# UNITED STATES <br> SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION <br> WASHINGTON, DC 20549 

Form 8-K

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

Date of Report (Date of earliest event reported):
October 18, 2011
The Savannah Bancorp, Inc.
(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)
State of Incorporation
0-18560

58-1861820
State of Incorporation
SEC File No.
Tax I.D. No.
(Address of principal executive offices) (Zip Code)

912-629-6486
(Registrant's telephone number, including area code)

Not Applicable
(Former Name or Former Address, If Changed Since Last Report)

Check the appropriate box below if the Form 8-K filing is intended to simultaneously satisfy the filing obligation of the registrant under any of the following provisions (see General Instruction A.2. below):
|_| Written communications pursuant to Rule 425 under the Securities Act (17 CFR 230.425)
$|\mid$ Soliciting material pursuant to Rule 14a-12 under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.14a-12)
|_| Pre-commencement communications pursuant to Rule 14d-2(b) under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.14d-2(b))
|_| Pre-commencement communications pursuant to Rule 13e-4(c) under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.13e-4(c)

Item 2.02 - Results of Operations and Financial Condition

On October 18, 2011, The Savannah Bancorp, Inc. ("Registrant") issued a news release with respect to the announcement of earnings for the third quarter of 2011.

A copy of Registrant's press release is attached hereto as Exhibit 99.1 and by this reference is hereby incorporated by reference into this Form 8-K and made a part hereof.

## SIGNATURES

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

The Savannah Bancorp, Inc. (Registrant)
By: /s/ Michael W. Harden, Jr.
Date: October 18, 2011
Michael W. Harden, Jr.
Chief Financial Officer

# The Savannah Bancorp, Inc. 

October 18, 2011
For Release: Immediately

## Savannah Bancorp Reports Third Quarter Earnings of \$1,228,000

SAVANNAH, GA--(Globe Newswire) - October 18, 2011 - The Savannah Bancorp, Inc. (Nasdaq: SAVB) ("SAVB" or the "Company") reported a net profit for the third quarter 2011 of $\$ 1,228,000$ compared to a net loss of $\$ 1,563,000$ for the third quarter 2010. Third quarter net income per diluted share was 17 cents in 2011 compared to a net loss per diluted share of 22 cents in 2010 . The quarter over quarter increase in earnings resulted primarily from an increase in net interest income and a decrease in the Company's provision for loan losses and losses on the sale and write-down of foreclosed assets. Pretax earnings before the provision for loan losses and gain/loss on sale of securities and foreclosed assets increased $\$ 1,361,000$, or 41 percent, to $\$ 4,682,000$ in the third quarter 2011 compared to the third quarter 2010. Both of the Company's bank subsidiaries, Bryan Bank \& Trust ("Bryan") and The Savannah Bank, N.A. ("Savannah"), were profitable in the third quarter, as was its registered investment advisory firm, Minis \& Co., Inc. Net loss for the first nine months of 2011 was $\$ 138,000$ compared to a net loss of $\$ 2,113,000$ for the same period in 2010 . Other growth and performance ratios are included in the attached financial highlights.

Total assets decreased 10 percent to $\$ 989$ million at September 30, 2011, down approximately $\$ 107$ million from $\$ 1.10$ billion a year earlier. Loans totaled $\$ 789$ million compared to $\$ 833$ million one year earlier, a decrease of approximately $\$ 44$ million or 5.3 percent. Deposits totaled $\$ 846$ and $\$ 947$ million at September 30, 2011 and 2010, respectively, a decrease of 11 percent. On June 25, 2010, Savannah entered into an agreement with the FDIC to purchase approximately $\$ 201$ million in deposits and certain other liabilities and assets of First National Bank, Savannah ("First National"). Since this transaction, the Company has allowed much of its brokered and higher priced time deposits to run-off in order to reduce this excess liquidity and improve its net interest margin. Shareholders' equity was $\$ 86.3$ million at September 30, 2011 compared to $\$ 88.7$ million at September 30, 2010. The Company's total capital to riskweighted assets ratio was 12.62 percent at September 30, 2011, which exceeds the 10 percent required by the regulatory agencies to maintain well-capitalized status.

John C. Helmken II, President and CEO, said, "As noted, our pre-tax, pre-provision income increased 41 percent over third quarter 2010. We are pleased to report our quarterly profit of $\$ 1.2$ million, our first quarterly profit over $\$ 1$ million since the third quarter 2008. The hard work of our dedicated staff is finally passing through to earnings. Our quarterly net interest margin climbed above four percent for the first time since the third quarter 2007. The net interest margin increased 28 basis points from the first quarter of this year."

The Company's allowance for loan losses was $\$ 22,854,000$, or 2.90 percent of total loans at September 30, 2011 compared to $\$ 19,519,000$ or 2.34 percent of total loans a year earlier. Nonperforming assets were $\$ 59,675,000$ or 6.04 percent of total assets at September 30, 2011 compared to $\$ 50,780,000$ or 4.63 percent at September 30, 2010. Other real estate owned increased $\$ 7,396,000$ in the third quarter 2011 compared to the same period one year earlier. Third quarter net charge-offs were $\$ 3,534,000$ in 2011 compared to net charge-offs of $\$ 4,486,000$ for the same period in 2010 . The provision for loan losses for the third quarter of 2011 was $\$ 2,865,000$ compared to $\$ 5,230,000$ for the third quarter of 2010. The lower provision for loan losses and net charge-offs during the third quarter of 2011 compared to the same period in 2010 was primarily due to lower real estate related charge-offs. While the local real estate market has not fully stabilized at this point, the Company has experienced lower valuation allowances related to updated appraisals on real estate in 2011 compared to 2010.

Helmken continued, "While we are disappointed in the increase in nonperforming assets, we continue to work at controlling and maximizing the variables that we can. Our net interest margin has increased in each of the last four quarters. With a third quarter efficiency ratio of 59 percent, our team is exemplifying the goal of 'doing more with less.' With strong capital levels and core earnings, we plan to continue to aggressively address asset quality issues. Of particular note, trust and asset management fees continue to run well above last year's numbers."

Net interest income increased $\$ 985,000$, or 12 percent, in the third quarter 2011 versus the third quarter 2010. Third quarter net interest margin increased to 4.01 percent in 2011 as compared to 3.02 percent in the third quarter of 2010 . The increase was due to both a lower cost on interest-bearing deposits and an increase in the yield on interest-earning assets. In addition, the Company had a significantly lower amount of interest-earning cash during the third quarter 2011. The cost of interest-bearing deposits decreased to 0.99 percent in the third quarter 2011 from 1.46 percent for the same period in 2010, primarily due to the re-pricing of time deposits and money market accounts. The yield on earning assets increased from 4.46 percent in the third quarter of 2010 to 5.01 percent for the third quarter of 2011, which was primarily a result of the Company holding, on average, $\$ 125$ million less in lower yielding interest-bearing deposits, fed funds sold and investment securities during the third quarter of 2011 than the same period in 2010. The Company received $\$ 190$ million in cash when it acquired the deposits and certain assets of First National in June, 2010 and much of this liquidity was invested in interest-bearing deposits and investments. On a linked quarter basis, the net interest margin increased 10 basis points compared to the second quarter of 2011. The Company held, on average, $\$ 20$ million less in lower-yielding interest-bearing deposits, fed funds sold and investment securities during the third quarter of 2011 compared to the second quarter of 2011. The Company continues to aggressively manage the pricing on deposits and the use of wholesale funds to mitigate the amount of margin compression.

Noninterest income increased $\$ 279,000$, or 18 percent, in the third quarter of 2011 versus the same period in 2010. This increase was primarily related to a $\$ 326,000$ increase in gains on sale of securities during the third quarter of 2011 compared to the same period in 2010. This increase was partially offset by a $\$ 67,000$ decrease in service charges on deposit accounts during 2011 compared to 2010 , primarily due to recent regulatory guidance related to overdraft charges.

Noninterest expense decreased $\$ 892,000$, or 12 percent, to $\$ 6,418,000$ in the third quarter 2011 compared to the same period in 2010. The decrease in noninterest expense was mainly attributable to a $\$ 469,000$, or 45 percent, decrease in loss on sale and write-down of foreclosed assets. Salaries and employee benefits decreased $\$ 62,000$ or 2.1 percent in the third quarter 2011. In addition, information technology expense declined $\$ 147,000$ or 26 percent and FDIC deposit insurance premiums were down $\$ 117,000$ or 26 percent. The Company renegotiated and renewed its contract with its core processor resulting in the decline in its information technology expense. The decrease in the FDIC insurance premiums was due to changes to the FDIC assessment process which became effective in the second quarter of 2011.

The Savannah Bancorp, Inc., a bank holding company for The Savannah Bank, N.A., Bryan Bank \& Trust (Richmond Hill, Georgia), and Minis \& Co., Inc., is headquartered in Savannah, Georgia and began operations in 1990. SAVB has eleven branches in Coastal Georgia and South Carolina. Its primary businesses include loan, deposit, trust, asset management, and mortgage origination services provided to local customers.

## Forward-Looking Statements

This press release contains statements that constitute "forward-looking statements" within the meaning of the Securities Act of 1933 and the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 as amended by the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995. These forward-looking statements include, among others, statements identified by words or phrases such as "potential," "opportunity," "believe," "expect," "anticipate," "current," "intention," "estimate," "assume," "outlook," "continue," "seek," "plans," "achieve," and similar expressions, or future or conditional verbs such as "will," "would," "should," "could," "may" or similar expressions. These statements are based on the current beliefs and expectations of our management and are subject to significant risks and uncertainties. There can be no assurance that these results will occur or that the expected benefits associated therewith will be achieved. A number of important factors could cause actual results to differ materially from those contemplated by our forward-looking statements in this press release. Many of these factors are beyond our ability to control or predict. These factors include, but are not limited to, those found in our filings with the Securities and Exchange Commission, including under the captions "Risk Factors" and "Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations" in our Annual Report on Form 10-K, Quarterly Reports on Form 10-Q and Current Reports on Form 8-K. We believe these forward-looking statements are reasonable; however, undue reliance should not be placed on any forward-looking statements, which are based on current expectations. We do not assume any obligation to update any forward-looking statements as a result of new information, future developments or otherwise, except as required by law.

Contacts: John C. Helmken II, President and CEO, 912-629-6486
Michael W. Harden, Jr., Chief Financial Officer, 912-629-6496

## The Savannah Bancorp, Inc. and Subsidiaries

## Third Quarter Financial Highlights

(\$ in thousands, except share data)
(Unaudited)


## The Savannah Bancorp, Inc. and Subsidiaries

## Consolidated Balance Sheets

(\$ in thousands, except share data)
(Unaudited)


The Savannah Bancorp, Inc. and Subsidiaries
Consolidated Statements of Income
for the Nine Months and Five Quarters Ending September 30, 2011
(\$ in thousands, except per share data)


## Capital Resources

The banking regulatory agencies have adopted capital requirements that specify the minimum level for which no prompt corrective action is required. In addition, the FDIC assesses FDIC insurance premiums based on certain "well-capitalized" risk-based and equity capital ratios. As of September 30, 2011, the Company and the Subsidiary Banks exceeded the minimum statutory requirements necessary to be classified as "well-capitalized." Notwithstanding the foregoing, Bryan has agreed with its primary regulator to maintain a Tier 1 Leverage Ratio of not less than 8.00 percent. The Company is evaluating its options for Bryan to conform to this stipulation. Savannah has agreed with its primary regulator to maintain a Tier 1 Leverage Ratio of not less than 8.00 percent and a Total Risk-based Capital Ratio of not less than 12.00 percent and is currently in conformity with the agreement.

Total tangible equity capital for the Company was $\$ 82.7$ million, or 8.36 percent of total assets at September 30, 2011. The table below includes the regulatory capital ratios for the Company and each Subsidiary Bank, along with the minimum capital ratio and the ratio required to maintain a well-capitalized regulatory status.

| $(\$$ in thousands) | Company | Savannah | Bryan | Minimum | Well- <br> Capitalized |
| :--- | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: |
| Qualifying Capital <br> Tier 1 capital |  |  |  |  |  |
| Total capital | $\$ 85,269$ | $\$ 64,790$ | $\$ 18,840$ | - | - |
| Leverage Ratios <br> Tier 1 capital to <br> average assets | 94,824 | 71,779 | 21,254 | - | - |
| Risk-based Ratios <br> Tier 1 capital to risk- <br> weighted assets <br> Total capital to risk- <br> weighted assets | $8.70 \%$ | $8.89 \%$ | $7.85 \%$ | $4.00 \%$ | $5.00 \%$ |

Tier 1 and total capital at the Company level includes $\$ 10$ million of subordinated debt issued to the Company's nonconsolidated subsidiaries. Total capital also includes the allowance for loan losses up to 1.25 percent of risk-weighted assets.

The Savannah Bancorp, Inc. and Subsidiaries Allowance for Loan Losses and Nonperforming Assets
(Unaudited)

|  | 2011 |  | 2010 |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| (\$ in thousands) | Third Quarter | Second <br> Quarter | First <br> Quarter | Fourth Quarter | Third Quarter |
| Allowance for loan losses |  |  |  |  |  |
| Balance at beginning of period | \$ 23,523 | \$ 22,363 | \$ 20,350 | \$ 19,519 | \$ 18,775 |
| Provision for loan losses | 2,865 | 6,300 | 4,360 | 6,725 | 5,230 |
| Net charge-offs | $(3,534)$ | $(5,140)$ | $(2,347)$ | $(5,894)$ | $(4,486)$ |
| Balance at end of period | \$ 22,854 | \$ 23,523 | \$ 22,363 | \$ 20,350 | \$ 19,519 |
| As a \% of loans | 2.90\% | 2.91\% | 2.73\% | 2.46\% | 2.34\% |
| As a \% of nonperforming loans | 53.72\% | 59.84\% | 64.38\% | 56.69\% | 47.56\% |
| As a \% of nonperforming assets | $\mathbf{3 8 . 3 0 \%}$ | 45.73\% | 45.87\% | 41.45\% | 38.44\% |
| Net charge-offs as a \% of average loans (a) | 1.84\% | 2.65\% | 1.21\% | 2.26\% | 2.03\% |
| Risk element assets |  |  |  |  |  |
| Nonaccruing loans | \$ 41,689 | \$ 39,160 | \$ 33,921 | \$ 32,836 | \$ 40,837 |
| Loans past due 90 days - accruing | 851 | 150 | 817 | 3,064 | 204 |
| Total nonperforming loans | 42,540 | 39,310 | 34,738 | 35,900 | 41,041 |
| Other real estate owned | 17,135 | 12,125 | 14,014 | 13,199 | 9,739 |
| Total nonperforming assets | \$ 59,675 | \$ 51,435 | \$ 48,752 | \$ 49,099 | \$ 50,780 |
| Loans past due 30-89 days | \$ 13,096 | \$ 17,013 | \$ 9,175 | \$ 11,164 | \$ 10,757 |
| Nonperforming loans as a \% of loans | 5.39\% | 4.87\% | 4.24\% | 4.34\% | 4.93\% |
| Nonperforming assets as a \% of loans |  |  |  |  |  |
| and other real estate owned | 7.41\% | 6.28\% | 5.85\% | 5.85\% | 6.03\% |
| Nonperforming assets as a \% of assets | 6.04\% | 5.13\% | 4.69\% | 4.60\% | 4.63\% |

(a) Annualized

The Savannah Bancorp, Inc. and Subsidiaries

## Average Balance Sheet and Rate/Volume Analysis - Third Quarter, 2011 and 2010

| Average Balance |  | Average Rate |  |  | Taxable-Equivalent Interest (b) |  | (a) Variance Attributable to |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| QTD | QTD | QTD | QTD |  | QTD | QTD | Vari- |  |  |  |  |
| 09/30/11 | 09/30/10 | 09/30/11 | 09/30/10 |  | 09/30/11 | 09/30/10 | ance |  | Rate |  | Volume |
| (\$ in thousands) |  | (\%) |  |  | (\$ in thousands) |  |  | (\$ in thousands) |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  | Assets |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 33,869 | \$ 112,297 | 0.29 | 0.27 | Interest-bearing deposits | \$ 25 | \$ 76 | \$ (51) |  | 6 |  | (57) |
| 91,151 | 124,212 | 2.79 | 2.00 | Investments - taxable | 640 | 627 | 13 |  | 247 |  | (234) |
| 5,631 | 7,198 | 4.51 | 4.46 | Investments - non-taxable | 64 | 81 | (17) |  | 1 |  | (18) |
| 351 | 12,002 | 1.13 | 0.30 | Federal funds sold | 1 | 9 | (8) |  | 25 |  | (33) |
| 762,186 | 801,856 | 5.49 | 5.49 | Loans (c) | 10,539 | 11,102 | (563) |  | - |  | (563) |
| 893,188 | 1,057,565 | 5.01 | 4.46 | Total interest-earning assets | 11,269 | 11,895 | (626) |  | 279 |  | (905) |
| 97,115 | 100,890 |  |  | Noninterest-earning assets |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| \$ 990,303 | \$ 1,158,455 |  |  | Total assets |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Liabilities and equity |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Deposits |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 135,292 | \$ 117,817 | 0.27 | 0.33 | NOW accounts | 93 | 97 | (4) |  | (18) |  | 14 |
| 20,883 | 18,803 | 0.09 | 0.40 | Savings accounts | 5 | 19 | (14) |  | (15) |  | 1 |
| 228,755 | 214,413 | 1.12 | 1.48 | Money market accounts | 648 | 799 | (151) |  | (195) |  | 44 |
| Money market accounts - |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 147,156 | 223,286 | 1.52 | 2.02 | CDs, $\$ 100 \mathrm{M}$ or more | 563 | 1,137 | (574) |  | (281) |  | (293) |
| 46,141 | 82,062 | 0.66 | 0.94 | CDs, broker | 77 | 194 | (117) |  | (58) |  | (59) |
| 130,369 | 203,029 | 1.39 | 1.95 | Other time deposits | 458 | 1,000 | (542) |  | (287) |  | (255) |
| 749,135 | 906,204 | 0.99 | 1.46 | Total interest-bearing deposits | 1,877 | 3,336 | $(1,459)$ |  | (905) |  | (554) |
| 24,465 | 30,133 | 3.37 | 3.65 | Short-term/other borrowings | 208 | 277 | (69) |  | (21) |  | (48) |
| 20,047 | 23,269 | 1.72 | 2.80 | FHLB advances | 87 | 164 | (77) |  | (63) |  | (14) |
| 10,310 | 10,310 | 2.89 | 3.12 | Subordinated debt | 75 | 81 | (6) |  | (6) |  |  |
| Total interest-bearing |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 803,957 | 969,916 | 1.11 | 1.58 | liabilities | 2,247 | 3,858 | $(1,611)$ |  | (995) |  | (616) |
| 96,065 | 90,516 |  |  | Noninterest-bearing deposits |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 3,961 | 8,286 |  |  | Other liabilities |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 86,320 | 89,737 |  |  | Shareholders' equity |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| \$ 990,303 | \$1,158,455 |  |  | Liabilities and equity |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  | 3.90 | 2.88 | Interest rate spread |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  | 4.01 | 3.02 | Net interest margin |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  | Net interest income | \$ 9,022 | \$8,037 | \$ 985 | \$ | 1,274 |  | $\xrightarrow{(289)}$ |
| \$ 89,231 | \$ 87,649 |  |  | Net earning assets |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| \$845,200 | \$ 996,720 |  |  | Average deposits |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  | 0.88 | 1.33 | Average cost of deposits |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 90\% | 80\% |  |  | Average loan to deposit ratio (c) |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |

(a)This table shows the changes in interest income and interest expense for the comparative periods based on either changes in average volume or changes in average rates for interest-earning assets and interest-bearing liabilities. Changes which are not solely due to rate changes or solely due to volume changes are attributed to volume.
(b) The taxable equivalent adjustment results from tax exempt income less non-deductible TEFRA interest expense and was $\$ 8$ in the third quarter 2011 and 2010, respectively.
(c) Average nonaccruing loans have been excluded from total average loans and categorized in noninterest-earning assets.

The Savannah Bancorp, Inc. and Subsidiaries

## Average Balance Sheet and Rate/Volume Analysis - First Nine Months, 2011 and 2010


(a)This table shows the changes in interest income and interest expense for the comparative periods based on either changes in average volume changes in average rates for interest-earning assets and interest-bearing liabilities. Changes which are not solely due to rate changes or solely due to volume changes are attributed to volume.
(b)The taxable equivalent adjustment results from tax exempt income less non-deductible TEFRA interest expense and was $\$ 32$ in the first nine months 2011 and 2010, respectively.
(c)Average nonaccruing loans have been excluded from total average loans and categorized in noninterest-earning assets.

