation, the Chairman of the Board and Chief Financial Officer have concluded that our disclosure controls and procedures were effective as of the end of the period covered by this Report.

Our management, including our Chairman of the Board and Chief Financial Officer, does not expect that our disclosure controls and internal controls will prevent all error and all fraud. A control system, no matter how well conceived and operated, can provide only reasonable, not absolute, assurance that the objectives of the control system are met. Further, the design of a control system must reflect the fact that there are resource constraints, and the benefits of controls must be considered relative to their costs. Because of inherent limitations in all control systems, no evaluation of controls can provide absolute assurance that all control issues and instances of fraud, if any, within the Company have been detected. These inherent limitations include the realities that judgments in decision-making can be faulty, and that breakdowns can occur because of simple error or mistake. Additionally, controls can be circumvented by the individual acts of some persons, by collusion of two or more people, or by management override of the control.

The design of any system of controls is also 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 our stated goals under all potential future conditions; over time, a control may become inadequate because of changes in conditions, or the degree of compliance with the policies or procedures may deteriorate. Because of inherent limitations in a cost-effective control system, misstatements due to error or fraud may occur and not be detected.

We maintain and evaluate a system of internal accounting controls, and a program designed to provide reasonable assurance that our assets are protected and that transactions are performed in accordance with proper authorization and are properly recorded. This system of internal accounting controls is continually reviewed and modified in response to evolving business conditions and operations and to recommendations made by our independent registered public accounting firm. We have established a code of conduct. Our management believes that the accounting and internal control systems provide reasonable assurance that assets are safeguarded, and financial information is reliable.

The Audit Committee of the Board of Directors meets regularly with our financial management and counsel, and with the independent registered public accounting firm engaged by us. Internal accounting controls and the quality of financial reporting are discussed during these meetings. The Audit Committee has discussed with the independent registered public accounting firm matters required to be discussed by Statement of Auditing Standards No. 16 (Communication with Audit Committees). In addition, the Audit Committee and the independent registered public accounting firm have discussed the independent registered public accounting firm's independence from our Company and its management, including the matters in the written disclosures required by Public Company Accounting Oversight Board Rule 3526 "Communicating with Audit Committees Concerning Independence".

# Section 404 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002

In order to comply with the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002, we have undertaken and continue a comprehensive effort, which includes the documentation and review of our internal controls. In order to comply with the Sarbanes-Oxley Act, we centralized most accounting and many administrative functions in an effort to control the cost of maintaining our control systems.

The Dodd-Frank Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act permanently exempts smaller reporting companies with less than \$75 million in public float, such as the Company, from the requirement to obtain an external audit on the effectiveness of internal financial reporting controls provided in Section 404(b) of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act. As a result, an attestation report on internal controls over financial reporting by an independent registered public accounting firm has not been presented. Section 404(a) is still effective for smaller reporting companies and requires the disclosure of management attestations on internal controls over financial reporting as set forth below.

# Management's Annual Report on Internal Control Over Financial Reporting

Our management is responsible for establishing and maintaining adequate internal control over financial reporting. Our internal control over financial reporting is designed to provide reasonable assurance regarding the reliability of financial reporting and the preparation of financial statements for external purposes in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles.

Management conducted an evaluation of the effectiveness of the internal controls over financial reporting based on the Committee of Sponsoring Organizations of the Treadway Commission (COSO) Internal Control-Integrated Framework (2013) and related illustrative documents as an update to Internal Control-Integrated Framework (1992). Management determined that the 17 principles were present and functioning during its assessment of the effectiveness of our internal controls. Because of its inherent limitations, internal control over financial reporting may not prevent or detect misstatements. Therefore, even those systems determined to be 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 the policies or procedures may deteriorate.

Management assessed the effectiveness of our internal control over financial reporting for our fiscal year ended November 1, 2024. Based on management's assessment and the above-referenced criteria, management believes that the internal control over financial reporting was effective as of November 1, 2024.

# **Changes in Internal Control over Financial Reporting**

No change in our internal control over financial reporting (as defined in Rules 13a-15(f) and 15d-15(f) under the Exchange Act) occurred during the last quarter of fiscal year ended November 1, 2024 that has materially affected or is reasonably likely to materially affect, our internal control over financial reporting.

# Item 9B. Other Information

Not applicable.

# Item 9C. Disclosure Regarding Foreign Jurisdictions that Prevent Inspections

Not applicable.

# PART III

### Item 10. Directors, Executive Officers, and Corporate Governance

## **Insider Trading Policies and Procedures**

The Company has an insider trading policy and procedures governing the purchase, sale and/or other dispositions of the Company's securities that applies to all directors, officers, employees and certain other persons. It is also the Company's policy to take appropriate steps to comply with applicable federal and state securities laws and regulations, as well as applicable stock exchange listing standards, when the Company engages in transactions in the Company's securities. The Company believes that its insider trading policy and procedures are reasonably designed to promote compliance with insider trading laws, rules and regulations, and listing standards applicable to the Company. A copy of the Company's insider trading policy is filed as Exhibit 19.1 to this Report.

The remaining information required by this item will be included in our definitive proxy statement on Schedule 14A related to our 2025 annual meeting of stockholders (the "Proxy Statement), which will be filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission pursuant to Regulation 14A under the Exchange Act not later than 120 days after the end of our fiscal year ended November 1, 2024, and is incorporated herein by reference.

# Item 11. Executive Compensation

The information required by this item will be included in the Proxy Statement and is incorporated herein by reference.

# Item 12. Security Ownership of Certain Beneficial Owners and Management and Related Stockholder Matters

The information required by this item will be included in the Proxy Statement and is incorporated herein by reference.

# **Equity Compensation Plan Information**

Not applicable, as we do not have any compensation plans under which our equity securities are authorized for issuance.

# Item 13. Certain Relationships and Related Transactions, and Director Independence

The information required by this item will be included in the Proxy Statement and is incorporated herein by reference.

### Item 14. Principal Accountant Fees and Services

The information required by this item will be included in the Proxy Statement is incorporated herein by reference.

# PART IV

### Item 15. Exhibits and Financial Statement Schedules

(a)(1) *Financial Statements*. The following documents are filed as a part of this Report:

	Page
Report of Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm (PCAOB ID: 23)	Page 24
Consolidated Balance Sheets as of November 1, 2024, and November 3, 2023	26
Consolidated Statements of Operations for the fiscal years ended November 1, 2024, and November 3, 2023	27
Consolidated Statements of Comprehensive Income for the fiscal years ended November 1, 2024, and November 3, 2023	28
Consolidated Statements of Shareholders' Equity for the fiscal years ended November 1, 2024, and November 3, 2023	29
Consolidated Statements of Cash Flows for the fiscal years ended November 1, 2024, and November 3, 2023	30
Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements	31

(2) Financial Statement Schedules

Not applicable for a smaller reporting company.

# (3) Exhibits

# (a) *The exhibits below are filed herewith or incorporated herein by reference.*

		Ir				
Exhibit		P			Filing	Filed
Number	Exhibit Description	Form	File No.	Exhibit	Date	<u>Herewith</u>
3.1	Restated Articles of Incorporation, as amended.	10-K	000-02396	3.4	01/18/19	
3.2	Amended and Restated Bylaws.	10-K/A	000-02396	3.7	02/09/18	
4.1	Description of Capital Stock of the Registrant	10-K	000-02396	4.1	01/15/21	
10.1*	Bridgford Foods Corporation Defined Benefit Pension Plan.	10-K	000-02396	10.1	01/18/19	
10.2*	Bridgford Foods Corporation Supplemental Executive Retirement Plan.	10-K	000-02396	10.2	01/18/19	
10.3*	Bridgford Foods Corporation Deferred Compensation Savings Plan.	10-K	000-02396	10.3	01/18/19	
10.4*	Consulting Agreement, dated August 12, 2019, between the Registrant	8-K	000-02396	10.1	08/16/19	
	and Allan L. Bridgford Sr.					
10.5	Purchase and Sale Agreement dated March 16, 2020 between Bridgford	8-K	000-02396	10.1	03/19/20	
	Food Processing Corporation and CRG Acquisition, LLC.					
10.6*	Consulting Agreement dated February 2, 2023, between the Registrant	8-K	000-02396	10.1	02/02/23	
	and Raymond F. Lancy.					
19.1	Insider Trading Policy					Х
21.1	Subsidiaries of the Registrant.	10-K	000-02396	21.1	01/15/21	
24.1	Power of Attorney (included as part of the signature page).					Х
31.1	Certification of Principal Executive Officer, pursuant to Section 302 of					Х
	the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002.					
31.2	Certification of Principal Financial Officer, pursuant to Section 302 of the					Х
	Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002.					
32.1**	Certification pursuant to 18 U.S.C. Section 1350, as adopted pursuant to					
	Section 906 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002 (Principal Executive					
	Officer).					
32.2**	Certification pursuant to 18 U.S.C. Section 1350, as adopted pursuant to					
	Section 906 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002 (Principal Financial					
0 7 1 4	<u>Officer).</u>					
97.1*	Clawback and Forfeiture Policy					X
101.INS	Inline XBRL Instance Document.					X
	Inline XBRL Taxonomy Extension Schema Document.					X
	Inline XBRL Taxonomy Extension Calculation Linkbase Document.					X
	Inline XBRL Taxonomy Extension Definition Linkbase Document.					X
	Inline XBRL Taxonomy Extension Label Linkbase Document.					X
101.PRE						Х
104	Cover Page Interactive Data File (embedded within the Inline XBRL					
	Document contained in Exhibit 101).					

Each of these Exhibits constitutes a management contract, compensatory plan or arrangement. Each of these Exhibits is furnished herewith. \*

\*\*

# Item 16. Form 10-K Summary

Not applicable.

# <u>SIGNATURES</u>

Pursuant to the requirements of Section 13 or 15(d) 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.

# BRIDGFORD FOODS CORPORATION

By:/s/ MICHAEL W. BRIDGFORD

**Michael W. Bridgford** *Chairman of the Board* 

Date: January 29, 2025

#### **POWER OF ATTORNEY**

We, the undersigned directors and officers of Bridgford Foods Corporation, do hereby constitute and appoint Michael W. Bridgford and Cindy Matthews-Morales, or either of them, with full power of substitution and resubstitution, our true and lawful attorneys and agents, to do any and all acts and things in our name and behalf in our capacities as directors and officers and to execute any and all instruments for us and in our names in the capacities indicated below, which said attorneys and agents, or either of them, or their substitutes, may deem necessary or advisable to enable said corporation to comply with the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, and any rules, regulations and requirements of the Securities and Exchange Commission in connection with this Annual Report on Form 10-K, including specifically, but without limitation, power and authority to sign for us or any of us in our names and in the capacities indicated below, any and all amendments; and we do hereby ratify and confirm all that the said attorneys and agents, or either of them, shall do or cause to be done by virtue hereof.

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, this report has been signed below by the following persons on behalf of the registrant and in the capacities and on the dates indicated.

Signature	Title	Date
/s/ MICHAEL W. BRIDGFORD Michael W. Bridgford	Chairman of the Board (Principal Executive Officer)	January 29, 2025
/s/ CINDY MATTHEWS-MORALES Cindy Matthews-Morales	Chief Financial Officer and Secretary (Principal Financial and Accounting Officer)	January 29, 2025
/s/ RAYMOND F. LANCY Raymond F. Lancy	Director	January 29, 2025
/s/ BARON R. H. BRIDGFORD II Baron R. H. Bridgford II	President	January 29, 2025
/s/ ALLAN L. BRIDGFORD SR. Allan L. Bridgford Sr.	Director	January 29, 2025
/s/ WILLIAM L. BRIDGFORD William L. Bridgford	Vice President and Director	January 29, 2025
/s/ JOHN V. SIMMONS John V. Simmons	Vice President and Director	January 29, 2025
/s/ TODD C. ANDREWS Todd C. Andrews	Director	January 29, 2025
/s/ D. GREGORY SCOTT D. Gregory Scott	Director	January 29, 2025
/s/ KEITH A. ROSS Keith A. Ross	Director	January 29, 2025
<u>/s/ MARY SCHOTT</u> Mary Schott	Director	January 29, 2025

# **Report of Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm**

To the Board of Directors and Shareholders of Bridgford Foods Corporation

# **Opinion on the Consolidated Financial Statements**

We have audited the accompanying consolidated balance sheets of Bridgford Foods Corporation and its subsidiaries (the "Company") as of November 1, 2024, and November 3, 2023, the related consolidated statements of operations, comprehensive income, shareholders' equity, and cash flows, for each of the fiscal years then ended, and the related notes (collectively referred to as the "consolidated financial statements"). In our opinion, the consolidated financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the Company as of November 1, 2024 and November 3, 2023, and the results of its operations and its cash flows for each of the two fiscal years in the period ended November 1, 2024 and November 3, 2023, in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

# **Basis for Opinion**

These consolidated financial statements are the responsibility of the Company's management. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on the Company's consolidated financial statements based on our audits. We are a public accounting firm registered with the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board (United States) ("PCAOB") and are required to be independent with respect to the Company in accordance with the U.S. federal securities laws and the applicable rules and regulations of the Securities and Exchange Commission and the PCAOB.

We conducted our audits in accordance with the standards of the PCAOB. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the consolidated financial statements are free of material misstatement, whether due to error or fraud. The Company is not required to have, nor were we engaged to perform, an audit of its internal control over financial reporting. As part of our audits, we are required to obtain an understanding of internal control over financial reporting but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Company's internal control over financial reporting. Accordingly, we express no such opinion.

Our audits included performing procedures to assess the risks of material misstatement of the consolidated financial statements, whether due to error or fraud, and performing procedures that respond to those risks. Such procedures included examining, on a test basis, evidence regarding the amounts and disclosures in the consolidated financial statements. Our audits also included evaluating the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the consolidated financial statements. We believe that our audits provide a reasonable basis for our opinion.

# **Critical Audit Matter**

The critical audit matter communicated below is a matter arising from the current period audit of the financial statements that was communicated or required to be communicated to the audit committee and that: (1) relate to accounts or disclosures that are material to the financial statements and (2) involved our especially challenging, subjective, or complex judgments. The communication of critical audit matters does not alter in any way our opinion on the financial statements, taken as a whole, and we are not, by communicating the critical audit matter below, providing separate opinions on the critical audit matter or on the accounts or disclosures to which it relates.

Net Revenue - Reserves for Promotional Allowances

### **Critical Audit Matter Description**

As described in Note 1 to the consolidated financial statements, contracts with customers often include some form of variable consideration in the form of discounts, trade allowances, consumer incentives, coupons, volume-based incentives, cooperative advertising, product returns and other such programs. Promotional allowances are treated as a reduction in revenue when the related revenue is recognized and are recorded at the estimated amount of credit expected to be issued to customers, based primarily on historical utilization and redemption rates.

We identified the estimation of reserves for promotional allowances by management as a critical audit matter because the inputs and assumptions utilized by management in estimating these reserves, including consistency of historical data and contract pricing, require significant judgment and create a high degree of estimation uncertainty. Consequently, auditing these assumptions requires subjective auditor judgment.

# How We Addressed the Matter in Our Audit

The primary procedures we performed to address this critical audit matter included:

- Obtaining an understanding of management's processes and controls over calculating the reserves for promotional allowances, including understanding relevant significant inputs and assumptions.
- Performing substantive analytical procedures surrounding the reserves for promotional allowances by performing an independent calculation of the allowance by using historical data and assumptions.
- Evaluating the reasonableness of key inputs and assumptions relevant to the reserve for promotional allowances, including contractual pricing and rebate arrangements with customers and historical allowance data, which were compared to source documents, and performed sensitivity analysis over key inputs and significant assumptions.
- Testing the accuracy, completeness, validity of the underlying data used in schedules calculating the reserve for promotional allowances.
- We considered transactions submitted by customers subsequent to year end.
- Review of applicable disclosures.

We have served as the Company's auditor since 2009.

/s/ Baker Tilly US, LLP

Irvine, California January 29, 2025

# BRIDGFORD FOODS CORPORATION CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEETS As of November 1, 2024, and November 3, 2023 (in thousands, except share and per share amounts)

	Nover	nber 1, 2024	November 3, 2023		
ASSETS					
Current assets:					
Cash and cash equivalents	\$	10,230	\$	15,708	
Accounts receivable, less allowance for doubtful accounts of \$110 and \$248,					
respectively, and promotional allowances of \$2,399 and \$2,093, respectively		30,404		28,593	
Inventories, net		33,338		40,573	
Refundable income taxes		3,408		2,168	
Prepaid expenses and other current assets		609		435	
Total current assets		77,989		87,477	
Property, plant and equipment, net of accumulated depreciation and amortization of		(1 (2))		(7.407	
\$77,160 and \$73,397, respectively		64,634		67,487	
Other non-current assets	<u>_</u>	14,731	<u></u>	12,034	
Total assets	\$	157,354	\$	166,998	
LIABILITIES AND SHAREHOLDERS' EQUITY					
Current liabilities:					
Accounts payable	\$	5,672	\$	7,201	
Accrued payroll, advertising, and other expenses	ψ	6,323	ψ	6,404	
Income taxes payable		274		256	
Current notes payable – equipment		1,084		1,045	
Current right-of-use leases payable		1,098		1,120	
Other current liabilities		2,002		1,955	
Total current liabilities		16,453	-	17,981	
Total current machines		10,455		17,901	
Long-term notes payable – equipment, bridge loan and revolving credit facility		1,702		2,786	
Deferred income taxes, net		7,622		8,342	
Lont-term right of use leases payable		2,235		2,450	
Executive retirement plans and other non-current liabilities		1,206		5,904	
Total long-term liabilities		12,765		19,482	
Total liabilities		29,218		37,463	
		27,210		57,105	
Contingencies and commitments (Notes 3, 5 and 6)					
Shareholders' equity:					
Preferred stock, without par value; Authorized - 1,000,000 shares; issued and					
outstanding – none		_		_	
Common stock, \$1.00 par value; Authorized - 20,000,000 shares; issued and				_	
outstanding – 9,076,832 shares		9,134		9.134	
Capital in excess of par value		8,298		8,298	
Retained earnings		119,411		122,792	
Accumulated other comprehensive loss		(8,707)		(10,689)	
Total shareholders' equity		128,136		129,535	
Total liabilities and shareholders' equity	\$	157,354	\$	166,998	
rotal naointies and shareholders equity	Ф	137,334	Φ	100,998	

# BRIDGFORD FOODS CORPORATION CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF OPERATIONS For the fiscal years ended November 1, 2024, and November 3, 2023 (in thousands, except share and per share amounts)

	nber 1, 2024 2 Weeks)		mber 3, 2023 3 Weeks)
Net sales	\$ 223,645	\$	251,636
Cost of products sold	167,317		181,279
Gross margin	56,328		70,357
Selling, general and administrative expenses	62,449		65,567
Loss on sale of property, plant and equipment	 146		161
Operating (loss) income	(6,267)		4,629
Other income (expense)			
Interest expense	(429)		(579)
Cash surrender value gain	 2,004		445
Total other income (expense)	1,575		(134)
(Loss) income before taxes	(4,692)		4,495
(Benefit on) provision for income taxes	 (1,311)		1,021
Net (loss) income	\$ (3,381)	<u>\$</u>	3,474
Basic (loss) earnings per share	\$ (0.37)	\$	0.38
Shares used to compute basic (loss) earnings per share	 9,076,832		9,076,832

# BRIDGFORD FOODS CORPORATION CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF COMPREHENSIVE INCOME For the fiscal years ended November 1, 2024, and November 3, 2023 (in thousands)

		ber 1, 2024 Weeks)	November 3, 2023 (53 Weeks)		
Net (loss) income	\$	(3,381)	\$	3,474	
Other comprehensive income from defined benefit plans		3,112		1,255	
Other postretirement benefit plans:					
Actuarial loss		(641)		(1,229)	
Other comprehensive loss from other postretirement benefit plans, net		(641)		(1,229)	
Other comprehensive income, before taxes		2,471		26	
Tax benefit on other comprehensive income		(489)		(290)	
Change in other comprehensive income, net of tax		1,982		(264)	
Comprehensive (loss) income, net of tax	<u>\$</u>	(1,399)	<u>\$</u>	3,210	

# BRIDGFORD FOODS CORPORATION CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF SHAREHOLDERS' EQUITY For the fiscal years ended November 1, 2024, and November 3, 2023 (in thousands)

	Shares	A	mount_	e	apital in xcess of ar value	 etained arnings	 ccumulated other mprehensive loss	sh	Total areholders' equity
Balance, October 28, 2022	9,076	\$	9,134	\$	8,298	\$ 119,318	\$ (10,425)	\$	126,325
Net income	-		-		-	3,474	-		3,474
Net change in defined benefit plans and other benefit plans, net of tax	-		-		-	-	(264)		(264)
Balance, November 3, 2023	9,076	\$	9,134	\$	8,298	\$ 122,792	\$ (10,689)	\$	129,535
Net loss	-		-		-	(3,381)	-		(3,381)
Net change in defined benefit plans and other									
benefit plans, net of tax	-		-		-	-	1,982		1,982
Balance, November 1, 2024	9,076	\$	9,134	\$	8,298	\$ 119,411	\$ (8,707)	\$	128,136

# BRIDGFORD FOODS CORPORATION CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF CASH FLOWS For the fiscal years ended November 1, 2024, and November 3, 2023 (in thousands)

Cash flows from operating activities:S(3,381)S3,474Adjustments to reconcile net (loss) income to net cash (used in) provided by operating activities:S(3,381)S3,474Adjustments to reconcile net (loss) income to net cash (used in) provided by operating activities:6,5406,558Depreciation and amortization6,5406,5586,558(Recoveries on) provision for losses on accounts receivable(126)147Provision for (reduction in) promotional allowances307(679)Loss on sale of property, plant and equipment146161Deferred income taxes, net(1,922)6,480Inventories, net7,235(40)Refundable income taxes(1,240)(967)Prepaid expenses and other current assets(1,131)(114)Other non-current assets(1,132)(6447)Accounts reas payable1832Other current liabilities47(879)Accounts receivable, non-current liabilities(2,227)(1,207)Net cash used in investing activities(427)3,985Cash flows from investing activities:(3,323)(2,363)Net cash used in investing activities(3,323)(2,230)Net cash used in investing activities(1,151)Repayments of financing lease obligations(1,045)(1,033)Net cash used in innexing activities(1,144)(2,234)Net cash used in innexing activities(2,274)(2,2603)Net cash used in innexing activities(625			November 1, 2024 (52 Weeks)		November 3, 2023 (53 Weeks)	
Adjustments to reconcile net (loss) income to net cash (used in) provided by operating activities: 0   Depreciation and amortization 6,540 6,558   Decrociation and amortization 6,540 6,558   Operation and amortization 6,540 6,558   Depreciation and amortization 6,540 6,558   Provision for (reduction in) promotional allowances 307 (679)   Loss on sale of property, plant and equipment 146 161   Deferred income taxes, net (1,992) 6,480   Inventories, net 7,235 (40)   Refundable income taxes (1,240) (967)   Prepaid expenses and other current assets (1,73) (114)   Other non-current assets (1,229) (6,457)   Accounts payable 18 32   Other current liabilities: (497) 3,985   Cash flows from investing activities: (497) 3,982   Proceeds from sale of property, plant and equipment 69 227   Additions to property, plant and equipment (3,902) (2,603)   Net cash used in investing activities: (3,833) (2,376)   Cash flo	Cash flows from operating activities:					
activities:    Depreciation 6,540 6,558   Depreciation and amortization 6,540 6,558   (Recoveries on) provision for losses on accounts receivable (126) 147   Provision for (reduction in) promotional allowances 307 (679)   Loss on sale of property, plant and equipment 146 161   Deferred income taxes, net (720) (631)   Changes in operating assets and liabilities: (1,992) 6,480   Accounts receivable, net 7,235 (40)   Prepaid expenses and other current assets (1,240) (967)   Other non-current assets (1,321) (444)   Accounts payable (1,529) (6,457)   Income taxes payable 18 32   Other current liabilities: (497) 3,985   Cash flows from investing activities (2,227) (1,209)   Net cash used in investing activities (3,902) (2,603)   Net cash used in inancing activities: <td< th=""><th>Net (loss) income</th><th>\$</th><th>(3,381)</th><th>\$</th><th>3,474</th></td<>	Net (loss) income	\$	(3,381)	\$	3,474	
Depreciation and amortization6,5406,558(Recoveries on) provision for losses on accounts receivable(126)147Provision for (reduction in) promotional allowances307(679)Loss on sale of property, plant and equipment146161Deferred income taxes, net(720)(631)Changes in operating assets and liabilities:(1.992)6,480Accounts receivable, net7,235(40)Inventories, net(7.23)(41)Other non-current assets(1.240)(967)Prepaid expenses and other current assets(1.32)(444)Accounts payable(1.529)(6.457)Accrued payroll, advertising and other expenses(1.529)(6.457)Income taxes payable1832Other current liabilities:(477)(879)Executive retirement plans and other non-current liabilities(2.227)(1.207)Net cash (used in) provided by operating activities(497)3.988Proceeds from sale of property, plant and equipment(3.902)(2.603)Net cash used in investing activities:(103)(1.151)Repayments of bank borrowings(1.045)(1.043)Net cash used in investing activities(625)Cash and cash equivalents and restricted cash at end of year(5.478)(625)Cash and cash equivalents(5.478)(625)Cash and cash equivalents and restricted cash at end of year15.70810.333Cash paid for income taxesS1.365SCash paid	Adjustments to reconcile net (loss) income to net cash (used in) provided by operating					
(Recoveries on) provision for losses on accounts receivable(126)147Provision for (reduction in) promotional allowances307(679)Loss on sale of property, plant and equipment146161Deferred income taxes, net(720)(631)Changes in operating assets and liabilities:(1,992)6,480Accounts receivable, net7,235(40)Refundable income taxes(1,240)(967)Prepaid expenses and other current assets(173)(114)Other non-current assets(3,321)(444)Accounts payable(8)(1,449)Income taxes payable1832Other current liabilities(2,227)(1,207)Net case payable1832Other current liabilities(497)3,985Cash flows from investing activities(497)3,985Proceeds from sale of property, plant and equipment69227Additions to property, plant and equipment(3,902)(2,603)Net cash used in investing activities(1,045)(1,045)Payment of financing cativities(1,045)(1,045)Payment of financing cativities(1,045)(1,045)Payment of financing activities(1,045)(1,045)Payment of financing activities(5,478)(625)Cash flows from financing activities(5,478)(625)Cash and cash equivalents(5,478)(625)Cash and cash equivalents and restricted cash at beginning of year1,5,70816,333Cash and c	activities:					
Provision for (reduction in) promotional allowances $307$ $(679)$ Loss on sale of property, plant and equipment146161Deferred income taxes, net $(720)$ $(631)$ Changes in operating assets and liabilities: $(1,992)$ $6,480$ Accounts receivable, net $7.235$ $(40)$ Refundable income taxes $(1,240)$ $(967)$ Prepaid expenses and other current assets $(1,73)$ $(114)$ Other non-current assets $(1,529)$ $(6,457)$ Accounts payable $(1,529)$ $(6,457)$ Accrued payroll, advertising and other expenses $(81)$ $(1,444)$ Income taxes payable $18$ $32$ Other current liabilities $(2,227)$ $(1,202)$ Income taxes payable $47$ $(879)$ Executive retirement plans and other non-current liabilities $(2,227)$ $(1,202)$ Cash flows from investing activities $(3,902)$ $(2,603)$ Net cash used in investing activities $(3,902)$ $(2,603)$ Net cash used in investing activities $(1,045)$ $(1,045)$ Cash flows from financing cutivities $(3,833)$ $(2,376)$ Cash flows from financing activities $(1,045)$ $(1,045)$ Net cash used in financing activities $(2,376)$ $(2,376)$ Cash and cash equivalents $(5,478)$ $(625)$ Cash and cash equivalents $(5,478)$ $(625)$ Cash and cash equivalents $(5,478)$ $(625)$ Cash and cash equivalents and restricted cash at beginning of year $15,708$ <td></td> <td></td> <td>6,540</td> <td></td> <td></td>			6,540			
Loss on sale of property, plant and equipment146161Deferred income taxes, net(720)(631)Changes in operating assets and liabilities:(1,992)6,480Inventories, net7,235(40)Refundable income taxes(1,240)(967)Prepaid expenses and other current assets(173)(114)Other non-current assets(3,321)(444)Accound payroll, advertising and other expenses(81)(1,429)Income taxes payable(1,529)(6,457)Accured payroll, advertising and other non-current liabilities(2,227)(1,207)Net cash (used in) provided by operating activities(497)3,985Cash flows from investing activities:(3,902)(2,603)Proceeds from sale of property, plant and equipment(69227Additions to property, plant and equipment(3,902)(2,603)Net cash used in investing activities:(1,148)(1,151)Payment of financing activities:(1,043)(1,151)Repayments of bank borrowings(1,043)(1,083)Net cash used in financing activities:(5,478)(625)Cash and cash equivalents and restricted cash at beginning of year15,70816,333Cash and cash equivalents and restricted cash at end of year\$10,230Supplemental disclosure of cash flow information:\$10,230\$Cash plaid for income taxes\$10,230\$15,708Cash plaid for income taxes\$10,230\$15,708 <t< td=""><td></td><td></td><td>(126)</td><td></td><td>147</td></t<>			(126)		147	
Deferred income taxes, net   (720)   (631)     Changes in operating assets and liabilities:   (1,992)   6,480     Accounts receivable, net   (1,240)   (967)     Prepaid expenses and other current assets   (1,73)   (114)     Other non-current assets   (1,73)   (144)     Accounts payable   (3,321)   (444)     Accounts payable   (1,529)   (6,457)     Accrued payroll, advertising and other expenses   (81)   (1,449)     Income taxes payable   18   32     Other current liabilities   (2,227)   (1,207)     Net cash (used in) provided by operating activities   (497)   3,985     Cash flows from investing activities:   (497)   3,985     Cash flows from investing activities:   (1,03)   (1,127)     Proceeds from sale of property, plant and equipment   (3,902)   (2,603)     Net cash used in investing activities:   (103)   (1,151)     Payment of financing lease obligations   (1045)   (1,083)     Net cash used in financing activities   (5,478)   (625)     Cash and cash e	Provision for (reduction in) promotional allowances		307		(679)	
Changes in operating assets and liabilities:(1,92)(6,480)Accounts receivable, net(1,240)(967)Inventories, net(1,240)(967)Prepaid expenses and other current assets(1,73)(114)Other non-current assets(1,259)(6,457)Accrued payroll, advertising and other expenses(81)(1,449)Income taxes payable(1,529)(6,457)Accrued payroll, advertising and other non-current liabilities(2,227)(1,207)Net carse trained by operating activities(497)3,985Cash flows from investing activities(497)3,985Cash flows from investing activities(3,902)(2,603)Net cash used in investing activities(1,045)(1,045)Proceeds from sale of property, plant and equipment(3,902)(2,603)Net cash used in investing activities(1,045)(1,045)Payment of financing activities(1,045)(1,045)Payment of financing activities(1,045)(1,045)Net cash used in investing activities(5,478)(625)Cash and cash equivalents(5,478)(625)Cash and cash equivalents and restricted cash at beginning of year510,230Supplemental disclosure of cash flow information:S1,3,65\$Cash paid for income taxes§1,3,65\$2,587	Loss on sale of property, plant and equipment		146		161	
Accounts receivable, net $(1,92)$ $6,480$ Inventories, net $7,235$ $(40)$ Refundable income taxes $(1,240)$ $(967)$ Prepaid expenses and other current assets $(173)$ $(114)$ Other non-current assets $(3,321)$ $(444)$ Accounts payable $(1,529)$ $(6,457)$ Accrued payroll, advertising and other expenses $(81)$ $(1,449)$ Income taxes payable $18$ $32$ Other current liabilities $(2,227)$ $(1,207)$ Net cash (used in) provided by operating activities $(497)$ $3,985$ Cash flows from investing activities: $(3,902)$ $(2,603)$ Net cash used in investing activities $(1,045)$ $(1,045)$ Proceeds from sale of property, plant and equipment $(3,902)$ $(2,603)$ Net cash used in investing activities: $(1,045)$ $(1,045)$ Payment of financing activities $(1,045)$ $(1,045)$ Payment of financing activities $(1,045)$ $(1,043)$ Net cash used in financing activities $(1,045)$ $(1,043)$ Net cash used in financing activities $(1,045)$ $(1,043)$ Net cash used in financing activities $(1,045)$ $(2,234)$ Net decrease in cash and cash equivalents $(5,478)$ $(625)$ Cash and cash equivalents and restricted cash at beginning of year $(5,478)$ $(625)$ Cash and cash equivalents and restricted cash at end of year $(1,045)$ $(5,478)$ Supplemental disclosure of cash flow information: $(2,347)$ $(5,478)$ <td></td> <td></td> <td>(720)</td> <td></td> <td>(631)</td>			(720)		(631)	
Inventories, net7,235(40)Refundable income taxes $(1,240)$ $(967)$ Prepaid expenses and other current assets $(173)$ $(114)$ Other non-current assets $(3,321)$ $(444)$ Accounts payable $(1,529)$ $(6,457)$ Accrued payroll, advertising and other expenses $(81)$ $(1,449)$ Income taxes payable $18$ $32$ Other current liabilities $(2,227)$ $(1,207)$ Net cash (used in) provided by operating activities $(497)$ $3,985$ Cash flows from investing activities: $(3,902)$ $(2,603)$ Net cash used in investing activities: $(103)$ $(1,151)$ Repayment of financing lease obligations $(103)$ $(1,151)$ Repayments of bank borrowings $(1,045)$ $(1,083)$ Net cash used in financing activities $(5,478)$ $(625)$ Cash and cash equivalents and restricted cash at beginning of year $(5,478)$ $(625)$ Cash and cash equivalents and restricted cash at end of year $$10,230$ $$15,708$ Supplemental disclosure of cash flow information: $$2,1365$ $$2,587$						
Refundable income taxes $(1,240)$ $(967)$ Prepaid expenses and other current assets $(173)$ $(114)$ Other non-current assets $(3,321)$ $(444)$ Accounts payable $(1,529)$ $(6,457)$ Accued payroll, advertising and other expenses $(81)$ $(1,449)$ Income taxes payable $18$ $32$ Other current liabilities $47$ $(879)$ Executive retirement plans and other non-current liabilities $(2,227)$ $(1,207)$ Net cash (used in provided by operating activities $(497)$ $3,985$ Cash flows from investing activities: $(3,902)$ $(2,603)$ Net cash used in investing activities $(3,902)$ $(2,603)$ Net cash used in investing activities $(103)$ $(1,151)$ Repayments of financing activities $(1,045)$ $(1,045)$ Payment of financing activities $(1,045)$ $(1,045)$ Net cash used in financing activities $(1,045)$ $(1,045)$ Net cash used in financing activities $(1,045)$ $(1,045)$ Net cash used in financing activities $(1,045)$ $(2,234)$ Net cash used in financing activities $(5,478)$ $(625)$ Cash and cash equivalents and restricted cash at beginning of year $(5,478)$ $(625)$ Cash and cash equivalents and restricted cash at end of year $$1,203$ $$15,708$ Supplemental disclosure of cash flow information: $$1,365$ $$2,587$	Accounts receivable, net				6,480	
Prepaid expenses and other current assets $(173)$ $(114)$ Other non-current assets $(3,321)$ $(444)$ Accounts payable $(1,529)$ $(6,457)$ Accrued payroll, advertising and other expenses $(81)$ $(1,449)$ Income taxes payable $18$ $32$ Other current liabilities $47$ $(879)$ Executive retirement plans and other non-current liabilities $(2,227)$ $(1,207)$ Net cash (used in) provided by operating activities $(497)$ $3,985$ Cash flows from investing activities: $(497)$ $3,985$ Proceeds from sale of property, plant and equipment $69$ $227$ Additions to property, plant and equipment $(3,902)$ $(2,603)$ Net cash used in investing activities: $(1,045)$ $(1,045)$ Payment of financing activities: $(1,045)$ $(1,045)$ Payments of bank borrowings $(1,045)$ $(1,045)$ Net decrease in cash and cash equivalents $(5,478)$ $(625)$ Cash and cash equivalents and restricted cash at beginning of year $(5,478)$ $(625)$ Cash and cash equivalents and restricted cash at end of year $(1,023)$ $$15,708$ $16,333$ Supplemental disclosure of cash flow information: $$13,65$ $$2,587$	Inventories, net		7,235		(40)	
Other non-current assets $(3,321)$ $(444)$ Accounts payable $(1,529)$ $(6,457)$ Accrued payroll, advertising and other expenses $(81)$ $(1,449)$ Income taxes payable1832Other current liabilities $(2,227)$ $(1,207)$ Net cash (used in) provided by operating activities $(497)$ $3,985$ Cash flows from investing activities: $(497)$ $3,985$ Proceeds from sale of property, plant and equipment $69$ $227$ Additions to property, plant and equipment $(3,902)$ $(2,603)$ Net cash used in investing activities: $(103)$ $(1,151)$ Payment of financing laes obligations $(1,045)$ $(1,045)$ Net cash used in financing activities $(1,045)$ $(2,234)$ Net cash used in financing activities $(5,478)$ $(625)$ Cash and cash equivalents and restricted cash at beginning of year $(5,478)$ $(625)$ Cash and cash equivalents and restricted cash at end of year $(5,478)$ $(5,333)$ Supplemental disclosure of cash flow information: Cash paid for income taxes $(2,254)$ $(2,254)$	Refundable income taxes		(1,240)		(967)	
Accounts payable $(1,529)$ $(6,457)$ Accrued payroll, advertising and other expenses $(81)$ $(1,449)$ Income taxes payable1832Other current liabilities47 $(879)$ Executive retirement plans and other non-current liabilities $(2,227)$ $(1,207)$ Net cash (used in) provided by operating activities $(497)$ $3,985$ Cash flows from investing activities: $(497)$ $3,985$ Proceeds from sale of property, plant and equipment $69$ $227$ Additions to property, plant and equipment $(3,902)$ $(2,603)$ Net cash used in investing activities: $(103)$ $(1,151)$ Payment of financing lease obligations $(103)$ $(1,151)$ Repayments of bank borrowings $(1,045)$ $(1,045)$ Net cash used in financing activities $(5,478)$ $(625)$ Cash and cash equivalents and restricted cash at beginning of year $15,708$ $16,333$ Cash and cash equivalents and restricted cash at end of year $$10,230$ $$15,708$ Supplemental disclosure of cash flow information: $$$1,365$ $$$2,587$	Prepaid expenses and other current assets		(173)		(114)	
Accrued payroll, advertising and other expenses(81)(1,449)Income taxes payable1832Other current liabilities47(879)Executive retirement plans and other non-current liabilities(2,227)(1,207)Net cash (used in) provided by operating activities(497)3,985Cash flows from investing activities:69227Additions to property, plant and equipment69227Additions to property, plant and equipment(3,902)(2,603)Net cash used in investing activities:(103)(1,151)Payment of financing activities:(103)(1,151)Payment of financing activities(1,045)(1,083)Net cash used in financing activities(1,045)(1,083)Net cash used in financing activities(5,478)(625)Cash and cash equivalents and restricted cash at beginning of year15,70816,333Cash and cash equivalents and restricted cash at end of year\$ 10,230\$ 15,708Supplemental disclosure of cash flow information:\$ 1,365\$ 2,587	Other non-current assets		(3,321)		(444)	
Income taxes payable1832Other current liabilities47(879)Executive retirement plans and other non-current liabilities $(2,227)$ $(1,207)$ Net cash (used in) provided by operating activities $(497)$ $3,985$ Cash flows from investing activities: $(497)$ $3,985$ Proceeds from sale of property, plant and equipment $69$ $227$ Additions to property, plant and equipment $(3,902)$ $(2,603)$ Net cash used in investing activities $(3,833)$ $(2,376)$ Cash flows from financing activities: $(103)$ $(1,151)$ Repayment of financing lease obligations $(103)$ $(1,151)$ Repayments of bank borrowings $(1,045)$ $(1,083)$ Net cash used in financing activities $(5,478)$ $(625)$ Cash and cash equivalents and restricted cash at beginning of year $15,708$ $16,333$ Cash and cash equivalents and restricted cash at end of year $$10,230$ $$15,708$ Supplemental disclosure of cash flow information: $$$1,365$ $$$2,587$			(1,529)		(6,457)	
Other current liabilities47(879)Executive retirement plans and other non-current liabilities $(2,227)$ $(1,207)$ Net cash (used in) provided by operating activities $(497)$ $3,985$ Cash flows from investing activities: $(497)$ $3,985$ Proceeds from sale of property, plant and equipment $69$ $227$ Additions to property, plant and equipment $(3,902)$ $(2,603)$ Net cash used in investing activities $(3,833)$ $(2,376)$ Cash flows from financing activities: $(103)$ $(1,151)$ Repayment of financing lease obligations $(103)$ $(1,151)$ Repayments of bank borrowings $(1,045)$ $(1,083)$ Net cash used in financing activities $(5,478)$ $(625)$ Cash and cash equivalents and restricted cash at beginning of year $15,708$ $16,333$ Cash and cash equivalents and restricted cash at end of year $$10,230$ $$15,708$ Supplemental disclosure of cash flow information: $$1,365$ $$2,257$	Accrued payroll, advertising and other expenses		(81)		(1,449)	
Executive retirement plans and other non-current liabilities(2,227)(1,207)Net cash (used in) provided by operating activities(497)3,985Cash flows from investing activities:69227Additions to property, plant and equipment(3,902)(2,603)Net cash used in investing activities(3,833)(2,376)Cash flows from financing activities:(103)(1,151)Payment of financing lease obligations(103)(1,151)Repayments of bank borrowings(1,045)(1,043)Net cash used in financing activities(5,478)(625)Cash and cash equivalents and restricted cash at end of year15,70816,333Cash paid for income taxes§1,365§2,587			18			
Net cash (used in) provided by operating activities(497)3,985Cash flows from investing activities:69227Additions to property, plant and equipment69227Additions to property, plant and equipment(3,902)(2,603)Net cash used in investing activities(3,833)(2,376)Cash flows from financing activities:(103)(1,151)Payment of financing lease obligations(103)(1,151)Repayments of bank borrowings(1,045)(1,083)Net cash used in financing activities(1,148)(2,234)Net decrease in cash and cash equivalents(5,478)(625)Cash and cash equivalents and restricted cash at beginning of year15,70816,333Cash and cash equivalents and restricted cash at end of year\$10,230\$Supplemental disclosure of cash flow information: Cash paid for income taxes\$1,365\$2,587	Other current liabilities		47		(879)	
Cash flows from investing activities: Proceeds from sale of property, plant and equipment69227Additions to property, plant and equipment(3,902)(2,603)Net cash used in investing activities(3,833)(2,376)Cash flows from financing activities: Payment of financing lease obligations(103)(1,151)Repayments of bank borrowings(1,045)(1,083)Net cash used in financing activities(1,148)(2,234)Net decrease in cash and cash equivalents(5,478)(625)Cash and cash equivalents and restricted cash at beginning of year15,70816,333Cash and cash equivalents and restricted cash at end of year\$10,230\$Supplemental disclosure of cash flow information: Cash paid for income taxes\$1,365\$2,587	Executive retirement plans and other non-current liabilities		(2,227)		(1,207)	
Proceeds from sale of property, plant and equipment69227Additions to property, plant and equipment(3,902)(2,603)Net cash used in investing activities(3,833)(2,376)Cash flows from financing activities:(103)(1,151)Payment of financing lease obligations(103)(1,151)Repayments of bank borrowings(1,045)(1,083)Net cash used in financing activities(1,148)(2,234)Net cash used in financing activities(5,478)(625)Cash and cash equivalents and restricted cash at beginning of year15,70816,333Cash and cash equivalents and restricted cash at end of year\$10,230Supplemental disclosure of cash flow information: Cash paid for income taxes\$1,365Supplemental disclosure of cash flow information: Cash paid for income taxes\$2,587	Net cash (used in) provided by operating activities		(497)		3,985	
Proceeds from sale of property, plant and equipment69227Additions to property, plant and equipment(3,902)(2,603)Net cash used in investing activities(3,833)(2,376)Cash flows from financing activities:(103)(1,151)Payment of financing lease obligations(103)(1,151)Repayments of bank borrowings(1,045)(1,083)Net cash used in financing activities(1,148)(2,234)Net cash used in financing activities(5,478)(625)Cash and cash equivalents and restricted cash at beginning of year15,70816,333Cash and cash equivalents and restricted cash at end of year\$ 10,230\$ 15,708Supplemental disclosure of cash flow information: Cash paid for income taxes\$ 1,365\$ 2,587	Cash flows from investing activities:					
Additions to property, plant and equipment(3,902)(2,603)Net cash used in investing activities(3,833)(2,376)Cash flows from financing activities:(103)(1,151)Payment of financing lease obligations(103)(1,151)Repayments of bank borrowings(1,045)(1,083)Net cash used in financing activities(1,148)(2,234)Net decrease in cash and cash equivalents(5,478)(625)Cash and cash equivalents and restricted cash at beginning of year15,70816,333Cash and cash equivalents and restricted cash at end of year\$ 10,230\$ 15,708Supplemental disclosure of cash flow information: Cash paid for income taxes\$ 1,365\$ 2,587			69		227	
Net cash used in investing activities(3,833)(2,376)Cash flows from financing activities:(103)(1,151)Payment of financing lease obligations(103)(1,151)Repayments of bank borrowings(1,045)(1,083)Net cash used in financing activities(1,148)(2,234)Net decrease in cash and cash equivalents(5,478)(625)Cash and cash equivalents and restricted cash at beginning of year15,70816,333Cash and cash equivalents and restricted cash at end of year\$ 10,230\$ 15,708Supplemental disclosure of cash flow information: Cash paid for income taxes\$ 1,365\$ 2,587			(3,902)		(2,603)	
Cash flows from financing activities:Payment of financing lease obligations(103)(1,151)Repayments of bank borrowings(1,045)(1,083)Net cash used in financing activities(1,148)(2,234)Net decrease in cash and cash equivalents(5,478)(625)Cash and cash equivalents and restricted cash at beginning of year15,70816,333Cash and cash equivalents and restricted cash at end of year\$10,230\$Supplemental disclosure of cash flow information: Cash paid for income taxes\$1,365\$2,587						
Payment of financing lease obligations(103)(1,151)Repayments of bank borrowings(1,045)(1,083)Net cash used in financing activities(1,148)(2,234)Net decrease in cash and cash equivalents(5,478)(625)Cash and cash equivalents and restricted cash at beginning of year15,70816,333Cash and cash equivalents and restricted cash at end of year\$10,230\$Supplemental disclosure of cash flow information: Cash paid for income taxes\$1,365\$2,587	0					
Repayments of bank borrowings(1,045)(1,083)Net cash used in financing activities(1,148)(2,234)Net decrease in cash and cash equivalents(5,478)(625)Cash and cash equivalents and restricted cash at beginning of year15,70816,333Cash and cash equivalents and restricted cash at end of year\$ 10,230\$ 15,708Supplemental disclosure of cash flow information: Cash paid for income taxes\$ 1,365\$ 2,587			(103)		(1.151)	
Net cash used in financing activities(1,148)(2,234)Net decrease in cash and cash equivalents(5,478)(625)Cash and cash equivalents and restricted cash at beginning of year15,70816,333Cash and cash equivalents and restricted cash at end of year\$ 10,230\$ 15,708Supplemental disclosure of cash flow information: Cash paid for income taxes\$ 1,365\$ 2,587						
Net decrease in cash and cash equivalents (5,478) (625)   Cash and cash equivalents and restricted cash at beginning of year 15,708 16,333   Cash and cash equivalents and restricted cash at end of year \$ 10,230 \$ 15,708   Supplemental disclosure of cash flow information: \$ 1,365 \$ 2,587		-				
Cash and cash equivalents and restricted cash at beginning of year 15,708 16,333   Cash and cash equivalents and restricted cash at end of year \$ 10,230 \$ 15,708   Supplemental disclosure of cash flow information: \$ 1,365 \$ 2,587	Ŭ			-		
Cash and cash equivalents and restricted cash at end of year \$ 10,230 \$ 15,708   Supplemental disclosure of cash flow information: \$ 1,365 \$ 2,587	Net decrease in easil and easil equivalents		(3,470)		(023)	
Supplemental disclosure of cash flow information:   Cash paid for income taxes   \$ 1,365	Cash and cash equivalents and restricted cash at beginning of year		15,708		16,333	
Supplemental disclosure of cash flow information:   Cash paid for income taxes   \$ 1,365	Cash and cash equivalents and restricted cash at end of year	\$	10,230	\$	15,708	
Cash paid for income taxes   \$ 1,365   \$ 2,587						
Cash paid for income taxes   \$ 1,365   \$ 2,587	Supplemental disclosure of cash flow information:					
		\$	1,365	\$	2,587	

# BRIDGFORD FOODS CORPORATION NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (in thousands except share and per share amounts, time periods, ratios and percentages)

#### NOTE 1 - The Company and Summary of Significant Accounting Policies:

Bridgford Foods Corporation (collectively with its subsidiaries, "Bridgford", the "Company", "we", "our") was organized in 1952. We originally began operations in 1932 as a retail meat market in San Diego, California and evolved into a meat wholesaler for hotels and restaurants, a distributor of frozen food products, a processor and packer of meat, and a manufacturer and distributor of frozen food products for sale on a retail and wholesale basis. We, including our subsidiaries, are primarily engaged in the manufacturing, marketing, and distribution of an extensive line of frozen, refrigerated, and snack food products throughout the United States.

The consolidated financial statements include the accounts of the Company and its subsidiaries, all of which are wholly owned. All inter-company transactions and balances have been eliminated.

#### Use of estimates and assumptions

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles requires management to make certain 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, as well as the reported revenues and expenses during the respective reporting periods. Management bases these estimates and assumptions upon historical experience, existing and known circumstances, authoritative accounting pronouncements and other factors that management believes to be reasonable. In addition, the Company has considered the potential impact of macroeconomic factors, including inflation, changes in interest rates, changes in commodity pricing, changes in discretionary spending, and recessionary concerns, on its business and operations. Although the full impact of these factors is unknown, the Company believes it has made appropriate accounting estimates and assumptions based on the facts and circumstances available as of the reporting date. However, actual results could differ from those estimates. Amounts estimated related to liabilities for pension benefits, self-insured workers' compensation and employee healthcare benefits are subject to inherent uncertainties and these estimated liabilities may ultimately settle at amounts which may vary from current estimates. Other areas with underlying estimates include realization of deferred tax assets, cash surrender or contract value of life insurance policies, promotional allowances and the allowance for doubtful accounts and inventory reserves. Management believes its current estimates are reasonable and based on the best information available at the time. To the extent there are material differences between the estimates and the actual results, future results of operations could be affected.

#### Subsequent events

Management has evaluated events subsequent to November 1, 2024, through the date the accompanying consolidated financial statements were filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission for transactions and other events that may require adjustment of and/or disclosure in such financial statements.

On November 30, 2024, we entered into a sixth amendment to the credit agreement with Wells Fargo Bank, N.A. dated March 1, 2018, as amended, and also executed a revolving line of credit note pursuant to the amendment. The revolving line of credit note replaces the existing note that expired by its terms on November 30, 2024. Under the terms of this amendment and the revolving line of credit note, we may borrow up to \$7,500 from time to time up to November 30, 2025, at an interest rate equal to (a) the daily simple secured overnight financing rate plus 2.0%, or if unavailable, (b) the prime rate, in each case as determined by the bank. The line of credit has an unused commitment fee of 0.35% of the available loan amount, payable on a quarterly basis. Amounts may be repaid and reborrowed during the term of the note. Accrued interest is payable on the first day of each month and the outstanding principal balance and remaining interest are due and payable on November 30, 2025.

Based on management's review, no other material subsequent events were identified that require adjustment to the consolidated financial statements or additional disclosure.

#### **Accounts Receivable**

Accounts receivables are recorded at net realizable value. The value is presented net of allowance for doubtful accounts and promotional incentives. Our accounts receivable consists mainly of trade receivables from customer sales. We evaluate the collectability of our accounts receivable based on several factors. The provision for doubtful accounts receivable is based on historical trends and current collectability risk. Our provision for doubtful accounts was \$110 and \$248 as of November 1, 2024, and November 3, 2023, respectively.

#### **Concentrations of credit risk**

Our credit risk is diversified across a broad range of customers and geographic regions. Losses due to credit risk have recently been immaterial. The carrying amount of cash equivalents, accounts and other receivables, accounts payable and accrued liabilities approximate fair market value due to the short maturity of these instruments. We maintain cash balances at financial institutions, which may at times exceed the amounts insured by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation. Management does not believe there is significant credit risk associated with these financial institutions. Sales to Wal-Mart® comprised 27.8% of revenues in fiscal year 2024 and 25.4% of total accounts receivable was due from Wal-Mart® as of November 1, 2024. Sales to Wal-Mart® comprised 29.1% of revenues in fiscal year 2023 and 26.5% of total accounts receivable was due from Wal-Mart® as of November 3, 2023. Sales to Dollar General® comprised 14.2% of revenues in fiscal year 2024 and 20.2% of total accounts receivable was due from Dollar General® as of November 1, 2024. Sales to Dollar General® comprised 16.3% of revenues in fiscal year 2023 and 20.5% of total accounts receivable was due from Dollar General® as of November 3, 2023.

#### **Business segments**

The Company and its subsidiaries operate in two business segments - the processing and distribution of frozen foods products, and the processing and distribution of snack food products. See Note 7 Segment Information for further information.

#### Fiscal year

We maintain our accounting records on a 52-53-week fiscal basis ending on the Friday closest to October 31. As part of the regular accounting cycle, fiscal year 2024 included 52 weeks and fiscal year 2023 included 53 weeks.

#### Revenues

The Company recognizes revenue for the sale of the product at the point in time when our performance obligation has been satisfied and control of the product has transferred to our customer, which generally occurs upon shipment, pickup or delivery to a customer based on terms of the sale. Contracts with customers are typically short-term in nature with completion of a single performance obligation. Product is sold to foodservice, retail, institutional and other distribution channels. Products are delivered to customers primarily through our own long-haul fleet, common carrier or through a Company owned direct store delivery system. These delivery costs, \$7,460 and \$7,190 for fiscal years 2024 and 2023, respectively, are included in selling, general and administrative expenses in the accompanying consolidated financial statements. Shipping and handling that occurs after the customer has obtained control of the product is recorded as a fulfillment cost rather than an additional assured service. Costs paid to third party brokers to obtain contracts are recognized as part of selling expenses. Other sundry items in context of the contract are also recognized as selling expense. Any taxes collected on behalf of the government are excluded from net revenue.

We record revenue at the transaction price which is measured as the amount of consideration we anticipate to receive in exchange for providing product to our customers. Revenue is recognized as the net amount estimated to be received after deducting estimated or known amounts including variable consideration for discounts, trade allowances, consumer incentives, coupons, volume-based incentives, cooperative advertising, product returns and other such programs. Promotional allowances, including customer incentive and trade promotion activities, are recorded as a reduction to sales based on amounts estimated being due to customers, based primarily on historical utilization and redemption rates. Estimates are reviewed regularly until incentives or product returns are realized and the result of any such adjustments are known. Promotional allowances deducted from sales for fiscal years 2024 and 2023 were \$19,746 and \$17,256, respectively.

#### Advertising expenses

Advertising and other promotional expenses are recorded as selling, general and administrative expenses. Advertising expenses for fiscal years 2024 and 2023 were \$2,613 and \$2,822, respectively.

# Cash and cash equivalents

We consider all investments with original maturities of three months or less to be cash equivalents. Cash equivalents include money market funds and treasury bills. Cash and cash equivalents totaled \$10,230 as of November 1, 2024 all of which were held at Wells Fargo Bank N.A., except for \$1,000 with Bank of America. Cash and cash equivalents totaled \$15,708 as of November 3, 2023 all of which were held at Wells Fargo Bank N.A.

# **Restricted cash**

The Company had no restricted cash as of November 1, 2024 and November 3, 2023.

#### Fair value measurements

We classify levels of inputs to measure the fair value of financial assets as follows:

- Level 1 inputs: Level 1 inputs are quoted market prices in active markets for identical assets or liabilities that are accessible at the measurement date.
- Level 2 inputs: Level 2 inputs are from other than quoted market prices included in Level 1 that are observable for the asset or liability, either directly or indirectly.
- Level 3 inputs: Level 3 inputs are unobservable and should be used to measure fair value to the extent that observable inputs are not available.

The hierarchy noted above requires us to minimize the use of unobservable inputs and to use observable market data, if available, when determining fair value.

The Company does not have any assets or liabilities measured at fair value on a recurring or non-recurring basis for the fiscal years ended November 1, 2024, and November 3, 2023, except for pension plan investments (See Note 3 – Retirement and Other Benefit Plans).

#### Inventories

Inventories are valued at the lower of cost (which approximates actual cost on a first-in, first-out basis) or net realizable value. Inventories include the cost of raw materials, labor, and manufacturing overhead. We regularly review inventory quantities on hand and write down any excess or obsolete inventories to net realizable value. An inventory reserve is created when potentially slow-moving or obsolete inventories are identified in order to reflect the appropriate inventory value. Changes in economic conditions, production requirements, and lower than expected customer demand could result in additional obsolete or slow-moving inventory that cannot be sold or must be sold at reduced prices and could result in additional reserve provisions. The Company recorded a net realizable value reserve of \$1,467 and \$513 at November 1, 2024 and November 3, 2023, respectively, after determining that the market value on some meat products was less than the costs associated with completion and sale of the product.

# Property, plant, and equipment

Property, plant, and equipment are carried at cost less accumulated depreciation. Major renewals and improvements are charged to the asset accounts while the cost of maintenance and repairs is charged to expense as incurred. When assets are sold or otherwise disposed of, the cost and accumulated depreciation are removed from the respective accounts and the resulting gain or loss is credited or charged to income. Depreciation is computed on a straight-line basis over 10 to 20 years for buildings and improvements, 5 to 10 years for machinery and equipment, and 3 to 5 years for transportation equipment. We built a processing plant from the ground up and as such have attributed long useful lives accordingly to these types of assets employed at the new facility in Chicago. The Company incurred interest costs of \$429 and \$579 for fiscal year 2024 and 2023, respectively, all of which were recorded as interest expense in relation to equipment at the production facility in Chicago.

We test long-lived assets for recoverability whenever events or changes in circumstances indicate that the carrying amount may not be recoverable. If an impairment is indicated, we measure the fair value of assets to determine if and when adjustments are recorded.

#### Leases

Leases are recognized in accordance with ASC Topic 842 Leases ("ASC 842") which requires a lessee to recognize assets and liabilities with lease terms of more than 12 months. We lease or rent property for such operations as storing inventory and equipment. We analyze our agreements to evaluate whether or not a lease exists by determining what assets exist for which we control usage for a period of time in exchange for consideration. In the event a lease exists, we classify it as a finance or operating lease and record a right-of-use ("ROU") asset and the corresponding lease liability at the inception of the lease. In the case of month-to-month lease or rental agreements with terms of 12 months or less, we made an accounting policy election to not recognize lease assets and liabilities and record them on a straight-line basis over the lease term. The storage units rented on a month-to-month basis for use by our Snack Food Product segment direct store delivery route system are not costly to relocate and contain no significant leasehold improvements or degree of integration over leased assets. Orders can be fulfilled by another route storage unit interchangeably. No specialized assets exist in the rental storage units. Market price is paid for storage units. No guarantee of debt is made.

Finance lease assets are recorded within property, plant and equipment, net of accumulated depreciation and amortization. The Company's leases of a box truck used in its Frozen Food Products segment qualify as finance leases. Finance lease liabilities are recorded under other liabilities. Operating leases are recorded as ROU assets under property, plant and equipment and the corresponding liability is recorded under other liabilities. The consolidated balance sheets reflect both the current and long-term obligation. The classification as a finance or operating lease determines whether the recognition, measurement and presentation of expenses and cash flows are considered operating or financing.

#### Life insurance policies

We record the cash surrender value or contract value for life insurance policies as an adjustment of premiums paid in determining the expense or income to be recognized under the contract for the period. The cash surrender value is included in other non-current assets in the accompanying Consolidated Balance Sheets. Expected proceeds from life insurance are recorded under prepaid expenses and other current assets (refer to Note 2 – Composition of Certain Financial Statement Captions).

### Income taxes

Deferred taxes are provided for items whose financial and tax bases differ. A valuation allowance is provided against deferred tax assets when it is expected that it is more likely than not that the related asset will not be fully realized. The determination as to whether or not a deferred tax asset can be fully realized is subject to a significant degree of judgment, based at least partially upon a projection of future taxable income, which takes into consideration past and future trends in profitability, customer demand, supply costs, and multiple other factors, which are inherently difficult to predict.

We provide tax accruals for federal, state, and local exposures relating to audit results, tax planning initiatives and compliance responsibilities. The development of these accruals requires judgments about tax issues, potential outcomes, and timing. (See Note 4 for further information). Although the outcome of these tax audits is uncertain, in management's opinion adequate provisions for income taxes have been made for potential liabilities emanating from these reviews. If actual outcomes differ materially from these estimates, they could have a material impact on our results of operations.

#### Stock-based compensation

We measure and recognize compensation expenses for all share-based payments to employees, including grants of employee stock options, in the financial statements based on the fair value at the date of the grant. We have not issued, awarded, granted, or entered into any stock-based payment agreements since April 29, 1999, and no such expense was recognized in fiscal years 2024 and 2023.

#### **Comprehensive income or loss**

Comprehensive income or loss consists of net income and additional minimum pension liability adjustments net of taxes.

# Recently issued accounting pronouncements and regulations

In June 2016, the FASB issued ASU No. 2016-13, *Financial Instruments—Credit Losses* (ASC 326), which provides guidance on measurement of credit losses on financial instruments. This ASU adds a current expected credit loss impairment model to GAAP that is based on expected losses rather than incurred losses whereby a broader range of reasonable and supportable information is required to be utilized in order to derive credit loss estimates. The effective date of the new guidance as amended by ASU No. 2019-10 is fiscal years beginning after December 15, 2022, including interim periods within those fiscal years. The adoption of ASU No. 2016-13 did not have a material or significant impact on the Company's Consolidated Financial Statements as it has been our policy to estimate and record credit losses on trade accounts receivable.

In November 2023, the FASB issued ASU No. 2023-07, Segment Reporting – Improvements to Reportable Segments Disclosures. The amendments enhance disclosures of significant segment expenses by requiring the disclosure of significant segment expenses regularly provided to the chief operating decision maker (CODM), extending certain annual disclosures to interim periods, and permitting more than one measure of segment profit or loss to be reported under certain conditions. The amendments are effective for the Company in fiscal years beginning after December 15, 2023, and interim periods within fiscal years beginning after December 15, 2024. Early adoption of the amendment is permitted, including adoption in any interim periods for which financial statements have not been issued. The Company is currently evaluating the guidance and its impact to the financial statements.

In March 2024, the SEC adopted rules to develop standardized climate-related disclosures by publicly traded companies including the emission of greenhouse gases. The rules are currently effective for the Company in the fiscal year beginning in 2027. However, as a result of pending legal challenges, the actual timing of effectiveness of the rules and applicable phase-in periods, as well as whether portions of the rules remain in effect after the legal challenges, are uncertain. The Company is currently evaluating the guidance and its impact on the financial statements.

# NOTE 2 - Composition of Certain Financial Statement Captions:

	Noven	1ber 1, 2024	Nover	nber 3, 2023
Inventories, net:				
Meat, ingredients, and supplies	\$	10,314	\$	12,244
Work in process		2,633		1,507
Finished goods		20,391		26,822
	\$	33,338	\$	40,573
Prepaid expenses and other current assets				
Prepaid insurance		84		274
Prepaid other		525		161
	\$	609	\$	435
Property, plant and equipment, net:				
Land	\$	3,799	\$	3,799
Buildings and improvements	*	24,148		24,173
Machinery and equipment		99,417		97,554
Finance leased trucks		166		355
Transportation equipment		11,127		10,078
Right of use assets		2,383		3,515
Construction in process		754		1,410
		141,794	-	140,884
Accumulated depreciation and amortization		(77,160)		(73,397)
	\$	64,634	\$	67,487
				-
Other non-current assets: Cash surrender value benefits	¢	14,032	\$	12 020
Other	\$	699	Ф	12,029 5
one	\$	14,731	\$	12,034
Accrued payroll, advertising, and other expenses:	<u> </u>		<u> </u>	
Payroll, vacation, payroll taxes and employee benefits	\$	5,112	\$	4,610
Accrued advertising and broker commissions	φ	386	Ψ	732
Property taxes		431		444
Other		394		618
	\$	6,323	\$	6,404
Other current liabilities (Notes 3 and 6):				
Executive retirement plans	\$	333	\$	249
Incentive compensation	ψ	1,531	Ψ	1,582
Finance lease obligation		62		62
Customer deposits		39		26
Postretirement healthcare benefits		37		36
i ostietitement neattieare benefits	\$	2,002	\$	1,955
	<u> </u>	2,002	<u> </u>	1,755
Executive retirement plans and other non-current liabilities (Note 3):	¢	(5.010)	¢	(1.00-7)
Defined benefit retirement plan	\$	(5,212)	\$	(1,885)
Incentive compensation		735		2,266
Finance lease obligation		162		28
Postretirement healthcare benefits		5,521		5,495
	<u>\$</u>	1,206	<u>\$</u>	5,904

# NOTE 3 - Retirement and Other Benefit Plans:

# Noncontributory-Trusteed Defined Benefit Retirement Plans for Sales, Administrative, Supervisory and Certain Other Employees

We have noncontributory-trusteed defined benefit retirement plans for sales, administrative, supervisory, and certain other employees. In the third quarter of fiscal year 2006, we froze future benefit accruals under these plans for employees classified within the administrative, sales or supervisory job classifications or within any non-bargaining class. The benefits under these plans are primarily based on years of service and compensation levels. The funding policy of the plans requires contributions which are at least equal to the minimum required contributions needed to avoid a funding deficiency. The measurement date for the plans is our fiscal year end.

Net pension income consisted of the following:

	<b>November 1, 2024</b>	<u> </u>	lovember 3, 2023
	(52 Weeks)		(53 Weeks)
Service cost	\$ 50	\$	57
Interest cost	2,813		2,688
Expected return on plan assets	(3,433	)	(3,439)
Amortization of unrecognized loss	349		615
Net pension income	\$ (215	) <u>\$</u>	(79)

Net pension costs and benefit obligations are determined using assumptions as of the beginning of each fiscal year.

Weighted average assumptions for each fiscal year are as follows:

	November 1, 2024	November 3, 2023
Discount rate	5.16%	5.96%
Rate of increase in salary levels	N/A	N/A
Expected return on plan assets	5.00%	7.00%

The benefit obligation, plan assets, and funded status of these plans as of the fiscal years ended are as follows:

	 <u>November 1, 2024</u> (52 Weeks)		mber 3, 2023 3 Weeks)
Change in plan assets:			
Fair value of the plans' assets - beginning of year	\$ 50,685	\$	50,649
Actual return on the plans' assets	10,208		2,394
Benefits paid	(2,574)		(2,358)
Fair value of the plans' assets - end of year	\$ 58,319	\$	50,685
Change in benefit obligations:	 		
Benefit obligations - beginning of year	\$ 48,800	\$	50,098
Service cost	56		57
Interest cost	2,813		2,688
Actuarial gain (loss)	4,012		(1,686)
Benefits paid	(2,574)		(2,357)
Benefit obligations - end of year	 53,107		48,800
Funded status of the plans	5,212		1,885
Unrecognized net actuarial loss	4,103		7,216
Net amount recognized	\$ 9,315	\$	9,101

We perform an internal rate of return analysis when making the discount rate selection. The discount rates were based on FTSE Pension Discount Curve (formerly Citibank) as of November 1, 2024, and November 3, 2023, respectively.

The plans' assets are primarily invested in marketable equity securities, corporate and government debt securities, and the assets are administered by an investment management company. The plans' long-term return on assets is based on the weighted average of the plans' investment allocation as of the measurement date and the published historical returns for those types of asset categories, taking into consideration inflation rate forecasts. No expected employer contribution to the plans in fiscal year 2025 is planned.

For fiscal year 2024, our actuary used mortality tables from the Pri-2012 Total Dataset Mortality Table with MP-2021 Scaling. The expected rate of return on the plans' assets was 5.00% and 7.00% effective for fiscal years 2024 and 2023, respectively.

On May 22, 2024, we transitioned our pension plan assets held with Morgan Stanley Smith Barney LLC to align with our updated investment policy statement to shift away from equities to fixed income. This derisking strategy helps establish a basis for our investment results as well as helping to ensure that assets of the Plan are managed in accordance with the Employment Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 ("ERISA") and regulations pertaining thereto.

The actual and target allocation for the plans' assets are as follows:

		Target Asset			
Asset Class	2024	Allocation	2023	Allocation	
Large Cap Equities	9.3%	8.0%	21.7%	23.0%	
Mid Cap Equities	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	
Small Cap Equities	2.4%	2.0%	9.5%	9.0%	
International (equities only)	4.1%	5.0%	26.9%	27.0%	
Fixed Income	84.0%	83.0%	36.0%	37.0%	
Cash and other	0.2%	2.0%	5.9%	4.0%	
Total	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	

The fair value of our pension plans' assets as of November 1, 2024, and the level under which fair values were determined, using the hierarchy described in Note 1, is as follows:

	2024					
	Le	evel 1	Level 2	Level 3		Total
Total plan assets	\$	58,319	-	-	- \$	58,319

The fair value of our pension plans' assets as of November 3, 2023, and the level under which fair values were determined, using the hierarchy described in Note 1, is as follows:

		2023						
	L	evel 1	Level 2		Level 3	}		Total
Total plan assets	<u>\$</u>	50,685	_	_		_	<u>\$</u>	50,685

Expected payments for pension benefits are as follows:

Fiscal Years		nefits
2025	\$	3,439
2026	\$	3,529
2027	\$	3,619
2028	\$	3,669
2029	\$	3,700
2030-2034	\$	18,645

# **Executive Retirement Plans**

#### **Non-Qualified Deferred Compensation**

Effective January 1, 1991, we adopted a deferred compensation savings plan for certain key employees. Under this arrangement, selected employees contribute a portion of their annual compensation to the plan. We contribute an amount to each participant's account by computing an investment return equal to Moody's Average Seasoned Bond Rate plus 2%. Employees receive vested amounts upon death, termination, or attainment of retirement age. No benefit expense was recorded under this plan for fiscal years 2024 and 2023.

#### **Supplemental Executive Retirement Plan**

Retirement benefits otherwise available to certain key executives under the Primary Benefit Plan have been limited by the effects of the Tax Equity and Fiscal Responsibility Act of 1982 ("TEFRA") and the Tax Reform Act of 1986 ("TRA"). To offset the loss of retirement benefits associated with TEFRA and TRA, the Company has adopted a non-qualified "makeup" benefit plan (the "Supplemental Executive Retirement Plan"). Benefits will be provided under the Supplemental Executive Retirement Plan in an amount equal to 60% of each participant's final average earnings minus any pension benefits and primary insurance amounts available to them under Social Security. However, in all cases the benefits are capped at \$120,000 per year for Allan L. Bridgford. Benefits provided under this plan for William L. Bridgford and Raymond F. Lancy are calculated at 50% of final average earnings, capped at \$200,000 per year, without offsets for other pension or Social Security benefits.

Benefits payable related to these plans and included in the accompanying consolidated financial statements were \$5,046 and \$4,994 as of November 1, 2024, and November 3, 2023, respectively. The benefit payable is recorded as \$333 and \$249 under current liabilities and \$4,713 and \$4,745 under non-current liabilities as of November 1, 2024, and November 3, 2023, respectively. In connection with these arrangements, we are the beneficiary of life insurance policies on the lives of certain key employees and retirees. The aggregate cash surrender value of these policies, included in non-current assets, was \$14,032 and \$12,029 as of November 1, 2024, and November 3, 2023, respectively. The net periodic pension income was \$109 and \$1,057 for fiscal year 2024 and 2023, respectively, caused by the change in pension discount rate between years.

Expected payments for executive postretirement benefits are as follows:

Fiscal Years	Postro	ecutive etirement enefits
2025	\$	533
2026	\$	533
2027	\$	533
2028	\$	532
2029	\$	522
2030-2033	\$	2,581

# **Incentive Compensation Plan for Certain Key Executives**

We provide an incentive compensation plan for certain key executives, which is based upon our pretax income. The payment of these amounts is generally deferred over three or five-year periods. The total amount payable related to this arrangement was \$2,267 and \$3,848 as of November 1, 2024, and November 3, 2023, respectively. Future payments are approximately \$1,531, \$694, \$33 and \$9 for fiscal years 2025 through 2028, respectively.

# Postretirement Healthcare Benefits for Selected Executive Employees

We provide postretirement health care benefits for selected executive employees. Net periodic postretirement healthcare (benefit) cost is determined using assumptions as of the beginning of each fiscal year, except for the total actual benefit payments and the discount rate used to develop the net periodic postretirement benefit expense, which is determined at the end of the fiscal year.

Net periodic postretirement healthcare cost (benefit) consisted of the following:

	November 1, 202	<b>November 1, 2024</b>	
	(52 Weeks)		(53 Weeks)
Interest cost	\$	38	\$ 22
Amortization of actuarial gain		(12)	(17)
Service cost		8	4
Net periodic postretirement healthcare cost	<u>\$</u>	34	\$9

Weighted average assumptions for the fiscal years ended November 1, 2024, and November 3, 2023, are as follows:

	2024	2023
Discount rate	5.16%	5.96%
Medical trend rate next year	7.00%	7.50%
Ultimate trend rate	5.00%	5.00%
Year ultimate trend rate is achieved	2028	2028

The table below shows the estimated effect of a 1% increase in healthcare cost trend rate on the following:

	 2024	2023
Interest cost plus service cost	\$ 9	\$ 5
Accumulated postretirement healthcare obligation	\$ 156	\$ 106

The table below shows the estimated effect of a 1% decrease in healthcare cost trend rate on the following:

	2024	2023
Interest cost plus service cost	\$ (7)	\$ (4)
Accumulated postretirement healthcare obligation	\$ (122)	\$ (84)

The healthcare obligation and funded status of this plan as of the fiscal years ended are as follows:

	2	024	2023
Change in accumulated postretirement healthcare obligation:			
Healthcare obligation - beginning of year	\$	649	\$ 426
Interest cost		38	22
Service cost		9	3
Actuarial gain (loss)		180	230
Benefits paid		(34)	(32)
Healthcare obligation – end of year	\$	842	\$ 649
Funded status of the plans		842	649
Unrecognized net actuarial (loss) gain		(13)	33
Unrecognized amounts recorded in other comprehensive income		13	 (33)
Postretirement healthcare liability	\$	842	\$ 649

Expected payments for the postretirement benefits are as follows:

Fiscal Years	Postretireme Healthcare Ben	
2025	\$	38
2026 2027	\$	38
2027	\$	39
2028	\$	39
2029-2033	\$	191

# 401(K) Plan for Sales, Administrative, Supervisory and Certain Other Employees

During the fiscal year ended November 3, 2006, we implemented a qualified 401(K) retirement plan (the "401K Plan") for our sales, administrative, supervisory, and certain other employees. During fiscal years 2024 and 2023, we made total employer contributions to the 401K Plan in the amounts of \$783 and \$887, respectively.

## NOTE 4 - Income Taxes:

The (benefit on) provision for income taxes include the following:

	ber 1, 2024 Weeks)	November 3, 2023 (53 Weeks)		
Current:	 			
Federal	\$ (1,163)	\$	1,660	
State	1,196		(8)	
	 33		1,652	
Deferred:				
Federal	(1,222)		(530)	
State	(122)		(101)	
	(1,344)		(631)	
Total (benefit on) provision for income taxes	\$ (1,311)	\$	1,021	

The total tax benefit differs from the expected amount computed by applying the statutory federal income tax rate to income before income taxes as follows:

	Nov	ember 1, 2024	November 3, 2023			
	(52 Weeks)			(53 Weeks)		
(Benefit on) provision for federal income taxes at the applicable statutory rate	\$	(985)	\$	944		
Increase (decrease) in provision resulting from state income taxes, net of federal income tax						
benefit		(16)		(86)		
Non-taxable life insurance gain		(421)		(93)		
Other, net		111		256		
(Benefit on) provision for income taxes	\$	(1,311)	\$	1,021		

Deferred income taxes result from differences in the basis of assets and liabilities for tax and accounting purposes.

	November 1, 2024	November 3, 2023		
Receivables allowance	\$ 29	\$ 64		
Returns allowance	134	167		
Inventory packaging reserve	677	299		
Inventory overhead capitalization	314	571		
Employee benefits	790	726		
Other	218	(30)		
State taxes payable (receivable)	226	232		
Incentive compensation	595	824		
Pension and health care benefits	77	924		
Depreciation	(12,069)	(12,342)		
Net operating loss carry-forward and credits	1,721	322		
Right of use assets	(235)	-		
Valuation allowance established against state NOL	(99)	(99)		
Deferred income taxes, net	\$ (7,622)	\$ (8,342)		

Management is required to evaluate whether a valuation allowance should be established against its deferred tax assets based on the consideration of all available evidence using a "more likely than not" standard. Realization of deferred tax assets is dependent upon taxable income in prior carryback years, estimates of future taxable income, tax planning strategies, and reversals of existing taxable temporary differences.

As of November 1, 2024, the Company did not have any valuation allowance against its federal net deferred tax assets. Management reevaluated the need for a valuation allowance at the end of 2023 and determined that some of its California NOL may not be utilized. Therefore, a valuation allowance of \$99 has been retained for such portion of the California NOL.

As of November 1, 2024, the Company had net operating loss carryforwards of approximately \$5,000 for federal and \$12,800 for state purposes.

The state loss carryforwards will expire at various dates through 2040.

In July 2006, the FASB issued guidance to clarify the accounting for uncertainty in income taxes recognized in an enterprise's financial statements. This interpretation prescribed a recognition threshold and measurement attribute for the financial statement recognition and measurement of a tax position taken or expected to be taken in a tax return. The guidance also discussed derecognition, classification, interest and penalties, accounting in interim periods, disclosure, and transition. The cumulative effect, if any, of applying this guidance is to be reported as an adjustment to the opening balance of retained earnings in the year of adoption. The provisions of this guidance have been incorporated into ASC 740-10.

As of November 1, 2024, we have provided a liability of \$349 to unrecognized tax benefits related to various federal and state income tax matters. \$76 of this liability will reduce our effective income tax rate if the asset is recognized in future reporting periods. We have not identified any new unrecognized tax benefits.

As of November 3, 2023, we have provided a liability of \$331 to unrecognized tax benefits related to various federal and state income tax matters. None of this liability will reduce our effective income tax rate if the asset is recognized in future reporting periods.

A reconciliation of the beginning and ending amounts of unrecognized tax benefits is as follows:

	Novembe (52 W			ber 3, 2023 Weeks)
Balance at beginning of year	\$	331	\$	299
Additions based on tax positions related to the current year		-		16
Additions for tax positions of prior years		18		16
Balance at end of year	\$	349	<u>\$</u>	331

We recognize any future accrued interest and penalties related to unrecognized tax benefits in income tax expense. As of November 1, 2024, we had approximately \$61 in accrued interest and penalties which is included as a component of the \$349 unrecognized tax benefit noted above.

Our federal income tax returns are open to audit under the statute of limitations for the fiscal year ended October 29, 2021, through November 3, 2023.

We are subject to income tax in California and various other state taxing jurisdictions. Our state income tax returns are open to audit under the statute of limitations for the fiscal years ended October 30, 2020, through November 3, 2023.

We do not anticipate a significant change to the total amount of unrecognized tax benefits within the next 12 months.

# **NOTE 5** - *Line of Credit and Borrowing Agreements:*

The following table reflects major components of our revolving credit facility and borrowing agreements as of November 1, 2024, and November 3, 2023, respectively.

	Novemb	November 3, 2023		
Revolving credit facility	\$	-	\$	-
Equipment notes:				
3.68% note due 04/16/27, out of lockout 04/17/22		2,786		3,831
Total debt		2,786		3,831
Less current debt		(1,084)		(1,045)
Total long-term debt	\$	1,702	\$	2,786

## **Revolving Credit Facility**

On November 30, 2023, we entered into a fifth amendment to the credit agreement with Wells Fargo Bank, N.A. dated March 1, 2018, as amended, and also executed a revolving line of credit note pursuant to the amendment. The revolving line of credit note replaces the existing note that expired by its terms on November 30, 2023. Under the terms of this amendment and the revolving line of credit note, we may borrow up to \$7,500 from time to time up to November 30, 2024, at an interest rate equal to (a) the daily simple secured overnight financing rate plus 2.0%, or if unavailable, (b) the prime rate, in each case as determined by the bank. The line of credit has an unused commitment fee of 0.35% of the available loan amount, payable on a quarterly basis. Amounts may be repaid and reborrowed during the term of the note. Accrued interest is payable on the first day of each month and the outstanding principal balance and remaining interest are due and payable on November 30, 2024. Refer to Subsequent Events under Note 1 to the Consolidated Financial Statements included within this Report for further information.

# **Equipment Notes Payable**

On December 26, 2018, we entered into a master collateral loan and security agreement with Wells Fargo Bank, N.A. (the "Original Wells Fargo Loan Agreement") for up to \$15,000 in equipment financing which was amended and expanded as detailed below. We subsequently entered into additional master collateral loan and security agreements with Wells Fargo Bank, N.A. on each of April 18, 2019, December 19, 2019, March 5, 2020, and April 17, 2020 (the Original Wells Fargo Loan Agreement and the subsequent agreements collectively referred to as the "Wells Fargo Loan Agreements"). Pursuant to the Wells Fargo Loan Agreements, we owe the amounts as stated in the table above.

#### Loan Covenants

The Wells Fargo Loan Agreements and the credit agreement contain various affirmative and negative covenants that limit the use of funds and define other provisions of the loans. The main financial covenants are listed below:

- Total Liabilities divided by Tangible Net Worth not greater than 2.0 to 1.0 at each fiscal quarter end,
- Quick Ratio not less than 1.25 to 1.0 at each fiscal quarter end,
- Fixed Charge Coverage Ratio not less than 1.25 to 1.0 at the end of each fiscal quarter end.

As of November 1, 2024, the Company was in compliance with all covenants under the Wells Fargo Loan Agreements and the credit agreement.

Aggregate contractual maturities of debt in future fiscal years are as follows as of November 1, 2024.

Fiscal Years	Debt Payable
2025	\$ 1,084
2026	\$ 1,124
2027	\$ 578

#### **NOTE 6-** Contingencies and Commitments:

The Company leases warehouse and/or office facilities throughout the United States through month-to-month rental agreements. In the case of month-to-month lease or rental agreements with terms of 12 months or less, the Company made an accounting policy election to not recognize lease assets and liabilities and record them on a straight-line basis over the lease term. For further information regarding our lease accounting policy, please refer to Note 1 - The Company and Summary of Significant Accounting Policies – Leases.

The Company leased three long-haul trucks received during fiscal year 2019. The six-year leases for these trucks would have expired in fiscal year 2025. We returned one long-haul truck on June 22, 2023, for a loss of \$12 and returned two long-haul trucks on July 11, 2024, for a loss of \$90, in an effort to reduce the overall cost of delivering products. All long-haul trucks under this lease agreement have been returned as of November 1, 2024. The Company leased one box truck for a market value of \$27 on April 17, 2023, and that lease term is two years.

The Company leased one refrigerated truck received on May 10, 2024, for a net present value of \$166. The seven-year lease for this truck will expire in fiscal year 2031. Amortization of equipment as a finance lease was \$44 during the fifty-two weeks ended November 1, 2024.

The Company performed a detailed analysis and determined that the only indications of a long-term lease in addition to transportation leases for long-haul trucks were the warehouse leases with Hogshed Ventures, LLC and Racine Partners 4333 LLC.

The Company's five-year term lease with Racine Partners 4333 LLC, was effective June 1, 2022. A ROU asset of \$2,383 and corresponding liability for warehouse storage space of \$2,450 as of November 1, 2024, was recorded for Racine Partners 4333 LLC for 43rd Street in Chicago, Illinois. This lease does not provide an implicit rate and we estimated our incremental interest rate to be approximately 3.68%. We used our estimated incremental borrowing rate and other information available at the lease commencement date in determining the present value of the lease payments.

We leased warehouse storage space from Hogshed Ventures, LLC for 40th Street in Chicago, Illinois, during fiscal year 2024. We leased this space under a non-cancellable operating lease. This lease terminated on June 30, 2024 and was not renewed. There is no further lease liability recorded as of November 1, 2024.

We, as lessor, leased a parking lot in Anaheim, California with a five-year term effective May 29, 2024, to a tenant. Both current and non-current receivables less executory costs including broker's commissions, were recorded in current and non-current liabilities in the amount of \$161 and \$722, as of November 1, 2024. Unearned revenue was also recorded in the amount of \$167 and \$693, respectively, in the consolidated balance sheet as of November 1, 2024. This lease does not provide an implicit rate, and we estimated our incremental interest rate to be approximately 7.34%. We used our estimated incremental borrowing rate and other information available at the lease commencement date in determining the present value of the lease payments. Legal ownership does not transfer at the end of the lease. We retain ownership of the parking lot. There is no net book value of the underlying asset.

The following is a schedule by years of future minimum lease payments for transportation leases and ROU assets:

Fiscal Year	Financing Obligations
2025	\$ 1,128
2026	1,206
2027	748
2028	253
Later Years	181
Total minimum lease payments(a)	\$ 3,516
Less: Amount representing executory costs	40
Less: Amount representing interest(b)	-
Present value of future minimum lease payments(c)	\$ 3,556

(a) Minimum payments exclude contingent rentals based on actual mileage and adjustments of rental payments based on the Consumer Price Index.

(b) Amount necessary to reduce net minimum lease payments to present value calculated at the Company's incremental borrowing rate at the inception of the leases.

(c) Reflected in Note 2, as current and noncurrent obligations under capital leases of \$62 and \$162, respectively, and ROU assets of \$1,097 and \$2,235, respectively.

We purchase large quantities of pork, beef, and flour. These ingredients are generally available from a number of different suppliers although the availability of these ingredients is subject to seasonal variation. We build ingredient inventories to take advantage of downward trends in seasonal prices or anticipated supply limitations.

We purchase bulk flour under short-term fixed price contracts at current market prices. The contracts are usually effective for and settle within three months or less at a fixed price and quantity. We monitor and manage our ingredient costs to help negate volatile daily swings in market prices when possible. We do not participate in the commodity futures market or hedging to limit commodity exposure.

The Company is involved in various claims and legal actions arising in the ordinary course of business. In the opinion of management, the ultimate disposition of these matters is not expected to have a material adverse effect on the Company's consolidated financial position or results of operations.

#### **NOTE 7 - Segment Information:**

We have two reportable operating segments, Frozen Food Products (the processing and distribution of frozen products) and Snack Food Products (the processing and distribution of meat and other convenience foods).

We evaluate each segment's performance based on revenues and operating income. Selling, general and administrative expenses include corporate accounting, information systems, human resources and marketing management at the corporate level. These activities are allocated to each operating segment based on revenues and/or actual usage.

The following segment information is for the fiscal years ended November 1, 2024 (52 weeks) and November 3, 2023 (53 weeks):

Segment Information								
2024		zen Food roducts		ack Food Products		Other		Totals
Net sales	\$	58,408	\$	165,237	\$	-	\$	223,645
Cost of products sold		42,404		124,913		-		167,317
Gross margin		16,004		40,324		-		56,328
SG&A		14,202		48,247		-		62,449
Loss on sale of property, plant, and equipment		96		50				146
Operating income (loss)	\$	1,706	\$	(7,973)	\$		\$	(6,267)
Total assets	\$	16,972	\$	112,471	\$	27,911	\$	157,354
Additions to PP&E	\$	891	\$	3,011	\$	-	\$	3,902

Segment Information							
2023		zen Food oducts		ack Food Products		Other	Totals
Net sales	\$	57,638	\$	193,998	\$	-	\$ 251,636
Cost of products sold		43,180		138,099			181,279
Gross margin		14,458		55,899		-	70,357
SG&A		14,443		51,124		-	65,567
Loss on sale of property, plant, and equipment		75		86		-	 161
Operating (loss) income	\$	(60)	\$	4,689	\$		\$ 4,629
Total assets	\$	15,241	\$	121,725	\$	30,032	\$ 166,998
Additions to PP&E	\$	493	\$	2,110	\$	-	\$ 2,603

The following information further disaggregates our sales to customers by major distribution channel and customer type for the fiscal years ended November 1, 2024, and November 3, 2023, respectively.

# 2024

Distribution Channel	Retail (a)		Foodservice (b)		Totals	
Direct store delivery	\$	110,361	\$	-	\$	110,361
Direct customer warehouse		54,876		-		54,876
Total Snack Food Products		165,237		-		165,237
Distributors		7,658		50,750		58,408
Total Frozen Food Products		7,658		50,750		58,408
Total Net Sales	<u>\$</u>	172,895	<u>\$</u>	50,750	\$	223,645

(a) Includes sales to food retailers, such as grocery retailers, warehouse club stores, and internet-based retailers.

(b) Includes sales to foodservice distributors, restaurant operators, hotel chains and noncommercial foodservice establishments such as schools, convenience stores, healthcare facilities and the military.

## 2023

Distribution Channel	Retail (a)		Foodservice (b)		Totals	
Direct store delivery	\$	130,497	\$	-	\$	130,497
Direct customer warehouse		63,501		-		63,501
Total Snack Food Products		193,998		-		193,998
Distributors		8,397		49,241		57,638
Total Frozen Food Products		8,397		49,241		57,638
Total Net Sales	\$	202,395	\$	49,241	\$	251,636

(a) Includes sales to food retailers, such as grocery retailers, warehouse club stores, and internet-based retailers.

(b) Includes sales to foodservice distributors, restaurant operators, hotel chains and noncommercial foodservice establishments such as schools, convenience stores, healthcare facilities and the military.

# **NOTE 8 - Unaudited Interim Financial Information:**

Not applicable for a smaller reporting company.

#### **Bridgford Foods Corporation**

#### **Insider Trading Policy**

(January 21, 2025)

#### 1. PURPOSE

The purchase or sale of securities while possessing material nonpublic ("*inside*") information or the disclosure of inside information ("*tipping*") to others who may trade in such securities is sometimes referred to as "*insider trading*" and is prohibited by federal and state securities laws. Illegal insider trading occurs when a person buys or sells a security when in possession of inside information in violation of a duty of trust or confidence. As an essential part of your work, you may have or obtain access to inside information about Bridgford Foods Corporation (including information about other companies with which the Company does, or may do, business such as customers, suppliers or partners). When we refer in this Policy to "*Bridgford*" or the "*Company*," we are referring to Bridgford Foods Corporation and any of its current or future subsidiaries.

Bridgford has adopted this Insider Trading Policy ("*Policy*") to assist the Company in preventing illegal insider trading and to avoid even the appearance of improper conduct on the part of any director, officer, employee or contractor of the Company. This Policy is designed to protect and further Bridgford's reputation for integrity and ethical conduct. However, the ultimate responsibility for complying with the securities laws, adhering to this Policy and avoiding improper transactions rests with you. It is imperative that you use your best judgment and that you ask questions where you are uncertain how to handle a particular situation.

#### 2. PENALTIES FOR INSIDER TRADING

The penalties for violating the insider trading laws are substantial and include imprisonment, disgorgement of profits gained or losses avoided, and substantial civil and criminal fines. As of the effective date of this Policy, an insider trading violation carries a maximum prison sentence of 20 years. Criminal fines can reach up to \$5.0 million for individuals and \$25.0 million for entities, and civil sanctions may include an injunction, industry bar, disgorgement and penalties of up to three times the profit gained or loss avoided. Individuals and entities considered to be "control persons" who knew or recklessly disregarded the fact that a "controlled person" was likely to engage in insider trading also may be civilly liable. As of the effective date of this Policy the civil liability of "control persons" can be the greater of \$1.0 million, or three times the amount of the profit gained or loss avoided. For this purpose, a "control person" is an entity or person who directly or indirectly controls another person, and could include the Company, its directors and officers.

Under some circumstances, individuals who trade on inside information may also be subjected to private civil lawsuits. Moreover, as the inside information of Bridgford is the property of the Company, trading on or tipping Bridgford's confidential information could result in serious employment sanctions, up to and including termination of employment.

You should be aware that the Securities and Exchange Commission ("SEC"), the Financial Industry Regulatory Authority ("FINRA") and the Nasdaq Stock Market use sophisticated electronic surveillance techniques to investigate and detect insider trading, and the SEC and the U.S. Department of Justice pursue insider trading violations vigorously. Cases involving trading through foreign accounts, trading by family members and friends, and trading involving only a small number of shares have been successfully prosecuted.

There is <u>no</u> exception from insider trading prohibitions for small transactions or transactions that may seem necessary or justifiable for independent reasons, such as the need to raise money for an emergency expenditure.

# 3. SCOPE AND APPLICABILITY

- **3.1.** Covered Persons. This Policy applies to each member of the Board of Directors (the "*Board*") and to all officers, employees and, where appropriate in the Company's determination, contractors, within all of Bridgford's operations. All persons covered by this Policy are referred to as "*Covered Persons.*" This Policy also applies to family members and domestic partners who share a household with a Covered Person.
- 3.2. Restricted Persons. <u>Sections 8</u> through <u>10</u> of this Policy impose certain <u>additional</u> obligations and restrictions on individuals who are designated as "*Restricted Persons*." Restricted Persons include:
  - 3.2.1. Members of the Board;
  - 3.2.2. Executive Officers;

- 3.2.3. Employees with the title of "Vice President" or above;
- 3.2.4. Members of the Accounting, Finance, and Information Technology Departments with the title of "Director" or above;
- 3.2.5. Designated positions or individual employees as determined by the President or the Chief Financial Officer. Any such designated persons will be promptly notified that they are subject to this Policy;
- 3.2.6. Family members and domestic partners who share a household with any of the persons listed above; and
- 3.2.7. Any other individual whom the Compliance Officer (as defined below) may designate as a "*Restricted Person*" because they have, or may have, access to inside information concerning the Company (as determined in the sole discretion of the Compliance Officer).

Restricted Persons can be officers, directors, employees or contractors of the Company (or their respective family members or domestic partners). Any person designated as a Restricted Person by title or express designation as set forth above (i) must comply with this Policy (as a Restricted Person and as a Covered Person) until notified otherwise in writing by the Compliance Officer, and (ii) in the event of termination or separation from the Company, shall continue to be designated by the Company as a Restricted Person until such time as such person is no longer in possession of inside information.

3.3. Covered Securities and Transactions. Subject to the specific exceptions set forth in Section 5.2, this Policy applies to all transactions in the Company's securities, including common stock and any other type of securities that are convertible into, exchangeable for or exercisable for common stock, such as preferred stock, convertible debt securities, options, warrants, and other derivative securities. This Policy applies to sales, purchases, gifts, exchanges, pledges, options, hedges, puts, calls and short sales, and any other transaction that purports to transfer the economic consequences of ownership.

This Policy applies to all investment decisions you make regarding transactions in Company securities. For example, if you have the power to direct the purchase or sale of Company securities by virtue of your position as a director or officer of a corporation or non-profit organization, as a general partner of a partnership, as a managing member of a limited liability company ("*LLC*"), as a trustee of a trust, or as executor of an estate, then all transactions in Company securities made on behalf of any such corporation, organization, partnership, LLC, trust or estate are covered by this Policy.

This Policy also applies to trading in securities of another company if you learn inside information about that company in the course of, or as a result of, your employment by or association with Bridgford (including customers, suppliers, partners, licensors and other third-parties).

You are expected to comply with this Policy until such time as you no longer provide service to the Company **and** you no longer possess any inside information subject to this Policy. In addition, if you are subject to a trading blackout under this Policy at the time you cease to provide service to the Company, you are expected to abide by the applicable trading restrictions until at least the end of the relevant blackout period.

There may be instances where you suffer financial harm or other hardship or are otherwise required to forego a planned transaction because of the restrictions imposed by this Policy. In general, a personal financial emergency or other personal circumstances are not mitigating factors under securities laws and will not excuse a failure to comply with this Policy. Please refer to <u>Section 9.3</u> of this Policy for additional information about the circumstances under which you may be able to sell Company securities in connection with a financial hardship.

3.4. **Provision of the Policy.** This Policy will be provided or made available to all directors, officers, employees and, where appropriate in the Company's determination, contractors, upon its adoption by the Company, and to all new directors, officers, employees and, where appropriate in the Company's determination, contractors, at the commencement of their employment by or association with the Company. The Policy will be posted under the "Governance" tab of the Company's website at <u>www.bridgford.com</u>.

# 4. **DEFINITIONS**

4.1. Insider Trading. In general, "insider trading" occurs when a person purchases or sells a security while in possession of inside information in breach of a duty of trust or confidence owed directly or indirectly to the issuer of the security, the issuer's stockholders or the source of the information. "Inside information" is information which is considered both "material" and "nonpublic." Insider trading is a crime, may subject you to serious financial penalties and termination of employment, and is strictly prohibited by this Policy. Please refer to Section 2 of this Policy for additional information.

4.2. **Materiality.** A fact is considered "*material*" if (i) there is a substantial likelihood that a reasonable investor would consider it important in making a decision to buy, hold or sell securities, or (ii) disclosure of the information would be expected to significantly alter the total mix of the information in the marketplace about the issuer of the security.

Material information can reflect either good or bad news and is not limited to financial information. While it is impossible to list all types of information that might be deemed "*material*" under particular circumstances, information dealing with the following subjects affecting the Company would generally be considered material:

- 4.2.1. projections of future revenues, expenses, margins, earnings, losses or liquidity position;
- 4.2.2. significant changes to the Company's strategic plans;
- 4.2.3. anticipated or actual Company financial results for a quarter and/or year;
- 4.2.4. restatements of financial results, or material impairments, write-offs or restructurings;
- 4.2.5. commercial launch of significant new products by the Company;
- 4.2.6. significant changes in the Company's prospects, pricing or cost structure;
- 4.2.7. news of a pending or proposed merger, acquisition, joint venture or similar transaction;
- 4.2.8. news of a significant sale, disposition, divestiture, or write-down of assets;
- 4.2.9. news of the execution or termination of significant contracts or other commercial arrangements (including with customers, distributors, payors, suppliers, partners, licensors or other third-parties);
- 4.2.10. changes in dividend policies or amounts, recapitalizations or stock splits;
- 4.2.11. offerings of securities or other financing developments;
- 4.2.12. significant repurchases of securities;
- 4.2.13. extraordinary borrowings;
- 4.2.14. changes or proposed changes in senior management or the Board, or other major personnel changes, significant labor disputes or negotiations;
- 4.2.15. regulatory developments significantly impacting the Company, or its business or products;
- 4.2.16. major developments or significant changes in research and development or intellectual property;
- 4.2.17. significant changes or developments in products, supplies or inventory, including significant product recalls, defects or product returns;
- 4.2.18. the interruption of production or other aspects of the Company's business as a result of an accident, fire, or natural disaster;
- 4.2.19. cybersecurity risks and incidents, including vulnerabilities and breaches; and
- 4.2.20. news regarding significant litigation or government investigations, including any change in status or the resolution thereof.

Federal and other investigators will scrutinize a questionable trade after the fact with the benefit of hindsight, so when in doubt you should always err on the side of deciding that the information is material and not trade.

- 4.3. Nonpublic Information. Information is "*nonpublic*" if it has not been widely disclosed to the general public through major newswire services, national news services, financial news services, filings with the SEC, or other method that has been determined by the SEC to be compliant with Regulation FD. For purposes of this Policy, information will be considered public (i.e., no longer "*nonpublic*") after the close of trading on the second full trading day following the Company's public release of the information.
- **4.4. Tipping.** "*Tipping*" is the disclosure of material nonpublic information concerning the Company or its securities to an outside person. Providing insider information to anyone who thereafter trades on the basis of that information may subject both you (the "*tipper*") and the other person (the "*tippee*") to insider trading liability.

# 5. PROHIBITED ACTIVITIES

- 5.1. Prohibitions. Except for the limited exceptions described below, the following shall apply to all transactions in Company securities:
  - 5.1.1. No Covered Person may purchase, sell, transfer or effectuate any other transaction in Company securities while in possession of inside information concerning the Company or its securities. This prohibition includes sales of shares received upon exercise of stock options or warrants, upon vesting of restricted stock, or upon settlement of restricted stock units.
  - 5.1.2. No Covered Person may "*tip*" or disclose inside information concerning the Company or its securities to any outside person (including family members, affiliates, analysts, investors, members of the investment community and news media). Should a Covered Person inadvertently disclose such information to an outside person, the Covered Person must promptly inform the Compliance Officer (or, in the absence of the Compliance Officer, the President) regarding this disclosure. In that event, the Company will either take steps necessary to (i) preserve the confidentiality of the information, including requiring the outside person to agree in writing to comply with the terms of this Policy and/or sign a confidentiality agreement, or (ii) disclose the information publicly in accordance with the requirements of Regulation FD.
  - 5.1.3. No Covered Person may purchase Company securities on margin, hold Company securities in a margin account, or otherwise pledge Company securities as collateral for a loan because, in the event of a margin call or default on the loan, the broker or lender could sell the shares at a time when the Covered Person is in possession of inside information, resulting in liability for insider trading. The Compliance Officer may make exceptions to this prohibition on a case-by-case basis.
  - 5.1.4. Short-term and speculative trading in Company securities, as well as hedging and other derivative transactions involving Company securities, can create the appearance of impropriety and may become the subject of an SEC or FINRA investigation. These types of transactions can also result in inadvertent violations of insider trading laws and/or liability for "*short-swing*" profits under Section 16(b) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 ("*Exchange Act*"). Therefore, it is the Company's policy to prohibit the following activities, even if you are not in possession of inside information:
    - 5.1.4.1. No Covered Person may trade in any interest or position relating to the future price of Company securities, such as put or call options, enter into any "*short sale*" of Company securities, or enter into any other derivative securities relating to Company securities.
    - 5.1.4.2. No Covered Person may hedge the value of Company securities. A "*hedge*" is a transaction designed to offset or reduce the risk of a decline in the market value of an equity security, and can include, but is not limited to, prepaid variable forward contracts, equity swaps, collars and exchange funds.
    - 5.1.4.3. No Covered Person may trade in securities of the Company on an active basis, including short-term speculation.
  - 5.1.5. No Covered Person may trade in securities of another company if the Covered Person is in possession of inside information about that other company which the Covered Person learned in the course of, or as a result of, his or her employment by or association with Bridgford.
  - 5.1.6. No Covered Person shall make any information about the Company publicly available, including by posting information about the Company on any Internet message board or social media site, except to the extent specifically authorized to do so.

# 5.2. Exceptions to Prohibited Activities. Prohibitions in trading securities under this Policy do not include:

- 5.2.1. The acceptance or purchase of stock options, restricted stock, restricted stock units or other equity awards issued or offered by the Company, and the vesting, cancellation or forfeiture of stock options, restricted stock, restricted stock units or other equity awards in accordance with applicable plans and agreements.
- 5.2.2. The exercise of vested stock options or warrants, either on a "*cash for stock*" or "*stock for stock*" basis, where no Company stock is sold (by the Covered Person, the Company or otherwise) to fund the option or warrant exercise. However, while vested stock options and warrants are not prevented from being exercised under this Policy, the sale of any stock acquired upon such exercise is subject to this Policy.
- 5.2.3. The receipt of Company stock upon vesting of restricted stock or settlement of restricted stock units, as well as the withholding of Company stock by the Company in payment of tax obligations, provided that no Company stock is sold (by the Covered Person, the Company or otherwise) in connection with the payment of tax obligations.
- 5.2.4. In the event the Company has adopted an employee stock purchase plan ("*ESPP*"), elections with respect to participation in the ESPP or to purchases of Company stock under the ESPP, provided that the sale of any stock acquired through the ESPP is subject to this Policy.

- 5.2.5. Company securities purchased or sold under a Rule 10b5-1 Trading Plan ("*Trading Plan*") that has been approved in advance by the Compliance Officer (see <u>Sections 8</u> and <u>10</u> of this Policy).
- 5.2.6. Transfers of Company stock by a Covered Person into a trust for which the Covered Person is a trustee, or from the trust back into the name of the Covered Person.
- 5.2.7. Transfers of Company securities by will or pursuant to the laws of descent and distribution.
- 5.2.8. Bona fide gifts of Company securities following receipt of written approval by the Compliance Officer (provided that the Compliance Officer shall retain the discretion to require the recipient to certify that it will comply with the terms of this Policy as a "Covered Person").
- 5.2.9. Bona fide charitable donations to an organization that has obtained 501(c)(3) tax exempt status under the Internal Revenue Code following receipt of written approval by the Compliance Officer (provided that the Compliance Officer shall retain the discretion to require the organization to certify that it will comply with the terms of this Policy as a "Covered Person").
- 5.2.10. Private securities transactions not expressly prohibited under <u>Section 5.1</u> of this Policy between a Covered Person and a sophisticated party provided that (i) if it is proposed by the Covered Person that inside information is to be provided to the sophisticated party, any such information shall only be provided by the Company in the Company's sole discretion, and then, if so disclosed, only after the party has entered into a non-disclosure agreement with the Company in form and substance satisfactory to the Company, and (ii) the party agrees to any restrictions under the federal securities laws that the Company may impose on the party's ability to effect transactions in any Company securities purchased by the party.
- 5.2.11. Purchases and sales of mutual funds, exchange traded funds or other similar funds or investment vehicles that invest in securities of the Company and with respect to which the Covered Person is a passive investor and has no rights with respect to the voting or disposition of any Company securities, and purchases and sales of Company securities by any such entity.

# 6. COMPANY COMPLIANCE OFFICER

The Board has delegated the Chief Financial Officer the responsibility of serving as the compliance officer for purposes of this Policy (the "*Compliance Officer*") with all attendant rights and obligations. The Board may from time to time change the Compliance Officer.

The duties and responsibilities of the Compliance Officer include the following:

- 6.1. Administering and interpreting this Policy and monitoring and enforcing compliance with all of its provisions and procedures.
- 6.2. Responding to all inquiries relating to this Policy and its procedures.
- 6.3. Designating and announcing special trading blackout periods during which trading in Company securities is prohibited by specific persons (see <u>Section 9</u> of this Policy).
- 6.4. Recommending revisions of this Policy (with the assistance of outside legal counsel as necessary) to reflect changes in applicable laws, regulations, stock exchange listing standards or governance practices, provided that all changes to this Policy must be approved by the Board.
- 6.5. Annually providing or otherwise making available copies of this Policy to all Covered Persons and overseeing periodic training related to this Policy.
- 6.6. Ensuring the maintenance of records required by the provisions of this Policy.
- 6.7. Maintaining the list of Restricted Persons and updating it periodically as necessary to reflect additions or deletions.
- 6.8. Such other duties and responsibilities as are consistent with the terms of this Policy.

Any questions arising under this Policy, including questions relating to whether information constitutes inside information, or whether a specific transaction is covered by this Policy, should be directed to the Compliance Officer by email to <u>compliance@bridgford.com</u>.

In the event that the Compliance Officer is not available, the President may perform the duties of the Compliance Officer hereunder. In addition, the Compliance Officer may designate one or more individuals to perform the Compliance Officer's duties (which may include, but are not required to be limited to, the President).

The determinations of the Compliance Officer (or any designated individual, as applicable) under this Policy are final.

# 7. CONFIDENTIALITY OF INFORMATION RELATING TO THE COMPANY

- 7.1. Access to Information. Risk of insider trading violations by individuals employed by or contracted with the Company can be substantially limited by restricting the pool of individuals with access to inside information to the greatest extent possible. Access to inside information about the Company should be limited to officers, directors, employees and contractors of the Company on a need-to-know basis. In addition, such information should not be communicated to anyone outside of the Company, unless such person has signed an appropriate non-disclosure agreement prior to dissemination of the information or is otherwise subject to obligations of confidentiality to the Company. When communication of inside information about the Company becomes necessary, all directors, employees, and contractors must take care to emphasize the need for confidential treatment of such information and adherence to the Company's policies with regard to confidential information.
- 7.2. **Disclosure of Information.** Inside Company information is the property of Bridgford and the confidentiality of this information must be strictly maintained within the Company. Only the Company's executive officers, as such are determined from time to time by the Board, or individuals delegated by such officers, are authorized to disclose inside information about the Company to the public, members of the investment community or stockholders, unless one of these officers has expressly authorized disclosure of such information by another employee in advance. All inquiries regarding the Company should be directed to the President or the Chief Financial Officer and no other comment should be provided.

# 8. PRE-CLEARANCE REQUIRED FOR TRADING BY RESTRICTED PERSONS AND FOR TRADING PLANS ENTERED INTO BY COVERED PERSONS

All Restricted Persons must pre-clear all transactions in Company securities as provided below:

- 8.1. The Restricted Person proposing to effectuate a trade or other transaction in Company securities must notify the Compliance Officer in writing of the proposed transaction prior to the proposed transaction date, in accordance with the instructions provided on <u>Exhibit A</u> (or as may otherwise be approved by the Compliance Officer and communicated to the Restricted Persons from time to time).
- 8.2. The Compliance Officer must approve the proposed trade or other transaction in writing. If the proposed transaction is not completed within five trading days after the Restricted Person has received pre-clearance (or fewer trading days, if so designated as a condition to receiving clearance, or if the Restricted Person subsequently acquires inside information), pre-clearance for the transaction (or any unfilled portion) must be re-requested since circumstances may have changed over that time period.
- 8.3. The Compliance Officer's decision with respect to the pre-clearance of a particular trade or other transaction, whether approved or denied, shall be final and shall be kept confidential by the requestor.
- All Covered Persons must pre-clear any Trading Plan as provided below:
- 8.4. Any Covered Person who wishes to implement a Trading Plan must first pre-clear the Trading Plan, and any renewals, amendments or modifications of the Trading Plan, with the Compliance Officer. To obtain pre-clearance, please email the Compliance Officer at <u>compliance@bridgford.com</u>.
- 8.5. The Compliance Officer must approve the Trading Plan, or any renewals, amendments or modifications, in writing. If the proposed Trading Plan is not entered into, renewed, amended or modified within five trading days after the Covered Person has received preclearance (or fewer trading days, if so designated as a condition to receiving clearance), pre-clearance for the Trading Plan must be rerequested since circumstances may have changed over that time period.

For additional information regarding the adoption of a Trading Plan and the applicable requirements and limitations, please refer to <u>Section 10</u> of this Policy.

# 9. BLACKOUT PERIODS

9.1. Regular Blackout Periods for Restricted Persons. As a matter of good corporate governance, the Company institutes trading blackout periods during predetermined time periods. Restricted Persons may not trade or effectuate any other transactions in Company securities during the period that begins with the day that is the fifteenth calendar day before the end of the fiscal quarter (or the thirtieth day before the end of a fiscal year, as applicable) and continues until the close of trading on the second full trading day after the Company's public release of quarterly or annual financial results. Trades or other transactions made pursuant to an approved Trading Plan (but not the adoption, renewal, amendment, modification or termination of a Trading Plan; see <u>Section 10</u> of this Policy) and pursuant to a Hardship Trading Exemption (see <u>Section 9.3</u> of this Policy) are exempted from this restriction.

- 9.2. Special Blackout Periods. From time to time, the Compliance Officer may determine that trading or transacting in Company securities is inappropriate during an otherwise open trading window due to the existence, or potential existence, of inside information. Accordingly, the Compliance Officer may prohibit trading or other transactions at any time by announcing a special blackout period and the scope of impacted personnel (which may include designated Restricted Persons and/or Covered Persons). The Compliance Officer will provide written notice of any modification of the trading blackout policy or any additional prohibition on trading during the period when trading or other transactions are otherwise permitted under this Policy. The existence of a special blackout period should be considered confidential information and any Covered Person to whom the special blackout period applies shall be prohibited from communicating the existence of the special blackout period to anyone to whom the special blackout period does not apply.
- 9.3. Hardship Trading Exemption. The Compliance Officer may, on a case-by-case basis, authorize trading or transactions in Company securities during a trading blackout period due to financial or other hardship. Any Covered Person wanting to rely on this exception must first notify the Compliance Officer in writing of the circumstance of the hardship and the amount and nature of the proposed trade or transaction. Such person will also be required to certify to the Compliance Officer in writing no earlier than two trading days prior to the proposed trade or transaction that they are not in possession of inside information concerning the Company or its securities. Upon authorization from the Compliance Officer, the person may trade or transact, although such person will be responsible for ensuring that any such trade or transaction complies in all other respects with this Policy.
- 9.4. No Safe Harbors. There are no unconditional "safe harbors" for trades or transactions made at particular times, and all persons subject to this Policy must exercise good judgment at all times. Even when a regular blackout period is not in effect, you may be prohibited from engaging in any transactions involving the Company's securities because you possess inside information concerning the Company or its securities, are subject to a special blackout period, or are otherwise restricted under this Policy.

## 10. RULE 10B5-1 TRADING PLANS

A Rule 10b5-1 Trading Plan is a contract to purchase, sell or otherwise transact securities according to a written instruction or plan established prior to effecting any transactions in the securities. In general, a Trading Plan must set forth a non-discretionary trading method by leaving the amount of securities to be purchased, sold or otherwise transacted and the price and date for each event to either (i) a written specification, (ii) a written formula, or (iii) a third party.

While adoption of a Trading Plan does not obviate the requirement to otherwise comply with insider trading laws, it does provide an affirmative defense to a claim that the insider acted on the basis of material, nonpublic information, even if an individual was aware of such information at the time of the transaction.

To be adopted in good faith, the Trading Plan must be adopted, renewed, amended or modified when the individual has no knowledge of inside information, and the plan must not be made as part of a scheme to fraudulently evade insider trading prohibitions.

In addition to obtaining pre-clearance of a Trading Plan (see <u>Section 8</u> of this Policy), a Trading Plan must meet the following requirements and specifications:

- 10.1.No Adoption During Blackout Period. A Trading Plan involving the Company's securities may not be adopted, renewed, amended or modified by any Covered Person during any blackout period, even if the individual is not then in possession of any inside information.
- 10.2.90-Day Cooling-Off Period for Directors and Officers: A Trading Plan adopted by any director or officer may not commence until <u>both</u> (i) the passage of at least 90 calendar days after the adoption, renewal, amendment, or modification of the Trading Plan, <u>and</u> (ii) the passage of at least two business days following the disclosure of the Company's financial results in a Form 10-Q or Form 10-K for the fiscal quarter in which the Trading Plan was adopted, renewed, amended or modified (but in any event, the required cooling-off period is subject to a maximum of 120 calendar days after adoption, renewal, amendment or modification of the Trading Plan).
- 10.3. Cooling-Off Period for Covered Persons Who are Not Directors and Officers: The Trading Plan of a Covered Person who is not a director or officer may not commence until the passage of at least 30 calendar days following the adoption, renewal, amendment or modification of the Trading Plan.
- 10.4. **Director and Officer Certifications:** Any Trading Plan adopted by a director or officer must include a representation certifying that, at the time of the adoption, renewal, amendment or modification, the director or officer is: (i) not aware of material, nonpublic information about the Company or its securities; and (ii) adopting, renewing, amending or modifying the Trading Plan in good faith and not as part of a plan or scheme to evade the prohibitions of Rule 10b5-1.

10.5. Prohibition on Multiple Overlapping Trading Plans: No multiple overlapping Trading Plans will be permitted unless qualifying for one of the following exceptions and pre-cleared by the Compliance Officer (see Section 8 of this Policy): (i) a later-commencing Trading Plan that is not authorized to begin until after all trades under the earlier-commencing Trading Plan are completed or expired; or (ii) an outstanding or additional Trading Plan qualifies as an eligible sell-to-cover transaction (i.e., a sale of securities for the purpose of generating funds to cover the withholding taxes associated with equity vesting and elections under 401(K) plans or employee stock purchase plans that may be structured as Trading Plans).

Any amendments or modifications to a Trading Plan must meet each of the requirements of a new Trading Plan as described above. In addition, while this Policy does not limit the ability of a Covered Person to terminate a previously adopted Trading Plan, any new Trading Plan adopted following the termination of a previously adopted Trading Plan must meet each of the requirements of a new Trading Plan as described above.

Transactions effected under an approved Trading Plan will not require further pre-clearance at the time of the transaction and will typically not be subject to future trading blackout periods (regular or special) that may be in effect under this Policy at the time of the transaction (although the Compliance Officer retains the discretion to terminate a Trading Plan during any blackout period).

The Compliance Officer may, from time to time, institute additional parameters and requirements regarding Trading Plans.

Purchases, sales and other transactions made pursuant to a Trading Plan must still comply with all other applicable reporting requirements under federal and state securities laws, including filings pursuant to Section 16 of the Exchange Act.

SEC rules require the Company to make certain disclosures concerning the Trading Plans adopted, renewed, amended, modified or terminated by its officers and directors. Accordingly, you must timely provide such information regarding your Trading Plan, if any, to the Compliance Officer.

# EXHIBIT A

# TRADING PRE-CLEARANCE INSTRUCTIONS FOR RESTRICTED PERSONS

Pre-clearance of any transactions in Company securities by Restricted Persons is mandatory. If you have questions about the process by which pre-clearance must be obtained, please email the Company's Compliance Officer at <a href="mailto:compliance@bridgford.com">compliance@bridgford.com</a>.

#### Instructions for Pre-Clearance of Purchase or Sale of Company Securities

To process your request to purchase or sell shares of the Company's stock on the open market, please send an email request to the Compliance Officer at the email address above with the completed form attached to this  $\underline{\text{Exhibit } A}$  (or such other form approved by the Compliance Officer from time to time).

If you are purchasing or selling shares of the Company's stock on the open market, the Company requests that you place the following in the subject line of your email, as applicable: "Pre-Clearance Request - Purchase of Shares" <u>or</u> "Pre-Clearance Request - Sale of Shares"

# Instructions for Pre-Clearance of Exercise of Company Stock Options / Warrants

To process your request to exercise stock options or warrants, please send an email request to the Compliance Officer at the email address above.

## If you are exercising options or warrants, the Company requests that you place the following in the subject line of your email: "Pre-Clearance Request - Exercise of Options / Warrants"

## The body of the email should contain the following:

- Type of security being exercised (*e.g.*, stock option, warrant, etc.);
- Estimated sale date; and
- "Exercising and Selling" or "Exercising and Holding."

## **Requests for Additional Information**

If you need any of the information requested above, or if you need to seek pre-clearance of any other transaction in Company securities, please contact the Compliance Officer at the email address above.

Please note that the ultimate responsibility for compliance with federal and state securities laws rests with you, and that the clearance of any proposed transaction should not be construed as a guarantee that you will not later be found to have been in possession of inside information.

# APPLICATION AND APPROVAL FORM

# FOR TRADING BY RESTRICTED PERSONS

Name	
Title	
Proposed Trade Date	
Type of Security to be Traded	
Type of Transaction (Purchase/Sale)	
Number of Shares to be Traded	

# Certification

I, \_\_\_\_\_\_\_, hereby certify that I am not aware of any "inside information" concerning the Company (as defined in the Company's "Insider Trading Policy"). I understand that if I trade while I am aware of such information or in violation of such trading restrictions, I may be subject to severe civil and/or criminal penalties and may be subject to discipline by the Company up to and including termination for cause. I hereby certify that I am not aware of any violations of the Policy and that if I become aware of any such violations, I shall provide prompt notice in accordance with the terms of the Policy and shall take such other actions as may be required by the Policy.

Signature

Date

# **Review and Decision**

The Compliance Officer has reviewed the foregoing application and

□ Approves

D Prohibits

the proposed transaction(s).

Compliance Officer (or Designee)

Date

# I, Michael W. Bridgford, certify that:

1. I have reviewed this annual report on Form 10-K of Bridgford Foods Corporation;

2. Based on my knowledge, this annual report does not contain any untrue statement of a material fact or omit to state a material fact necessary to make the statements made, in light of the circumstances under which such statements were made, not misleading with respect to the period covered by this annual report;

3. Based on my knowledge, the financial statements, and other financial information included in this annual report, fairly present in all material respects the financial condition, results of operations and cash flows of the registrant as of, and for, the periods presented in this annual report;

4. The registrant's other certifying officer and I are responsible for establishing and maintaining disclosure controls and procedures (as defined in Exchange Act Rules 13a-15(e) and 15d-15(e)) and internal control over financial reporting (as defined in Exchange Act Rules 13a-15(f) and 15d-15(f)) for the registrant and have:

- a. Designed such disclosure controls and procedures, or caused such disclosure controls and procedures to be designed under our supervision, to ensure that material information relating to the registrant, including its consolidated subsidiaries, is made known to us by others within those entities, particularly during the period in which this report is being prepared;
- Designed such internal control over financial reporting, or caused such internal control over financial reporting to be designed under our supervision, to provide reasonable assurance regarding the reliability of financial reporting and the preparation of financial statements for external purposes in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles;
- c. Evaluated the effectiveness of the registrant's disclosure controls and procedures and presented in this report our conclusions about the effectiveness of the disclosure controls and procedures, as of the end of the period covered by this report based on such evaluation; and
- d. Disclosed in this report any change in the registrant's internal control over financial reporting that occurred during the registrant's most recent fiscal quarter (the registrant's fourth fiscal quarter in the case of an annual report) that has materially affected, or is reasonably likely to materially affect, the registrant's internal control over financial reporting; and

5. The registrant's other certifying officer and I have disclosed, based on our most recent evaluation of internal control over financial reporting, to the registrant's auditors and the audit committee of the registrant's board of directors (or persons performing the equivalent functions):

- a. All significant deficiencies and material weaknesses in the design or operation of internal control over financial reporting which are reasonably likely to adversely affect the registrant's ability to record, process, summarize and report financial information; and
- b. Any fraud, whether or not material, that involves management or other employees who have a significant role in the registrant's internal control over financial reporting.

Dated: January 29, 2025

/s/ MICHAEL W. BRIDGFORD

Michael W. Bridgford, Chairman of the Board (Principal Executive Officer) I, Cindy Matthews-Morales, certify that:

1. I have reviewed this annual report on Form 10-K of Bridgford Foods Corporation;

2. Based on my knowledge, this annual report does not contain any untrue statement of a material fact or omit to state a material fact necessary to make the statements made, in light of the circumstances under which such statements were made, not misleading with respect to the period covered by this annual report;

3. Based on my knowledge, the financial statements, and other financial information included in this annual report, fairly present in all material respects the financial condition, results of operations and cash flows of the registrant as of, and for, the periods presented in this annual report;

4. The registrant's other certifying officer and I are responsible for establishing and maintaining disclosure controls and procedures (as defined in Exchange Act Rules 13a-15(e) and 15d-15(e)) and internal control over financial reporting (as defined in Exchange Act Rules 13a-15(f) and 15d-15(f)) for the registrant and have:

- a. Designed such disclosure controls and procedures, or caused such disclosure controls and procedures to be designed under our supervision, to ensure that material information relating to the registrant, including its consolidated subsidiaries, is made known to us by others within those entities, particularly during the period in which this report is being prepared;
- b. Designed such internal control over financial reporting, or caused such internal control over financial reporting to be designed under our supervision, to provide reasonable assurance regarding the reliability of financial reporting and the preparation of financial statements for external purposes in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles;
- c. Evaluated the effectiveness of the registrant's disclosure controls and procedures and presented in this report our conclusions about the effectiveness of the disclosure controls and procedures, as of the end of the period covered by this report based on such evaluation; and
- d. Disclosed in this report any change in the registrant's internal control over financial reporting that occurred during the registrant's most recent fiscal quarter (the registrant's fourth fiscal quarter in the case of an annual report) that has materially affected, or is reasonably likely to materially affect, the registrant's internal control over financial reporting; and

5. The registrant's other certifying officer and I have disclosed, based on our most recent evaluation of internal control over financial reporting, to the registrant's auditors and the audit committee of the registrant's board of directors (or persons performing the equivalent functions):

- a. All significant deficiencies and material weaknesses in the design or operation of internal control over financial reporting which are reasonably likely to adversely affect the registrant's ability to record, process, summarize and report financial information; and
- b. Any fraud, whether or not material, that involves management or other employees who have a significant role in the registrant's internal control over financial reporting.

Dated: January 29, 2025

/s/ CINDY MATTHEWS-MORALES

Cindy Matthews-Morales Chief Financial Officer and Secretary (Principal Financial and Accounting Officer)

#### Certification Pursuant to 18 U.S.C. Section 1350. As Adopted Pursuant to Section 906 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002

I, Michael W. Bridgford, Chairman of the Board of Bridgford Foods Corporation (the "Company"), certify, pursuant to Section 906 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002, 18 U.S.C. Section 1350, that:

- (1) the Annual Report on Form 10-K of the Company for the fiscal year ended November 1, 2024 (the "Report") fully complies with the requirements of Section 13(a) or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (15 U.S.C. 78m or 780(d)); and
- (2) the information contained in the Report fairly presents, in all material respects, the financial condition and results of operations of the Company.

Dated: January 29, 2025

## /s/ MICHAEL W. BRIDGFORD

Michael. W. Bridgford Chairman of the Board (Principal Executive Officer)

This certification accompanies the Annual Report on Form 10-K pursuant to Section 13(a) and Section 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 and 18 U.S.C. Section 1350 and shall not be deemed filed by the Company for purposes of Section 18 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934.

# <u>Certification Pursuant to 18 U.S.C. Section 1350.</u> <u>As Adopted Pursuant to Section 906 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002</u>

I, Cindy Matthews-Morales, Chief Financial Officer and Secretary of Bridgford Foods Corporation (the "Company"), certify, pursuant to Section 906 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002, 18 U.S.C. Section 1350, that:

- (1) the Annual Report on Form 10-K of the Company for the fiscal year ended November 1, 2024 (the "Report") fully complies with the requirements of Section 13(a) or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (15 U.S.C. 78m or 780(d)); and
- (2) the information contained in the Report fairly presents, in all material respects, the financial condition and results of operations of the Company.

Dated: January 29, 2025

# /s/ CINDY MATTHEWS-MORALES

Cindy Matthews-Morales Chief Financial Officer and Secretary (Principal Financial and Accounting Officer)

This certification accompanies the Annual Report on Form 10-K pursuant to Section 13(a) and Section 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 and 18 U.S.C. Section 1350 and shall not be deemed filed by the Company for purposes of Section 18 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934.

#### **BRIDGFORD FOODS CORPORATION**

#### **CLAWBACK AND FORFEITURE POLICY**

The Board of Directors (the "**Board**") of Bridgford Foods Corporation (the "**Company**") has adopted this Clawback and Forfeiture Policy (this "**Policy**") to comply with Section 10D and Rule 10D-1 of the Exchange Act and the Listing Rules of The Nasdaq Stock Market (the "**Rules**"), and to establish the circumstances under which the Company shall seek recoupment and forfeiture of Incentive-Based Compensation Received by Executive Officers of the Company in the event of an Accounting Restatement. The Board believes the adoption of this Policy is consistent with the Company's executive compensation philosophy and objectives, and in furtherance of the Board's intention to follow sound corporate governance practices.

This Policy was adopted by the Board on November 17, 2023 (the "Effective Date"). The Board has delegated to the Compensation Committee the responsibility of administering this Policy. Except as specifically set forth in Section 2 (which sets forth the role of the Audit Committee with respect to this Policy), the Compensation Committee is authorized to interpret and construe this Policy and to make all determinations necessary, appropriate, or advisable for the administration of this Policy. Any determinations by the Audit Committee or the Compensation Committee, as applicable, shall be binding on all Executive Officers. The Compensation Committee may, from time to time, recommend amendments to this Policy. Any amendments to this Policy must be approved by the Board. This Policy shall be filed as an exhibit to the Company's Annual Report on Form 10-K.

1. <u>Certain Definitions</u>. For purposes of this Policy, the following terms shall have the meanings set forth below:

(a) "Accounting Restatement" means a restatement of any Company Financial Statements which is required as a result of, or necessitated by, any material noncompliance by the Company with any financial reporting requirement under the federal securities laws, including any accounting restatement that (i) corrects errors that are material to previously issued Company Financial Statements (commonly referred to as "Big R" restatements), or (ii) corrects errors that are not material to previously issued Company Financial Statements, but would result in a material misstatement if the errors were left uncorrected in the current report, or the error correction was recognized in the current period (commonly referred to as "little r" restatements).

(b) "Accounting Restatement Date" means the date on which the Company is required to prepare an Accounting Restatement, which shall be the <u>earlier</u> of: (i) the date the Board concludes, or reasonably should have concluded, that the Company is required to prepare an Accounting Restatement, and (ii) the date a court, regulator, or other legally authorized body directs the Company to prepare an Accounting Restatement.

(c) "Audit Committee" means the Audit Committee of the Board

SEC Report.

(d) "Company Financial Statements" means any audited or unaudited financial statements of the Company included in any

(e) "Compensation Committee" means the Compensation Committee of the Board.

(f) "Exchange Act" means the Securities and Exchange Act of 1934, as amended.

(g) "Executive Officer" means any person who is or has been designated by the Board as an "officer" for purposes of Rule 16a-1(f) under the Exchange Act, who hold such position at the time the Incentive-Based Compensation at issue under this Policy was granted, earned, or vested.

(h) "**Financial Reporting Measures**" means measures that are determined and presented in accordance with the accounting principles used in preparing the Company Financial Statements, as well as any measures derived wholly or in part from such measures, including non-GAAP financial measures, regardless of whether such measures were presented in the Company Financial Statements or an SEC Report. Financial Reporting Measures include, without limitation, the Company's stock price and total stockholder return.

(i) "Incentive-Based Compensation" means any cash or equity bonus or other compensation that is granted, earned, or vested based wholly or in part on the attainment of a Financial Reporting Measure, including, but not limited to, annual cash bonuses, short- and long-term cash incentive awards, stock options, restricted stock, restricted stock units, stock appreciation rights or performance shares, and the proceeds from the sale of shares acquired through an incentive plan that were granted or vested solely or in part on satisfying a Financial Reporting Measure performance goal.

(j) "**Received**" means the fiscal period during which a Financial Reporting Measure is attained, even if the Incentive-Based Compensation payment or award (or the vesting of such award) occurs after the end of that period.

(k) "Recovery Period" means the three completed fiscal years immediately preceding the Accounting Restatement Date.

(1) "Restated Financial Statements" means Company Financial Statements as restated as a result of an Accounting

Restatement.

(m) "SEC" means the Securities and Exchange Commission.

(n) "SEC Report" means an Annual Report on Form 10-K, Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q or any other report containing Company Financial Statements that is filed by the Company with the SEC.

## 2. Accounting Restatement: Provisions Applicable to Executive Officers.

(a) In each instance where <u>all</u> three of the following factors exist:

(i) an Accounting Restatement has occurred;

(ii) Incentive-Based Compensation was Received by an Executive Officer during the Recovery Period after beginning service as an Executive Officer; and

(iii) the Audit Committee, in its sole discretion exercised in good faith, determines that the amount or reported value of that Incentive-Based Compensation that was paid to or Received by such Executive Officer during the Recovery Period exceeds the amount or reported value of the Incentive-Based Compensation that would have been Received by such Executive Officer if such amount or value had been determined on the basis of the Restated Financial Statements (such excess amount or value, the "Excess Incentive-Based Compensation");

<u>Then</u>: the Company shall, in accordance with <u>Section 4(b)</u>, seek to recoup or recover the amount or value of such Excess Incentive-Based Compensation from the Executive Officer. The Company is entitled to recoup or recover Excess Incentive-Based Compensation pursuant to the terms of this Policy regardless of any fault of the Executive Officer for the accounting error(s) necessitating the Accounting Restatement.

(b) If the Audit Committee cannot determine the amount of Excess Incentive-Based Compensation Received by the Executive Officer directly from the information in the Accounting Restatement, then it shall make its determination based on a reasonable estimate of the effect of the Accounting Restatement.

# 3. No Indemnity or Insurance Reimbursement.

The Company shall not insure or indemnify any Executive Officer against the loss of any Incentive-Based Compensation subject to recoupment or forfeiture hereunder. The Company shall not pay or reimburse any Executive Officer for premiums paid toward an insurance policy to fund potential recovery obligations.

# 4. General Provisions.

(a) <u>Calculation of Erroneously Awarded Incentive-Based Compensation</u>. Any Excess Incentive-Based Compensation that the Company is entitled to recoup or recover pursuant to the terms of this Policy shall be calculated without regard to any taxes paid by the Executive Officer.

(b) <u>Recoupment Methods</u>. The Compensation Committee shall determine, in its sole discretion, the method for recouping Excess Incentive-Based Compensation hereunder, which may include, without limitation: (i) requiring reimbursement of cash Incentive-Based Compensation previously paid; (ii) seeking recovery of any gain realized on the vesting, exercise, settlement, sale, transfer, or other disposition of any equity incentive awards; (iii) cancelling or rescinding some or all outstanding vested or unvested equity incentive awards; (iv) offsetting the recouped amount from any compensation otherwise owed by the Company to the Executive Officer (including compensation that is not incentive-based); (v) cancelling or setting-off against planned future grants of cash incentive awards or equity incentive awards; (vi) any other method authorized by any agreement between the Company and a particular Executive Officer; or (vii) taking any other remedial and recovery action permitted by law.

(c) <u>Rights and Remedies</u>. The Board intends that this Policy shall be applied to the fullest extent of the law. The Board may require that any employment agreement, equity award agreement, or similar agreement entered into on or after the Effective Date shall, as a condition to the grant of any benefit thereunder, require an Executive Officer to agree to abide by the terms of this Policy. Any right of recoupment under this Policy is in addition to, and not in lieu of, any other remedies or rights of recoupment that may be available to the Company pursuant to the terms of any similar policy in any employment agreement, equity award agreement, or similar agreement and any other legal remedies available to the Company.

(d) <u>Binding Agreement</u>. This Policy shall be binding and enforceable against all Executive Officers and their respective beneficiaries, heirs, executors, administrators or other legal representatives.

#### **BRIDGFORD FOODS CORPORATION**

#### NOTICE OF 2025 ANNUAL MEETING OF SHAREHOLDERS

#### To Be Held On Wednesday, March 19, 2025

#### 2:00 p.m. Central Time

#### To the Shareholders of BRIDGFORD FOODS CORPORATION:

You are cordially invited to attend the 2025 annual meeting of shareholders of Bridgford Foods Corporation, a California corporation with principal executive offices located in Texas, on Wednesday, March 19, 2025, at 2:00 p.m. Central Time. The annual meeting will be held virtually via live internet webcast at <u>www.virtualshareholdermeeting.com/BRID2025</u>.

We are holding the annual meeting for the following purposes, as described in greater detail in the accompanying Proxy Statement:

- (1) Election of Directors. To elect eight director nominees to serve for one year or until their successors are elected and qualified.
- (2) **Ratification of Appointment of Accountants.** To ratify the selection of Baker Tilly US, LLP as the Company's independent registered public accounting firm for the fiscal year ending October 31, 2025.
- (3) Shareholder Proposal. To consider and vote on a shareholder proposal to take the Company private if properly presented at the meeting.
- (4) **Other Business.** To consider and act upon such other business as may properly come before the meeting, or at any postponements or adjournments thereof.

The board of directors recommends that you vote "**FOR**" the election of each of the director nominees referenced in Proposal 1, "**FOR**" Proposal 2 and "**AGAINST**" Proposal 3.

Only shareholders of record at the close of business on February 7, 2025, are entitled to notice of and to vote at the virtual annual meeting or any postponements or adjournments thereof.

The annual meeting will be a completely virtual meeting of shareholders, which will be conducted via a live webcast. We believe hosting a virtual annual meeting will encourage increased shareholder attendance and participation while reducing the cost of holding the annual meeting for our Company and the cost of attending the annual meeting for our shareholders. You will be able to attend the annual meeting online, submit your questions and vote your shares electronically during the meeting by visiting *www.virtualshareholdermeeting.com/BRID2025*.

Your vote is extremely important. Whether or not you plan to attend the virtual annual meeting, the board of directors respectfully urges you to complete, date, sign and return the proxy mailed to you, or vote over the internet or by telephone as instructed in these materials, as promptly as possible in order to ensure your representation at the annual meeting. Even if you have voted by proxy, you may still vote online if you virtually attend the annual meeting. Please note, however, that if your shares are held of record by a broker, bank or other agent and you wish to vote at the annual meeting, you must follow the instructions from such organization and will need to obtain a proxy issued in your name from that record holder.

By order of the Board of Directors /s/ Cindy Matthews-Morales Cindy Matthews-Morales, Chief Financial Officer and Secretary Pollog. Toxog

Dallas, Texas February 24, 2025

Important Notice Regarding the Availability of Proxy Materials for the Annual Meeting of Shareholders to Be Held on Wednesday, March 19, 2025.

Pursuant to the rules of the Securities and Exchange Commission, we have elected to provide access to the proxy materials both by sending you a full set of proxy materials, including this Notice, the accompanying Proxy Statement and Proxy Card, and the 2024 Annual Report to Shareholders and by notifying you of the availability of the proxy materials on the Internet. The Notice, Proxy Statement, Proxy Card and 2024 Annual Report to Shareholders are available at *https://materials.proxyvote.com/108763*.

### BRIDGFORD FOODS CORPORATION 1707 South Good-Latimer Expressway, Dallas, Texas 75226

# PROXY STATEMENT

#### FOR THE 2025 ANNUAL MEETING OF SHAREHOLDERS

#### To Be Held On Wednesday, March 19, 2025 at 2:00 p.m. Central Time

#### **GENERAL INFORMATION**

The enclosed proxy is solicited by the Board of Directors of Bridgford Foods Corporation, a California corporation with principal executive offices located at 1707 South Good-Latimer Expressway, Dallas, Texas 75226, which we refer to as "the Company," "we," "us," or "our," for use at the 2025 Annual Meeting of Shareholders of the Company, or the Annual Meeting, to be held virtually via a live webcast, on Wednesday, March 19, 2025 at 2:00 p.m. Central Time, and at any postponements or adjournments thereof. All shareholders of record at the close of business on February 7, 2025, are entitled to notice of and to vote at such meeting. This Proxy Statement and the accompanying proxy are being mailed to the shareholders on or about February 24, 2025.

# QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS ABOUT THE ANNUAL MEETING AND VOTING

The following questions and answers are intended to briefly address potential questions that our shareholders may have regarding this Proxy Statement and the Annual Meeting. They are also intended to provide our shareholders with certain information that is required to be provided under the rules and regulations of the Securities and Exchange Commission, or the SEC. These questions and answers may not address all of the questions that are important to you as a shareholder. If you have additional questions about the Proxy Statement or the Annual Meeting, please see "Whom should I contact with other questions?" below.

#### 1. What is the purpose of the Annual Meeting?

At the Annual Meeting, our shareholders will be asked to consider and vote upon the matters described in this Proxy Statement and in the accompanying Notice, as well as any other business that may properly come before the Annual Meeting.

#### 2. What is a proxy statement and what is a proxy?

A proxy statement is a document that the SEC regulations require us to give you when we ask you to sign a proxy designating individuals to vote on your behalf. A proxy is your legal designation of another person to vote the stock you own. That other person is called a proxy. If you designate someone as your proxy in a written document, that document also is called a proxy or a proxy card.

#### 3. Why did I receive these proxy materials?

We are providing these proxy materials in connection with the solicitation by the Board of Directors of the Company of proxies to be voted at the Annual Meeting, and at any postponements or adjournments thereof. This Proxy Statement contains important information for you to consider when deciding how to vote on the matters brought before the Annual Meeting. You are invited to attend the Annual Meeting virtually to vote on the proposals described in this Proxy Statement. However, you do not need to attend the Annual Meeting to vote your shares. Instead, you may vote your shares using one of the other voting methods described in this Proxy Statement.

Whether or not you expect to attend the virtual Annual Meeting, please vote your shares as soon as possible in order to ensure your representation at the Annual Meeting and to minimize the cost to the Company of proxy solicitation.

#### 4. What am I being asked to vote upon at the Annual Meeting?

At the Annual Meeting, you will be asked to:

- Elect eight director nominees to serve for one year or until their successors are elected and qualified (Proposal 1);
- Ratify the selection of Baker Tilly US, LLP, or Baker Tilly, as the Company's independent registered public accounting firm for the fiscal year ending October 31, 2025 (Proposal 2);
- Consider and vote on a shareholder proposal to take the Company private if properly presented at the Annual Meeting (Proposal 3); and

• Consider and act upon such other business as may properly come before the Annual Meeting, or at any postponements or adjournments thereof.

#### 5. How does the Board of Directors recommend voting on the proposals?

The Board of Directors unanimously recommends that you vote your shares:

- "FOR" each of the director nominees (Proposal 1);
- "FOR" the ratification of the selection of Baker Tilly as the Company's independent registered public accounting firm for the fiscal year ending October 31, 2025 (Proposal 2); and
- "AGAINST" the shareholder proposal to take the Company private (Proposal 3).

# 6. Who can vote at the Annual Meeting?

#### Shareholders of Record

Only our "shareholders of record" at the close of business on February 7, 2025, or the Record Date, will be entitled to vote at the Annual Meeting. On the Record Date, there were 9,076,832 shares of our common stock outstanding and entitled to vote. Each share of common stock entitles the holder thereof to one vote on each matter to be voted upon by such shareholders and, upon prior notice, to cumulate votes for the election of directors as discussed in Proposal 1 below.

## Beneficial Owners

If, on the Record Date, your shares were held in an account at a bank, broker, dealer, or other nominee, then you are the "beneficial owner" of shares held in "street name" and this Proxy Statement is being forwarded to you by that nominee. The nominee holding your account is considered the "shareholder of record" for purposes of voting at the Annual Meeting. As a beneficial owner, you have the right to direct your nominee on how to vote the shares in your account. You are also invited to attend the Annual Meeting virtually. However, since you are not the "shareholder of record," you may not vote your shares at the Annual Meeting unless you request and obtain a valid legal proxy or obtain a 16-digit control number from your nominee. Please contact your nominee directly for additional information.

Banks, brokers, dealers or other nominees holding shares of record for their respective customers are not entitled to vote on the election of directors unless they receive voting instructions from their customers. As used herein, "uninstructed shares" means shares held by a nominee who has not received instructions from its customers on a particular matter. As used herein, "broker non-vote" means the votes that could have been cast on the matter by nominees with respect to uninstructed shares if the nominees had received instructions. The effect of proxies marked "withheld" as to any director nominee or "abstain" as to any other proposal, and the effect of broker non-votes on each of the proposals, is discussed in each proposal below.

#### 7. What are the voting requirements to approve the proposals?

All proxies, which are properly completed, signed and returned to the Company prior to the Annual Meeting and not revoked, will be voted in accordance with the instructions given in the proxy. Please see each proposal below for voting requirements to approve the proposals.

#### 8. What happens if I do not vote?

Please see each proposal below for the effect of not voting, as well as the effect of withholdings, abstentions and broker non-votes.

# 9. What is the quorum requirement for the Annual Meeting?

The presence at the Annual Meeting, virtually (even if not voting) or by proxy, of the holders of a majority of the outstanding shares of our common stock entitled to vote at the Annual Meeting will constitute a quorum at the Annual Meeting. Shareholders of record who are present at the Annual Meeting and who abstain or withhold their vote, including banks, brokers, dealers or other nominees holding shares of their respective customers of record who cause abstentions to be recorded at the Annual Meeting, are considered shareholders who are present and entitled to vote and count toward the quorum. If a quorum is not present, the Annual Meeting will be adjourned until a quorum is obtained.

# 10. How can I vote my shares?

# Shareholders of Record

If you are shareholder of record, you may vote by proxy or by attending the virtual Annual Meeting where votes can be submitted electronically via live webcast. Whether or not you plan to attend the Annual Meeting virtually, we urge you to vote by proxy to ensure that your vote is counted.

If you wish to vote at the Annual Meeting virtually by live webcast you must visit the following website: *www.virtualshareholdermeeting.com/BRID2025*. You will need to log in to the webcast using the 16-digit control number located on the proxy card that was mailed to you. All shares that have been properly voted and not revoked will be voted at the Annual Meeting. However, even if you plan to attend the Annual Meeting virtually, we recommend that you vote your shares in advance via one of the methods listed below so that your vote will be counted if you later decide not to attend the meeting or if you experience technical difficulties during the meeting.

If you wish to vote by proxy, you can do so through the internet, by mail, or by telephone as described below:

- To vote through the internet, go to *www.proxyvote.com* and follow the instructions provided on the website. You will need the 16-digit control number from the proxy card that was mailed to you. Internet voting is available 24 hours a day and will be accessible until 11:59 p.m. Eastern Time on Tuesday, March 18, 2025.
- To vote by mail using a proxy card, simply complete, sign and date the proxy card and return it promptly, but so that it is received by no later than by 11:59 p.m. Eastern Time on Tuesday, March 18, 2025, in the postage-paid envelope provided.
- To vote by telephone, call toll-free 1-800-6903 from any touch-tone telephone and follow the instructions. You will need the 16-digit control number from the proxy card that was mailed to you. Telephonic voting is available 24 hours a day and will be accessible until 11:59 p.m. Eastern Time on Tuesday, March 18, 2025.

The method you use to vote by proxy will not limit your right to virtually attend or vote at the Annual Meeting. If you are a shareholder of record and you indicate when voting that you wish to vote as recommended by the Board of Directors, or if you sign and return a proxy card without giving specific voting instructions, the proxy holders will vote your shares as recommended by the Board of Directors on all matters presented in this Proxy Statement, and as the proxy holders may determine in their discretion with respect to any other matters properly presented for a vote at the Annual Meeting.

#### Beneficial Owners

If you are a beneficial owner of shares registered in the name of your bank, broker, dealer or other nominee, the nominee holding your shares is considered the holder of record for purposes of voting at the virtual Annual Meeting. As a beneficial owner, you have the right to direct your nominee on how to vote the shares in your account. If you are a beneficial owner, you should have received the Notice and a proxy card and voting instructions with this Proxy Statement from your bank, broker or other nominee rather than from us. Simply complete, sign and date the proxy card and return it promptly in the postage-paid envelope provided to ensure that your vote is counted. You may be eligible to vote your shares electronically over the internet or by telephone. A large number of banks and brokerage firms offer internet and telephonic voting. Please contact your nominee directly if you have any questions about voting your shares.

As a beneficial owner of shares registered in the name of your bank, broker, dealer or other nominee, you are invited to attend the Annual Meeting virtually. However, since you are not the holder of record, you may not vote your shares at the Annual Meeting unless you request and obtain a valid legal proxy or a 16-digit control number from your nominee. Please contact your nominee for additional information about attending the Annual Meeting virtually.

If you are a beneficial owner of shares held in street name and do not provide the nominee that holds your shares with specific voting instructions, the nominee may generally vote in its discretion on "routine" matters. However, if the nominee that holds your shares does not receive instructions from you on how to vote your shares on a "non-routine" matter, it will be unable to vote your shares on that matter. Whether a particular matter is considered "routine" or "non-routine" is determined pursuant to applicable stock exchange rules.

#### 11. How may I attend the Annual Meeting?

The Annual Meeting will be held virtually via live webcast at *www.virtualshareholdermeeting.com/BRID2025*. You will be able to attend the Annual Meeting online, submit your questions, and vote your shares electronically during the meeting. In order to attend and participate in the Annual Meeting, you will need to log in to the webcast using the 16-digit control number located on your proxy card or within the instructions that accompanied your proxy materials. The webcast will begin promptly at 2:00 p.m. Central Time on Wednesday, March 19, 2025.

We will answer as many shareholder questions during the Annual Meeting as time permits and in accordance with our rules for the meeting. However, we reserve the right to exclude questions that are not pertinent to the Annual Meeting matters or that are otherwise inappropriate. If we receive substantially similar questions, we will group such questions together and provide a single response to avoid repetition.

Online access will begin at approximately 1:45 p.m. Central Time on the day of the meeting to provide you ample time to log in, test your device, and review the rules and procedures for the meeting. We encourage you to access the webcast prior to the designated start time.

We will have technical support ready to assist you with any difficulties you may experience accessing the live webcast. A technical support phone number will be posted at *www.virtualshareholdermeeting.com/BRID2025*. Please call that phone number if you experience technical difficulties prior to or during the webcast.

#### 12. What can I do if I change my mind after I vote my shares?

You may revoke your proxy or change your vote at any time before the polls are closed at the Annual Meeting. The procedures for revoking your proxy or changing your vote will depend on whether you are a shareholder of record, or a beneficial owner of shares held in street name.

#### Shareholders of Record

If you are a shareholder of record, you may change your vote in one of the following ways:

- Subsequently casting a new vote via the internet or by telephone using your 16-digit control number, up until 11:59 p.m. Eastern Time on Tuesday, March 18, 2025, which is the deadline for internet or telephone voting;
- Submitting another properly completed proxy card prior to the Annual Meeting reflecting the subsequent date of completion;
- Sending a written notice that you are revoking your proxy to Bridgford Foods Corporation, 1707 South Good-Latimer Expressway, Dallas, Texas 75226, Attention: Corporate Secretary, to be received prior to the Annual Meeting; or
- Attending the virtual Annual Meeting and voting via live webcast (although attendance will not in and of itself constitute a revocation of a proxy).

#### Beneficial Owners

If you are a beneficial owner of shares and you have instructed your bank, broker, dealer or other nominee to vote your shares, you may change your vote by following the instructions provided to you by your nominee, or by attending the virtual Annual Meeting and voting via live webcast, provided you have obtained a valid legal proxy or a 16-digit control number from your nominee as described in *"How can I vote my shares?"* above.

Your most current internet or telephone proxy, or proxy card, will be the one that is counted at the Annual Meeting. If you revoke your proxy via the internet or by telephone, please make sure to do so by the deadline as described above. If you send a written notice of revocation, please make sure to do so with enough time for it to arrive by mail prior to the Annual Meeting.

Subject to any revocation, all shares represented by properly executed proxies will be voted in accordance with the instructions on the applicable proxy, or, if no instructions are given, in accordance with the recommendation of our Board of Directors as described above.

# 13. Could other matters be decided at the Annual Meeting?

As of the date this Proxy Statement went to press, the Board of Directors did not know of any matters which will be brought before the Annual Meeting other than those specifically set forth in the Notice hereof. However, if any other matter properly comes before the Annual Meeting, it is intended that the proxies, or their substitutes, will vote on such matters in accordance with their discretion.

#### 14. Who is paying for the cost of this proxy solicitation?

The solicitation of proxies is being made on behalf of the Board of Directors. We will pay all of the costs of soliciting these proxies. In addition to the solicitation of proxies by use of the mail, our directors, officers and other employees may solicit proxies in person or by telephone, email, or otherwise, but will not receive any additional compensation for these services, although we may reimburse them for reasonable out-of-pocket expenses incurred in connection with such solicitation. Although we have not retained a proxy solicitor to assist in the solicitation of proxies, we may do so in the future, and do not believe the cost of any such proxy solicitor will be material. We may reimburse banks, brokers, dealers and other institutions, nominees and fiduciaries for their reasonable out-of-pocket expenses in forwarding these proxy materials to beneficial owners of shares held of record by such persons and in obtaining authority to execute proxies.

# 15. I share an address with another shareholder, and we received only one paper copy of the proxy materials. How may I obtain an additional copy of the proxy materials?

SEC rules permit brokers and other persons who hold the Company's shares for beneficial owners to participate in a practice known as "householding," which means that only one copy of the Proxy Statement and Annual Report of the Company on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended November 1, 2024, or the 2024 Annual Report, will be sent to multiple shareholders who share the same address unless other instructions are provided to the Company. Householding is designed to reduce printing and postage costs and therefore results in cost savings for the Company. If you receive a household mailing this year and would like to have additional copies of this Proxy Statement and/or the 2024 Annual Report mailed to you, or if you would like to opt out of this practice for future mailings, please contact your bank, broker, dealer or other nominee record holder, or submit your request to:

Bridgford Foods Corporation 1707 South Good-Latimer Expressway Dallas, Texas 75226 Attention: Corporate Secretary Phone: (214) 428-1535 Upon receipt of any such request, the Company will promptly deliver a copy of this Proxy Statement and/or the 2024 Annual Report to you. In addition, if you are currently a shareholder sharing an address with another shareholder and wish to receive only one copy of future proxy materials for your household, please contact us using the contact information set forth above.

#### 16. Where can I find voting results of the Annual Meeting?

We will announce preliminary voting results with respect to each proposal at the Annual Meeting. In accordance with SEC rules, final voting results will be published in a Current Report on Form 8-K within four business days following the Annual Meeting, unless final results are not known at that time in which case preliminary voting results will be published within four business days of the Annual Meeting and final voting results will be published once they are known by the Company.

#### 17. What is the deadline to submit shareholder proposals or director nominations for the 2026 Annual Meeting?

Requirements for shareholder proposals to be considered for inclusion in our proxy materials.

Proposals of shareholders intended to be included in the proxy statement and presented at the Company's 2026 Annual Meeting of Shareholders must be received at the Company's principal office no later than October 27, 2025. However, if the date of the 2026 Annual Meeting of Shareholders has been changed by more than 30 days from the date of the 2025 Annual Meeting, then the deadline is a reasonable time before the Company begins to print and send its proxy materials. Matters pertaining to such proposals, including the number and length thereof, eligibility of persons entitled to have such proposals included and other aspects are regulated by the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, and the rules and regulations of the SEC.

# Requirements for shareholder proposals or director nominations to be brought before an annual meeting.

Additionally, any shareholder desiring to submit a proposal for action or to nominate one or more persons for election as directors at our 2026 Annual Meeting of Shareholders must submit a notice of the proposal or nomination including the information required by our Amended and Restated Bylaws, or our Bylaws, to the Company's Corporate Secretary, c/o Bridgford Foods Corporation, 1707 South Good-Latimer Expressway, Dallas, Texas 75226, between November 26, 2025 and December 26, 2025, or else it will be considered untimely and ineligible to be properly brought before the Annual Meeting. However, if the Company's 2026 Annual Meeting of Shareholders is not held within 30 days of the first anniversary of the 2025 Annual Meeting, under the Bylaws, this notice must be provided not later than the close of business on the tenth day following the date on which notice of the date of the 2026 Annual Meeting of Shareholders is first mailed to shareholders or otherwise publicly disclosed, whichever first occurs.

#### 18. Where can I find information about the 2024 Annual Report?

The Company will furnish without charge to each person whose proxy is being solicited, upon request of any such person, a copy of the 2024 Annual Report, as such was filed with the SEC, including financial statements and associated schedules. Such report was filed with the SEC on January 29, 2025, and is available on the SEC's website at *www.sec.gov*, as well as the Company's website at *www.bridgford.com*. References to our website address in this Proxy Statement are inactive textual references only and information contained on or accessed through our website does not constitute part of this Proxy Statement. Requests for copies of such report should be directed to:

Bridgford Foods Corporation 1707 South Good-Latimer Expressway Dallas, Texas 75226 Attention: Corporate Secretary Phone: (214) 428-1535

#### 19. Whom should I contact with other questions?

If you have additional questions about this Proxy Statement or the Annual Meeting, or if you would like additional copies of this Proxy Statement, please contact:

Bridgford Foods Corporation 1707 South Good-Latimer Expressway Dallas, Texas 75226 Attention: Corporate Secretary Phone: (214) 428-1535

#### **PROPOSAL 1**

# **ELECTION OF DIRECTORS**

The directors of the Company are elected annually to serve until the next annual meeting of shareholders and until their respective successors are elected and duly qualified, or until their earlier death, resignation or removal. At the Annual Meeting, eight directors have been nominated for election. The election of directors shall be by the affirmative vote of the holders of a plurality of the shares voting virtually or by proxy at the Annual Meeting. Every shareholder, or his or her proxy, entitled to vote upon the election of directors may cumulate his or her votes and give one candidate a number of votes equal to the number of directors to be elected multiplied by the number of votes to which his or her shares are entitled, or distribute his or her votes on the same principle among as many candidates as he or she deems appropriate. No shareholder or proxy, however, shall be entitled to cumulate votes unless such candidate or candidates have been nominated prior to the voting and the shareholder has given notice at the meeting, prior to the commencement of voting, of the shareholder's intention to cumulate such shareholder's votes. If any shareholder gives such notice, all shareholders may cumulate their votes for candidates in nomination. All nominees are presently directors of the Company. All directors were elected to the Board of Directors by the Company's shareholders at the 2024 Annual Meeting. All current directorships are being filled.

Unless otherwise instructed, shares represented by the proxies will be voted "FOR" the election of each of the eight nominees listed below. Broker non-votes and proxies marked "WITHHELD" as to one or more of the nominees will have no effect on the election of the nominees.

Each nominee has indicated that he is willing and able to serve as director if elected. In the event that any of such nominees shall become unavailable for any reason, an event which management does not anticipate, it is intended that proxies will be voted for substitute nominees designated by management.

# THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS RECOMMENDS THAT YOU VOTE "FOR" THE ELECTION OF EACH OF THE EIGHT DIRECTOR NOMINEES NAMED BELOW.

The following table and biographical summaries set forth, with respect to each nominee for director, his or her age as of February 24, 2025, his or her principal occupation and the year in which he or she first became a director of the Company. Data with respect to the number of shares of the Company's common stock beneficially owned by each of such persons as of February 7, 2025, appears under the caption "PRINCIPAL SHAREHOLDERS AND MANAGEMENT" below.

Name	Age	Principal Occupation	Year First Became a Director
William L. Bridgford	70	Vice President <sup>(1)(4)</sup>	2004
Allan L. Bridgford, Sr.	89	Retired Vice President and Former Chairman of the Executive Committee <sup>(1)(4)</sup>	1952
Todd C. Andrews	59	Retired Vice President and Controller of Public Storage <sup>(2)(3)(4)</sup>	2004
Raymond F. Lancy	71	Retired Chief Financial Officer and Former Member of the Executive Committee <sup>(4)(5)</sup>	2013
Keith A. Ross	62	Real Estate Consultant <sup>(4)</sup>	2016
Mary Schott	64	Financial Executive Services Consultant <sup>(2)(3)(4)</sup>	2019
D. Gregory Scott	68	Managing Director of Peak Holdings, LLC <sup>(2)(3)(4)</sup>	2006
John V. Simmons	69	Vice President <sup>(4)</sup>	2011

<sup>(1)</sup> William L. Bridgford is the father of Michael W. Bridgford, our Chairman of the Board, a cousin to Baron R.H. Bridgford II, our President, and is a nephew of Allan L. Bridgford, Sr.

- <sup>(2)</sup> Member of the Compensation Committee.
- <sup>(3)</sup> Member of the Audit Committee.
- <sup>(4)</sup> Member of the Nominating Committee.
- <sup>(5)</sup> Effective February 1, 2023, Mr. Lancy retired from his employment with the Company, but remains as a director and continues to provide consulting services to the Company.

#### Directors

#### William L. Bridgford

William L. Bridgford has served as Vice President since October 2021. He previously held positions as Chairman of the Executive Committee from October 2021 to November 2023, Chairman of the Board from March 2006 to October 2021, President from June 2004 until March 2006, and Secretary from 1995 to 2006. Mr. Bridgford has been a full-time employee of the Company since 1981. He has also served as a member of the Executive Committee from 2004 until November 2023. Mr. Bridgford is a graduate of California State University, Fullerton with a degree in Business Management.

Mr. Bridgford is one of the principal owners of Bridgford Industries Incorporated, the Company's majority shareholder. He brings to the Board extensive experience in the operations of the Company and provides strong leadership skills that provide strategic business guidance to the Company. The Board believes his executive managerial experience and Company knowledge base combined with his understanding of corporate values and culture qualify him to serve as a member of the Board.

# Allan L. Bridgford, Sr.

Allan L. Bridgford, Sr. has served on the Board since his reappointment in August 2019, and previously served on the Board from 1952 until October 2011. He was an employee of the Company since 1957, a member of the Executive Committee since 1972, and most recently served as Vice President and Chairman of the Executive Committee from 2011 until his retirement from employment effective October 29, 2021. He previously served as Senior Chairman of the Board from March 2006 to October 2011. From March 1995 through March 2006, Mr. Bridgford served as Chairman of the Board. He is a graduate of Stanford University with a degree in Economics.

Mr. Bridgford is one of the principal owners of Bridgford Industries Incorporated, the Company's majority shareholder. He has extensive knowledge of the Company's business and experience in the food industry developed during his long tenure with the Company. The Board believes he is qualified to serve as a director based on these experiences as well as his other valuable attributes and skills. In addition to his service on the Board, Mr. Bridgford continues to provide business consulting services to the Company.

## Todd C. Andrews

Todd C. Andrews is a Certified Public Accountant (inactive) and retired in April 2021 as Senior Vice President and Controller of Public Storage, an international self-storage company and a member of the S&P 500, headquartered in Glendale, California. Mr. Andrews had been employed by Public Storage since 1997. Mr. Andrews graduated cum laude with a Bachelor of Science degree in Business Administration with an emphasis in accounting and finance from California State University, Northridge, and received an Elijah Watt Sells award with high distinction on the November 1988 CPA exam.

Mr. Andrews has over 35 years of experience with responsibilities including financial reporting, strategic financial planning and analysis, capital markets, treasury operations, SEC reporting, Sarbanes Oxley internal controls and procedures, operational analysis, operational control design, real estate acquisition and development underwriting, and system design and implementation. In addition, Mr. Andrews brings a diverse set of perspectives to the Board from serving in positions in multiple industries, including public accounting, entertainment, retail, and real estate. The Board believes his skills and extensive experience qualify him to serve as a member of the Board. Mr. Andrews also qualifies as an audit committee financial expert and is financially sophisticated within the meaning of the NASDAQ Listing Rules.

# Raymond F. Lancy

Raymond F. Lancy served as Chief Financial Officer from 2003 to October 2022, as Treasurer from 1995 to February 2023, as Vice President from 2001 to February 2023, and as a member of the Executive Committee from 2001 to October 2022. Mr. Lancy was an employee of the Company from July 1992 until his retirement in February 2023. Mr. Lancy is a Certified Public Accountant (inactive) and prior to his employment with the Company worked for ten years as an auditor at PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP.

He earned a Bachelor of Science degree with a major in Administration with high honors from California State University, San Bernardino. The Board believes that Mr. Lancy's extensive knowledge of the Company's business and his experience in the areas of finance and management qualify him to serve as a member of the Board. In addition to his service on the Board, Mr. Lancy continues to provide business consulting services to the Company.

# Keith A. Ross

Since 2005 Keith A. Ross has served as President of KR6, Inc., a commercial real estate consulting firm, and since 2001 has been a Founder and Principal of Centra Realty Corporation, ranked as one of the most active real estate development companies in Orange County, California, where he oversees Centra's land acquisitions, capital raises of both equity and debt, architectural design, engineering, construction and sales/leasing efforts. From August 2013 to 2018, Mr. Ross served as Executive Vice President of CT Realty, or CTR, a real estate investment, development and management company based in Newport Beach, California. At CTR, Mr. Ross oversaw all development and was responsible for sourcing, evaluating, and closing on all commercial development opportunities. In addition, Mr. Ross served on CTR's Executive Committee and Investment Committee. CTR was founded in 1994 and together with its affiliates and principals have developed, acquired and managed over \$8 billion in industrial and office properties. Prior to joining CTR, from June 2009 to January 2014, Mr. Ross was Founder, President and CEO of Peligroso Spirits which was sold to Diageo in London (the world's largest spirits company).

Mr. Ross began his professional career at the Koll Company, a full-service real estate company, where he worked for over a decade serving in various roles from project manager to marketing before leading the real estate development efforts of the company in Southern California. He currently serves on the Board of Directors and is a Co-Founder of Miocean, a nonprofit foundation that applies proven business approaches to curb the harmful effects of urban run-off pollution to the Ocean. Mr. Ross attended San Diego State University.

Mr. Ross has extensive real estate acquisition and development experience as well as project management and marketing expertise, which the Board believes qualifies him to serve as a member of the Board. In addition to his service on the Board, Mr. Ross continues to provide real estate consulting services to the Company.

#### Mary Schott

Mary Schott serves as a consultant in the financial services industry. Previously, from March 2014 through January 2020 she was Chief Financial Officer and Corporate Secretary of California Commerce Club, Inc., a privately held gaming and hospitality company. Prior to California Commerce Club, from 2007 to 2013 Ms. Schott served as Chief Financial Officer of San Manuel Band of Mission Indians, a sovereign American Indian tribe, and from 2003 to 2007 she was the Chief Accounting Officer of First American Title Insurance Company, a publicly traded financial services company. Ms. Schott holds an EMBA from Claremont Graduate University and a bachelor's degree in Accounting from Cal Poly Pomona University. She is also a Certified Public Accountant (active) and a member of the California Society of Certified Public Accountants and the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants.

Ms. Schott possesses leadership skills and a vast knowledge base on finance, accounting, strategic planning, risk management as well as decision support for portfolio development, acquisitions, divestures, and establishing governance protocols. The Board believes that these skills and experiences qualify her to serve as a member of the Board. Ms. Schott also qualifies as an audit committee financial expert and has financial sophistication as described in the NASDAQ Listing Rules.

## D. Gregory Scott

D. Gregory Scott is a Certified Public Accountant (inactive) and serves as the Managing Director of Peak Holdings, LLC, an investment management company based in Beverly Hills, California. Mr. Scott has been with Peak Holdings, LLC for more than the past five years. Peak Holdings, LLC and its affiliates own and manage in excess of three million square feet of office, retail and warehouse space throughout the United States.

Mr. Scott has extensive financial and managerial experience, which the Board believes qualifies him to serve as a member of the Board. Mr. Scott also qualifies as an audit committee financial expert and has financial sophistication as described in the NASDAQ Listing Rules.

#### John V. Simmons

John V. Simmons has served as Vice President since November 2021. He previously served as President from 2006 to November 2021, as a member of the Executive Committee from 2006 to November 2023, and as Vice President from 2000 until 2006. Mr. Simmons earned a Bachelor of Arts degree in Psychology from the University of Wisconsin.

Mr. Simmons has extensive knowledge and experience in the areas of marketing, product research and development, trade relations and operations developed as an employee of the Company since 1979. The Board believes these skills and experiences qualify him to serve as a member of the Board.

# **Public Company Directorships**

None of the directors have been a director of any other public company in the past five years.

# **Involvement in Certain Legal Proceedings**

None of the directors have been involved in any legal events reportable under Item 401(f) or Item 103(c)(2) of Regulation S-K during the last ten years.

# **Board Meetings**

During fiscal year 2024, the Company's Board of Directors held eleven regularly scheduled monthly meetings. All directors attended at least 75% of the aggregate number of meetings of the Board of Directors and meetings of committees upon which they served.

#### Arrangements or Understandings with Directors

There are no agreements or understandings pursuant to which any of the directors was or is to be elected to serve as a director or nominee.

Further, none of our directors have agreements or arrangements with any person or entity, other than the Company, relating to compensation or other payments in connection with such director's service to the Company.

#### **Controlled Company Status and Director Independence**

The Company is considered a "controlled company" within the meaning of Rule 5615(c)(1) of the NASDAQ Listing Rules based on the approximate 80% beneficial ownership of its outstanding common stock by Bridgford Industries Incorporated and is therefore exempted from various NASDAQ Listing Rules pertaining to certain "independence" requirements of its directors, including the requirement to maintain a majority of independent directors on the Company's Board of Directors and certain requirements with respect to the committees of the Board. Nevertheless, the Board of Directors has determined that Messrs. Andrews and Scott, and Ms. Schott who together comprise the Audit Committee and the Compensation Committee, are all "independent directors" within the meaning of Rule 5605 of the NASDAQ Listing Rules, and Messrs. Bridgford and Simmons who are employees of the Company, Messrs. Bridgford Sr. and Lancy who are retired executives of the Company, and Mr. Ross, who is a consultant to the Company, are not "independent directors."

#### **Board Committees**

The Board of Directors maintains three committees, the Compensation Committee, the Audit Committee and the Nominating Committee.

#### Compensation Committee

The Compensation Committee currently consists of Messrs. Scott (Chairman) and Andrews and Ms. Schott.

Each of the current members of the Compensation Committee is a non-employee director, and notwithstanding that the Company is a "controlled company" within the meaning of the NASDAQ Listing Rules, each member is independent as defined in Rule 5605(a)(2) of the NASDAQ Listing Rules. The Compensation Committee is responsible for establishing and administering the Company's compensation arrangements for all executive officers.

The Compensation Committee meets no less frequently than annually (and more frequently as circumstances dictate) to discuss and determine executive officer and director compensation. While the Compensation Committee is permitted to do so, it typically does not retain a compensation consultant. However, from time to time it utilizes compensation data from companies that it deems to be competitive with the Company in connection with its annual review of executive compensation. The Compensation Committee has the power to form and delegate authority to subcommittees when appropriate, provided that such subcommittees are composed entirely of directors who would qualify for membership on the Compensation Committee pursuant to applicable NASDAQ Listing Rules. See "COMPENSATION DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS" and "Director Compensation" for further discussion regarding executive officer and director compensation.

The Compensation Committee held one meeting during fiscal year 2024. Directors typically do not receive additional fees for their participation on the Compensation Committee. The Compensation Committee operates under a written charter, which was adopted on October 11, 2010. The charter is available on the Company's website at *www.bridgford.com* under "Governance."

#### Audit Committee

The Audit Committee currently consists of Messrs. Andrews (Chairman) and Scott and Ms. Schott.

The Audit Committee has been established in accordance with the rules and regulations of the SEC and each of the current members of the Audit Committee is an "independent director" as defined in Rule 5605(c)(2) of the NASDAQ Listing Rules. In addition, the Board has determined that each of Messrs. Scott and Andrews, and Ms. Schott qualify as "audit committee financial experts" as such term is used in the rules and regulations of the SEC.

The Audit Committee selects the firm of independent registered public accountants to be retained by the Company, subject to shareholder ratification, pre-approves services rendered by its independent registered public accountants and pre-approves all related-party transactions. The Audit Committee will periodically meet with the Company's independent registered public accountants to review, among other things, the Company's accounting policies and the adequacy and effectiveness of its disclosure controls and internal controls. It also reviews the scope and adequacy of the independent registered public accountants' examination of the Company's annual financial statements.

The Audit Committee heldsix meetings during fiscal year 2024. On average, each member of the Audit Committee receives \$350 to \$550 per meeting depending on the length of the meeting attended. In addition, the Audit Committee holds a meeting on a quarterly basis with the Company's independent registered public accountants and management to review and discuss the interim financial reports before the interim results are released to the public. The Audit Committee operates under an Amended and Restated Audit Committee Charter, which was approved on October 11, 2021. The charter is available on the Company's website at *www.bridgford.com* under "Governance."

#### Nominating Committee

The Board of Directors has decided that the full Board should perform the functions of a Nominating Committee for the Company. It made that decision because the Board believes that selecting new Board nominees is one of the most important responsibilities the Board members have to the Company's shareholders, and for that reason, all of the members of the Board should have the right and responsibility to participate in the selection process. Because of its status as a "controlled company" within the meaning of Rule 5615(c)(1) of the NASDAQ Listing Rules, the Company is not required to have a Nominating Committee comprised solely of independent directors. The Nominating Committee does not act pursuant to a written charter and held one meeting during fiscal year 2024.

In its role as Nominating Committee, the full Board identifies and screens new candidates for Board membership. Nevertheless, actions of the Board, in its role as Nominating Committee, can be taken only with the affirmative vote of a majority of the independent directors on the Board, as defined by the NASDAQ Listing Rules.

#### **Director Nomination Process**

In identifying new Board candidates, the Board will seek recommendations from existing Board members and executive officers. In addition, the Board will consider any candidates that may have been recommended by any of the Company's shareholders who have made those recommendations in accordance with the shareholder nomination procedures described below. The Board, in its capacity as Nominating Committee, does not evaluate nominees recommended by shareholders differently from its evaluation of other director nominees. The Board also has the authority to engage an executive search firm and other advisors as it deems appropriate to assist in identifying qualified candidates for the Board.

Any shareholder desiring to submit a recommendation for consideration by the Board of a candidate that the shareholder believes is qualified to be a Board nominee at any upcoming shareholders meeting may do so by submitting that recommendation in writing, and in accordance with the time periods and information requirements set forth in our Bylaws, to the Company's Corporate Secretary, c/o Bridgford Foods Corporation, 1707 South Good-Latimer Expressway, Dallas, Texas 75226. No director nominations by shareholders have been received as of the filing of this Proxy Statement.

In assessing and selecting Board candidates, the Board will consider such factors, among others, as: the candidate's independence, experience, knowledge, skills and expertise, as demonstrated by past employment and board experience; the candidate's reputation for integrity; and the candidate's participation in local community and local, state, regional or national charitable organizations. When selecting a nominee from among candidates considered by the Board, it will conduct background inquiries of and interviews with the candidates the Board members believe are best qualified to serve as directors. The Board members will consider a number of factors in making their selection of a nominee from among those candidates, including, among others: whether the candidate has the ability, willingness and enthusiasm to devote the time and effort required of members of the Board; whether the candidate has any conflicts of interest or commitments that would interfere with the candidate's ability to fulfill the responsibilities of directors of the Company, including membership on Board committees; whether the candidate's skills and experience would add to the overall competencies of the Board; and whether the candidate has any special background or experience relevant to the Company's business. The Board believes that directors should possess the highest personal and professional ethics, integrity and values, and be committed to representing the long-term interests of the Company's shareholders. Each director must also be able to dedicate the time and resources sufficient to ensure the diligent performance of his or her duties.

#### **Board Consideration of Diversity**

The Board believes that differences in experience, knowledge, skills and expertise enhance the performance of the Board. Accordingly, the Board, in its capacity as Nominating Committee, considers such diversity in selecting and evaluating proposed Board nominees. However, the Board has not implemented a formal policy with respect to the consideration of diversity for the composition of the Board.

#### Board Leadership Structure and the Role of the Board in Risk Management Oversight

#### Board Leadership Structure

The Board is currently comprised of a total of eight directors. Michael W. Bridgford, who is not a director, serves as the Chairman of the Board. In this capacity, he is principally charged with fulfilling the following duties:

- Presiding as the Chairman of the meetings of the Board of Directors;
- Serving as a conduit of information between the independent directors and members of management;
- Approving Board of Directors meeting agendas and schedules;
- Calling executive session meetings of the independent directors, as needed;
- Reviewing information sent to the Board of Directors;
- Working with the Chief Financial Officer and Corporate Secretary to ensure the Board has adequate resources to support its decision-making obligations;
- Meeting with shareholders as appropriate; and
- Such other responsibilities and duties as the Board of Directors shall designate.

The Company has not appointed a Chief Executive Officer. Instead, the Company has historically utilized an Executive Committee to serve in the capacity of Chief Executive Officer. The Board believes that the Executive Committee structure is appropriate for the Company because it requires a full committee of officers, each of whom bring their own experiences and perspectives to bear on their decision making, to discuss and vote on important decisions affecting the Company. The Company has utilized an Executive Committee in lieu of appointing a Chief Executive Officer for more than twenty years. See "Executive Officers" for further discussion about the role and membership of the Executive Committee.

The Chairman of the Board serves on the Executive Committee. Thus, the roles of Chairman of the Board and Chief Executive Officer are intertwined to some extent. However, none of the members of the Executive Committee are also directors. The Board believes that this structure properly maintains the independence of the Board as a whole, and of the Chairman of the Board, from the Executive Committee.

#### The Board's Role in Risk Management Oversight

The Executive Committee is responsible for the day-to-day management of risk. It does not view risk management as a separate function, but rather as part of the day-to-day process of running the Company. It is the Board's responsibility to oversee the Executive Committee with respect to its risk management function and to ensure that the Company's risk management system is well-functioning and consistent with the Company's overall corporate strategy and financial goals.

In fulfilling that oversight role, the Board focuses on the adequacy of the Company's overall risk management system. The Board believes that an effective risk management system will adequately identify the material risks to the Company's business, monitor the effectiveness of the risk mitigating policies and procedures, and provide the Executive Committee with input with respect to the risk management process.

With respect to cybersecurity risk management, the Company developed and implemented an IT Steering Committee that assesses the primary cybersecurity risks facing the Company. The Audit Committee oversees the IT Steering Committee and actively reviews and discusses with them our data security posture, results from internal audit and third-party assessments, and certain cybersecurity risks or incidents. The Audit Committee is authorized to and regularly reports to management or the Board matters it deems relevant to cybersecurity. For more information regarding the Board's oversight of cybersecurity, please see Item 1C. "Cybersecurity" of our 2024 Annual Report.

#### Employee, Director and Officer Hedging

The Company's insider trading policy prohibits employees (including officers) and directors from purchasing financial instruments (including prepaid variable forward contracts, equity swaps, collars, and exchange funds), or otherwise engaging in transactions, that hedge or offset, or are designed to hedge or offset, any decrease in the market value of our equity securities.

#### **Insider Trading Policies and Procedures**

We have adopted an insider trading policy and procedures that govern the purchase, sale and/or other dispositions of our securities by directors, officers, employees and certain other persons. It is also our policy to take appropriate steps to comply with applicable federal and state securities laws and regulations, as well as applicable stock exchange listing standards, when the Company engages in transactions in its securities. We believe that our insider trading policy and procedures are reasonably designed to promote compliance with insider trading laws, rules and regulations, and the NASDAQ Listing Rules. A copy of our insider trading policy was filed as an exhibit to our 2024 Annual Report.

#### Code of Ethics

The Company adopted a code of ethics that is applicable to, among other individuals, its principal executive officer, principal financial officer, principal accounting officer or controller, or persons performing similar functions, and posted the code of ethics on its website at *www.bridgford.com* under "Governance" (and designated therein as the Code of Conduct - Governance). Any amendment or waiver to the Company's code of ethics that applies to its directors or executive officers will be posted on its website or in a Current Report on Form 8-K filed with the SEC.

#### **Communications with the Board**

Shareholders may communicate with the Board or any of the directors by sending written communications addressed to the Board of Directors generally, or to any director(s), to Bridgford Foods Corporation, 1707 South Good-Latimer Expressway, Dallas, Texas 75226, Attention: Corporate Secretary. All communications are compiled by the Corporate Secretary and forwarded to the Board or the individual director(s) accordingly.

#### **Director Attendance at Annual Meetings**

The Company does not currently have a specific policy regarding director attendance at annual shareholder meetings. However, directors are strongly encouraged to attend annual shareholder meetings. All of the directors then serving on the Board of the Company attended the Company's 2024 Annual Meeting of Shareholders virtually.

#### **Executive Officers**

The following three executive officers are elected annually to serve at the pleasure of the Board of Directors:

Name	Age	Position(s) with Our Company
Baron R. H. Bridgford II <sup>(1)</sup>	42	President and Chairman of the Executive Committee <sup>(2)</sup>
Cindy Matthews-Morales	54	Chief Financial Officer and Secretary and Member of the Executive Committee <sup>(2)</sup>
Michael W. Bridgford <sup>(1)</sup>	43	Chairman of the Board and Member of the Executive Committee <sup>(2)</sup>

- (1) Michael W. Bridgford is the son of William L. Bridgford, our Vice President, is a cousin of Baron R.H. Bridgford II and is director Allan Bridgford Sr.'s great nephew. Baron R.H. Bridgford II is Allan Bridgford Sr.'s great nephew and a cousin of Michael W. Bridgford.
- (2) The Executive Committee, comprised of three executive officers during fiscal year 2024 and as of the date of this Proxy Statement, act in the capacity of Chief Executive Officer of the Company. For fiscal year 2023, the Executive Committee consisted of five members and also included William L. Bridgford and John V. Simmons.

#### Cindy Matthews-Morales

Cindy Matthews-Morales has served as Chief Financial Officer and a member of the Executive Committee since October 2022. Ms. Matthews-Morales has also served as Secretary since 2006. She previously served as Corporate Controller from 2000 until October 2022. Ms. Matthews-Morales has been a full-time employee of the Company since 2000. She earned a Master of Business Administration with a concentration in Accounting from California State University, Fullerton.

Ms. Matthews-Morales has extensive knowledge in accounting, cash management and financial competency as well as a strong understanding of Company operations.

#### Michael W. Bridgford

Michael W. Bridgford has served as Chairman of the Board and a member of the Executive Committee since October 2021. He previously served as Vice President from March 2015 until November 2021 and as Assistant Secretary from March 2007 until November 2021. Mr. Bridgford has been a full-time employee of the Company since 2002. He graduated from Vanguard University in 2004 with a degree in Business with an emphasis in Organizational Management.

Mr. Bridgford has overseen sandwich and lunch meat production in the Anaheim and Frozen-Rite plants, led the Anaheim Deli Route division, worked as a Regional Sales Manager in the Frozen Foods division, and most recently been responsible for leading the entire Frozen Foods division's sales efforts. He also has extensive experience controlling inventory, administering payroll, managing employees, and working with customers.

#### Baron R. H. Bridgford II

Baron R. H. Bridgford II has served as President and a member of the Executive Committee since October 2021. He previously served as Vice President of the Chicago Meat Snack division from 2008 to 2021 and works closely in the Chicago plant with his father, Baron Bridgford Sr., and brothers, Brian and Richard Bridgford. Mr. Bridgford earned a Bachelor of Science in Business Administration from the University of Colorado.

Mr. Bridgford is a member of the fourth generation of the Bridgford family and has worked for the Company throughout its operations from an early age. He served as a DSD route driver and Route Specialist during the early part of his career, gaining hands-on experience with the Company's unique DSD distribution model. He has worked closely with Senior Vice President Chris Cole making headquarter calls on the Company's largest customers. In addition to retail headquarter calls, Mr. Bridgford has developed and grown the Company's co-packing and warehouse business out of the Chicago plant.

#### Agreements or Understandings with Officers

There are no agreements or understandings pursuant to which any of the executive officers was or is selected to serve as an executive officer.

#### PRINCIPAL SHAREHOLDERS AND MANAGEMENT

The following table sets forth certain information known to the Company with respect to the beneficial ownership of the Company's common stock as of February 7, 2025, by each shareholder known by the Company to be the beneficial owner of more than 5% of the Company's common stock, by each director and nominee for director, by each executive officer named in the Summary Compensation Table and by all executive officers and directors as a group. The information as to each person or entity has been furnished by such person or group.

#### Amount and Nature of Shares Beneficially Owned

Name and Address	Sole Voting and Investment	Total Beneficially	Percentage of Outstanding Shares Beneficially
of Beneficial Owner <sup>(1)</sup>	Power	Owned <sup>(3)</sup>	Owned <sup>(3)</sup>
Bridgford Industries Incorporated			
1707 South Good-Latimer Expressway			
Dallas, TX 75226	7,156,396 <sup>(2)</sup>	7,156,396	78.8%
Allan L. Bridgford, Sr.	155,882	155,882	1.7%
William L. Bridgford	7,461	7,461	*%
Michael W. Bridgford	—	—	—
Baron R.H. Bridgford II	305	305	*%
Raymond F. Lancy	242	242	*%
John V. Simmons	363	363	*%
Todd C. Andrews	200	200	*%
D. Gregory Scott	4,446	4,446	*%
Keith A. Ross	—	—	—
Mary Schott	—	_	—
Cindy Matthews-Morales			
All directors and executive officers as a group			
(11 persons)	7,325,295	7,325,295	80.7%

\* Represents ownership of less than one percent (1%) of the outstanding shares.

- <sup>(1)</sup> Unless otherwise indicated, the address of such beneficial owner is the Company's principal executive offices, which are located at 1707 South Good-Latimer Expressway, Dallas, Texas 75226.
- (2) Represents shares beneficially owned by Bridgford Industries Incorporated, a Delaware corporation ("BII") as reported on Amendment No. 1 to Schedule 13D filed with the SEC on February 7, 2017. Other than ownership of these shares, BII does not presently have any significant business or assets. Allan L. Bridgford, Sr., William L. Bridgford, Baron R.H. Bridgford, Michael W. Bridgford and Baron R.H. Bridgford II presently own 16.49%, 13.20%, 9.83%, 0.60% and 0.60%, respectively, of the outstanding voting capital stock of BII. The remaining shares of BII capital stock are owned of record, or beneficially, by 32 additional members of the Bridgford family. The directors of BII jointly vote all of the Company's shares held by BII.
- (3) Applicable percentage of ownership as of February 7, 2025, is based upon 9,076,832 shares of common stock outstanding. Beneficial ownership is determined in accordance with the rules of the SEC and includes voting and investment power with respect to shares shown as beneficially owned. Except as otherwise indicated, and subject to community property laws where applicable, to the knowledge of the Company the persons listed above have sole voting and investment power with respect to all shares shown as beneficially owned by them.

#### **Changes in Control**

We are not aware of any arrangements that have resulted, or may at a subsequent date result, in a change in control of the Company.

#### **REPORT OF THE AUDIT COMMITTEE**

Pursuant to a meeting of the Audit Committee on January 13, 2025, the Audit Committee reports that it has: (i) reviewed and discussed the Company's audited financial statements with management; (ii) discussed with the independent registered public accountants the matters (such as the quality of the Company's accounting principles and internal controls) required to be discussed by the applicable requirements of the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board and the Commission; and (iii) received the written disclosures and the letter from Baker Tilly required by applicable requirements of the Public Company Accounting independence, and has discussed with Baker Tilly its independence. Based on the review and discussions referred to in items (i) through (iii) above, the Audit Committee recommended to the Board that the audited financial statements be included in the Company's 2024 Annual Report.

#### AUDIT COMMITTEE

Todd C. Andrews, Chairman Mary Schott D. Gregory Scott

The foregoing Audit Committee Report shall not be deemed soliciting material, shall not be deemed filed with the SEC and shall not be incorporated by reference in any filing of the Company under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, or the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, whether made before or after the date hereof and irrespective of any general incorporation language in any such filing.

#### COMPENSATION DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS

#### **Compensation of Executive Officers**

#### **Compensation Overview**

This section provides information regarding the compensation paid to the Company's named executive officers, or NEOs, all of whom are members of the Executive Committee. The Company has historically been and continues to be principally managed by the Executive Committee.

For fiscal year 2024, the NEOs consisted of the following three persons:

- Baron R.H. Bridgford II, President and Chairman of the Executive Committee
- Michael W. Bridgford, Chairman of the Board (Principal Executive Officer) and Member of the Executive Committee
- Cindy Matthews-Morales, Chief Financial Officer and Secretary (Principal Financial Officer) and Member of the Executive Committee

The Company's executive compensation program is overseen by the Compensation Committee, which is comprised of certain nonemployee members of the Board and, notwithstanding that the Company is a "controlled company" within the meaning of the NASDAQ Listing Rules, each member is independent as defined in Rule 5605(a)(2) of the NASDAQ Listing Rules. The Compensation Committee currently consists of three members, including of Messrs. Scott (Chairman) and Andrews and Ms. Schott. The basic responsibility of the Compensation Committee is to review the performance of the officers and key employees toward achieving the Company's strategic goals and to help ensure that the Company is able to attract and retain individuals who can lead the Company to achieve those goals.

One of the Company's primary strategic goals is to increase shareholder value while meeting its objectives for customer satisfaction, improved sales and financial performance, sound corporate governance, and competitive advantage. The Company's current emphases on controlling costs and improving profit margins on a consistent basis are also important factors which affect the Company's compensation decisions. The Compensation Committee's goal is to work with management to balance the Company's financial goals and circumstances with the need to attract, motivate and retain the fully qualified and capable individuals the Company needs to meet and surpass its customers' and shareholders' expectations in a highly competitive industry.

#### **Compensation Philosophy and Objectives**

The core of the Company's executive compensation philosophy is to pay for performance. To that end, incentive bonus targets are set each year to reward excellent executive performance based upon the achievement of profit objectives by business units and the Company's overall profitability based on pretax income, thus stimulating all executives to assume broad responsibility for the Company's overall financial welfare and financial performance. The Compensation Committee's guiding principles are as follows:

- Work with management to provide a compensation program that recognizes individual contributions as well as the Company's overall business results;
- Provide reasonable levels of total compensation which will enable the Company to attract and retain qualified and capable executive talent within its industry, while also considering the Company's current goals of controlling costs and effecting consistent improvements in its overall financial condition;
- Motivate executive officers to deliver optimum individual and business unit performance;
- Develop and retain a leadership team that is capable of successfully operating and growing an increasingly competitive and complex business in a rapidly changing industry; and
- Ensure that executive compensation-related disclosures are made to the public on a timely basis.

#### Role of the Compensation Committee

The compensation of all NEOs and other executive officers is determined by the Compensation Committee. The Compensation Committee met one time during fiscal year 2024. The primary responsibilities of the Compensation Committee include, without limitation, the following:

- Determine the compensation of the members of the Executive Committee, after taking into account the Board's assessment of the performance of the Executive Committee, as well as any other executive officers of the Company.
- Determine the compensation of the Chairman of the Board and the directors of the Company.
- Assess the performance of the executive officers of the Company other than the members of the Executive Committee (whose performance is assessed by the Board).
- Review and make recommendations to the Board regarding the Company's compensation policies and philosophy.
- Review and make recommendations to the Board with respect to the employment agreements, severance agreements, change of control agreements and other similar agreements between the Company and its executive officers.
- Administer the Company's equity incentive plans, including the review and grant of stock option and other equity incentive grants.
- Review and discuss the Compensation Discussion and Analysis, or CD&A, section of the Company's annual proxy statement with management, and recommend to the Board that the CD&A be included in the Company's proxy statement as required.
- Produce an annual report on executive compensation for inclusion in the Company's proxy statement.
- As requested by Company management, review, consult and make recommendations and/or determinations regarding employee compensation and benefit plans and programs generally, including employee bonus and retirement plans and programs.
- Assist the Board and management in developing and evaluating potential candidates for executive officer positions.
- Advise the Board in its succession-planning initiatives for the Company's executive officers and other senior officers.

#### Role of Management in the Compensation Determination Process

The Company's senior management team, particularly the Chairman of the Board and the Chairman of the Executive Committee, support the Compensation Committee in the executive compensation decision-making process. At the request of the Compensation Committee, one or more members of the Executive Committee may present a performance assessment and recommendations to the Compensation Committee regarding base salaries, bonus payments, incentive plan structure and other compensation-related matters for the Company's executive officers (other than with respect to their own compensation).

#### Role of Compensation Consultant

The Compensation Committee has decided not to utilize the services of a paid compensation consultant after concluding that such a consultant would provide insufficient value compared to the cost.

#### Total Compensation for Executive Officers

The compensation packages offered to the Company's executive officers are comprised of one or more of the following elements:

- Base salary;
- Discretionary cash bonuses; and
- Post-retirement healthcare and pension benefits.

The Company does not have any formal policies which dictate the amount to be paid with respect to each element, nor does it have any policies which dictate the relative proportion of the various elements. The Company also does not have any formal policies for allocating

between cash and non-cash compensation and short-term and long-term compensation. Instead, the Company relies on the judgment of the Compensation Committee and input and feedback from the management team, including in particular members of the Executive Committee. The Compensation Committee has no plans to adopt any such formulas, ratios or other such targets that might artificially dilute the Company's effectiveness in achieving its overall profit objectives. In fact, all of the Company's compensation policy decisions are made in the context of its current financial position and are subordinated to the Company's current goal of achieving overall profitability on an annual basis. Each of the compensation components is described in more detail below.

#### Base Salary

The Company provides executive officers and other employees with base salary to compensate them for services rendered during the fiscal year. The purpose of base salary is to reward effective fulfillment of an executive's assigned job responsibilities, and to reflect the position's relative value to the Company and competitiveness of the executive job market. Base salaries for executive officers are determined based on the nature and responsibility of the position, salary norms for comparable positions at similar companies, the expertise and effectiveness of the individual executive, and the competitiveness of the market for the executive officer's services.

The Company has successfully held most base salaries at the low end of the competitive range in order to reduce its overall cost structure and to achieve systematic improvement in the financial performance of the business without incurring a large turnover in executive talent and leadership.

Any "merit increases" for the Company's executive officers are subject to the same budgetary constraints that apply to all other employees. Executive officer salaries are evaluated as part of the Company's annual review process and may be adjusted where justified in the context of the Company's current focus on profitability and controlling expenses.

For fiscal year 2025, the Compensation Committee set a base salary of \$6,366 per week for each Executive Committee member, reduced on a pro-rata basis for any member working less than a full-time schedule. For fiscal year 2024, the Compensation Committee set a base salary of \$6,180 per week for each Executive Committee member, reduced on a pro-rata basis for any member working less than a full-time schedule.

#### Discretionary Cash Bonuses

The Company's policy is to make a significant portion of each NEO's total compensation contingent upon the Company's financial performance. The Compensation Committee believes that the payment of cash bonuses based on the Company's financial success allows the Company to offer a competitive total compensation package despite relatively lower base salaries, while aligning a significant portion of executive compensation with the achievement of positive Company financial results. However, while the payment of these cash bonuses to the NEOs is generally correlated with the achievement of positive Company financial results, there are no specific performance targets communicated to the NEOs in advance, and the bonuses are ultimately paid at the discretion of the Compensation Committee after receiving input from the Chairman of the Board. For the fiscal year ended November 1, 2024, no discretionary bonuses were awarded to the members of the Company's Executive Committee as disclosed in detail in the Summary Compensation Table.

#### Long-Term Equity-Based Incentive Compensation

The Compensation Committee has concluded that long-term stock-related compensation has very limited value as an employee incentive or retention tool because the Company's equity-based incentive awards have historically provided little or no value to the recipient. In addition, beginning in 2005, U.S. accounting rules required the Company to expense any stock option awards according to a formula which could impose a costly charge on the Company's income statements, thereby burdening or erasing its profit margins. Because of these factors, the Company has not granted stock options or restricted stock awards for many years. Instead, the Compensation Committee aims to align the interests of the NEOs with those of the Company's shareholders by creating a link between the payment of executive compensation and the achievement of Company financial goals as described above. The Company's 1999 Stock Incentive Plan expired by its own terms on April 29, 2009. No stock options remain outstanding and no additional stock options or restricted stock may be granted thereunder.

#### Pension and Retirement Benefits

<u>Retirement Plan for Administrative and Sales Employees of Bridgford Foods Corporation</u>. The Company has a defined benefit plan, or the Primary Benefit Plan, for certain of its employees not covered by collective bargaining agreements. The Primary Benefit Plan, administered by a major life insurance company, presently provides that participants receive an annual benefit on retirement equal to 1.5% of their total compensation from the Company during their period of participation from 1958. Benefits are not reduced by Social Security payments or by payments from other sources and are payable in the form of a monthly lifetime annuity commencing at age 65 or the participant's date of retirement, whichever is later. Effective May 12, 2006, future benefit accruals under the Primary Benefit Plan were frozen.

<u>Bridgford Foods Retirement Savings 401(k) Plan</u>. The Company implemented a 401(k)-plan effective May 13, 2006. The Company makes a matching contribution to each employee's account based on pretax contributions in an amount equal to 100% of the first 3% of compensation and 50% of the next 2% of compensation contributed to the Plan. Certain limitations on optional pre-tax contributions to the plan are imposed pursuant to the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended. No amounts are contributed by the Company unless the employee elects to make a pretax contribution to the Plan.

#### Perquisites and Other Benefits

The Company provides its executive officers with various health and welfare programs and other employee benefits which are generally available on the same cost-sharing basis to all of its employees. However, in keeping with the Company's policy of controlling costs in connection with its profitability objectives, it does not provide any significant perquisites or other special benefits to its executive officers including, but not limited to, payment of club memberships, fees associated with financial planning, executive dining rooms or special transportation rights. The Company does not own an airplane and does not provide aircraft for executives for business or personal purposes.

The Company provides post-retirement healthcare benefits for certain executives and their spouses (who are within fifteen years of age of the employee) who have reached normal retirement age. This coverage is secondary to Medicare. Coverage for spouses continues upon the death of the employee. The maximum benefit under the plan is \$100,000 per year per retiree. The combined loss on this plan was \$34,000 and \$9,000 during fiscal year 2024 and 2023, respectively, for all active and retired participants.

#### **Employment and Consulting Agreements**

The Company currently does not have any employment agreements with any of its NEOs. However, on August 12, 2019, the Company entered into a consulting agreement with Allan L. Bridgford, Sr., pursuant to which the Company has engaged Mr. Bridgford to provide consulting services to the Company, which commenced effective October 30, 2021, upon his retirement from employment with the Company on October 29, 2021. Under the terms of the consulting agreement, Mr. Bridgford provides to the Company consulting services, including, but not limited to, business development and strategic partnering, commencing on the date of his retirement and until such agreement is terminated by either party upon at least thirty (30) days' notice to the other party. Mr. Bridgford will be compensated at a rate of \$20,833.33 per month (increased to \$21,875.00 per month effective May 2024) and will be reimbursed for all reasonable out of pocket expenses incurred in rendering such services. Additionally, upon the retirement from employment of Raymond F. Lancy on February 1, 2023, the Company entered into a consulting agreement with Mr. Lancy to provide as needed consulting services to the Company. Mr. Lancy is compensated at an hourly rate of \$157.50 and is reimbursed for all reasonable out of pocket expenses incurred in rendering such services.

#### Payments Upon Termination of Employment or Change in Control

The Company currently does not have any severance, change of control or similar agreements with any of its NEOs.

#### Tax and Accounting Implications

The Compensation Committee is responsible for considering the deductibility of executive compensation under Section 162(m) of the Internal Revenue Code, which in fiscal year 2024 provided that it could not deduct compensation of more than \$1,000,000 that is paid to its executive officers. The Company believes that the compensation paid under the current management incentive programs is fully deductible for federal income tax purposes. In certain situations, the Compensation Committee may approve compensation that will not meet the requirements for deductibility in order to ensure competitive levels of compensation for its executives and to meet its obligations under the terms of various incentive programs. However, the issue of deductibility has not come before the Compensation Committee in recent years and is not expected to be a concern for the foreseeable future.

#### Shareholder Advisory Vote on Executive Compensation and Frequency of Advisory Vote

Pursuant to the Dodd-Frank Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act of 2010, the Company held a shareholder vote on the frequency of an advisory (non-binding) shareholder vote on the compensation of the Company's NEOs (commonly known as a "say-on-pay" proposal) at its 2023 Annual Meeting of Shareholders. At such meeting, the shareholders of the Company elected to hold a say-on-pay vote every three years. The Company's shareholders most recently approved the overall compensation of the Company's NEOs at the 2024 Annual Meeting of Shareholders. The Compensation Committee considers the results of the shareholders' advisory say-on-pay vote in its determination of NEO compensation. The Company's next say-on-pay shareholder vote shall be at the 2026 Annual Meeting of Shareholder vote on frequency shall be at the 2029 Annual Meeting of Shareholders.

#### Summary Compensation Table

The table below provides summary information concerning cash and certain other compensation paid to or accrued for the Company's NEOs during fiscal years 2024 and 2023, respectively. Each of the NEOs named below were also members of the Executive Committee during the referenced periods, which Committee acts in the capacity of Chief Executive Officer of the Company.

See "COMPENSATION DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS" for further discussion of compensation arrangements pursuant to which the amounts listed in the table below were paid or awarded and the criteria for such payment or award.

							Change in Pension Value and Non-		
Name and						Non-Equity	<b>Qualified Deferred</b>	All	
Principal		Base		Stock	Option	Incentive Plan	Compensation	Other	
Position	Year S	alary(\$) <sup>(1)</sup>	Bonus(\$)	Awards(\$) <sup>(2)</sup>	Awards(\$) <sup>(3)</sup>	Compensation(\$) <sup>(4)</sup>	Earnings(\$) <sup>(5)</sup>	Compensation(\$) <sup>(6)</sup>	Total(\$)
Michael W.									
Bridgford	2024	321,360	-	-	-	-	3,670	21,800	346,830
Chairman of									
the Board	2023	312,000	165,351	-	-	-	-	21,200	498,551
Baron R.									
Bridgford II	2024	321,360	-	-	-	-	3,670	21,800	346,830
President	2023	312,000	165,351	-	-	-	-	21,200	498,551
Cindy									
Matthews-									
Morales	2024	321,360	-	-	-	-	10,372	21,800	353,532
Chief Financial									
Officer	2023	312,000	165,351	-	-	-	43,378	21,200	541,929

<sup>(1)</sup> Fiscal year 2024 was 52 weeks and fiscal year 2023 was 53 weeks.

<sup>(2)</sup> The Company did not grant any stock awards to any of the NEOs during fiscal years 2024 or 2023.

<sup>(3)</sup> The Company did not grant any option awards to any of the NEOs during fiscal years 2024 or 2023.

- (4) The Company did not utilize any non-equity incentive plans in order to pay compensation to its NEOs in fiscal years 2024 or 2023. While it is the Company's policy to provide each of the NEOs with an opportunity to earn cash bonuses that are correlated with the Company's financial performance, the payment of the bonuses is ultimately subject to the discretion of the Compensation Committee. See "COMPENSATION DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS – Total Compensation for Executive Officers – Discretionary Cash Bonuses."
- (5) This column includes the aggregate positive change in actuarial present value of each NEO's accumulated benefit under all defined benefit and supplemental pension plans. In accordance with SEC rules, to the extent the aggregate change in present value of all defined benefit and supplemental pension plans for a particular fiscal year would have been a negative amount, the amount has instead been reported as \$0 and the aggregate compensation for the NEO in the "Total" column has not been adjusted to reflect the negative amount. In addition, to the extent that the change in present value of any particular defined benefit or supplemental pension plan for a particular year was a negative amount, the negative amount has not been used to offset the positive change in present value associated with the other applicable defined benefit or supplemental pension plans. The aggregate change in the present value of the non-qualified deferred compensation plan and pension and retirement benefits for the NEOs in fiscal years 2024 and 2023 was as follows: (i) for fiscal year 2024, Michael W. Bridgford (\$3,670), Baron R.H. Bridgford II (\$3,670) and Cindy Matthews-Morales (\$10,372), and (ii) for fiscal year 2023, Michael W. Bridgford (\$1,173), Baron R.H. Bridgford II (-\$62,138) and Cindy Matthews-Morales (\$43,378).
- <sup>(6)</sup> Consists of (i) \$8,000 payment to offset the cancellation of health benefits, and (ii) matching contributions of the Bridgford Foods Retirement Savings 401(k) plan made by the Company on behalf of each of the NEO's..

#### Narrative to Summary Compensation Table

See "COMPENSATION DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS" for further discussion of compensation arrangements pursuant to which amounts listed under the Summary Compensation Table were paid or awarded and the criteria for such payment or award.

#### Grants of Plan-Based Awards

There were no stock options, restricted stock, restricted stock units or equity or non-equity-based performance awards granted to the Company's NEOs during fiscal years 2024 or 2023. The Company's 1999 Stock Incentive Plan expired by its own terms on April 29, 2009, and no additional stock options or restricted stock may be granted thereunder.

#### **Outstanding Equity Awards at Fiscal Year-End**

There were no outstanding options or stock awards held by any NEOs as of November 1, 2024.

#### **Option Exercises and Stock Vested**

There were no shares acquired upon the exercise of stock options or vesting of stock awards by any NEOs during fiscal years 2024 or 2023.

#### Pension Benefits for NEOs

The tables below provide information concerning retirement plan benefits for each NEO.

#### Retirement Plan for Administrative and Sales Employees of Bridgford Foods Corporation

<u>Normal Retirement</u>: Benefits commence upon reaching the "Normal Retirement Date", which is the first day of the month on or after attainment of age 65. Pension benefit payments begin on the normal retirement date and continue until death.

<u>Early Retirement</u>: A participant may choose to retire up to ten years before the normal retirement date. If a participant retires early, the accrued pension will be reduced by a percentage to reflect the longer period over which pension benefits will be received. If a participant is married for at least one year and dies before retirement, a pension benefit will be payable to the surviving spouse for his or her life, provided certain eligibility requirements have been met.

<u>Death Benefits</u>: Payments to a surviving spouse will begin on the first day of the month following a participant's death but not sooner than the earliest date a participant could have elected to retire.

Disability Benefits: A disability benefit is the accrued pension credited to a participant as of the date of disability.

The years of credited service, present value of accumulated plan benefits and payments made during the fiscal year were as follows:

For the Fiscal Year ended November 1, 2024:

Name	Number of Years Credited Service	of Accumulated Benefit <sup>(1)</sup>		Payments During Fiscal Year
Michael Bridgford	22	\$ 14,403	\$	-
Baron R. H. Bridgford II	19	\$ -	\$	-
Cindy Matthews-Morales	24	\$ 53,750	\$	-

(1) The assumed discount rate used was 5.16% to compute the present value of the accumulated benefit. The Pri-2012 Total Dataset Mortality Table with MP- 2021 Scaling was used and an expected return on assets of 5.00% was assumed.

For the Fiscal Year ended November 3, 2023:

Name	Number of Years Credited Service	Present Value of Accumulated Benefit <sup>(1)</sup>	Payments During Fiscal Year
			riscal Teal
Michael Bridgford	21	10,733	-
Baron R. H. Bridgford II	18	-	-
Cindy Matthews-Morales	23	43,378	-

(1) The assumed discount rate used was 5.96% to compute the present value of the accumulated benefit. The Pri-2012 Total Dataset Mortality Table with MP- 2021 Scaling was used and an expected return on assets of 7.00% was assumed.

#### **Pay Versus Performance Disclosure**

Pursuant to Item 402(v) of Regulation S-K of the Exchange Act, the following table sets forth information about the relationship between the compensation actually paid to our principal executive officer, or PEO, and non-PEO named executive officers, or Non-PEO NEOs, and certain performance metrics of the Company. For further information regarding executive compensation for our named executive officers, refer to "COMPENSATION DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS - Compensation Of Executive Officers."

Year	Summary Compensation Table Total for PEO <sup>(1)</sup>	Compensation Actually Paid to PEO <sup>(1)(2)</sup>	Average Summary Compensation Table Total for Non-PEO NEOs <sup>(3)</sup>	Average Compensation Actually Paid to Non-PEO NEOs <sup>(2)(3)</sup>	Value of Initial Fixed \$100 Investment Based on Total Shareholder Return <sup>(4)</sup>	Net (Loss) Income
2024	\$346,830	\$343,160	\$350,181	\$343,160	\$ 76.04	\$ (3,381,000)
2023	\$498,551	\$498,551	\$509,396	\$498,551	\$ 89.51	\$ 3,474,000
2022	\$470,642	\$470,642	\$447,520	\$447,520	\$106.05	\$45,066,000

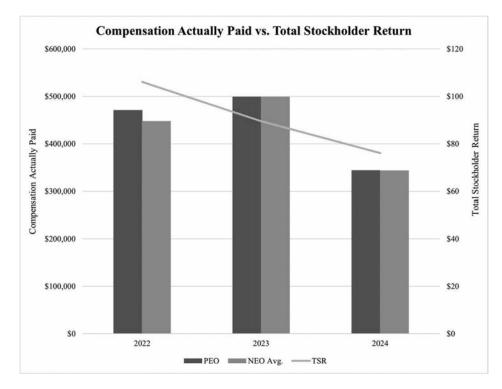
<sup>(1)</sup> Michael W. Bridgford, our Chairman of the Board, was our PEO for fiscal years 2022, 2023 and 2024.

- (2) The dollar amounts reflected in this column represent the compensation actually paid to the PEO and the average compensation actually paid to Non-PEO NEOs, as applicable, computed in accordance with Item 402(v) of Regulation S-K. Compensation actually paid was not adjusted to account for equity awards because no equity awards were granted or remain outstanding as of the fiscal years covered. However, (a) in fiscal year 2023, there was a reduction of \$43,378 to a Non-PEO NEO's compensation actually paid and (b) in fiscal year 2024, there was a reduction of \$3,670 to the PEO's compensation actually paid and an aggregate reduction of \$151,607 to the Non-PEO NEOs' compensation actually paid, in each of cases (a) and (b) to reflect the aggregate positive change in the present value of the non-qualified deferred compensation plan and pension and retirement benefits for such individuals reflected in the Summary Compensation Table for the applicable fiscal year.
- <sup>(3)</sup> The Non-PEO NEOs for each year reported were as follows:
  - 2024: Baron R. Bridgford II and Cindy Matthews-Morales.
  - 2023: William L. Bridgford, John V. Simmons, Baron R. Bridgford II and Cindy Matthews-Morales.
  - 2022: William L. Bridgford, John V. Simmons, Baron R. Bridgford II and Raymond F. Lancy.
- <sup>(4)</sup> The total shareholder return, or TSR, is determined based on the value of an initial fixed investment of \$100 on October 29, 2021, the last day of fiscal year 2021, through the last day of each fiscal year in the table.

#### Relationship Between Compensation Actually Paid and Cumulative Total Shareholder Return

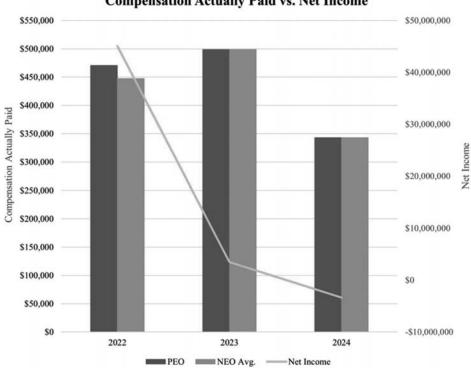
As shown in the graph below, the compensation actually paid to our PEO, Michael W. Bridgford, and the average compensation actually paid to our Non-PEO NEOs during the covered fiscal years are directly correlated with each other since the PEO and each of the four Non-PEO NEOs for fiscal years 2022 and 2023 were members of the Executive Committee, which Committee acts in the capacity of the Chief Executive Officer of the Company. For fiscal year 2024, the PEO and the two Non-PEO NEOs comprised the Executive Committee. Each member of the Executive Committee receives the same base salary and discretionary cash bonus (if any), reduced on a pro-rata basis for any member working less than a full-time schedule (as was the case for Raymond F. Lancy during fiscal year 2022). While we utilize several performance measures to align executive compensation with the Company's performance, they tend not to be directly tied to TSR. For example, part of the compensation our PEO and Non-PEO NEOs are eligible to receive consists of annual discretionary performance-based cash bonuses, which are designed to incentivize our executives to achieve positive Company financial results among other things and reward them for achievement of these results.

The graph below compares the compensation actually paid to our PEO, the average compensation actually paid to our Non-PEO NEOs, and the cumulative TSR. The TSR amounts in the graph assume that \$100 was invested on October 29, 2021, and that all distributions or dividends, if any, were reinvested on a quarterly basis.



Relationship Between Compensation Actually Paid and Net Income

The graph below compares the compensation actually paid to our PEO and the average of the compensation actually paid to our Non-PEO NEOs with our net income for the fiscal years 2022, 2023 and 2024.



# **Compensation Actually Paid vs. Net Income**

#### **Director Compensation**

The following table summarizes the total compensation paid and accrued by the Company to the directors during fiscal year 2024. Directors who were employees did not receive any additional compensation for their services as directors while they were also employees of the Company.

Name	E 01	Fees arned Paid in Cash	Sto Awa				Non-Equity Incentive Plan Compensation	Po Co	-	All Other Compensation	Total
Todd C. Andrews	\$	31,380	\$	_	\$ -	_	\$	\$		\$	\$ 31,380
Keith A. Ross	\$	24,120			_	_	_	\$	_	\$	\$ 24,120
D. Gregory Scott	\$	26,120	\$		\$ -	_	\$	\$		\$	\$ 26,120
Mary Schott	\$	30,680	\$		\$ -	_	\$	\$	_	\$	\$ 30,680
Allan L. Bridgford, Sr.	\$		\$		\$ -	_	\$	\$	_	\$ 256,250 <sup>(1)</sup>	\$256,250
Raymond F. Lancy	\$	29,280	\$	_	\$ -	_	\$	\$	—	\$ 55,415 <sup>(2)</sup>	\$ 84,695
William L. Bridgford			\$		\$ -	_	\$		119,395 <sup>(3)</sup>	310,225 <sup>(4)</sup>	\$429,620
John V. Simmons		—	\$		\$ -	_	\$		18,170(3)	276,518(5)	\$294,688

- (1) Allan L. Bridgford, Sr. did not receive any fees for his services as a director. Rather, Mr. Bridgford, Sr.'s compensation consisted solely of \$256,250 paid pursuant to his consulting agreement for consulting services rendered to the Company in fiscal year 2024. See "CERTAIN RELATIONSHIPS AND RELATED-PARTY TRANSACTIONS" for further details.
- (2) The amount consists of (x) a \$48,642 bonus paid to Mr. Lancy for bonus earned prior to his retirement from employment with the Company effective February 1, 2023, as well as (y) \$6,773 paid to Mr. Lancy pursuant to his consulting agreement for services rendered to the Company in fiscal year 2024 after his retirement from employment.
- (3) This column reflects the aggregate positive change in actuarial present value of the individual's accumulated benefit under all defined benefit and supplemental pension plans. In accordance with SEC rules, to the extent the aggregate change in present value of all defined benefit and supplemental pension plans for a particular fiscal year would have been a negative amount, the amount has instead been reported as \$0 and the aggregate compensation for the individual in the "Total" column has not been adjusted to reflect the negative amount. In addition, to the extent that the change in present value of any particular defined benefit or supplemental pension plan for a particular year was a negative amount, the negative amount has not been used to offset the positive change in present value associated with the other applicable defined benefit or supplemental pension plans.
- <sup>(4)</sup> William L. Bridgford, who serves as Vice President of the Company, did not receive any fees for his services as a director. Rather, Mr. Bridgford's "All Other Compensation" consisted of a base salary of \$288,425, a payment of \$8,000 to offset the cancellation of health benefits, and \$13,800 in matching contributions of the Bridgford Foods Retirement Savings 401(k) plan made by the Company on behalf of Mr. Bridgford.
- (5) John V. Simmons, who serves as Vice President of the Company, did not receive any fees for his services as a director. Rather, Mr. Simmons's "All Other Compensation" consisted of a base salary of \$250,000, a bonus of \$4,718, a payment of \$8,000 to offset the cancellation of health benefits, and \$13,800 in matching contributions of the Bridgford Foods Retirement Savings 401(k) plan made by the Company on behalf of Mr. Simmons.

#### Narrative to Director Compensation Table

The Company uses cash compensation to attract and retain qualified candidates to serve on its Board of Directors. In setting director compensation, the Compensation Committee considers the demands that have been placed and will continue to be placed on the directors and the skill-level required by its directors. In addition, as with the Company's executive officers, compensation decisions for directors are made in the context of the Company's focus on controlling costs and increasing profitability.

The directors are not paid an annual retainer for their service on the Board. Instead, each non-employee director, other than Allan L. Bridgford, Sr., was paid between \$2,580 and \$2,780 for each of the Board meetings attended during fiscal year 2024. Members of the Audit Committee were paid \$350 to \$550 for each Audit Committee meeting attended in fiscal year 2024 depending on the length of the meeting. Directors were not paid any additional compensation for their service on the Nominating Committee or the Compensation Committee in fiscal year 2024. Employee directors William L. Bridgford and John V. Simmons did not receive any fees for their services as directors.

#### Pension Benefits for Employee Directors

The tables below provide information concerning retirement plan benefits for employee directors William L. Bridgford and John V. Simmons and payments due upon certain employment termination scenarios.

#### Retirement Plan for Administrative and Sales Employees of Bridgford Foods Corporation

<u>Normal Retirement</u>: Benefits commence upon reaching the "Normal Retirement Date", which is the first day of the month on or after attainment of age 65. Pension benefit payments begin on the normal retirement date and continue until death.

<u>Early Retirement</u>: A participant may choose to retire up to ten years before the normal retirement date. If a participant retires early, the accrued pension will be reduced by a percentage to reflect the longer period over which pension benefits will be received. If a participant is married for at least one year and dies before retirement, a pension benefit will be payable to the surviving spouse for his or her life, provided certain eligibility requirements have been met.

<u>Death Benefits</u>: Payments to a surviving spouse will begin on the first day of the month following a participant's death but not sooner than the earliest date a participant could have elected to retire.

Disability Benefits: A disability benefit is the accrued pension credited to a participant as of the date of disability.

The years of credited service, present value of accumulated plan benefits and payments made during fiscal year 2024 were as follows:

Name	Number of Years Credited Service	Present Value of Accumulated Benefit <sup>(1)</sup>	Payments During Fiscal Year	
William L. Bridgford	51	\$ 628,868	\$	-
John V. Simmons	45	\$ 542,305	\$	-

(1) The assumed discount rate used was 5.16% to compute the present value of the accumulated benefit. The Pri-2012 Total Dataset Mortality Table with MP- 2021 Scaling was used and an expected return on assets of 5.00% was assumed.

#### Supplemental Executive Retirement Plan (SERP)

Retirement benefits otherwise available to certain key executives under the Primary Benefit Plan noted above have been limited by the effects of the Tax Equity and Fiscal Responsibility Act of 1982 ("TEFRA") and the Tax Reform Act of 1986 ("TRA"). To offset the loss of retirement benefits associated with TEFRA and TRA, the Company has adopted a non-qualified "makeup" benefit plan (the "Supplemental Executive Retirement Plan"). Benefits will be provided under the Supplemental Executive Retirement Plan in an amount equal to 60% of each participant's final average earnings minus any pension benefits and primary insurance amounts available to them under Social Security. Benefits provided under this plan for William L. Bridgford are calculated at 50% of final average earnings, capped at \$200,000 per year, without offsets for other pension or Social Security benefits.

<u>Payment of Retirement Benefit</u>: All retirement, disability and death benefits shall be paid in monthly installments beginning on the commencement date following the participant's retirement, disability or death and shall continue for a period of fifteen years.

<u>Normal Retirement</u>: Benefits commence upon reaching the "Normal Retirement Date", which means the date on which the participant has both attained age 65 and completed at least ten years of participation. SERP benefit payments begin at the normal retirement date or later depending on the election of the participant.

<u>Early Retirement</u>: A participant may choose to retire up to ten years before the normal retirement date if the participant has completed at least five years of participation. If a participant retires early, the SERP benefit will be determined based on the vested percentage attained as the time of retirement.

<u>Death Benefits</u>: If a participant dies prior to having commenced receipt of benefits and is eligible for benefits hereunder, the participant's beneficiary shall be entitled to receive an annual death benefit equal to the Normal Retirement Benefit determined as if the participant attained Normal Retirement Age on the date of his death, or, if after the Participant's Normal Retirement Date, equal to the Late Retirement Benefit. If a participant dies after having commenced receipt of benefits, benefits shall continue to be paid but to the Participant's Beneficiary at the same time and in the same form as the benefits would have been payable to the participant. No benefit will be payable to a participant's beneficiary if the participant terminates employment with the Company before he is eligible for a retirement benefit and thereafter dies.

Disability Benefits: A disability benefit is the vested percentage of SERP benefit credited to a participant as of the date of disability.

The present value of accumulated plan benefits and payments made during fiscal year 2024 were as follows:

Name	Ac	ent Value of cumulated senefit (1)	Payme Durii Last Fi Yea	ng scal
William L. Bridgford	\$	2,110,621	\$	
John V. Simmons	\$	_	\$	

<sup>(1)</sup> A 5.16% discount rate was used to compute the present values.

The following table estimates the present value of SERP benefits under different employment termination scenarios as of November 1, 2024:

								Present
								Value of
		Present					Be	enefit Upon
		Value of					In	ivoluntary
	Benefit Upon Voluntary							ermination
								of
	T	ermination		Present		Present	Er	nployment
		of		Value of		Value of		due to
	Employment		nt Benefit if			enefit Upon	Sa	le/Merger/
Name		(1)	D	isabled <sup>(1)</sup>		Death <sup>(1)</sup>	Ac	quisition <sup>(1)</sup>
William L. Bridgford <sup>(2)</sup>	\$	2,110,621	\$	2,110,621	\$	2,110,621	\$	2,110,621
John V. Simmons	\$	_	\$	_	\$	_	\$	_

(1) In each scenario above, the benefit amount shown is calculated on November 1, 2024. A 5.16% discount rate was used to compute the present values. In the case of a voluntary termination, the participant shall be entitled to the vested portion of any such early retirement benefit but shall not commence receipt of such early retirement benefit until the commencement date following the date the participant would have attained the early retirement date had the participant remained employed by the Company. Upon a finding that the participant (or, after the participant's death, a beneficiary) has suffered an unforeseeable emergency, the Committee may at the request of the participant or beneficiary, and subject to compliance with Internal Revenue Code Section 409A, accelerate distribution of benefits under the SERP in the amount reasonably necessary to alleviate such unforeseeable emergency.

(2) Death benefits for William L. Bridgford are paid in the form of a monthly annuity. The actual payment amount for William L. Bridgford would be determined using a discount rate similar to the rate required for qualified plans. The rate assumed for these estimates is 5.16%.

The following table estimates future SERP payments under different termination scenarios as of November 1, 2024:

Name	Payment Upon Voluntary Termination of Employment	Payment if Disabled <sup>(1)</sup>	Death Benefit from Plan <sup>(2)</sup>	Involuntary Termination of Employment Due to Sale/Merger/ Acquisition
William L. Bridgford	\$16,666.67 per month for 180 months beginning on 11/01/24	\$16,666.67 per month for 180 months commencing after disability	\$16,666.67 per month for 180 months beginning just after death	Lump Sum payment due at termination of \$2,110,621
John V. Simmons				

(1) Disability amount is decreased by any Company paid disability insurance policies, Social Security disability benefits, or other Federal or State disability programs. In the case of a voluntary termination, the participant shall be entitled to the vested portion of any such early retirement benefit but shall not commence receipt of such early retirement benefit until the commencement date following the date the participant would have attained the early retirement date had the participant remained employed by the Company. Upon a finding that the participant (or, after the participant's death, a beneficiary) has suffered an unforeseeable emergency, the Committee may at the request of the participant or beneficiary, and subject to compliance with Internal Revenue Code Section 409A, accelerate distribution of benefits under the SERP in the amount reasonably necessary to alleviate such unforeseeable emergency.

<sup>(2)</sup> Assumes death on November 1, 2024. The discount rate used to calculate the lump sum amount is 5.16%.

#### Non-Qualified Deferred Compensation for Employee Directors

Effective January 1, 1991, the Company adopted a deferred compensation savings plan for certain key employees. Under this arrangement, selected employees contributed a portion of their annual compensation to the plan. The Company contributed an amount to each participant's account by computing an investment return equal to Moody's Average Seasoned Bond Rate plus 2%. The purpose of the plan was to provide tax planning and supplemental funds upon retirement or death for certain selected employees and to aid in retaining and attracting employees of exceptional ability. Separate accounts are maintained for each participant to properly reflect his or her total vested account balance. No contributions or salary deferrals have been made in the past ten years.

The table below provides information concerning deferred compensation plan benefits for each employee director during the fiscal year ended November 1, 2024.

	Executiv Contribut in		Company Contribution in		Aggreg Earnin in Fisca	igs	Aggreg Withdray		Bal I	gregate lance at Fiscal Year
Name	Fiscal Ye	ear	Fiscal Year	r_	Year	•	Distribut	tions		End
William L. Bridgford	\$	_	\$ -		\$	_	\$	_	\$	
John V. Simmons	\$		\$ -		\$		\$		\$	

The following table estimates the present value of non-qualified deferred compensation benefits under different employment termination scenarios as of November 1, 2024:

						Pres	sent	
							Va	lue
							of Be	enefit
					Upon			
					Involuntary			
	Present						Termi	nation
	Value						0	f
	of Benefit at		Present		Present		Emplo	yment
	Termination		Value		Value		Due to	
	of		of Benefit if		of Benefit		Sale/Merger/	
Name	Employment		Disabled		Upon Death		Acqui	sition
William L. Bridgford	\$		\$		\$		\$	
John V. Simmons	\$		\$		\$		\$	

The deferred compensation amounts are calculated using a crediting rate equal to Moody's Average Seasoned Bond Rate, plus 2%. This rate is subject to fluctuation. Upon death, the deferred compensation benefits are paid in a lump sum equal to the individual's remaining account balance.

#### **DELINQUENT SECTION 16(A) REPORTS**

Section 16(a) of the Exchange Act requires our directors, executive officers and shareholders who own more than ten percent of any registered class of our equity securities registered pursuant to Section 12 of the Exchange Act, or Reporting Persons, to file with reports of ownership and reports of changes in ownership of securities with the SEC. Based solely on our review of the reports that have been filed by or on behalf of such Reporting Persons in this regard, and the representations made by our directors and executive officers to us, we believe that there has been compliance with all Section 16(a) filing requirements applicable to such Reporting Persons with respect to the fiscal year ended November 1, 2024.

#### CERTAIN RELATIONSHIPS AND RELATED-PARTY TRANSACTIONS

#### **Related Transactions**

The Company's general legal counsel is Richard K. Bridgford, the son of director Allan L. Bridgford, Sr. For his legal counsel, he currently is paid a fee between \$2,580 and \$2,780 for each Board of Directors meeting attended. Total fees paid for attending Board of Directors meetings were \$29,280 in fiscal year 2024 and \$25,800 in fiscal year 2023. In addition, legal services are performed on behalf of the Company and billed by a firm in which he is a partner. Total fees billed for legal services under this arrangement for each of fiscal years 2024 and \$23,000, respectively.

Former director Allan L. Bridgford, Jr., son of director Allan L. Bridgford, Sr., is providing consulting services to the Chicago plant and management pursuant to a consulting agreement with the Company. The contract on behalf of the Company with Allan L. Bridgford, Jr. is for consulting services at \$1,260 per day for fiscal year 2024 and \$1,200 in fiscal year 2023. Total fees billed under this arrangement were approximately \$253,350 in fiscal year 2024 and \$130,800 in fiscal year 2023. Under an arrangement with Allan L. Bridgford, Jr., we accrued \$0 in profit sharing for fiscal year 2024 and we accrued \$203,336 in profit sharing for fiscal year 2023.

Director Allan L. Bridgford, Sr. is providing consulting services to the Company pursuant to his consulting agreement with the Company. Total fees billed under this arrangement were approximately \$256,250 in fiscal year 2024. See "COMPENSATION DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS – Employment and Consulting Agreements."

Director Keith A. Ross did not provide any real-estate consulting services to the Board and management during fiscal years 2024 or 2023. However, in connection with the closing of the sale of the Company's Green Street property in June 2022, the Company paid \$300,000 to KR6, Inc., an entity controlled by Mr. Ross.

Other than the relationships noted above, the Company is not aware of any related party transactions that would require disclosure as a related party transaction under SEC rules.

#### Review, Approval or Ratification of Transactions With Related Persons

The Company's executive officers, directors, nominees for directors and principal shareholders, including their immediate family members and affiliates, are prohibited from entering into related party transactions with the Company that would be reportable under Item 404 of Regulation S-K without the prior approval of its Audit Committee (or other independent committee of the Board of Directors in cases where it is inappropriate for the Audit Committee to review such transaction due to a conflict of interest). Any request for the Company to enter into a transaction with an executive officer, director, or nominee for director, principal shareholder or any of such persons' immediate family members or affiliates that would be reportable under Item 404 of Regulation S-K must first be presented to the Audit Committee for review, consideration and approval. In approving or rejecting the proposed agreement, the Audit Committee will consider the relevant facts and circumstances available and deemed relevant, including but not limited to, the risks, costs, and benefits to the Company, the terms of the transactions, the availability of other sources for comparable services or products, and, if applicable, the impact on director independence. The Audit Committee shall only approve those agreements that, in light of known circumstances, are in or are not inconsistent with the Company's best interests, as determined in good faith by the Audit Committee (or other independent committee, as applicable). The requirement for the Audit Committee to review related-party transactions (defined as those transactions required to be disclosed under Item 404 of Regulation S-K) is set forth in the Amended and Restated Audit Committee Charter, which was approved on October 11, 2021.

#### **PROPOSAL 2**

#### RATIFICATION OF INDEPENDENT REGISTERED PUBLIC ACCOUNTING FIRM

The Audit Committee of the Board of Directors has, subject to ratification by the shareholders, selected Baker Tilly as the Company's independent registered public accounting firm for the fiscal year ending October 31, 2025.

The affirmative vote of a majority of the shares present or represented by proxy at the Annual Meeting and entitled to vote on any matter is required to ratify the selection of Baker Tilly as the Company's independent registered public accounting firm. Abstentions will have the same effect as votes "AGAINST" this proposal. Brokers have discretion to vote uninstructed shares with respect to this proposal. Accordingly, broker non-votes are not likely to occur with respect to this proposal.

Proxies received in response to this solicitation will be voted "FOR" the approval of Baker Tilly unless otherwise specified in the proxy. In the event of a negative vote on such ratification, the Audit Committee of the Board of Directors will reconsider its selection; provided, however, that the Audit Committee may select Baker Tilly notwithstanding the failure of the shareholders to ratify its selection. Representatives of Baker Tilly will be present at the meeting and available to respond to questions. They will have the opportunity to make a statement if they so desire.

# THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS RECOMMENDS THAT YOU VOTE "FOR" THE RATIFICATION OF THE SELECTION OF BAKER TILLY AS THE COMPANY'S INDEPENDENT REGISTERED PUBLIC ACCOUNTING FIRM FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDING OCTOBER 31, 2025.

#### **Principal Accountant Fees and Services**

#### Audit Fees

Fees charged by Baker Tilly for the audit of the Company's annual financial statements and the review of the financial statements included in the Company's quarterly reports on Form 10-Q for fiscal years 2024 and 2023 were approximately \$275,000 and \$218,500, respectively.

#### Audit-Related Fees

Audit-related fees typically consist of fees billed for assurance and related services that are reasonably related to the performance of the audit or review of the Company's consolidated financial statements and are not reported under "Audit Fees." These services may include consultations related to the Sarbanes-Oxley Act and consultations concerning financial accounting and reporting standards. There were no audit-related fees billed by Baker Tilly for fiscal year 2024 or fiscal year 2023.

#### Tax Fees

Tax fees are comprised of services that include assistance related to state tax compliance services and consultations regarding federal and state research and development tax credits. No fees were billed by Baker Tilly for tax consulting during fiscal year 2024 or fiscal year 2023.

#### All Other Fees

All other fees are comprised of fees for initial planning for certification of internal controls over financial reporting. No such fees were billed by Baker Tilly for fiscal year 2024 or fiscal year 2023.

#### Policy on Audit Committee Pre-Approval of Audit Services and Permissible Non-Audit Services of Independent Accountants

The Audit Committee's policy is to pre-approve all audit and permissible non-audit services performed by the independent registered public accountants. These services may include audit services, audit-related services, tax services and other services. During fiscal years 2024 and 2023, the Audit Committee approved all such services rendered by its independent registered public accountants. For audit services, the independent registered public accountants provide the Audit Committee with an audit plan including proposed fees in advance of the annual audit. The Audit Committee approves the plan and fees for the audit.

For non-audit services, the Company's senior management will submit from time to time to the Audit Committee for approval non-audit services that it recommends the Audit Committee engage the independent registered public accountants to provide during the fiscal year. The Company's senior management and the independent registered public accountants will each confirm to the Audit Committee that each non-audit service is permissible under all applicable legal requirements. A budget, estimating non-audit service spending for the fiscal year, will be provided to the Audit Committee along with the request. The Audit Committee must approve both permissible non-audit services and the budget for such services.

#### **PROPOSAL 3**

#### SHAREHOLDER PROPOSAL

We have been notified that Mr. Mark Krieger, 9832 Brentwood Dr., Santa Ana, California 92705, who reports that he was the beneficial owner of at least \$25,000 of our common stock for at least one year as of December 31, 2024 and intends to hold his shares of our common stock through the date of the Annual Meeting, intends to present the proposal below for consideration and a shareholder vote at the Annual Meeting. The proposal, along with Mr. Krieger's supporting statement, appear below as received by us. The accuracy and content contained in the shareholder proposal and supporting statement are Mr. Krieger's sole responsibility.

For the reasons set forth following the proposal and supporting statement, the Board and management disagree with Mr. Krieger's proposal and supporting statement.

Approval of Mr. Krieger's proposal requires the affirmative vote of a majority of the shares of common stock represented at the Annual Meeting and entitled to vote on any matter. Abstentions and broker non-votes will have the same effect as votes "AGAINST" this proposal.

#### Mr. Krieger's Proposal and Supporting Statement

*Proposal*: recommends the Board of Directors elect to take the company private. This action would benefit both the controlling shareholders and the minority shareholders. The controlling shareholders would no longer be burdened with the heavy cost of SEC regulations, filings, corporate governance, etc. Less information would need to be disseminated, keeping competitors less informed. Ultimately, the company's costs would be trimmed in the process. Minority shareholders would benefit by receiving a fair premium against the current depressed share price. It would certainly end as a "win-win" dynamic for both parties. The company has the wherewithal to obtain the necessary financing to conduct the transaction, especially considering its cash holdings and strong banking relationships.

*Supporting statement*: The fact minority shareholders own just 19.30% (1,751,537 of 9,076,832 shares) of the outstanding shares puts them at an extreme disadvantage when attempting to enact positive change. The company's market cap has not grown in the past decade. The share price today is essentially the same price it was ten years ago. This compares extremely unfavorably to a 184% gain in the S&P 500 index within the same timeframe.

I also find it alarming the company has 120,000 shares remaining available for repurchase under its previous 2,000,000 share repurchase plan (authorized by the Board of Directors over 20 years ago) and not a single share has been repurchased in the past eight years. This is despite the share price selling at a 36% discount to shareholder's equity of \$126,805,000 and its balance sheet reveals a net cash position of nearly \$15,000,000. In addition, liquidity measures are high, as BRID's "current ratio" at the end of the third quarter, resides at a superior 4.27 figure.

To repurchase the remaining shares would deplete the company's cash position by a mere 7%. A miniscule amount indeed, which would inject immediate confidence in the market as well as the luxury of buying shares back at pennies on the dollar. It is clear outside shareholders are not being served as well as they could.

*Conclusion*: Going private means a company does not have to comply with costly and time-consuming regulatory requirements, such as the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002 and elements of corporate governance. This frees up management and provides additional resources for more productive endeavors such as product development, and marketing. In addition, minority shareholders would be able to monetize a very undervalued stock at a higher share price.

#### Board of Directors' Statement in Opposition to Proposal 3 (Shareholder Proposal)

#### THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS RECOMMENDS THAT YOU VOTE "AGAINST" THIS PROPOSAL.

The Board of Directors remains committed to enhancing shareholder value and achieving a fair return for our shareholders through developing, producing, selling and distributing superior quality food products that provide consistent value to our customers. While the Board regularly considers returning capital to shareholders, both the Board and management are currently focused on generating shareholder value by reinvesting in the Company's growth, striving to maintain a competitive edge through forward-thinking strategies, and minimizing debt, rather than distributing dividends, repurchasing shares through the stock repurchase program (described below), or undertaking the time and expense of taking the Company private. By reinvesting in the Company, the Board and management are demonstrating their commitment to long-term growth and a strategic mindset to poise the Company for sustained success. For instance, during fiscal year 2024, the Board determined to reinvest cash to, among other things, fund raw material ingredient purchases to meet upcoming customer orders and also to purchase packaging equipment to reduce labor costs and streamline production capabilities.

While the Company has an available credit facility with Wells Fargo Bank, N.A., the Board and management generally prefer to rely upon cash flows rather than debt to fund operations.

Members of the Bridgford family own or control more than 80% of the Company's outstanding common stock, and many members of the extended Bridgford family hold key management positions in the Company. The founding family members of Bridgford Foods Corporation desired to retain a substantial majority of the Company's stock within the Bridgford family, while also sharing the opportunity to invest in a family-owned business with others who believed in the values of developing, producing, selling and distributing high-quality food products that deliver consistent value to the Company's customers and a fair return to its shareholders. Our core competency is to manufacture and distribute premium meat and bread products to our customers. We believe that we wrap our future in every package and stand behind the products we sell 100%. We are proud of the Company and are committed to enhancing its assets and resources. We strive to be responsive, dependable and accountable to our associates, and view our relationships with customers and suppliers as partnerships. We believe that innovation is essential to the future success of our business and strive to be industry trendsetters in the development of new products. We are enthusiastic and communicate openly and honestly in our dealings with all of our shareholders.

*Stock Repurchase Program* - Since 1999, the Company has had a stock repurchase program, one of the primary objectives of which has been to distribute cash to shareholders. As of the end of fiscal year 2024, we had cumulatively repurchased 1,879,887 shares of common stock under the stock repurchase program for an aggregate purchase price of approximately \$20.6 million. The current program authorizes the repurchase of up to an additional 120,113 shares of common stock. During fiscal year 2024, we did not repurchase any shares of our common stock pursuant to our stock repurchase program as the Board determined the best use of cash was to reinvest in the Company as described above.

*Going Private* — The Board has considered and extensively discussed taking the Company private under various scenarios. As a public company, the Company is required to comply with SEC reporting requirements, accounting standards, and Sarbanes-Oxley regulations. These corporate governance rules ensure an independent review of financial data and internal controls, while also promoting greater transparency. Taking the Company private and delisting from Nasdaq would substantially diminish, and in some cases eliminate, the benefits currently available to our shareholders. It would also reduce the liquidity of our stock. Furthermore, such actions could limit the Company's overall liquidity, potentially harm brand recognition, restrict its financing opportunities, and reduce its existing financial resources and/or increase debt to fund the transaction.

As of November 1, 2024, the Board does not view the significant expense required to take the Company private as the best use of its cash, debt, or encumbrances of real estate or other assets. Additionally, the Board recognizes the significant amount of time and dedication of resources that would be required to facilitate such a transaction. The Board is most focused on restoring profitability to the Company by driving top-line revenue growth and reducing costs. In line with this focus, the Company is in discussions with several companies regarding private-label product arrangements with the goal of increasing product sales volume. Market data indicates that, due to higher inflation and rising costs for basic needs, consumers are increasingly turning to private-label products to reduce their expenses. The Company is also seeking bids on its production materials to drive increased competition to its vendors while maintaining quality inputs at the best possible price.

Mr. Krieger's proposal could adversely impact the Company's long-term competitiveness, financial stability and return on shareholder investment. The Board has determined that, at present, it is in the best interests of the Company and the shareholders to continue to use the Company's cash flow to reinvest in growth. The Board continues, however, to actively review how the Company deploys its available cash, including the possibility of paying cash dividends in the future, returning capital to the shareholders through repurchases of shares of our common stock or financing a going private transaction.

For the above reasons, the Board believes that taking the Company private is not in the best interests of the Company or its shareholders, and our shareholders' interests are best served at this time by focusing management on returning the Company to profitability and long-term success.

#### THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS UNANIMOUSLY RECOMMENDS A VOTE "AGAINST" MR. KRIEGER'S PROPOSAL.

# PROXIES RECEIVED IN RESPONSE TO THIS SOLICITATION WILL BE VOTED "AGAINST" THE PROPOSAL UNLESS OTHERWISE SPECIFIED IN THE PROXY.

## DIRECTORS

**Todd C. Andrews** Former Vice President and Controller, Public Storage, Inc.

Allan L. Bridgford Consultant

William L. Bridgford Vice President

**Raymond F. Lancy** Former Chief Financial Officer

Keith A. Ross President, KR6, Inc.

**Mary Schott** Consultant, **Financial Services** 

**D. Gregory Scott** Managing Director, Peak Holdings, LLC

John V. Simmons Vice President

# **OFFICERS**

Baron R.H. Bridgford II President and Chairman of the Executive Committee

Michael W. Bridgford Chairman of the Board

William L. Bridgford Vice President

**Chris Cole** Senior Vice President

**Bob Delong** Vice President, Information Technologies

**Cindy Matthews-Morales** Chief Financial Officer, Corporate Secretary, and Controller

### **DIVISION MANAGERS**

Baron R. H. Bridgford President, Bridgford Foods of Illinois

**Blaine K. Bridgford** Chairman and President, Bridgford Foods of Texas

**Monty Griffith** Vice President, Bridgford Foods of North Carolina

Jeffrey D. Robinson Bakery Co-Manager, Anaheim - Bread Division

Nick Bridgford







THE PREMIUM BRAND

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Major Operating Facilities Anaheim, California Chicago, Illinois Dallas, Texas Statesville, North Carolina

Transfer Agent and Registrar Continental Stock Transfer & Trust Company

1 State Street, 30th Floor New York, NY 10004 1-800-509-5586

Independent Accountants Baker Tilly US, LLP Irvine, California

FOUNDER H. H. BRIDGFORD 1908 - 1992