

PEOPLES BANCORP INC
Form 10-K
February 28, 2013

UNITED STATES
SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20549

FORM 10-K
(Mark One)

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

For the fiscal year ended December 31, 2012

OR

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

For the transition period from ____ to ____

Commission File Number: 0-16772

PEOPLES BANCORP INC.

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

Ohio
(State or other jurisdiction of incorporation or organization)

31-0987416
(I.R.S. Employer Identification No.)

138 Putnam Street, PO Box 738, Marietta, Ohio
(Address of principal executive offices)

45750-0738
(Zip Code)

Registrant's telephone number, including area code:

(740) 373-3155

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

Title of each class

Common shares, without par value

Name of each exchange on which registered
NASDAQ Stock 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
No

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant has submitted electronically and posted on its corporate Web site, if any, every Interactive Data File required to be submitted and posted pursuant to Rule 405 of Regulation S-T during the preceding 12 months (or for such shorter period that the registrant was required to submit and post such

files). Yes No

Indicate by check mark if disclosure of delinquent filers pursuant to Item 405 of Regulation S-K is not contained herein, and will not be contained, to the best of registrant's knowledge, in definitive proxy or information statements incorporated by reference in Part III of this Form 10-K or any amendment to this Form 10-K.

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

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

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

As of June 29, 2012, the aggregate market value of the registrant's Common Shares (the only common equity of the registrant) held by non-affiliates was \$222,259,000 based upon the closing price as reported on The NASDAQ Global Select Market. For this purpose, executive officers and directors of the registrant are considered affiliates.

Indicate the number of shares outstanding of each of the registrant's classes of common stock as of the latest practicable date: 10,794,193 common shares, without par value, at February 27, 2013.

Table of Contents

Document Incorporated by Reference:

Portions of Registrant's definitive Proxy Statement relating to the Annual Meeting of Shareholders to be held April 25, 2013, are incorporated by reference into Part III of this Annual Report on Form 10-K.

TABLE OF CONTENTSPART I

<u>ITEM 1.</u>	<u>Business</u>	<u>3</u>
<u>ITEM 1A.</u>	<u>Risk Factors</u>	<u>14</u>
<u>ITEM 1B.</u>	<u>Unresolved Staff Comments</u>	<u>20</u>
<u>ITEM 2.</u>	<u>Properties</u>	<u>20</u>
<u>ITEM 3.</u>	<u>Legal Proceedings</u>	<u>21</u>
<u>ITEM 4.</u>	<u>Mine Safety Disclosures (not applicable)</u>	<u>21</u>

PART II

<u>ITEM 5.</u>	<u>Market for Registrant's Common Equity, Related Stockholder Matters and Issuer Purchases of Equity Securities</u>	<u>22</u>
<u>ITEM 6.</u>	<u>Selected Financial Data</u>	<u>24</u>
<u>ITEM 7.</u>	<u>Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations</u>	<u>25</u>
<u>ITEM 7A.</u>	<u>Quantitative and Qualitative Disclosures About Market Risk</u>	<u>58</u>
<u>ITEM 8.</u>	<u>Financial Statements and Supplementary Data</u>	<u>58</u>
<u>ITEM 9.</u>	<u>Changes in and Disagreements with Accountants on Accounting and Financial Disclosures</u>	<u>59</u>
<u>ITEM 9A.</u>	<u>Controls and Procedures</u>	<u>59</u>
<u>ITEM 9B.</u>	<u>Other Information</u>	<u>59</u>

PART III

<u>ITEM 10.</u>	<u>Directors, Executive Officers and Corporate Governance</u>	<u>101</u>
<u>ITEM 11.</u>	<u>Executive Compensation</u>	<u>102</u>
<u>ITEM 12.</u>	<u>Security Ownership of Certain Beneficial Owners and Management and Related Stockholder Matters</u>	<u>102</u>
<u>ITEM 13.</u>	<u>Certain Relationships and Related Transactions, and Director Independence</u>	<u>102</u>
<u>ITEM 14.</u>	<u>Principal Accountant Fees and Services</u>	<u>102</u>

PART IV

<u>ITEM 15.</u>	<u>Exhibits and Financial Statement Schedules</u>	<u>103</u>
<u>SIGNATURES</u>		<u>104</u>
<u>EXHIBIT INDEX</u>		<u>105</u>

Table of Contents

As used in this Annual Report on Form 10-K (“Form 10-K”), “Peoples” refers to Peoples Bancorp Inc. and its consolidated subsidiaries collectively, except where the context indicates the reference relates solely to the registrant, Peoples Bancorp Inc. Unless otherwise indicated, all note references contained in this Form 10-K refer to the Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements included in Item 8 of this Form 10-K.

PART I

ITEM 1. BUSINESS

Corporate Overview

Peoples Bancorp Inc. is an Ohio corporation and a financial holding company organized in 1980. Peoples operates principally through its wholly-owned subsidiary, Peoples Bank, National Association (“Peoples Bank”). As of the date of this Form 10-K, Peoples' other wholly-owned subsidiary was Peoples Investment Company. Peoples Bank's operating subsidiaries included Peoples Insurance Agency, LLC (“Peoples Insurance”) and PBNA, L.L.C., an asset management company. Peoples Investment Company owned Peoples Capital Corporation.

Peoples Bank was first chartered in 1902 as an Ohio banking corporation under the name “The Peoples Banking and Trust Company” in Marietta, Ohio, and was later reorganized as a national banking association under its current name in 2000. Peoples Insurance was first chartered in 1994 as an Ohio corporation under the name “Northwest Territory Property and Casualty Insurance Agency, Inc.” In late 1995, Peoples Insurance was awarded insurance agency powers in the State of Ohio, becoming the first insurance agency in Ohio to be affiliated with a financial institution. In 2009, Peoples Insurance was converted from an Ohio corporation to an Ohio limited liability company under its current name.

Peoples Investment Company, its subsidiary, Peoples Capital Corporation, and PBNA, L.L.C. were formed in 2001 to optimize Peoples' consolidated capital position and provide new investment opportunities as a means of enhancing profitability. These opportunities include, but are not limited to, investments in low-income housing tax credit funds or projects, venture capital and other higher risk investments, which are either limited or restricted as investments by Peoples Bank. Presently, the operations of these companies do not represent a material part of Peoples' overall business activities.

Business Overview

Peoples makes available a complete line of banking, investment, insurance and trust solutions through its financial units – Peoples Bank and Peoples Insurance. These products and services include the following:

- various demand deposit accounts, savings accounts, money market accounts and certificates of deposit
- commercial, consumer and real estate mortgage loans (both commercial and residential) and lines of credit
- debit and automated teller machine (“ATM”) cards
- corporate and personal trust services
- safe deposit rental facilities
- travelers checks, money orders and cashier's checks
- full range of life, health and property and casualty insurance products
- custom-tailored fiduciary and wealth management services

Peoples' financial products and services are offered through its financial service locations and ATMs in Ohio, West Virginia and Kentucky, as well as telephone and internet-based banking through both PCs and mobile devices.

Brokerage services are offered exclusively through an unaffiliated registered broker-dealer located at Peoples Bank's offices. Peoples also makes available credit cards to consumers and businesses, as well as merchant credit card processing services, through joint marketing arrangements with third parties.

Peoples' business activities are currently confined to one reporting unit and reportable segment, which is community banking. For a discussion of Peoples' financial performance for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2012, see Peoples' Consolidated Financial Statements and Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements found in Item 8 of this Form 10-K.

Peoples has a history of expanding its business, including its customer base and primary market area, through a combination of internal growth and targeted acquisitions. The internal growth has included the opening of de novo banking and loan production offices located in or near Peoples' existing market area. Acquisitions have consisted of traditional banking offices, both individually and as part of entire institutions, insurance agencies and financial

advisory books of business. The primary objectives of Peoples' expansion efforts include: (1) provide opportunities to integrate non-traditional products and services, such as insurance and investments, with the traditional banking products offered to its clients; (2) increase market share in existing markets; (3) expand Peoples' core financial service businesses of banking, insurance and

Table of Contents

wealth management and (4) improve operating efficiency by redirecting resources to offices and markets with greater growth potential.

Recent Corporate Developments

Peoples previously formed a statutory business trust subsidiary (PEBO Capital Trust I) for the sole purpose of issuing preferred securities and investing the proceeds in junior subordinated debentures of Peoples. The trust preferred securities qualified as Tier 1 capital for regulatory capital purposes, subject to certain quantitative limits and qualitative standards. PEBO Capital Trust I was dissolved on December 19, 2012, since Peoples repaid the junior subordinated debentures and related trust preferred securities. Additional information can be found in Note 10 of the Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements.

Primary Market Area and Customers

Peoples considers its primary market area to consist of the counties where it has a physical presence and neighboring counties. Peoples currently has a physical presence in the counties of Athens, Fairfield, Franklin, Gallia, Guernsey, Meigs, Morgan, Muskingum, Noble, Tuscarawas and Washington in Ohio; Cabell, Kanawha, Mason, Wetzel and Wood in West Virginia; and Boyd, Greenup and Pike in Kentucky. This market area encompasses the Metropolitan Statistical Areas (“MSA”) of Parkersburg-Marietta-Vienna, WV-OH, Charleston, WV and Huntington-Ashland, WV-KY-OH, and portions of the Columbus, OH MSA. This primary market area largely consists of rural or small urban areas with a diverse group of industries and employers. Principal industries in this area include health care, education and other social services; plastics and petrochemical manufacturing; oil, gas and coal production; and tourism and other service-related industries. In addition, this market area overlaps both the Marcellus and Utica shale formations, which are being explored for oil and natural gas. As a result, economic activity has been increasing steadily which is causing lower unemployment in Ohio and West Virginia, as well as creating growth opportunities for Peoples. Because of this diversity, Peoples is not dependent upon any single industry segment for its business opportunities.

Lending Activities

Peoples Bank originates various types of loans, including commercial and commercial real estate loans, residential real estate loans, home equity lines of credit, real estate construction loans, and consumer loans. Peoples Bank's lending activities are focused principally on lending opportunities within its primary market areas, although Peoples Bank occasionally originates loans outside its primary markets related to existing customer relationships. In general, Peoples Bank retains the majority of loans it originates; however, certain longer-term fixed-rate mortgage loan originations, primarily one-to-four family residential mortgages, are sold into the secondary market.

Peoples Bank's loans consist of credits to borrowers spread over a broad range of industrial classifications. At December 31, 2012, Peoples Bank had no concentration of loans to borrowers engaged in the same or similar industries that exceeded 10% of total loans nor had any loans outstanding to non-U.S. entities.

Legal Lending Limit

Federal regulations impose a limit on the aggregate amount a financial institution may lend to one borrower, including certain related or affiliated borrowers. This legal lending limit is generally 15% of the institution's total capital, as defined by risk-based capital regulations, plus any allowance for loan losses not already included in total capital. At December 31, 2012, Peoples Bank's legal lending limit was approximately \$27.8 million. During 2012, Peoples Bank did not extend credit to any one borrower or group of affiliated borrowers in excess of its legal lending limit.

Commercial Lending

Commercial, financial and agricultural loans (“commercial loans”), including loans secured by commercial real estate, represent the largest portion of Peoples' total loan portfolio, comprising approximately 56.7% of total loans at December 31, 2012. Commercial lending inherently involves a significant degree of risk of loss since commercial loan relationships generally involve larger loan balances than other loan classes. Additionally, repayment of commercial loans normally depends on adequate cash flows of a business, which can be negatively impacted by adverse changes in the general economy or in a specific industry.

Commercial Lending Practices. Loan terms include amortization schedules and interest rates commensurate with the purpose of each loan, the source of repayment and the risk involved. The majority of Peoples Bank's commercial loans carry variable interest rates equal to an underlying index rate plus a margin. Peoples Bank occasionally originates

commercial loans with fixed interest rates for periods generally ranging from 3 to 5 years. The primary analytical technique used in determining whether to grant a commercial loan is the review of a schedule of cash

Table of Contents

flows to evaluate whether the borrower's anticipated future cash flows will be adequate to service both interest and principal due.

On an annual basis, Peoples Bank strives to evaluate all loan relationships whose aggregate debt to Peoples Bank is greater than \$500,000 for possible credit deterioration. This loan review process provides Peoples Bank with opportunities to identify potential problem loans and take proactive actions to assure repayment of the loan or minimize Peoples Bank's risk of loss, such as reviewing the relationship more frequently based upon the loan quality rating and aggregate debt outstanding. Upon detection of the reduced ability of a borrower to meet cash flow obligations, the loan is reviewed for possible downgrading or placement on nonaccrual status. Relationships under \$500,000 are evaluated for credit deterioration once the borrower becomes delinquent.

Construction Loans

Peoples Bank originates various construction loans to provide temporary financing during the construction phase for commercial and residential properties. At December 31, 2012, outstanding construction loans comprised 3.5% of Peoples' loan portfolio. Construction financing is generally considered to involve the highest risk since Peoples Bank is dependent largely upon the accuracy of the initial estimate of the property's value at completion of construction and the estimated cost (including interest) of construction. If the estimated construction cost proves to be inaccurate, Peoples Bank may be required to advance funds beyond the amount originally committed to enable completion of the project. In certain cases, such as real estate development projects, repayment of construction loans occurs as a result of subsequent sales of the developed real estate.

Construction Lending Practices. Peoples Bank's construction lending is focused primarily on commercial and residential projects of select real estate developers and homebuilders. These projects include the construction of office, retail or industrial complexes and real estate development for either residential or commercial uses. The underwriting criteria for construction loans is generally the same as for non-construction loans.

To mitigate the risk of construction lending, Peoples Bank requires periodic site inspections by a construction loan manager, appraiser or architect to ensure appropriate completion of the project prior to any disbursements.

Construction loans are structured to provide sufficient time to complete construction, including consideration for weather or other variables that influence completion time, although Peoples Bank generally requires the term to be less than two years.

Real Estate Loans

While commercial loans comprise the largest portion of Peoples' loan portfolio, generating residential real estate loans remains a major focus of Peoples' lending efforts, whether the loans are ultimately sold into the secondary market or retained in Peoples' loan portfolio. At December 31, 2012, portfolio residential real estate loans comprised 23.7% of total loans. Peoples also had \$6.5 million of residential real estate loans held for sale and was servicing \$330.7 million of loans, consisting primarily of one-to-four family residential mortgages, previously sold in the secondary market. Peoples Bank originates both fixed-rate and adjustable-rate real estate loans. Typically, the longer-term fixed-rate real estate loans are sold in the secondary market, with Peoples retaining servicing rights on those loans. In select cases, Peoples Bank may retain certain fixed-rate real estate loans or sell the loans without retaining the servicing rights.

Real Estate Lending Practices. Peoples Bank typically requires residential real estate loan amounts to be no more than 80% of the purchase price or the appraised value of the real estate securing the loan, whichever is lower, unless private mortgage insurance is obtained by the borrower for the percentage exceeding 80%. In limited circumstances, Peoples Bank may lend up to 100% of the appraised value of the real estate, although such lending currently is limited to loans that qualify under established federally backed rural housing programs. The risk conditions of real estate loans are considered during underwriting for the purposes of establishing an interest rate commensurate with the risks inherent in mortgage lending and the remaining equity of the home, if any.

Real estate loans are typically secured by first mortgages with evidence of title in favor of Peoples Bank in the form of an attorney's opinion of the title or a title insurance policy. Peoples Bank also requires proof of hazard insurance, with Peoples Bank named as the mortgagee and loss payee. Licensed appraisals are required for all real estate loans.

Home Equity Lines of Credit

Peoples Bank originates home equity lines of credit that provide consumers with greater flexibility in financing personal expenditures. At December 31, 2012, outstanding home equity lines of credit comprised 5.2% of Peoples'

total loans. Peoples Bank currently offers home equity lines of credit with a prime-based variable rate for the entire 10-year term of the loan. Peoples Bank also offers a home equity line of credit whose terms include a fixed rate for the first five

Table of Contents

years and converting to a variable interest rate for the remaining five years. At December 31, 2012, total outstanding principal balances and available credit amounts of these convertible rate home equity lines of credit were \$16.9 million and \$19.9 million, respectively, and the weighted-average remaining maturity was 6.3 years. The average original loan amount for these convertible rate home equity lines of credit was approximately \$30,000 at December 31, 2012.

Home Equity Lending Practices. Home equity lines of credit are generally made as second mortgages by Peoples Bank. The maximum amount of a home equity line of credit is generally limited to 80% of the appraised value of the property less the balance of the first mortgage. Peoples Bank may lend up to 90% of the appraised value of the property at higher interest rates that are commensurate with the additional risk being assumed in these situations. The home equity lines of credit are written with ten-year terms and are subject to review upon request for renewal.

Consumer Lending

Peoples Bank's consumer lending activities primarily involve loans secured by automobiles, boats, recreational vehicles and other personal property. At December 31, 2012, consumer loans comprised 10.3% of Peoples' loan portfolio.

Consumer Lending Practices. Consumer loans generally involve more risk as to collectability than real estate mortgage loans because of the type and nature of the collateral and, in certain instances, the absence of collateral. As a result, consumer lending collections are dependent upon the borrower's continued financial stability, and are at more risk from adverse changes in personal circumstances. In addition, application of various state and federal laws, including bankruptcy and insolvency laws, could limit the amount that may be recovered under these loans. Credit approval for consumer loans typically requires demonstration of sufficiency of income to repay principal and interest due, stability of employment, credit history and sufficient collateral for secured loans. It is the policy of Peoples Bank to review its consumer loan portfolio monthly and to charge-off loans that do not meet its standards, and to adhere strictly to all laws and regulations governing consumer lending. A qualified compliance officer is responsible for monitoring regulatory compliance performance and for advising and updating loan personnel.

Peoples Bank makes available optional credit life insurance and accident and health insurance to all qualified borrowers, thus reducing risk of loss when a borrower's income is terminated or interrupted due to accident, disability or death.

Overdraft Privilege

Peoples Bank grants Overdraft Privilege to qualified customers. Overdraft Privilege is a service that provides overdraft protection to retail deposit customers by establishing an Overdraft Privilege amount. After a 30-day waiting period to verify account activity, each new checking account usually receives an Overdraft Privilege amount of either \$400 or \$700, based on the type of account and other parameters. Once established, customers are permitted to overdraw their checking account at Peoples Bank's discretion, up to their Overdraft Privilege limit, with each item being charged Peoples Bank's regular overdraft fee. Customers repay the overdraft with their next deposit. Overdraft Privilege is designed to allow Peoples Bank to fill the void between traditional overdraft protection, such as a line of credit, and "check cashing stores". Under federal banking regulations, Peoples Bank is required to obtain the consent of its customers in order to apply Overdraft Privilege to ATM and one-time debit card transactions. While Overdraft Privilege generates fee income, Peoples maintains an allowance for losses from checking accounts with overdrafts deemed uncollectible. This allowance, along with the related provision and net charge-offs, is included in Peoples' allowance for loan losses.

Investment Activities

Investment securities comprise 37.0% of Peoples' total assets. The majority of Peoples' investment activities are conducted through Peoples Bank, although Peoples and its non-banking subsidiaries engage in investment activities from time-to-time. Investment activity by Peoples Bank is subject to certain regulatory guidelines and limitations on the types of securities eligible for purchase. As a result, the investment securities owned by Peoples Bank include obligations of the U.S. Treasury, agencies and corporations of the U.S. government, including mortgage-backed securities, bank eligible obligations of any state or political subdivision in the U.S. and bank eligible corporate obligations, including private-label mortgage-backed securities. The investments owned by Peoples are comprised of common stocks issued by various unrelated banking holding companies. The investments owned by Peoples'

non-banking subsidiaries currently consist of tax credit funds, corporate obligations, municipal obligations and privately issued mortgage-backed securities.

Peoples' investment activities are governed internally by a written, Board-approved policy, which is administered by Peoples' Asset-Liability Management Committee ("ALCO"). The primary purpose of Peoples' investment portfolio is to: (1) employ excess funds not needed for loan demand; (2) provide a source of liquid assets to accommodate unanticipated deposit and loan fluctuations and overall liquidity needs; (3) provide eligible securities to secure public and trust funds; and (4) earn

Table of Contents

the maximum overall return commensurate with the investment's risk and corporate needs. Investment strategies to achieve these objectives are reviewed and approved by the ALCO. In its evaluation of investment strategies, the ALCO considers various factors, including the interest rate environment, balance sheet mix, actual and anticipated loan demand, funding opportunities and Peoples' overall interest rate sensitivity. The ALCO also has much broader responsibilities, which are discussed in the "Interest Rate Sensitivity and Liquidity" section of "Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations" included in Item 7 of in this Form 10-K.

Funding Sources

Peoples' primary sources of funds for lending and investing activities are interest-bearing and non-interest-bearing deposits. Cash flows from both the loan and investment portfolios, which include scheduled payments, as well as prepayments, calls and maturities, also provide a relatively stable source of funds. Peoples also utilizes a variety of short-term and long-term borrowings to fund asset growth and satisfy liquidity needs. Peoples' funding sources are monitored and managed through Peoples' asset-liability management process, which is discussed further in the "Interest Rate Sensitivity and Liquidity" section of "Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operation" included in Item 7 of this Form 10-K.

The following is a brief description of the various sources of funds utilized by Peoples:

Deposits

Peoples obtains deposits principally from individuals and businesses within its primary market area by offering a broad selection of deposit products to clients. Retail deposit account terms vary with respect to the minimum balance required, the time the funds must remain on deposit and service charge schedules. Interest rates paid on specific deposit types are determined based on (1) the interest rates offered by competitors, (2) the anticipated amount and timing of funding needs, (3) the availability and cost of alternative sources of funding and (4) the anticipated future economic conditions and interest rates. Retail deposits are attractive sources of funding because of their stability and relative cost in addition to providing opportunities for Peoples to build long-term client relationships through the cross-selling of its other products and services.

Peoples also offers its customers the ability to receive up to \$30 million in federal deposit insurance coverage for certificates of deposit ("CDs") through the Certificate of Deposit Account Registry Service ("CDARS") program. Under this program, funds from large customer deposits are placed into CDs issued by other members of the CDARS network in increments below the federal deposit insurance limits to ensure both principal and interest remain eligible for insurance.

Peoples occasionally obtains deposits from clients outside Peoples' primary market area, generally in the form of CDs and often through deposit brokers. These deposits are used to supplement Peoples' retail deposits to fund loans originated to customers located outside Peoples' primary market area, as well as provide diversity in funding sources. While these deposits may carry slightly higher interest costs than other wholesale funds, they do not require Peoples to secure the funds with collateral, unlike most other borrowed funds.

Additional information regarding the amounts and composition of Peoples' deposits can be found in the "Deposits" section of "Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operation" included in Item 7 of this Form 10-K and in Note 7 of the Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements.

Borrowed Funds

Peoples obtains funds through a variety of short-term and long-term borrowings, which typically include advances from the Federal Home Loan Bank of Cincinnati ("FHLB"), Federal Funds purchased, advances from the Federal Reserve Discount Window and repurchase agreements. Occasionally, Peoples obtains funds from unrelated financial institutions in the form of term loans or revolving lines of credit. Short-term borrowings are used generally to manage Peoples' daily liquidity needs since they typically may be repaid, in whole or part, at any time without a penalty. Long-term borrowings provide cost-effective options for funding asset growth and satisfying capital needs, due to the variety of pricing and maturity options available.

Additional information regarding the amounts and composition of Peoples' borrowed funds can be found in the "Borrowed Funds" section of "Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operation" included in Item 7 of this Form 10-K and in Notes 8 and 9 of the Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements.

Competition

Peoples experiences intense competition within its primary market area due to the presence of several national, regional and local financial institutions and other service providers, including finance companies, insurance agencies and mutual

7

Table of Contents

funds. Competition within the financial services industry continues to increase as a result of mergers between, and expansion of, financial services providers within and outside of Peoples' primary market areas. In addition, the deregulation of the financial services industry (see the discussion of the Gramm-Leach-Bliley Act of 1999 in the section of this item captioned "Supervision and Regulation – Bank Holding Company Act") has allowed securities firms and insurance companies that have elected to become financial holding companies to acquire commercial banks and other financial institutions, which can create additional competitive pressure.

Peoples primarily competes based on client service, convenience and responsiveness to customer needs, available products, rates of interest on loans and deposits, and the availability and pricing of trust, brokerage and insurance services. However, some competitors may have greater resources and, as such, higher lending limits than Peoples, which adversely affects Peoples' ability to compete. Peoples' business strategy includes the use of a "needs-based" sales and service approach to serve customers and incentives intended to promote customers' continued use of multiple financial products and services. In addition, Peoples continues to emphasize the integration of traditional commercial banking products with non-traditional financial products, such as insurance and investment products.

Peoples historically has focused on providing its full range of products and services in smaller metropolitan markets rather than major metropolitan areas. While management believes Peoples has developed a level of expertise in serving the financial service needs of smaller communities, Peoples' primary market area has expanded into larger metropolitan areas, such as central Ohio. These larger areas typically contain entrenched service providers with an existing customer base much larger than Peoples' initial entry position. As a result, Peoples may be forced to compete more aggressively in order to grow its market share in these areas, which could reduce current and future profit potential from such markets.

Employees

At December 31, 2012, Peoples had 494 full-time equivalent employees.

Intellectual Property and Proprietary Rights

Peoples has registered the service marks "Peoples Bank (with logo)", "Peoples Bancorp", "Peoples Bank", Peoples in motion logo consisting of three arched ribbons, "Working together. Building Success." and "peoplesbancorp.com" with the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office. These service marks currently have expiration dates ranging from 2016 to 2021. Peoples may renew the registrations of service marks with the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office generally for additional 10-year periods indefinitely, provided it continues to use the service marks and files appropriate maintenance and renewal documentation with the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office at the times required by the federal trademark laws and regulations.

Peoples has a proprietary interest in the Internet domain name "pebo.com". Internet domain names in the U.S. and in foreign countries are regulated, but the laws and regulations governing the Internet are continually evolving.

Supervision and Regulation

Peoples and its subsidiaries are subject to extensive supervision and regulation by federal and state agencies. The regulation of financial holding companies and their subsidiaries is intended primarily for the protection of consumers, depositors, borrowers, the federal Deposit Insurance Fund and the banking system as a whole and not for the protection of shareholders. The following is a summary of the regulatory agencies, statutes and related regulations that have, or could have, a material impact on Peoples' business. This discussion is qualified in its entirety by reference to such regulations and statutes.

Financial Holding Company

Peoples is a legal entity separate and distinct from its subsidiaries and affiliated companies. As a financial holding company, Peoples is subject to regulation under the Bank Holding Company Act of 1956, as amended (the "BHC Act"), and to inspection, examination and supervision by the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System (the "Federal Reserve Board").

The Federal Reserve Board also has extensive enforcement authority over financial holding companies. In general, the Federal Reserve Board may initiate enforcement actions for violations of laws and regulations and unsafe or unsound practices. The Federal Reserve Board may assess civil money penalties, issue cease and desist or removal orders, and require that a financial holding company divest subsidiaries, including subsidiary banks. Peoples is also required to file reports and other information with the Federal Reserve Board regarding its business operations and those of its

subsidiaries.

8

Table of Contents

Subsidiary Bank

Peoples Bank is subject to regulation and examination primarily by the Office of the Comptroller of the Currency (the "OCC") and secondarily by the Federal Reserve Board and the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (the "FDIC"). OCC regulations govern permissible activities, capital requirements, dividend limitations, investments, loans and other matters. The OCC has the authority to impose sanctions on Peoples Bank and, under certain circumstances, may place Peoples Bank into receivership.

Peoples Bank is subject to certain restrictions imposed by the Federal Reserve Act and Federal Reserve Board regulations regarding such matters as the maintenance of reserves against deposits, extensions of credit to the financial holding company or any of its subsidiaries, investments in the stock or other securities of the financial holding company or its subsidiaries, and the taking of such stock or securities as collateral for loans to any borrower.

The Dodd-Frank Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act of 2010 (the "Dodd-Frank Act"), signed into law in 2010, created the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau (the "CFPB"), which has broad powers to adopt and enforce consumer protection regulations.

Non-Banking Subsidiaries

Peoples' non-banking subsidiaries are also subject to regulation by the Federal Reserve Board and other applicable federal and state agencies. Peoples Insurance, as a licensed insurance agency, is subject to regulation by the Ohio Department of Insurance and the state insurance regulatory agencies of those states where it may conduct business.

Other Regulatory Agencies

Securities and Exchange Commission ("SEC") and NASDAQ Stock Market LLC ("NASDAQ"). Peoples is also under the jurisdiction of the SEC and certain state securities commissions for matters relating to the offering and sale of its securities. Peoples is subject to the disclosure and regulatory requirements of the Securities Act of 1933, as amended (the "Securities Act"), and the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended (the "Exchange Act"), and the regulations promulgated thereunder, as administered by the SEC. Peoples' common shares are listed with NASDAQ under the symbol "PEBO" and Peoples is subject to the rules for NASDAQ listed companies.

Federal Home Loan Bank. Peoples Bank is a member of the FHLB, which provides credit to its members in the form of advances. As a member of the FHLB, Peoples Bank must maintain an investment in the capital stock of the FHLB in a specified amount. Upon the origination or renewal of an advance, the FHLB is required by law to obtain and maintain a security interest in certain types of collateral. The FHLB is required to establish standards of community investment or service that its members must maintain for continued access to long-term advances from the FHLB. The standards take into account a member's performance under the Community Reinvestment Act of 1977 (the "CRA") and its record of lending to first-time homebuyers.

Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation. The FDIC is an independent federal agency which insures the deposits, up to prescribed statutory limits, of federally-insured banks and savings associations and safeguards the safety and soundness of the financial institution industry. Peoples Bank's deposits are insured up to applicable limits by the Deposit Insurance Fund of the FDIC and subject to deposit insurance assessments to maintain the Deposit Insurance Fund.

In 2011, the FDIC approved a final rule that changed the deposit insurance assessment base from domestic deposits to average assets minus average tangible equity, as required by the Dodd-Frank Act, beginning with the second quarter of 2011. In addition, the final rule also adopted a new large-bank pricing assessment scheme and established a target size for the Deposit Insurance Fund.

The FDIC may terminate insurance coverage upon a finding that an insured depository institution has engaged in unsafe or unsound practices, is in an unsafe or unsound condition, or has violated any applicable law, regulation, rule, order or condition enacted or imposed by the institution's regulatory agency.

Dodd-Frank Act

Federal regulators continue to implement many provisions of the Dodd-Frank Act. The Dodd-Frank Act created many new restrictions and an expanded framework of regulatory oversight for financial institutions, including depository institutions. Currently, federal regulators are still in the process of drafting the implementing regulations for many portions of the Dodd-Frank Act. Peoples is closely monitoring all relevant sections of the Dodd-Frank Act to ensure continued compliance with these regulatory requirements. The following discussion summarizes significant aspects of

the Dodd-Frank Act that are already affecting or may affect Peoples and Peoples Bank:

9

Table of Contents

the CFPB has been established and empowered to exercise broad regulatory, supervisory and enforcement authority with respect to both new and existing consumer financial protection laws;

the Dodd-Frank Act restricts the preemption of state law by federal law and disallows subsidiaries and affiliates of national banks from availing themselves of such preemption;

the deposit insurance assessment base for federal deposit insurance has been expanded from domestic deposits to average assets minus average tangible equity;

the Dodd-Frank Act instructs appropriate federal banking agencies to make the capital requirements for banks and savings and loan holding companies and insured depository institutions countercyclical so that the amount of capital required to be maintained increases in times of economic expansion and decreases in times of economic contraction, consistent with safety and soundness;

the prohibition on the payment of interest on demand deposits has been repealed, effective July 21, 2011, thereby permitting depository institutions to pay interest on business transaction and other accounts;

the standard maximum amount of deposit insurance per customer has been permanently increased to \$250,000 and non-interest-bearing transaction accounts had unlimited deposit insurance through December 31, 2012;

financial holding companies, such as Peoples, are required to be well capitalized and well managed and must continue to be both well capitalized and well managed in order to acquire banks located outside their home states;

new corporate governance requirements, which are generally applicable to most larger public companies, now require new compensation practices, including, but not limited to, providing shareholders the opportunity to cast a non-binding vote on executive compensation, requiring compensation committees to consider the independence of compensation advisors and meeting new executive compensation disclosure requirements;

the Dodd-Frank Act amended the Electronic Fund Transfer Act to, among other things, give the Federal Reserve Board the authority to establish rules regarding interchange fees charged for electronic debit transactions by payment card issuers having assets over \$10 billion and to enforce a new statutory requirement that such fees be reasonable and proportional to the actual cost of a transaction to the issuer; and

the authority of the Federal Reserve Board to examine financial holding companies and their non-bank subsidiaries was expanded.

Many aspects of the Dodd-Frank Act are still subject to rulemaking and will take effect over several years, making it difficult to anticipate the overall financial impact on Peoples, its subsidiaries, their respective customers or the financial services industry more generally.

Bank Holding Company Act

In general, the BHC Act limits the business of bank holding companies to banking, managing or controlling banks and other activities that the Federal Reserve Board has determined to be so closely related to banking as to be a proper incident thereto. As a result of the Gramm-Leach-Bliley Act of 1999 - also known as the Financial Services Modernization Act of 1999 - which amended the BHC Act, bank holding companies that are financial holding companies may engage in any activity, or acquire and retain the shares of a company engaged in any activity, that is either (1) financial in nature or incidental to such financial activity (as determined by the Federal Reserve Board in consultation with the OCC) or (2) complementary to a financial activity, and that does not pose a substantial risk to the safety and soundness of depository institutions or the financial system generally (as solely determined by the Federal Reserve Board). Activities that are financial in nature include securities underwriting and dealing, insurance underwriting and making merchant banking investments. In 2002, Peoples elected, and received approval from the Federal Reserve Board, to become a financial holding company.

In order for a financial holding company to commence any new activity permitted by the BHC Act, or to acquire a company engaged in any new activity permitted by the BHC Act, each insured depository institution subsidiary of the financial holding company must have received a rating of at least "satisfactory" in its most recent examination under the CRA, which is more fully discussed in the section captioned "Community Reinvestment Act" included later in this item. In addition, financial holding companies like Peoples are permitted to acquire companies engaged in activities that are financial in nature and in activities that are incidental and complementary to financial activities without prior Federal Reserve Board approval.

Table of Contents

The BHC Act and other federal and state statutes regulate acquisitions of commercial banks. The BHC Act requires the prior approval of the Federal Reserve Board for the direct or indirect acquisition of more than 5% of the voting shares of a commercial bank or its parent holding company. Under the federal Bank Merger Act, the prior approval of the OCC is required for a national bank to merge with another bank or purchase the assets or assume the deposits of another bank. In reviewing applications seeking approval of merger and acquisition transactions, the bank regulatory authorities will consider, among other things, the competitive effect and public benefits of the transactions, the capital position of the combined organization, the applicant's performance record under the CRA and fair housing laws and the effectiveness of the subject organizations in combating money laundering activities.

Under Federal Reserve Board policy, a financial holding company is expected to act as a source of financial strength to each subsidiary bank and to commit resources to support each subsidiary bank. Under this policy, the Federal Reserve Board may require a financial holding company to contribute additional capital to an undercapitalized subsidiary bank and may disapprove of the payment of dividends to the shareholders if the Federal Reserve Board believes the payment of such dividends would be an unsafe or unsound practice.

Transactions with Affiliates, Directors, Executive Officers and Shareholders

Sections 23A and 23B of the Federal Reserve Act and Federal Reserve Board Regulation W generally:

- limit the extent to which a bank or its subsidiaries may engage in "covered transactions" with any one affiliate;
- limit the extent to which a bank or its subsidiaries may engage in "covered transactions" with all affiliates; and
- require that all such transactions be on terms substantially the same, or at least as favorable to the bank or subsidiary, as those provide to a non-affiliate.

An affiliate of a bank is any company or entity that controls, is controlled by or is under common control with the bank. The term "covered transaction" includes the making of loans to the affiliate, the purchase of assets from the affiliate, the issuance of a guarantee on behalf of the affiliate, the purchase of securities issued by the affiliate and other similar types of transactions.

A bank's authority to extend credit to executive officers, directors and greater than 10% shareholders, as well as entities such persons control, is subject to Sections 22(g) and 22(h) of the Federal Reserve Act and Regulation O promulgated under that Act by the Federal Reserve Board. These loans must be made on terms (including interest rates charged and collateral required) substantially the same as those offered to unaffiliated individuals or be made as part of a benefit or compensation program and on terms widely available to employees, and must not involve a greater than normal risk of repayment. In addition, the amount of loans a bank may make to these persons is based, in part, on the bank's capital position, and specified approval procedures must be followed in making loans which exceed specified amounts.

Capital Adequacy and Prompt Corrective Action

The Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation Improvement Act of 1991 ("FDICIA"), among other things, identifies five capital categories for insured depository institutions and requires the respective federal regulatory agencies to implement systems for "prompt corrective action" for insured depository institutions that do not meet minimum capital requirements within such categories. The federal regulatory agencies, including the Federal Reserve Board and the OCC, have adopted substantially similar regulatory capital guidelines and regulations consistent with the requirements of FDICIA, as well as established a system of prompt corrective action to resolve certain of the problems of undercapitalized institutions. This system is based on five capital level categories for insured depository institutions: "well capitalized"; "adequately capitalized"; "undercapitalized"; "significantly undercapitalized" and "critically undercapitalized".

The federal banking agencies may (or in some cases must) take certain supervisory actions depending upon a bank's capital level. For example, the banking agencies must appoint a receiver or conservator for a bank within 90 days after it becomes "critically undercapitalized" unless the bank's primary regulator determines, with the concurrence of the FDIC, that other action would better achieve regulatory purposes. Banking operations otherwise may be significantly affected depending on a bank's capital category. For example, a bank that is not "well capitalized" generally is prohibited from accepting brokered deposits and offering interest rates on deposits higher than the prevailing rate in its market, and the holding company of any undercapitalized bank must guarantee, in part, specific aspects of the bank's capital plan for the plan to be acceptable.

Both Peoples and Peoples Bank are subject to risk-based capital requirements and guidelines imposed by their respective primary regulatory agencies. These capital guidelines and regulations are based on the 1998 capital accord of the Basel Committee on Banking Supervision (the “Basel Committee”) and divide the capital of Peoples and Peoples Bank into two tiers:

Table of Contents

“Tier 1 capital” consists of (1) common shareholders' equity; (2) qualifying perpetual preferred stock and trust preferred securities (up to 25% of total Tier 1 capital); and (3) minority interests in equity accounts of consolidated subsidiaries, less goodwill and certain other deductions including intangible assets and net unrealized gains and losses on available-for-sale securities.

“Tier 2 capital” consists primarily of allowance for loan losses and net unrealized gains on certain available-for-sale equity securities, subject to limitations established by the guidelines, as well as any qualifying perpetual preferred stock and trust preferred securities amounts excluded from Tier 1 capital. Tier 2 capital may also include, among other things, certain amounts of hybrid capital instruments, mandatory convertible debt and subordinated debt.

In addition, each asset on Peoples and Peoples Bank's balance sheets, as well as credit equivalent amounts of certain derivatives and off-balance sheet items, are assigned to one of several broad risk weight categories: 0%, 20%, 50%, 100% and in some cases 200%, resulting in a calculation of “total risk-weighted assets”.

Peoples and Peoples Bank are required to maintain sufficient capital to meet both a risk-based asset ratio test and leverage ratio test. From time to time, the regulatory agencies may require Peoples and Peoples Bank to maintain capital above these minimum levels should certain conditions exist, such as deterioration of their financial condition or growth in assets, either actual or expected. Additional information regarding Peoples and Peoples Bank's risk-based capital requirements and ratios can be found in Note 16 of the Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements.

In November 2007, the U.S. federal regulatory agencies adopted a definitive final rule for implementing new capital standards - referred to as “Basel II” - which applied only to banking organizations and organizations with assets of at least \$250 billion or on-balance sheet foreign exposures of at least \$10 billion. The Dodd-Frank Act requires the Federal Reserve Board, the OCC and the FDIC to adopt regulations imposing a continuing “floor” of the Basel I-based capital requirements in cases where any future changes in capital regulations would permit lower requirements. In December 2010, the Federal Reserve Board, the OCC and the FDIC issued a joint notice of proposed rulemaking that would implement this requirement for banks and bank holding companies larger than Peoples Bank and Peoples. In December 2010, the Basel Committee released its final framework for strengthening international capital and liquidity regulation, now officially identified by the Basel Committee as “Basel III”. Basel III, when implemented by the U.S. banking agencies and fully phased-in, will require bank holding companies and their bank subsidiaries to maintain substantially more capital, with a greater emphasis on common equity. However, the U.S. federal regulatory agencies are considering the extent to which Basel III principles will be applied to smaller bank holding companies and banks, such as Peoples and Peoples Bank.

During the second quarter of 2012, the federal bank regulatory agencies jointly issued three notices of proposed rulemaking (“NPRs”) that would revise and replace the agencies' current capital rules. The impact of these NPRs, if adopted, would result in higher risk-based and leverage capital requirements consistent with Basel III. Most of the provisions contained within the NPRs would be phased-in over periods ranging from 3 to 10 years. As proposed, the NPRs were to be implemented January 1, 2013, but, the regulators have delayed implementation. Management continues to evaluate the potential impact of the NPRs to ensure the capital levels of both Peoples and Peoples Bank remain higher than the amounts needed to be considered “well capitalized”. However, the final regulations ultimately applicable to Peoples and Peoples Bank may be substantially different from those contemplated in the NPRs.

Community Reinvestment Act

The CRA requires depository institutions to assist in meeting the credit needs of their market areas consistent with safe and sound banking practice. Under the CRA, each depository institution is required to help meet the credit needs of its market areas by, among other things, providing credit or other financial assistance to low and moderate-income individuals and communities. Depository institutions are periodically examined for compliance with the CRA and are assigned ratings. As of December 31, 2012, the OCC's most recent performance evaluation of Peoples Bank resulted in an overall rating of “Satisfactory”.

Dividend Restrictions

Current federal banking regulations impose restrictions on Peoples Bank's ability to pay dividends to Peoples. These restrictions include a limit on the amount of dividends that may be paid in a given year without prior approval of the OCC and a prohibition on paying dividends that would cause Peoples Bank's total capital to be less than the required minimum levels under the risk-based capital requirements imposed by the OCC. Peoples Bank's regulators may

prohibit the payment of dividends at any time if the regulators determine the dividends represent unsafe and/or unsound banking practices or reduce Peoples Bank's total capital below adequate levels. For further discussion regarding regulatory restrictions on dividends, see Note 16 of the Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements.

Table of Contents

Peoples' ability to pay dividends to its shareholders may also be restricted. Current Federal Reserve Board policy requires a financial holding company to act as a source of financial strength to each of its banking subsidiaries. Under this policy, the Federal Reserve Board may require Peoples to commit resources or contribute additional capital to Peoples Bank, which could restrict the amount of cash available for dividends. The Federal Reserve Board requires a bank holding company to provide advance notification of, and obtain approval for, the declaration and payment of dividends to common shareholders under certain conditions.

Peoples also has entered into certain agreements that place restrictions on dividends. Specifically, Peoples Bank is prohibited from paying dividends in an amount greater than the current earnings, as measured on a trailing 12-month basis. Even when the legal ability exists, Peoples or Peoples Bank may decide to limit the payment of dividends in order to retain earnings for corporate use.

Customer Privacy and Other Consumer Protections

Peoples Bank is subject to regulations limiting the ability of financial institutions to disclose non-public information about consumers to nonaffiliated third parties. These limitations require disclosure of privacy policies to consumers and, in some circumstances, allow consumers to prevent disclosure of certain personal information to a nonaffiliated party. Peoples Bank is also subject to numerous federal and state laws aimed at protecting consumers, including the Home Mortgage Disclosure Act, the Real Estate Settlement Procedures Act, the Equal Credit Opportunity Act, the Truth in Lending Act, the Bank Secrecy Act, the Community Reinvestment Act and the Fair Credit Reporting Act.

USA Patriot Act

The Uniting and Strengthening of America by Providing Appropriate Tools Required to Intercept and Obstruct Terrorism Act of 2001 (the "USA Patriot Act") and related regulations, among other things, require financial institutions to establish programs specifying procedures for obtaining identifying information from customers and establishing enhanced due diligence policies, procedures and controls designed to detect and report suspicious activity. Peoples Bank has established policies and procedures that Peoples believes comply with the requirements of the USA Patriot Act.

Monetary Policy

The Federal Reserve Board regulates money and credit conditions and interest rates in order to influence general economic conditions primarily through open market operations in U.S. government securities, changes in the discount rate on bank borrowings, and changes in the reserve requirements against depository institutions' deposits. These policies and regulations significantly affect the overall growth and distribution of loans, investments and deposits, as well as interest rates charged on loans and paid on deposits.

The monetary policies of the Federal Reserve Board have had a significant effect on the operating results of financial institutions in the past and are expected to continue to have significant effects in the future. In view of the changing conditions in the economy, the money markets and the activities of monetary and fiscal authorities, Peoples can make no definitive predictions as to future changes in interest rates, credit availability or deposit levels.

Executive and Incentive Compensation

In June 2010, the Federal Reserve Board, the OCC and the FDIC issued joint interagency guidance on incentive compensation policies (the "Joint Guidance") intended to ensure that the incentive compensation policies of banking organizations do not undermine the safety and soundness of such organizations by encouraging excessive risk-taking. This principles-based guidance, which covers all employees that have the ability to materially affect the risk profile of an organization, either individually or as part of a group, is based upon the key principles that a banking organization's incentive compensation arrangements should: (1) provide incentives that do not encourage risk-taking beyond the organization's ability to effectively identify and manage risks; (2) be compatible with effective internal controls and risk management; and (3) be supported by strong corporate governance, including active and effective oversight by the organization's board of directors.

Pursuant to the Joint Guidance, the Federal Reserve Board will review as part of a regular, risk-focused examination process, the incentive compensation arrangements of financial institutions such as Peoples. Such reviews will be tailored to each organization based on the scope and complexity of the organization's activities and the prevalence of incentive compensation arrangements. The findings of the supervisory initiatives will be included in reports of examination and deficiencies will be incorporated into the institution's supervisory ratings, which can affect the

institution's ability to complete acquisitions and take other actions. Enforcement actions may be taken against an institution if its incentive compensation arrangements, or related risk-management control or governance processes, pose a risk to the organization's safety and soundness and prompt and effective measures are not being taken to correct the deficiencies.

On February 7, 2011, federal banking regulatory agencies jointly issued proposed rules on incentive-based compensation arrangements under applicable provisions of the Dodd-Frank Act (the "Proposed Rules"). The Proposed

Table of Contents

Rules generally apply to financial institutions with \$1.0 billion or more in assets that maintain incentive-based compensation arrangements for certain covered employees. The Proposed Rules: (i) prohibit covered financial institutions from maintaining incentive-based compensation arrangements that encourage covered persons to expose the institution to inappropriate risk by providing the covered person with “excessive” compensation; (ii) prohibit covered financial institutions from establishing or maintaining incentive-based compensation arrangements for covered persons that encourage inappropriate risks that could lead to a material financial loss; (iii) require covered financial institutions to maintain policies and procedures appropriate to their size, complexity and use of incentive-based compensation to help ensure compliance with the Proposed Rules; and (iv) require covered financial institutions to provide enhanced disclosure to regulators regarding their incentive-based compensation arrangements for covered persons within 90 days following the end of the fiscal year.

Pursuant to rules adopted by the stock exchanges and approved by the SC in January 2013 under the Dodd-Frank Act, public company compensation committee members will be required to meet heightened independence requirements and to consider the independence of compensation consultants, legal counsel and other advisors to the compensation committee. A compensation committee must have the authority to hire advisors and to have the public company fund reasonable compensation of such advisors.

Public companies will be required, once stock exchanges impose additional listing requirements under the Dodd-Frank Act, to implement “clawback” procedures for incentive compensation payments and to disclose the details of the procedures which allow recovery of incentive compensation that was paid on the basis of erroneous financial information necessitating a restatement due to material noncompliance with financial reporting requirements. This clawback policy is intended to apply to compensation paid within a three-year look-back window of the restatement and would cover all executives who received incentive awards.

The Dodd-Frank Act also provides shareholders the opportunity to cast a non-binding vote on executive compensation practices and imposes new executive compensation disclosure requirements.

Future Legislation

Various and significant legislation affecting financial institutions and the financial industry is from time to time introduced by the U.S. Congress, as evidenced by the sweeping reforms in the Dodd-Frank Act adopted in 2010. Such legislation may continue to change banking statutes and the operating environment of Peoples and its subsidiaries in substantial and unpredictable ways, and could significantly increase or decrease costs of doing business, limit or expand permissible activities or affect the competitive balance among financial institutions. With the enactment of the Dodd-Frank Act and the continuing implementation of final rules and regulations thereunder, the nature and extent of future legislative and regulatory changes affecting financial institutions remains very unpredictable.

Website Access to Peoples' SEC Filings

Peoples maintains an Internet website at www.peoplesbancorp.com (this uniform resource locator, or URL, is an inactive textual reference only and is not intended to incorporate Peoples' Internet website into this Form 10-K). Peoples makes available free of charge on or through its website, its annual reports on Form 10-K, quarterly reports on Form 10-Q, current reports on Form 8-K and amendments to those reports filed or furnished pursuant to Section 13(a) or 15(d) of the Exchange Act, as well as Peoples' definitive proxy statement filed pursuant to Section 14 of the Exchange Act, as soon as reasonably practicable after Peoples electronically files each such report or amendment with, or furnishes it to, the SEC.

ITEM 1A. RISK FACTORS

The following are certain risks that management believes are specific to Peoples' business. This should not be viewed as an all-inclusive list of risks or presenting the risk factors listed in any particular order. Additional risks that are not presently known or that Peoples presently deems to be immaterial could also have a material, adverse impact on Peoples' business, financial condition or results of operations.

Conditions in the financial markets, the real estate markets and economic conditions generally may adversely affect Peoples' business.

Negative developments in the capital markets in recent years resulted in uncertainty in the financial markets and an economic downturn. Business activity across a wide range of industries and regions decreased substantially causing the U.S. economy to be in a recession from December 2007 through June 2009. Since 2007, the general housing

market also has been weak, resulting in decreased home prices and increased delinquencies and foreclosures. These conditions caused significant write-downs of asset values by financial institutions, including government-sponsored entities and

Table of Contents

major commercial and investment banks. These write-downs have caused many financial institutions to seek additional capital or to merge with larger and stronger institutions. Some financial institutions have failed. Peoples' financial performance generally is highly dependent upon the business environment and economic conditions in the markets where it operates and, to a lesser extent, the U.S as a whole. The local economies of the majority of Peoples' market area historically have been less robust than the economy of the nation as a whole and typically are not subject to the same fluctuations as the national economy. In general, a favorable business environment and economic conditions are generally characterized by, among other factors, economic growth, efficient capital markets, low inflation, low unemployment, high business and investor confidence, and strong business earnings. Unfavorable or uncertain economic and market conditions can be caused by declines in economic growth, business activity or investor or business confidence; limitations on the availability or increases in the cost of credit and capital; increases in inflation or interest rates; high unemployment; natural disasters; or a combination of these or other factors.

Overall, the business environment and general economic conditions in 2012 were adverse for many households and businesses in the U.S. and worldwide. While some economic indicators show signs of improvement, many businesses, states and municipalities are still in serious difficulty, due to reduced cash flow and weakened financial condition. Further, there can be no assurance this improvement will continue. In fact, improvements may be reversed if the current economic turmoil in Europe becomes global or the U.S. Congress fails to raise the federal government's debt ceiling in time to avoid default. A lack of a return to favorable economic conditions in a reasonable timeframe could have an adverse affect on Peoples' asset quality, deposit levels and loan demand and, therefore, Peoples' financial condition and results of operations. Because a significant amount of Peoples' loans are secured by either commercial or residential real estate, additional decreases in real estate values could adversely affect the value of property used as collateral and Peoples' ability to sell the collateral upon foreclosure.

Peoples' ability to complete acquisitions and integrate completed acquisitions could have an adverse affect on Peoples' business, earnings and financial condition.

Peoples actively evaluates opportunities to acquire other businesses. However, Peoples may not have the opportunity to make suitable acquisitions on favorable terms in the future, which could negatively impact the growth of its business. Peoples expects that other banking and financial companies, many of which have significantly greater resources, will compete to acquire compatible businesses. This competition could increase prices for acquisitions that Peoples would likely pursue, and its competitors may have greater resources than it does. Also, acquisitions of regulated businesses such as banks are subject to various regulatory approvals. Peoples has entered into a loan agreement that requires Peoples to obtain the lender's consent to acquire another financial institution. If Peoples fails to receive the appropriate approvals, it will not be able to consummate an acquisition that it believes is in its best interests.

During 2012, Peoples completed multiple acquisitions which required integration of the acquired business into Peoples' business platform. Peoples may not be able to integrate any new acquisitions without encountering difficulties including the loss of key employees and customers, the disruption of ongoing businesses or possible inconsistencies in standards, controls, procedures and policies. Future acquisitions may also result in other unforeseen difficulties, including integration of the combined companies. Further, benefits such as enhanced earnings anticipated from the acquisitions may not develop and future results of the combined companies may be materially lower from those estimated.

Legislative or regulatory changes or actions, or significant litigation, could adversely impact Peoples or the businesses in which it is engaged.

The banking industry is heavily regulated under both federal and state law. Peoples is subject to regulation and supervision by the Federal Reserve Board, and Peoples Bank is subject to regulation and supervision by the OCC, and secondarily the FDIC. These regulations are primarily intended to protect depositors and the Deposit Insurance Fund, not Peoples' common shareholders. Peoples' non-bank subsidiaries are also subject to the supervision of the Federal Reserve Board, in addition to other regulatory and self-regulatory agencies, including the SEC and state securities and insurance regulators.

Regulations affecting banks and financial services businesses are undergoing continuous change, and management cannot predict the effect of those changes. The impact of any changes to laws and regulations or other actions by

regulatory agencies could adversely affect Peoples' business. Regulatory authorities have extensive discretion in connection with their supervisory and enforcement activities, including the imposition of restrictions on the operation of an institution, the classification of assets and the adequacy of an institution's allowance for loan losses.

Additionally, actions by regulatory agencies or significant litigation against Peoples could cause Peoples to devote significant time and resources to defending its business and may lead to penalties that materially affect Peoples and its shareholders. In addition to laws, regulations and actions directed at the operations of banks, proposals to reform the housing finance

Table of Contents

market consider winding down Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac, which could negatively affect sales of loans. Further information about government regulation of Peoples' business can be found under the caption "Supervision and Regulation" in Item 1 of this Form 10-K.

¶The Dodd-Frank Act may adversely impact Peoples' results of operations, financial condition or liquidity. The Dodd-Frank Act represents a comprehensive overhaul of the financial services industry within the U.S. There are a number of reform provisions that are likely to significantly impact the ways in which banks and bank holding companies, including Peoples and Peoples Bank, do business. Many provisions of the Dodd-Frank Act still have not been implemented and will require interpretation and rule making by federal regulators, including banking regulators and the SEC. In addition, the CFPB has only recently begun to implement its authority, and there is significant uncertainty as to how its regulations and other authority will affect Peoples' business. Peoples is closely monitoring all relevant sections of the Dodd-Frank Act to ensure continued compliance with laws and regulations. While the ultimate effect of the Dodd-Frank Act on Peoples and Peoples Bank cannot currently be determined, the law and its implementing rules and regulations have already resulted in increased compliance costs and fees paid to regulators, along with possible restrictions on Peoples' and Peoples Bank's operations, all of which may have a material adverse effect on Peoples' operating results and financial condition. A detailed discussion regarding the Dodd-Frank Act can be found under the caption "Supervision and Regulation" in Item 1 of this Form 10-K.

¶Removal or reduction in stimulus activities or financial stabilization efforts by the federal government and other agencies may significantly affect Peoples' financial condition and results of operations.

The Federal Reserve Board, the U.S. Congress, the U.S. Treasury, the FDIC and others have taken numerous actions to stimulate economic activity, as well as address the current liquidity and credit situation in the financial markets.

These measures include actions to encourage loan restructuring and modification for homeowners; the establishment of significant liquidity and credit facilities for financial institutions and investment banks; the lowering of the federal funds rate; and coordinated efforts to address liquidity and other weaknesses in the banking sector.

The long-term effect of actions already taken as well as new legislation is unknown. Continued or renewed instability in the financial markets could weaken public confidence in financial institutions and adversely affect Peoples' ability to attract and retain new customers. Further, the removal or reduction in any of the economic stimulus or financial stabilization programs could cause higher market interest rates, which may have an adverse effect on Peoples' business, earnings and financial condition.

¶Defaults by larger financial institutions could adversely affect Peoples' business, earnings and financial condition.

The commercial soundness of many financial institutions may be closely interrelated as a result of relationships between and among the institutions. As a result, concerns about, or a default or threatened default by, one institution could lead to significant market-wide liquidity and credit problems, losses or defaults by other institutions. This "systemic risk" may adversely affect Peoples' business.

Additionally, Peoples' investment portfolio continues to include investments in individual bank-issued trust preferred securities. Under current market conditions, the fair value of these security types is based predominately on the present value of cash flows expected to be received in future periods. Significant defaults by other financial institutions could adversely affect conditions within the financial services industry, thereby causing investors to require higher rates of return for these investments. These factors could cause Peoples to recognize additional impairment losses on its investment in bank-issued trust preferred securities in future periods.

¶Peoples failure to be in compliance with any material provision or covenant of debt instruments could have a material adverse effect on Peoples' liquidity and operations.

The loan agreement governing Peoples' unsecured term note imposes operating and financial restrictions on Peoples. These restrictions may affect Peoples' operations and may limit the ability to take advantage of potential business opportunities as they arise. Peoples' ability to comply with the covenants included in the loan agreement may be affected by events beyond our control, including deteriorating economic conditions, and these events could require Peoples to seek waivers or amendments of covenants, or alternative sources of financing. Peoples' ability to obtain such waivers, amendments or alternative financing, may be on terms unfavorable to Peoples.

A breach of any of the covenants or restrictions contained in any of the existing or future financing agreements, including the financial covenants, could result in an event of default under the agreements. Such a default could allow

the lenders under the financing agreements, if the agreements so provide, to discontinue lending, to accelerate the related debt, and/or to declare all borrowings outstanding thereunder to be due and payable. In addition, the lenders could terminate any commitments they have to provide Peoples with further funds. If any of these events occur, Peoples may not have sufficient funds available to pay in full the total amount of obligations that become due as a result of any such

Table of Contents

acceleration, or Peoples may not be able to find additional or alternative financing to refinance any such accelerated obligations. Even if additional or alternative financing is obtained, it may be on terms that would be unfavorable to Peoples.

Increases in FDIC insurance premiums may have a material adverse affect on Peoples' earnings.

The number of bank failures has increased significantly since 2007, which dramatically increased resolution costs of the FDIC and depleted the Deposit Insurance Fund. Also during this period, the FDIC and the U.S. Congress instituted two programs to further insure customer deposits at FDIC-member banks: deposit accounts were insured up to \$250,000 per customer (up from \$100,000) and non-interest-bearing transactional accounts were fully insured (unlimited coverage) until the end of 2012. These actions have placed additional stress on the Deposit Insurance Fund. Since late 2008, the FDIC has taken various actions intended to maintain a strong funding position and restore reserve ratios of the Deposit Insurance Fund. These actions have included increasing assessment rates for all insured institutions, requiring riskier institutions to pay a larger share of premiums by factoring in rate adjustments based on secured liabilities and unsecured debt levels, imposing a special assessment on all insured depository institutions for the second quarter of 2009 and requiring insured depository institutions to prepay their quarterly risk-based assessments for the fourth quarter of 2009 and full years 2010 through 2012. On February 7, 2011, the FDIC approved a final rule that changed the deposit insurance assessment base and assessment rate schedule, adopted a new large-bank pricing assessment scheme, and set a target size for the Deposit Insurance Fund. The final rule went into effect beginning with the second quarter of 2011.

Peoples Bank has limited ability to control the amount of premiums it is required to pay for FDIC insurance. If there are additional financial institution failures, the FDIC may be required to increase assessment rates or take actions similar to those taken during 2009. As a result, insured depository institutions, including Peoples Bank, may be required to pay even higher FDIC premiums in future periods. Increases in FDIC insurance premiums may have a material adverse effect on Peoples' results of operations and ability to continue to pay dividends on its common shares at the current rate or at all.

Expiration of unlimited FDIC insurance coverage of non-interest bearing transaction accounts may have an adverse effect on liquidity and cost of funds.

The Dodd-Frank Act provided for unlimited FDIC insurance coverage of non-interest bearing transaction accounts through December 31, 2012. The end of such insurance may cause Peoples Bank to lose certain large deposits or may result in the need to pledge additional securities to secure public funds deposits, which could have a material adverse effect on liquidity. In order to ensure adequate liquidity, Peoples Bank may need to raise the rates we pay on deposits, resulting in a decrease in profitability.

Changes in interest rates may adversely affect Peoples' profitability.

Peoples' earnings are dependent to a significant degree on net interest income, which is the amount by which interest income exceeds interest expense. Interest rates are highly sensitive to many factors that are beyond Peoples' control, including general economic conditions and policies of various governmental and regulatory agencies and, in particular, the Federal Reserve Board. Changes in monetary policy, including changes in interest rates, could influence not only the interest Peoples receives on loans and securities and the amount of interest it pays on deposits and borrowings, but such changes could also affect (i) Peoples' ability to originate loans and obtain deposits, (ii) the fair value of Peoples' financial assets and liabilities, and (iii) the average duration of Peoples' mortgage-backed securities portfolio. If the interest rates paid on deposits and other borrowings increase at a faster rate than the interest rates received on loans and other investments, Peoples' net interest income and, therefore, earnings could be adversely affected. Earnings could also be adversely affected if the interest rates received on loans and other investments fall more quickly than the interest rates paid on deposits and other borrowings.

Management uses various measures to monitor interest rate risk and believes it has implemented effective asset and liability management strategies to reduce the potential effects of changes in interest rates on Peoples' results of operations. Management also periodically adjusts the mix of assets and liabilities to manage interest rate risk.

However, any substantial, unexpected, prolonged change in market interest rates could have a material adverse effect on Peoples' financial condition and results of operations. See the sections captioned "Interest Income and Expense" and "Interest Rate Sensitivity and Liquidity" in Item 7 of this Form 10-K for further discussion related to Peoples' interest

rate risk.

Peoples' exposure to credit risk could adversely affect Peoples' earnings and financial condition.

There are certain risks inherent in making loans. These risks include interest rate changes over the time period in which loans may be repaid, risks resulting from changes in the economy, risks inherent in dealing with borrowers and, in the case of loans secured by collateral, risks resulting from uncertainties about the future value of the collateral.

17

Table of Contents

Commercial and commercial real estate loans comprise a significant portion of Peoples' loan portfolio. Commercial loans generally are viewed as having a higher credit risk than residential real estate or consumer loans because they usually involve larger loan balances to a single borrower and are more susceptible to a risk of default during an economic downturn. Since Peoples' loan portfolio contains a significant number of commercial and commercial real estate loans, the deterioration of one or a few of these loans could cause a significant increase in nonperforming loans, and ultimately could have a material adverse effect on Peoples' earnings and financial condition.

In deciding whether to extend credit or enter into other transactions with customers and counterparties, Peoples may rely on information provided to us by customers and counterparties, including financial statements and other financial information. Peoples may also rely on representations of customers and counterparties as to the accuracy and completeness of that information and, with respect to financial statements, on reports of independent auditors. For example, in deciding whether to extend credit to a business, Peoples may assume that the customer's audited financial statements conform with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States ("US GAAP") and present fairly, in all material respects, the financial condition, results of operations and cash flows of the customer. Peoples may also rely on the audit report covering those financial statements. Peoples' financial condition, results of operations and cash flows could be negatively impacted to the extent that Peoples relies on financial statements that do not comply with US GAAP or on financial statements and other financial information that are materially misleading.

Peoples' allowance for loan losses may be insufficient.

Peoples maintains an allowance for loan losses to provide for probable loan losses based on management's quarterly analysis of the loan portfolio. The determination of the allowance for loan losses requires management to make various assumptions and judgments about the collectibility of Peoples' loan portfolio, including the creditworthiness of its borrowers and the value of the real estate and other assets serving as collateral for the repayment of loans.

Additional information regarding Peoples' allowance for loan losses methodology and the sensitivity of the estimates can be found in the discussion of Peoples' "Critical Accounting Policies" included in Item 7 of this Form 10-K. Peoples' estimation of future loan losses is susceptible to changes in economic, operating and other conditions, including changes in interest rates, which may be beyond Peoples' control, and these losses may exceed current estimates. Peoples cannot be assured of the amount or timing of losses nor whether the loan loss allowance will be adequate in the future.

If Peoples' assumptions prove to be incorrect, Peoples' allowance for loan losses may not be sufficient to cover losses inherent in its loan portfolio, resulting in additions which could have a material adverse impact on Peoples' financial condition and results of operations. In addition, federal and state regulators periodically review Peoples' allowance for loan losses as part of their examination process and may require management to increase the allowance or recognize further loan charge-offs based on judgments different than those of management. Moreover, the Financial Accounting Standards Board may change its requirements for establishing the allowance. Any increase in the provision for loan losses would decrease Peoples' pretax and net income.

• Changes in accounting standards, policies, estimates or procedures may impact Peoples' reported financial condition or results of operations.

The accounting standard setters, including the Financial Accounting Standards Board, the SEC and other regulatory bodies, periodically change the financial accounting and reporting standards that govern the preparation of Peoples' Consolidated Financial Statements. These changes can be difficult to predict and can materially impact how Peoples records and reports its financial condition and results of operations. In some cases, Peoples could be required to apply a new or revised standard retroactively, resulting in the restatement of prior period financial statements.

The preparation of consolidated financial statements in conformity with U.S. GAAP requires management to make significant estimates that affect the financial statements. Due to the inherent nature of these estimates, actual results may vary materially from management's estimates. Additional information regarding Peoples' critical accounting policies and the sensitivity of estimates can be found in the section captioned "Critical Accounting Policies" in Item 7 of this Form 10-K.

• Peoples and Peoples Bank may elect or be compelled to seek additional capital in the future, but that capital may not be available when it is needed.

Peoples and Peoples Bank are required by federal and state regulatory authorities to maintain adequate levels of capital to support their operations. Federal banking agencies have proposed extensive changes to their capital requirements, including raising required amounts and eliminating the inclusion of certain instruments from the calculation of capital. The final form of such regulations and their impact on Peoples is unknown at this time but may require Peoples to raise additional capital. If capital requirements are raised or if Peoples Bank experiences loan losses,

Table of Contents

additional capital may be needed. In addition, Peoples and Peoples Bank may elect to raise additional capital to support their businesses or to finance acquisitions, if any, or for other as yet unanticipated reasons. Their ability to raise additional capital, if needed, will depend on financial performance, conditions in the capital markets, economic conditions and a number of other factors, many of which are outside their control. Therefore, there can be no assurance additional capital can be raised when needed or that capital can be raised on acceptable terms. The inability to raise capital may have a material adverse effect on Peoples' financial condition, results of operations and prospects.

¶The financial services industry is very competitive.

Peoples experiences significant competition in originating loans, principally from other commercial banks, savings associations and credit unions. Several of Peoples' competitors have greater resources, larger branch systems and a wider array of banking services. This competition could reduce Peoples' net income by decreasing the number and size of loans that Peoples originates and the interest rates it may charge on these loans. Moreover, technology and other changes are allowing businesses and individuals to utilize alternative methods to complete financial transactions that historically have involved banks. For example, consumers can now maintain funds in brokerage accounts or mutual funds that in the past had been held as bank deposits. Consumers can also complete transactions such as paying bills and/or transferring funds directly without the assistance of banks. The process of eliminating the use of banks to complete financial transactions could result in the loss of fee income, as well as the loss of customer deposits and the related income generated from those deposits. The loss of these revenue streams and lower cost deposits as a source of funds could have a material adverse effect on Peoples' financial condition and results of operations. For a more complete discussion of Peoples' competitive environment, see "Competition" in Item 1 of this Form 10-K. If Peoples is unable to compete effectively, Peoples would lose market share, which could reduce income generated from deposits, loans and other products.

¶Peoples' ability to pay dividends is limited.

Peoples is a separate and distinct legal entity from Peoples' subsidiaries. Peoples receives nearly all of its revenue from dividends from Peoples Bank, which are limited by federal banking laws and regulations. These dividends also serve as the primary source of funds to pay dividends on Peoples' common shares. The inability of Peoples Bank to pay sufficient dividends to Peoples could have a material, adverse effect on its business. Further discussion of Peoples' ability to pay dividends can be found under the caption "Supervision and Regulation - Dividend Restrictions" in Item 1 of this Form 10-K and Note 16 of the Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements.

¶Peoples' business could be adversely affected by material breaches in security of its systems or those of a third-party service provider.

Peoples collects, processes and stores sensitive consumer data by utilizing computer systems and telecommunications networks operated by both Peoples and third-party service providers. Peoples has security and backup and recovery systems in place, as well as a business continuity plan, to ensure the computer systems will not be inoperable, to the extent possible. Peoples also has implemented security controls to prevent unauthorized access to the computer systems and requires Peoples' third-party service providers to maintain similar controls. However, management cannot be certain these measures will be successful. A security breach of the computer systems and release of confidential information, such as customer account numbers and related information, could negatively affect customers' confidence in Peoples, which may cause a loss of business, and could result in Peoples' incurring financial losses for any fraudulent transactions completed by third parties due to the security breach.

¶Anti-takeover provisions may delay or prevent an acquisition or change in control by a third party.

Provisions in the Ohio General Corporation Law and Peoples' Amended Articles of Incorporation and Code of Regulations, including a staggered board and a supermajority vote requirement for significant corporate changes, could discourage potential takeover attempts and make attempts by shareholders to remove Peoples' Board of Directors and management more difficult. These provisions may also have the effect of delaying or preventing a transaction or change in control that might be in the best interests of Peoples' shareholders.

¶Changes to the healthcare laws in the United States may increase the number of employees who choose to participate in Peoples' healthcare plans, which may significantly increase healthcare costs and negatively impact financial results. Peoples offers healthcare coverage to eligible employees with part of the cost subsidized by Peoples or one of its subsidiaries. With recent changes to the healthcare laws in the United States becoming effective in 2014, more

employees may choose to participate in Peoples' health insurance plans, which could increase costs for such coverage and material adversely impact Peoples' costs of operations.

Table of Contents

Changes in tax laws could adversely affect Peoples' performance.

Peoples is subject to extensive federal, state and local taxes, including income, excise, sales/use, payroll, franchise, withholding and ad valorem taxes. Changes to tax laws could have a material adverse effect on Peoples' results of operations. On December 20, 2012, Ohio Governor John Kasich signed into law a new tax bill that replaces the existing franchise tax on financial institutions based on net worth with a new privilege tax based on equity capital. The provisions of the tax bill will be effective beginning January 1, 2014 and are not expected to have a material impact on Peoples.

In addition, Peoples' customers are subject to a wide variety of federal, state and local taxes. Changes in taxes paid by customers may adversely affect their ability to purchase homes or consumer products, which could adversely affect their demand for loans and deposit products. In addition, such negative effects on Peoples' customers could result in defaults on the loans made by Peoples Bank and decrease the value of mortgage-backed securities in which Peoples' has invested.

Peoples and its subsidiaries are subject to examinations and challenges by tax authorities.

In the normal course of business, Peoples and its subsidiaries are routinely subject to examinations and challenges from federal and state tax authorities regarding positions taken regarding their respective tax returns. State tax authorities have become increasingly aggressive in challenging tax positions taken by financial institutions, especially those positions relating to tax compliance and calculation of taxes subject to apportionment. Any challenge or examination by a tax authority may result in adjustments to the timing or amount of taxable net worth or taxable income or deductions or the allocation of income among tax jurisdictions.

Management believes it has taken appropriate positions on all tax returns filed, to be filed or not filed and does not anticipate any examination would have a material impact on Peoples' Consolidated Financial Statements. However, the outcome of such examinations and ultimate resolution of any resulting assessments are inherently difficult to predict. Thus, no assurance can be given that Peoples' tax liability for any tax year open to examination will not be different than what is reflected in Peoples' current and historical Consolidated Financial Statements. Further information can be found in the "Critical Accounting Policies - Income Taxes" section of "Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations" included in this Form 10-K.

ITEM 1B. UNRESOLVED STAFF COMMENTS

None.

ITEM 2. PROPERTIES

Peoples' sole banking subsidiary, Peoples Bank, generally owns its offices, related facilities and unimproved real property. In Ohio, Peoples Bank operates offices in Marietta (4 offices), Belpre (2 offices), Lowell, Reno, New Philadelphia, Nelsonville, Athens (3 offices), The Plains, Pomeroy (2 offices), Gallipolis, Cambridge (2 offices), Byesville, Caldwell, McConnelsville, Baltimore, Lancaster (2 offices), Westerville and Zanesville. In West Virginia, Peoples Bank operates offices in Charleston, Huntington (2 offices), New Martinsville (2 offices), Parkersburg (4 offices), Point Pleasant (2 offices), Vienna (2 offices), and Sistersville. In Kentucky, Peoples Bank's office locations include Greenup, Summit, Ashland and Russell. Of these 45 offices, 16 are leased and the rest are owned by Peoples Bank.

Peoples Insurance rents office space in various Peoples Bank offices, and leases an office building in Marietta, Ohio. Effective January 2, 2013, Peoples Insurance also leases office space in Pikeville, Kentucky.

Table of Contents

Rent expense on the leased properties totaled \$883,000 in 2012, which excludes intercompany rent expense. The following are the only properties that have a lease term expiring on or before June 2014:

Location	Address	Lease Expiration Date ^(a)
Marietta Kroger	40 Acme Street Marietta, Ohio	March 2013
Westerville	515 Executive Campus Drive Columbus, Ohio	April 2013
New Philadelphia	136 1/2 Second Street NE New Philadelphia, Ohio	April 2013
Charleston	10 Hale Street, Suite 410 Charleston, West Virginia	July 2013
Zanesville	905 Zane Street Zanesville, Ohio	November 2013
The Plains	70 N. Plains Road The Plains, Ohio	December 2013
Athens Union Street	152 W. Union Street Athens, Ohio	January 2014
Nelsonville	951 Canal Street Nelsonville, Ohio	January 2014
New Martinsville Wal-Mart	1142 S. Bridge Street New Martinsville, West Virginia	March 2014
Lancaster Fair Avenue	2211 West Fair Avenue Lancaster, Ohio	April 2014
Parkersburg	2107 Pike Street Parkersburg, West Virginia	April 2014
Hart Street	416 Hart Street Marietta, Ohio	May 2014
Vienna Wal-Mart	701 Grand Central Avenue Vienna, West Virginia	June 2014

^(a) Information represents the ending date of the current lease period. For some locations, Peoples has the option to renew the lease beyond the current expiration date under the terms of the lease agreement.

Additional information concerning the property and equipment owned or leased by Peoples and its subsidiaries is incorporated herein by reference from Note 5 of the Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements.

ITEM 3. LEGAL PROCEEDINGS

In the ordinary course of their respective businesses or operations, Peoples or one of its subsidiaries may be named as a plaintiff, a defendant, or a party to a legal proceeding or any of their respective properties may be subject to various pending and threatened legal proceedings and various actual and potential claims. In view of the inherent difficulty of predicting the outcome of such matters, Peoples cannot state what the eventual outcome of any such matters will be; however, based on current knowledge and after consultation with legal counsel, management believes these proceedings will not have a material adverse effect on the consolidated financial position, results of operations or liquidity of Peoples.

ITEM 4. MINE SAFETY DISCLOSURES

Not applicable.

Table of Contents

PART II

ITEM 5. MARKET FOR REGISTRANT'S COMMON EQUITY, RELATED STOCKHOLDER MATTERS AND ISSUER PURCHASES OF EQUITY SECURITIES

Peoples' common shares are traded on The NASDAQ Global Select Market® under the symbol PEBO. At December 31, 2012, Peoples had 1,556 shareholders of record. The table presented below provides the high and low sales prices for Peoples' common shares as reported on The NASDAQ Global Select Market® and the cash dividends per share declared for the indicated periods.

	High Sales	Low Sales	Dividends Declared (1)
2012			
Fourth Quarter	\$23.80	\$17.72	\$0.12
Third Quarter	23.93	20.22	0.11
Second Quarter	22.54	16.48	0.11
First Quarter	17.84	14.59	0.11
2011			
Fourth Quarter	\$15.33	\$10.00	\$0.10
Third Quarter	13.00	9.51	0.10
Second Quarter	13.94	10.43	—
First Quarter	16.07	11.78	0.10

On April 28, 2011, Peoples' Board of Directors adopted a new schedule for declaring dividends with respect to Peoples' common shares. Effective with the quarterly period ended June 30, 2011, Peoples' Board of Directors determines whether financial conditions warrant the declaration of dividends with respect to common shares at the meeting of Peoples' Board of Directors held during the first month of the following calendar quarter. Such (1) dividends, if declared, would then be paid to shareholders in the following month. Previously, the Board of Directors of Peoples had declared a cash dividend with respect to Peoples' common shares, when appropriate, in the third month of each calendar quarter. This change resulted in no dividends being declared during the second quarter of 2011 as the dividend with respect to second quarter earnings was declared in July versus June under the previous schedule.

Peoples plans to continue to pay quarterly cash dividends, subject to certain regulatory restrictions described in Note 16 of the Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements, as well as in the section captioned "Supervision and Regulation – Dividend Restrictions" of Item 1 of this Form 10-K.

Issuer Purchases of Equity Securities

The following table details repurchases by Peoples and purchases by "affiliated purchasers" as defined in Rule 10b-18(a)(3) promulgated under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, of Peoples' common shares during the three months ended December 31, 2012: