# UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION 

## WASHINGTON, D.C. 20549

FORM 10-Q
(Mark One)
x Quarterly report pursuant to section 13 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934
For the quarterly period ended March 31, 2007 or
.. Transition report pursuant to Section 13 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934
For the transition period from $\qquad$ to $\qquad$
Commission File Number: 000-50245

## NARA BANCORP, INC.

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

Delaware
(State or other jurisdiction of incorporation or organization)

3731 Wilshire Boulevard, Suite 1000, Los Angeles, California
(Address of Principal executive offices)
(213) 639-1700
(Registrant s telephone number, including area code)
(Former name, former address and former fiscal year, if changed since last report)
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 x No ${ }^{-}$

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

## Edgar Filing: NARA BANCORP INC - Form 10-Q

Large accelerated filer<br>x Accelerated filer<br>* Non-accelerated filer

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant is a shell company (as defined in Rule 12b-2 of the Exchange Act).

## Yes ${ }^{\text {. }}$ No x

As of April 30, 2007, there were 26,131,672 outstanding shares of the issuer s Common Stock, $\$ 0.001$ par value.

Table of Contents

## Table of Contents (need to update after finalized)

Page
PART I FINANCIAL INFORMATION
Item 1. FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
Forward - Looking Information ..... 3
Condensed Consolidated Statements of Financial Condition - March 31, 2007 (unaudited) and December 31, 2006 ..... 4
Condensed Consolidated Statements of Income - Three Months Ended March 31, 2007 and 2006 (unaudited) ..... 6
Condensed Consolidated Statements of Changes in Stockholders Equity - Three Months Ended March 31, 2007 and 2006 (unaudited) ..... 7
Condensed Consolidated Statements of Cash Flows - Three Months Ended March 31, 2007 and 2006 (unaudited) ..... 8
Notes to Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements (unaudited) ..... 10
Item 2. MANAGEMENT S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS OF FINANCIAL CONDITION AND RESULTS OF OPERATIONS ..... 20
Item 3. QUANTITATIVE AND QUALITATIVE DISCLOSURES ABOUT MARKET RISK ..... 36
Item 4. CONTROLS AND PROCEDURES ..... 38
PART II OTHER INFORMATION
Item 1. Legal Proceeding ..... 39
Item 1A. Risk Factors ..... 39
Item 2. Unregistered Sales of Equity Securities and Use of Proceeds ..... 39
Item 3. Defaults Upon Senior Securities ..... 39
Item 4. Submission of Matters to a Vote of Securities Holders ..... 39
Item 5. Other Information ..... 39
Item 6. Exhibits ..... 39
Signatures ..... 40
Index to Exhibits ..... 41
Certifications

## Table of Contents

## Forward-Looking Information

Certain matters discussed in this report may constitute forward-looking statements under Section 27A of the Securities Act of 1933 and Section 21E of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934. There can be no assurance that the results described or implied in such forward-looking statements will, in fact, be achieved and actual results, performance, and achievements could differ materially because our business involves inherent risks and uncertainties. Risks and uncertainties include possible future deteriorating economic conditions in our areas of operation; interest rate risk associated with volatile interest rates and related asset-liability matching risk; liquidity risks; risk of significant non-earning assets, and net credit losses that could occur, particularly in times of weak economic conditions or times of rising interest rates; risks of available for sale securities declining significantly in value as interest rates rise; and regulatory risks associated with the variety of current and future regulations as well as regulatory enforcement actions to which we are subject. For additional information concerning these factors, see Item 1A. Risk Factors contained in our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2006.

Table of Contents

## PART I

## FINANCIAL INFORMATION

## Item 1. Financial Statements NARA BANCORP, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES

## CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF FINANCIAL CONDITION

|  | (Unaudited) <br> March 31, |
| :--- | :--- |

## Table of Contents

|  | (Unaudited) <br> March 31, |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | 2007 |  | $\begin{gathered} \text { December 31, } \\ 2006 \\ \text { except share data) } \end{gathered}$ |  |
| LIABILITIES: |  |  |  |  |
| Deposits: |  |  |  |  |
| Noninterest-bearing | \$ | 383,525 | \$ | 407,519 |
| Interest-bearing: |  |  |  |  |
| Money market and other |  | 215,694 |  | 184,199 |
| Savings deposits |  | 141,754 |  | 141,611 |
| Time deposits of \$100,000 or more |  | 809,154 |  | 768,727 |
| Other time deposits |  | 200,849 |  | 210,179 |
| Total deposits |  | 1,750,976 |  | 1,712,235 |
| Borrowings from Federal Home Loan Bank |  | 100,000 |  | 76,000 |
| Accrued interest payable |  | 10,840 |  | 8,258 |
| Acceptances outstanding |  | 7,894 |  | 7,565 |
| Subordinated debentures |  | 39,268 |  | 39,268 |
| Other liabilities |  | 19,502 |  | 17,032 |
| Total liabilities |  | 1,928,480 |  | 1,860,358 |
| STOCKHOLDERS EQUITY: |  |  |  |  |
| Preferred stock, \$0.001 par value; authorized, 10,000,000 shares; none issued and outstanding |  |  |  |  |
| Common stock, \$0.001 par value; authorized, 40,000,000 shares; issued and outstanding, |  |  |  |  |
| 26,131,672 and 26,107,672 shares at March 31, 2007 and December 31, 2006, respectively |  | 26 |  | 26 |
| Capital surplus |  | 78,563 |  | 77,939 |
| Retained earnings |  | 118,761 |  | 111,978 |
| Accumulated other comprehensive loss, net |  | $(2,601)$ |  | $(3,316)$ |
| Total stockholders equity |  | 194,749 |  | 186,627 |
| Total liabilities and stockholders equity | \$ | 2,123,229 | \$ | 2,046,985 |

See accompanying notes to consolidated financial statements (unaudited)

## Table of Contents

## CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF INCOME

For the three months ended March 31, 2007 and 2006

## (Unaudited)

|  | Three Months Ended March 31, 2007 <br> (In thousands, except per share data) |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| INTEREST INCOME: |  |  |  |  |
| Interest and fees on loans | \$ | 38,244 | \$ | 32,604 |
| Interest on securities |  | 2,053 |  | 1,884 |
| Interest on federal funds sold and other investments |  | 495 |  | 792 |
| Total interest income |  | 40,792 |  | 35,280 |
| INTEREST EXPENSE: |  |  |  |  |
| Interest on deposits |  | 16,299 |  | 11,589 |
| Interest on subordinated debentures |  | 854 |  | 785 |
| Interest on other borrowings |  | 904 |  | 337 |
| Total interest expense |  | 18,057 |  | 12,711 |
| NET INTEREST INCOME BEFORE PROVISION FOR |  |  |  |  |
| LOAN LOSSES |  | 22,735 |  | 22,569 |
| PROVISION FOR LOAN LOSSES |  | 980 |  | 1,080 |
| NET INTEREST INCOME AFTER PROVISION FOR |  |  |  |  |
| LOAN LOSSES |  | 21,755 |  | 21,489 |


| NON-INTEREST INCOME: |  |  |
| :--- | ---: | ---: |
| Service fees on deposit accounts | 1,620 | 1,537 |
| International service fees | 670 | 614 |
| Loan servicing fees, net | 504 | 466 |
| Wire transfer fees | 338 | 348 |
| Other income and fees | 252 | 360 |
| Net gains on sales of SBA loans | 1,220 | 1,717 |
|  |  |  |
| Total non-interest income | 4,604 | 5,042 |


| NON-INTEREST EXPENSE: |  |  |
| :--- | ---: | ---: |
| Salaries and employee benefits | 6,714 | 6,811 |
| Occupancy | 2,075 | 1,816 |
| Furniture and equipment | 625 | 520 |
| Advertising and marketing | 662 | 551 |
| Data processing and communications | 954 | 953 |
| Professional fees | 846 | 678 |
| Other | 2,070 | 1,853 |
|  |  |  |
| Total non-interest expense | 13,946 | 13,182 |
|  |  | 12,413 |

## Edgar Filing: NARA BANCORP INC - Form 10-Q

| NET INCOME | $\$$ | 7,308 | $\$$ | 7,879 |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
|  |  |  |  |  |
| EARNINGS PER SHARE | $\$$ | 0.28 | $\$$ | 0.31 |
| Basic | 0.28 | 0.30 |  |  |

See accompanying notes to condensed consolidated financial statements (unaudited)

## Table of Contents

## CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF CHANGES IN STOCKHOLDERS EQUITY

## THREE MONTHS ENDED MARCH 31, 2007 AND 2006

(Unaudited)


See accompanying notes to condensed consolidated financial statements (unaudited)

## Table of Contents

## CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF CASH FLOWS

## THREE MONTHS ENDED MARCH 31, 2007 AND 2006

(Unaudited)
$\left.\left.\begin{array}{l|cc} & \begin{array}{c}\text { Three Months Ended } \\ \text { March 31, }\end{array} \\ \mathbf{2 0 0 6}\end{array}\right] \begin{array}{cc}\mathbf{2 0 0 7} \\ \text { (In thousands) }\end{array}\right)$

## CASH FLOWS FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES

| Net change in loans receivable | $(35,717)$ |  |
| :--- | ---: | ---: |
| Purchase of premises and equipment | $(619)$ | $(78,937)$ |
| Purchase of securities available for sale | $(19,396)$ |  |
| Proceeds from disposition of premises and equipment | $(15,253)$ |  |
| Proceeds from matured securities held to maturity | 1,000 |  |
| Proceeds from matured or called securities available for sale | 6,761 |  |
| Net cash used in investing activities | $(47,971)$ | $(9,777$ |

## Table of Contents

## CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF CASH FLOWS

## THREE MONTHS ENDED MARCH 31, 2007 AND 2006

(Unaudited)


## Table of Contents

## Notes to Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements (Unaudited)

## 1. Nara Bancorp, Inc.

Nara Bancorp, Inc. ( Nara Bancorp , on a parent-only basis, and Company, we or our on a consolidated basis), incorporated under the laws of th State of Delaware in 2000, is a bank holding company, headquartered in Los Angeles, California, offering a full range of commercial banking and certain consumer financial services through its wholly owned subsidiary, Nara Bank ( Nara Bank or the Bank ), which was organized in 1989 as a national bank and converted to a California state-chartered bank on January 3, 2005, with branches in California and New York as well as Loan Production Offices in California, Washington, Georgia, Illinois, New Jersey, Virginia and Texas.

## 2. Basis of Presentation

Our condensed consolidated financial statements included herein have been prepared without an audit, pursuant to the rules and regulations of the Securities and Exchange Commission ( SEC ). Certain information and footnote disclosures, normally included in consolidated financial statements prepared in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America, have been condensed or omitted pursuant to such SEC rules and regulations.

The condensed consolidated financial statements include the accounts of Nara Bancorp and its wholly owned subsidiaries, principally Nara Bank. All intercompany transactions and balances have been eliminated in consolidation.

We believe that we have made all adjustments necessary to fairly present our financial position at March 31, 2007 and the results of our operations for the three months then ended. Certain reclassifications have been made to prior period amounts to conform to the current year presentation. The results of operations for the interim periods are not necessarily indicative of results for the full year.

These unaudited condensed consolidated financial statements should be read along with the audited consolidated financial statements and accompanying notes included in our 2006 Annual Report on Form 10-K.

## 3. Stock-Based Compensation

Effective January 1, 2006, we adopted the provisions of Statement of Financial Accounting Standards ( SFAS ) No. 123 (R), Share-Based Payment ( SFAS 123 (R) ). SFAS 123 (R) establishes accounting for stock-based awards exchanged for employee services. Stock-based compensation cost is measured at grant date, based on the fair value of the award, and is recognized as expense over the employee requisite service period. We previously applied Accounting Principles Board (APB) Opinion No. 25, Accounting for Stock Issued to Employees and related Interpretations and provided the required pro forma disclosures of SFAS No. 123, Accounting for Stock-Based Compensation ( SFAS 123 ).

We adopted a stock option plan in 1989 and a new plan in 2000 known as the Year 2000 Long Term Incentive Plan, under which options or restricted units may be granted to officers, employees and directors of the Company. Options are granted with an exercise price equal to the market price at the date of grant with vesting periods from three to five years and have 10-year contractual terms. Restricted units are awarded to a participant at the market price of the Company s common stock on the date of award and all units vest on the three year anniversary of the grant. Compensation expense for the awards is recorded over the vesting period.

The Company authorized a total of $2,800,000$ shares under the Year 2000 Long Term Incentive Plan as of March 31, 2007. The Company has issued 2,570,000 shares, net of forfeitures, under this plan as of March 31, 2007. As of March 31, 2007, 230,000 shares were available for future grants.

## Table of Contents

The fair value of each option is estimated on the date of grant using a Black-Scholes valuation model that uses the assumptions noted in the following table. Since this model incorporates ranges of assumptions for inputs, those ranges are disclosed. Expected volatility is based on the historical volatility of our stock. We use historical data to estimate the option exercise and employee terminations within the valuation model. The expected term of options granted is derived from the output of the option valuation model and represents the period of time that options granted are expected to be outstanding. The risk-free interest rate for periods within the contractual life of the option is based on the U.S. Treasury yield curve in effect at the time of grant.

|  | Three months ended <br> March 31, |  |
| :--- | :---: | :---: |
| Risk-free interest rate | $\mathbf{2 0 0 7}$ | $\mathbf{2 0 0 6}$ |
| Expected option life (years) | $4.8 \%$ |  |
| Expected stock price volatility | 6.4 years |  |
| Dividend yield | $40.4 \%$ |  |
| Weighted average fair value of options granted during the period | $\$ .6 \%$ |  |

During the first quarter of 2007 , no stock option grants that would have been measured at fair value using the valuation model were made.

A summary of share option activity under the plan for the three months ended March 31, 2007 is as follows:

|  | Number of Shares | Weighted- <br> Average <br> Exercise Price Per Share |  | Weighted- <br> Average Remaining Contractual Life (Years) | Aggregate <br> Intrinsic Value |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Outstanding - January 1, 2007 | 1,390,250 | \$ | 11.87 |  |  |
| Granted |  |  |  |  |  |
| Exercised | $(24,000)$ |  | 8.64 |  |  |
| Forfeited/canceled |  |  |  |  |  |
| Outstanding - March 31, 2007 | 1,366,250 | \$ | 11.93 | 6.87 | \$7,959,000 |
| Options exercisable - March 31, 2007 | 669,317 | \$ | 10.46 | 6.03 | \$ 4,775,000 |

The aggregate intrinsic value of options exercised for the three months ended March 31, 2007 and 2006 was $\$ 264,000$ and $\$ 1,090,000$, respectively. The tax benefit realized for options exercised for the three months ending March 31, 2007 and 2006 was $\$ 0$ and $\$ 287,000$, respectively.

## Table of Contents

A summary of restricted unit activity under the plan for the three months ended March 31, 2007 is as follows:

|  |  | Weighted- <br> Average <br> Grant <br> Date Fair <br> Value | Weighted- <br> Average <br> Remaining <br> Contractual <br> Life (Years) | Aggregate <br> Intrinsic <br> Value |  |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Outstanding - January 1, 2007 | Number of <br> Shares | 106,090 | $\$$ | 18.38 |  |
| Granted | 1,000 | 19.17 |  |  |  |
| Exercised | $(2,020)$ | 18.38 |  |  |  |
| Forfeited/canceled | 105,070 | $\$ 18.39$ | 9.23 | $\$ 1,840,000$ |  |

There were no restricted units granted prior to 2006 under the plan, No restricted units vested during the quarter ended March 31, 2007.
The amount charged against income, before income tax benefit of $\$ 150,000$ and $\$ 118,000$, in relation to the stock-based payment arrangement was $\$ 417,000$ and $\$ 288,000$ for the three months ending March 31, 2007 and 2006, respectively. At March 31, 2007, unrecognized compensation expense related to non-vested stock option grants and restricted units aggregated $\$ 3,494,000$, and is expected to be recognized over a weighted average period of 1.7 years. The estimated annual stock-based compensation as of March 31, 2007 for each of the succeeding years is indicated in the table below:

|  | Stock Based <br> Compensation Expense <br> (in thousands) |
| :--- | ---: | ---: |
| Remainder of 2007 | $\$, 201$ |
| For the year ended December 31,: | 1,417 |
| 2008 | 776 |
| 2009 | $\$ 100$ |
| Total | $\$ \quad 3,494$ |

## 4. Dividends

On March 20, 2007, we declared a $\$ 0.0275$ per share cash dividend which was paid on April 13, 2007 to stockholders of record at the close of business on March 30, 2007. In accordance with the terms of the amendment to our Memorandum of Understanding with the Federal Reserve Bank dated February 8, 2007, the prior approval to the declaration or payment of dividend by Nara Bancorp is not required from the Federal Reserve Bank, unless the amount involved exceeds $\$ 800$ thousand.

## 5. Earnings Per Share ( EPS )

Basic EPS excludes dilution and is computed by dividing net income by the weighted average number of common shares outstanding for the period. Allocated ESOP shares are considered outstanding for this calculation. Diluted EPS reflects the potential dilution that could occur if stock options or other contracts to issue common stock were exercised or converted to common stock that would then share in our earnings. For the three months ended March 31, 2007 and 2006, stock options for 150,000 shares and 180,000 shares of common stock were excluded in computing diluted earnings per common share because they were antidilutive.

## Table of Contents

The following table shows how we computed basic and diluted EPS for the three months ended March 31, 2007 and 2006.

|  | For the three months ended March 31, |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  | 2007 |  |  | 2006 |  |  |  |
|  | Net Income Numerato | Shares Denominator) (Dollars in th | Pe | Per Share (Amount) | Net Income Numerat t share a | Shares Denominator) r share data) | Per Share (Amount) |  |
| Basic EPS | \$7,308 | 26,123,405 | \$ | 0.28 | \$7,879 | 25,473,400 | \$ | 0.31 |
| Effect of Dilutive Securities: |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Stock Options |  | 414,011 |  |  |  | 667,446 |  |  |
| Diluted EPS | \$7,308 | 26,537,416 | \$ | 0.28 | \$7,879 | 26,140,846 | \$ | 0.30 |

## 6. Recent Accounting Pronouncements

In February 2006, the Financial Accounting Standards Board (FASB) issued Statement No. 155, Accounting for Certain Hybrid Financial Instruments-an amendment to FASB Statements No. 133 and 140. This Statement permits fair value re-measurement for any hybrid financial instruments, clarifies which instruments are subject to the requirements of Statement No. 133, and establishes a requirement to evaluate interests in securitized financial assets and other items. The new standard is effective for financial assets acquired or issued after the beginning of the entity s first fiscal year that begins after September 15, 2006. The adoption of this statement does not have a material effect on our Company s financial condition and results of operations.

In March 2006, the Financial Accounting Standards Board (FASB) issued Statement No. 156, Accounting for Servicing of Financial Assets-an amendment of FASB Statement No. 140. The Bank adopted the Statement as of January 1, 2007. SFAS No. 156 requires separately recognized servicing assets and servicing liabilities to be initially measured at fair value and permits the Bank to elect to measure servicing assets and servicing liabilities at fair value at each reporting date and report changes in fair value in earnings in the period in which the changes occur or to continue to amortize the servicing assets over the loan service period with periodic impairment assessment. The Bank has elected to continue to amortize its servicing assets. There was no cumulative effect upon the adoption of SFAS No. 156 and the effect on net income for the three months ended March 31, 2007 was not significant and the Bank servicing assets at March 31, 2007 and December 31, 2006 were not considered significant.

In June 2006, the FASB issued Interpretation No.48, Accounting for Uncertainty in Income Taxes an Interpretation of FASB Statement No. 106 (FIN 48), which clarifies the accounting for uncertainty in income taxes recognized in a company s financial statements in accordance with SFAS No.109, Accounting for Income Taxes. FIN 48 prescribes a recognition and measurement threshold for a tax position taken or expected to be taken in a tax return. FIN 48 also provides guidance on derecognition, classification, interest and penalties, accounting in interim periods, disclosure, and transition. FIN 48 is effective for fiscal years beginning after December 15, 2006. On January 1, 2007, we adopted the recognition and disclosure provisions of FIN 48. See Note 12 Income Taxes in the accompanying financial statements for additional information regarding the impact of our adoption of FIN 48.

In September 2006, the FASB Emerging Issues Task Force finalized Issue No. 06-5, Accounting for Purchases of Life Insurance - Determining the Amount That Could Be Realized in Accordance with FASB Technical Bulletin No. 85-4 (Accounting for Purchases of Life Insurance). This issue requires that a policyholder consider contractual terms of a life insurance policy in determining the amount that could be realized under the insurance contract. It also requires that if the contract provides for a greater surrender value if all individual policies in a group are surrendered at

## Table of Contents

the same time, that the surrender value be determined based on the assumption that policies will be surrendered on an individual basis. Lastly, the issue discusses whether the cash surrender value should be discounted when the policyholder is contractually limited in its ability to surrender a policy. This issue is effective for fiscal years beginning after December 15, 2006. The adoption did not have a material impact since it was effective 1/1/07.

In September 2006, the FASB issued SFAS No. 158, Employers Accounting for Defined Benefit Pension and Other Postretirement Plans, which requires employers to fully recognize obligations associated with single-employer defined benefit pension, retiree healthcare and other postretirement plans in their financial statements. The provisions of SFAS No, 158 require employers to (a) recognize in its statement of financial position an asset for a plan s overfunded status or a liability for a plan s underfunded status; (b) measure a plan sassets and its obligations that determine its funded status as of the end of the employer sfiscal year (with limited exceptions); and (c) recognize changes in the funded status of a defined benefit postretirement plan in the year in which the changes occur. These changes will be reported in comprehensive income in the statement of changes in stockholders equity. Statement No. 158 applies to plan sponsors that are public and private companies and nongovernmental not-for-profit organizations. The requirement to recognize the funded status of a benefit plan and the disclosure requirements are effective as of the end of the fiscal year ending after December 15, 2006, for entities with publicly traded equity securities, and at the end of the fiscal year ending after June 15, 2007, for all other entities. The requirement to measure plan assets and benefit obligations as of the date of the employer s fiscal year-end statement of financial position is effective for fiscal years ending after December 15, 2008. The adoption of this statement should not have a material effect on our Company s financial condition and results of operations.

In February 2007, the FASB issued SFAS No. 159, The Fair Value Option for Financial Assets and Financial Liabilities Including an amendment of FASB Statement No. 115, which establishes presentation and disclosure requirements designed to facilitate comparisons between companies that choose different measurement attributes for similar types of assets and liabilities. This standard requires companies to provide additional information that will help investors and other users of financial statements to more easily understand the effect of the company s choice to use fair value on its earnings. It also requires entities to display the fair value of those assets and liabilities for which the company has chosen to use fair value on the face of the balance sheet. This new guidance does not eliminate disclosure requirements included in other accounting standards, including fair value measurement disclosures required by SFAS No. 157 and SFAS No. 107, Disclosures about Fair Value of Financial Instruments. SFAS No. 159 is effective for fiscal years beginning after November 15, 2007. Early adoption is permitted as of the beginning of the previous fiscal year provided that the entity makes that choice in the first 120 days of that fiscal year and also elects to apply the provisions of SFAS No. 157. The adoption of this statement should not have a material effect on our Company sfinancial condition and results of operations.

## 7. Loans Receivable and Allowance for Loan Losses

The following is a summary of loans receivable by major category:

|  | March 31, 2007 <br> (Doll | De | $\text { ber 31, } 2006$ <br> ) |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Commercial loans | \$ 562,406 | \$ | 565,759 |
| Real estate loans | 1,145,196 |  | 1,102,072 |
| Consumer and other loans | 43,945 |  | 49,201 |
|  | 1,751,547 |  | 1,717,032 |
| Unamortized deferred loan fees, net of cost | $(2,305)$ |  | $(2,167)$ |
| Allowance for loan losses | $(18,752)$ |  | $(19,112)$ |
| Loans receivable, net | \$ 1,730,490 | \$ | 1,695,753 |

## Table of Contents

Activity in the allowance for loan losses is as follows for the periods indicated:

|  | Three months ended March 31, |  |  |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Balance, beginning of period | $\mathbf{2 0 0 7}$ | $\mathbf{2 0 0 6}$ |  |
| Provision for loan losses | $\mathbf{1 9 , 1 1 2}$ | $\$$ | 17,618 |
| Loan charge-offs | 980 | 1,080 |  |
| Loan recoveries | $(1,531)$ | $(651)$ |  |
|  | 191 | 351 |  |
| Balance, end of period | $\$$ | 18,752 | $\$$ |

At March 31, 2007, December 31, 2006 and March 31, 2006, the Company had classified $\$ 9.0$ million, $\$ 3.1$ million and $\$ 4.9$ million, respectively, of its commercial and real estate loans as impaired, with specific loss allocations of $\$ 1.2$ million, $\$ 1.7$ million and $\$ 1.4$ million, respectively. At March 31, 2007, non-accrual loans totaled $\$ 8.7$ million compared to $\$ 3.3$ million at December 31, 2006 and $\$ 4.6$ million at March 31, 2006. At March 31, 2007, December 31, 2006 and March 31, 2006, there were no loans past due more than 90 days and still accruing interest.

## 8. FHLB Borrowings

The Company maintains a secured credit facility with the Federal Home Loan Bank of San Francisco against which the Company may take advances. The borrowing capacity is limited to lower of $25 \%$ of the Bank s total assets or collateral capacity, which was $\$ 518.4$ million at March 31, 2007. The terms of this credit facility require the Company to pledge with the FHLB, eligible collateral of at least $100 \%$ of outstanding advances.

At March 31, 2007 and December 31, 2006, real estate secured loans with a carrying amount of $\$ 992.1$ million and $\$ 967.4$ million, respectively, were also pledged as collateral for borrowings from the FHLB. At March 31, 2007, no securities were pledged as collateral. At December 31, 2006, securities with carrying values of approximately $\$ 10.4$ million were pledged as collateral for borrowings from the FHLB.

At March 31, 2007 and December 31, 2006, FHLB borrowings were $\$ 100$ million and $\$ 76$ million with average remaining maturities of 4.8 years and 4.7 years, respectively. The weighted average interest rate was $4.21 \%$ at March 31, 2007 and December 21, 2006. During the first three months of 2007, we obtained $\$ 24$ million in FHLB advances to fund our fixed rate loans at a weighted average cost of $4.24 \%$ with average remaining maturities of 6.0 years. Although the Bank has no restrictions on borrowings as a result of the recent regulatory actions, the Company may not increase its borrowings, incur any debt or renew existing debt without the consent of the Federal Reserve Bank. All borrowings as of March 31, 2007 had fixed rates ranging from $3.65 \%$ to $4.57 \%$. At March 31, 2007, the Company had a remaining borrowing capacity of $\$ 415.5$ million.

At March 31, 2007, the contractual maturities for FHLB borrowings were as follows:

|  | Contractual <br> Maturities <br> (In thousand) <br> Put Date |  |
| :--- | :---: | :---: |
| Due within one year | $\$ 17,000$ | $\$ 76,000$ |
| Due after one year through five years | 35,000 |  |
| Due after five years through ten years | 24,000 |  |
|  | 48,000 |  |

## Table of Contents

## 9. Subordinated Debentures

At March 31, 2007, five wholly-owned subsidiary grantor trusts established by Nara Bancorp had issued $\$ 38$ million of pooled Trust Preferred Securities ( trust preferred securities ). Trust preferred securities accrue and pay distributions periodically at specified annual rates as provided in the indentures. The trusts used the net proceeds from the offering to purchase a like amount of subordinated debentures (the Debentures ) of Nara Bancorp. The Debentures are the sole assets of the trusts. The Bancorp s obligations under the subordinated debentures and related documents, taken together, constitute a full and unconditional guarantee by Nara Bancorp of the obligations of the trusts. The trust preferred securities are mandatorily redeemable upon the maturity of the Debentures, or upon earlier redemption as provided in the indentures. Nara Bancorp has the right to redeem the Debentures in whole (but not in part) on or after specific dates, at a redemption price specified in the indentures plus any accrued but unpaid interest to the redemption date.

The subordinated Debentures are not redeemable prior to June 8, 2011 with respect to Nara Bancorp Capital Trust I, June 15, 2008 with respect to Nara Capital Trust III, January 7, 2009 with respect to Nara Statutory Trust IV, December 17, 2008 with respect to Nara Statutory Trust V, and March 15, 2012 with respect to Nara Statutory Trust VI unless certain events have occurred.

The following table is a summary of trust preferred securities and debentures at March 31, 2007:

| (Dollars in Thousands) <br> Trust |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Issuance Trust | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Issuance } \\ & \text { Date } \end{aligned}$ | Preferred Security Amou |  | bordinated ebentures Amount | Rate Type | Initial Rate | $\begin{gathered} \text { Rate } \\ \text { at } \\ 3 / 31 / 07 \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Maturity } \\ & \text { Date } \end{aligned}$ |
| Nara Bancorp Capital Trust I | 03/28/2001 | 1 \$ 10,000 | \$ | 10,400 | Fixed | 10.18\% | 10.18\% | 06/08/2031 |
| Nara Capital Trust III | 06/05/2003 | 3,000 |  | 5,155 | Variable | 4.44\% | 8.50\% | 06/15/2033 |
| Nara Statutory Trust IV | 12/22/2003 | 3 5,000 |  | 5,155 | Variable | 4.02\% | 8.21\% | 01/07/2034 |
| Nara Statutory Trust V | 12/17/2003 | 3 10,000 |  | 10,310 | Variable | 4.12\% | 8.30\% | 12/17/2033 |
| Nara Statutory Trust VI | 03/22/2007 | 7 8,000 |  | 8,248 | Variable | 7.00\% | 7.00\% | 06/15/2037 |

TOTAL ISSUANCE
\$38,000 $\quad \$ \quad 39,268$

In March 2007, the Company completed an offering of $\$ 8.0$ million of Trust Preferred Securities through its new, wholly-owned subsidiary named Nara Statutory Trust VI ( Trust VI ). The Company used the $\$ 8.0$ million in proceeds from the sale of Trust Preferred Securities by Trust VI to redeem its existing $\$ 8.0$ million of floating rate trust preferred securities issued by Nara Statutory Trust II ( Trust II ) in March 2002. The floating rate Trust Preferred Securities of Trust II were redeemed at par, plus payment of any accrued and unpaid distributions at the redemption date. Floating rate trust preferred securities of Trust VI and Trust II were subject to interest payments at a floating rate equal to the three-month LIBOR rate plus $1.65 \%$ and $3.60 \%$, respectively. Therefore the refinancing reduces the Company s ongoing interest expense.

The weighted average cost of the Trust Preferred Securities issued by Trust VI was $7.00 \%$ for the three months ended March 31, 2007. The dividend payments on trust preferred securities no longer require pre-approval from the Federal Reserve Bank.

## 10. Derivative Financial Instruments and Hedging Activities

The Company receives a fixed rate and pays a floating rate under the interest rate swap agreements that the Company has entered into. Except as noted below, the interest rate swaps qualify as cash flow hedges for accounting purposes, and effectively fix the interest rate received on the notional amount of $\$ 100$ million of variable rate loans indexed to Nara Prime. At March 31, 2007, the amounts in accumulated other comprehensive loss associated with these cash flow hedges totaled a loss of $\$ 1.2$ million (net of tax benefit of $\$ 773$ thousand) and $\$ 1.2$ million is expected to be reclassified as a reduction into interest income within the next 12 months based on rates in effect at March 31, 2007. As of March 31, 2007, the maximum length of time over which the Company is hedging its exposure to the variability of future cash flows is approximately 5.5 years.

## Table of Contents

Interest rate swap information at March 31, 2007 is summarized as follows:

| Current Notional Amount | Floating Rate | Fixed Rate | Maturity Date usands) | Fair Value |  | Unrealized Gain (Loss) |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 5,000 | H. 15 Prime ${ }_{1}$ | 7.59\% | 4/30/2007 | \$ | (4) | \$ | (4) |
| 15,000 | H. 15 Prime ${ }_{1}$ | 7.59\% | 4/30/2007 |  | (11) |  |  |
| 20,000 | H. 15 Prime ${ }_{1}$ | 6.09\% | 10/09/2007 |  | (233) |  | (224) |
| 20,000 | H. 15 Prime ${ }_{1}$ | 6.58\% | 10/09/2009 |  | (612) |  | (567) |
| 20,000 | H. 15 Prime ${ }_{1}$ | 7.03\% | 10/09/2012 |  | (875) |  | (782) |
| 10,000 | H. 15 Prime ${ }_{1}$ | 6.32\% | 12/17/2007 |  | (136) |  | (128) |
| 10,000 | H. 15 Prime ${ }_{1}$ | 6.83\% | 12/17/2009 |  | (261) |  | (229) |
| \$ 100,000 |  |  |  | \$ | $(2,132)$ | \$ | $(1,934)$ |

1. Prime rate is based on Federal Reserve statistical release H. 15

Since the second quarter of 2006, pay-offs of underlying loans (i.e. Nara Prime indexed loans) that were being hedged caused the balance of such loans to fall below the notional amount of the swaps, resulting in that portion of the swaps to no longer qualify as a Cash Flow Hedge. Accordingly, changes in the value of this portion of the swaps will directly flow through the income statement. We recognized losses due to such changes in 2006; however, the balance of those underlying loans continued to decrease during the first quarter of 2007 and an additional loss was recognized through the income statement. The Bank continues to focus on originating Nara Prime indexed loans to maintain hedge accounting for the remaining swaps. However, due to the variability of loan pay-offs, no assurance can be given that we will be able to maintain the aggregate Nara Prime indexed loan balance at an amount equal to or greater than the related notional swap balance. The realized loss on interest rate swaps due to hedge ineffectiveness and discontinued hedge positions were $\$ 107$ thousand and $\$ 0$ for the three ended March 31, 2007 and 2006, respectively.

During the three months ended March 31, 2007 and 2006, interest expense recorded on swap transactions totaled $\$ 369$ thousand and $\$ 164$ thousand, respectively. At March 31, 2007, we pledged as collateral to the interest rate swap counterparties, agency securities with a book value of $\$ 1.0$ million and real estate loans of approximately $\$ 5.2$ million

In August 2006, we purchased an interest rate cap with a notional amount of $\$ 100$ million, which is tied to monthly resetting 3-month LIBOR and which matures on November 16, 2007. The interest rate cap, which was purchased to protect against a rise in the cost of 3-month LIBOR, was designed as a cash flow hedge of one of our money market products. The premium cost was $\$ 185$ thousand, which is being amortized over the life of the cap. Amortized expense was $\$ 36$ thousand for the first three months of 2007 . We receive payments from the counterparty if the 3-month LIBOR exceeds the strike level at $5.5 \%$. If the rate remains or falls below $5.5 \%$, our loss would be limited to the premium paid.

As long as the interest rate caps are considered effective in hedging the cash flows of designated liabilities, the difference in the value between the amortized cost and the fair market of the interest rate caps is recorded in other comprehensive income (OCI), net of tax. However, if a portion of the interest rate caps becomes ineffective in hedging the cash flows of the designated liabilities, the difference in the value between the amortized cost and the fair market of a respective portion of such interest rate caps is recorded as a gain or loss in the consolidated statements of income as a part of non-interest income.

The amortized cost and the fair market value of interest rate caps were $\$ 96$ thousand and $\$ 19$ thousand, respectively, at March 31, 2007. The total balance of underlying money market deposits continued to decrease to $\$ 40.8$ million at March 31, 2007. As a result, $\$ 18$ thousand (net of tax benefit of $\$ 12$ thousand) was recorded as an OCI loss and $\$ 6$ thousand was recorded as a loss in the income statement for the first quarter of 2007 due to an increase in discontinued hedge positions.

## Table of Contents

## 11. Business Segments

Our management utilizes an internal reporting system to measure the performance of our various operating segments. We have identified three principal operating segments for the purposes of management reporting: banking operations, trade finance services ( TFS ), and small business administration (SBA ) lending services. Information related to our remaining centralized functions and eliminations of inter-segment amounts has been aggregated and included in banking operations. Although all three operating segments offer financial products and services, they are managed separately based on each segment s strategic focus. The banking operations segment focuses primarily on commercial and consumer lending and deposit operations throughout our branch network. The TFS segment focuses primarily on allowing our import/export customers to handle their international transactions. Trade finance products include the issuance and collection of letters of credit, international collection, and import/export financing. The SBA segment provides our customers with access to the U.S. SBA guaranteed lending program.

Operating segment results are based on our internal management reporting process, which reflects assignments and allocations of capital, certain operating and administrative costs and the provision for loan losses. Non-interest income and non-interest expense, including depreciation and amortization, directly attributable to a segment are assigned to that business. We allocate indirect costs, including overhead expense, to the various segments based on several factors, including, but not limited to, full-time equivalent employees, loan volume and deposit volume. We allocate the provision for loan losses based on the origination of new loans for the period. We evaluate the overall performance based on profit or loss from operations before income taxes excluding gains and losses that are not expected to reoccur. Future changes in our management structure or reporting methodologies may result in changes to the measurement of our operating segment results.

## Table of Contents

The following tables present the operating results and other key financial measures for the individual operating segments for the three months ended March 31, 2007 and 2006.

## Three Months Ended March 31,

## (Dollars in thousands)



| 2006 | Banking Operations |  | TFS |  | SBA |  | Company |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Net interest income, before provision for loan losses | \$ | 17,360 | \$ | 1,810 | \$ | 3,399 | \$ | 22,569 |
| Less provision for loan losses |  | 735 |  |  |  | 345 |  | 1,080 |
| Non-interest income |  | 2,190 |  | 656 |  | 2,196 |  | 5,042 |
| Net revenue |  | 18,815 |  | 2,466 |  | 5,250 |  | 26,531 |
| Non-interest expense |  | 10,912 |  | 782 |  | 1,488 |  | 13,182 |
| Income before income taxes | \$ | 7,903 | \$ | 1,684 | \$ | 3,762 | \$ | 13,349 |
| Goodwill | \$ | 2,347 | \$ |  | \$ |  | \$ | 2,347 |
| Total assets |  | 453,117 |  | 53,418 |  | 204,775 |  | ,911,310 |

## 12. Income Taxes

We adopted FASB Interpretation 48, Accounting for Uncertainty in Income Taxes ( FIN 48 ), as of January 1, 2007. A tax position is recognized as a benefit only if it is more likely than not that the tax position would be sustained in a tax examination, with a tax examination being presumed to occur. The amount recognized is the largest amount of tax benefit that is greater than $50 \%$ likely of being realized on examination. For tax positions not meeting the more likely than not test, no tax benefit is recorded. The adoption had no material affect on our Company s financial statements.

Our Company and its subsidiaries are subject to U.S. federal income tax as well as income tax of the state of California as well as various other state income taxes. The Company is no longer subject to examination by federal taxing authorities for years before 2003 and by state taxing authorities for years before 2002. We did not recognize any adjustment in the liability for unrecognized tax benefits, as a result of FIN 48, that impacted the beginning retained earnings. The total amount of unrecognized tax benefits was $\$ 362$ thousand and $\$ 380$ thousand at January 1, 2007 and March 31, 2007 and is for uncertainties related to income taxes for bad debt charge-offs and California enterprise zone loan interest deductions taken in prior years. The total amount of unrecognized tax benefits that, if recognized, would favorably impact the effective tax rate

## Edgar Filing: NARA BANCORP INC - Form 10-Q

was $\$ 362$ thousand and $\$ 380$ thousand at January 1, 2007 and March 31, 2007. We do not expect the total amount of unrecognized tax benefits to significantly change in the next twelve months.

We recognize interest and penalties related to income tax matters in income tax expense. We had approximately $\$ 40$ thousand and $\$ 45$ thousand for the payment of interest and penalties accrued at January 1, 2007 and March 31, 2007.

## Table of Contents

Item 2. Management s Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations
The following is management s discussion and analysis of the major factors that caused changes in our consolidated results of operations and financial condition as of and for the three months ended March 31, 2007. This analysis should be read in conjunction with our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2006 and the unaudited consolidated financial statements and notes set forth elsewhere in this report.

## GENERAL

## Selected Financial Data

The following table sets forth certain selected financial data concerning the periods indicated:

## At or For the Three Months

Ended March 31,
2007
2006
(Dollars in thousands, except

|  | share and per share data) |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Income Statement Data: |  |  |  |  |
| Interest income | \$ | 40,792 | \$ | 35,280 |
| Interest expense |  | 18,057 |  | 12,711 |
| Net interest income |  | 22,735 |  | 22,569 |
| Provision for loan losses |  | 980 |  | 1,080 |
| Net interest income after provision for loan losses |  | 21,755 |  | 21,489 |
| Non-interest income |  | 4,604 |  | 5,042 |
| Non-interest expense |  | 13,946 |  | 13,182 |
| Income before income tax provision |  | 12,413 |  | 13,349 |
| Income tax provision |  | 5,105 |  | 5,470 |
| Net income | \$ | 7,308 | \$ | 7,879 |
| Per Share Data: |  |  |  |  |
| Earnings per share - basic | \$ | 0.28 | \$ | 0.31 |
| Earnings per share - diluted | \$ | 0.28 | \$ | 0.30 |
| Book value (period end) | \$ | 7.45 | \$ | 6.04 |
| Common shares outstanding |  | 26,131,672 |  | 25,557,948 |
| Weighted average shares - basic |  | 26,123,405 |  | 25,473,400 |
| Weighted average shares - diluted |  | 26,537,416 |  | 26,140,846 |
| Statement of Financial Condition Data - at Period End: |  |  |  |  |
| Assets | \$ | 2,123,229 | \$ | 1,911,310 |
| Securities available for sale and held to maturity |  | 176,071 |  | 186,653 |
| Gross loans, net of deferred loan fees and costs (excludes loans held for sale) |  | 1,749,242 |  | 1,524,377 |
| Deposits |  | 1,750,976 |  | 1,650,623 |
| Federal Home Loan Bank Borrowings |  | 100,000 |  | 31,000 |
| Subordinated debentures |  | 39,268 |  | 39,268 |
| Stockholders equity |  | 194,749 |  | 154,457 |

## Table of Contents

|  | for the Three Months Ended March 31, 2007 2006 <br> (Dollars in thousands) |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Average Balance Sheet Data: |  |  |  |  |
| Assets | \$ | 2,066,373 | \$ | 1,836,238 |
| Securities available for sale and held to maturity |  | 173,936 |  | 174,893 |
| Gross loans, including loans held for sale |  | 1,755,760 |  | 1,500,177 |
| Deposits |  | 1,716,129 |  | 1,578,784 |
| Stockholders equity |  | 191,604 |  | 152,105 |
| Selected Performance Ratios: |  |  |  |  |
| Return on average assets (1) |  | 1.41\% |  | 1.72\% |
| Return on average stockholders equity (1) |  | 15.26\% |  | 20.72\% |
| Non-interest expense to average assets (1) |  | 2.70\% |  | 2.87\% |
| Efficiency ratio (2) |  | 51.01\% |  | 47.74\% |
| Net interest margin (3) |  | 4.62\% |  | 5.17\% |
| Regulatory Capital Ratios (4) |  |  |  |  |
| Leverage capital ratio (5) |  | 11.16\% |  | 10.45\% |
| Tier 1 risk-based capital ratio |  | 12.29\% |  | 11.67\% |
| Total risk-based capital ratio |  | 13.30\% |  | 12.79\% |
| Asset Quality Ratios: |  |  |  |  |
| Allowance for loan losses to gross loans |  | 1.07\% |  | 1.21\% |
| Allowance for loan losses to non-performing loans |  | 215.00\% |  | 401.00\% |
| Total non-performing assets to total assets (6) |  | 0.42\% |  | 0.28\% |

(1) Calculations are based on annualized net income.
(2) Efficiency ratio is defined as non-interest expense divided by the sum of net interest income and non-interest income.
(3) Net interest margin is calculated by dividing annualized net interest income by average total interest-earning assets.
(4) The required ratios for a well-capitalized institution are 5\% leverage capital, 6\% tier I risk-based capital and 10\% total risk-based capital.
(5) Calculations are based on average quarterly asset balances.
(6) Non-performing assets include non-accrual loans, other real estate owned, and restructured loans.

Table of Contents

## Results of Operations

## Overview

During the three months ended March 31, 2007, we continued to maintain growth in our total assets supported by growth in deposits and other borrowings. Our total assets grew by $3.7 \%$, or $\$ 76$ million, at March 31, 2007 from $\$ 2.0$ billion at December 31, 2006. The increase in total assets for the period was primarily due to growth in our loans funded by increases in deposits and other borrowings. The loan growth during the three months ended March 31, 2007 continued to be dominated by real estate loans and deposit growth was primarily in money market and jumbo time deposits.

Our net income was $\$ 7.3$ million for the three months ended March 31, 2007 and represents a $7.2 \%$ decrease from $\$ 7.9$ million for the three months ended March 31, 2006. The primary contributors to the decrease in net income for the three months ended March 31, 2007 was an $8.7 \%$ decrease in non-interest income as a result of decreased net gains on sale of SBA loans, and a $5.8 \%$ increase in non-interest expense, compared to the same period of 2006.

## Net income

Our net income for the three months ended March 31 , 2007 was $\$ 7.3$ million, or $\$ 0.28$ per diluted share, compared to $\$ 7.9$ million, or $\$ 0.30$ per diluted share, for the same period of 2006 , representing a decrease of $\$ 571$ thousand or $7.2 \%$. The decrease resulted primarily from an increase in non-interest expense and a decrease in non-interest income, partially offset by an increase in net interest income.

The annualized return on average assets was $1.41 \%$ for the first quarter of 2007, compared to $1.72 \%$ for the same period of 2006. The annualized return on average equity was $15.26 \%$ for the first quarter of 2007 , compared to $20.72 \%$ for the same period of 2006 . The efficiency ratio was $51.01 \%$ for the three months ended March 31, 2007 compared with $47.74 \%$ for the same period of 2006.

## Net Interest Income and Net Interest Margin

## Net Interest Income

The principal component of our earnings is net interest income, which is the difference between the interest and fees earned on loans and investments and the interest paid on deposits and borrowed funds. Net interest income expressed as a percentage of average interest-earning assets, is defined as net interest margin. The net interest spread is the yield on average interest-earning assets less the cost of average funding liabilities (interest-bearing deposits and non-interest-bearing deposits and borrowed funds). Net interest income is affected by changes in the volume of interest-earning assets and funding liabilities as well as by changes in the yield earned on interest-earning assets and the rates paid on interest-bearing liabilities.

Net interest income before provision for loan losses was $\$ 22.7$ million for the first quarter ended March 31, 2007, an increase of $\$ 166$ thousand, or $0.7 \%$ compared to net interest income of $\$ 22.6$ million for the same quarter of 2006. This increase was primarily due to an increase in average interest earning assets, which increased $\$ 222.2$ million or $12.8 \%$ to $\$ 2.0$ billion for the first quarter of 2007 from $\$ 1.7$ billion for the same quarter of 2006.

Interest income for the first quarter of 2007 was $\$ 40.8$ million, which represented an increase of $\$ 5.5$ million or $15.6 \%$ over interest income of $\$ 35.3$ million for the same quarter of 2006. The increase was the result of a $\$ 5.2$ million increase in interest income due to an increase in the volume of average interest-earning assets (volume change) and a $\$ 362$ thousand increase in interest income due to an increase in the average yield earned on those average interest-earning assets (rate change).

## Table of Contents

Interest expense for the first quarter of 2007 was $\$ 18.1$ million, an increase of $\$ 5.3$ million or $42.1 \%$ compared to interest expense of $\$ 12.7$ million for the same quarter of 2006. The increase was primarily the result of a $\$ 2.1$ million increase in interest expense due to an increase in volume of average interest-bearing liabilities (volume change) and a $\$ 3.3$ million increase in interest expense due to an increase in the average rates paid on interest-bearing liabilities (rate change).

## Net Interest Margin

The weighted average yield on average interest-earning assets increased to $8.29 \%$ for the first quarter of 2007 compared with $8.09 \%$ for the same quarter of 2006, a 20 basis point increase. The increase was primarily due to an increase in the prime interest rate up to June, 2006, to which most of our loan portfolio is tied. The weighted average prime rate for the first quarter of 2007 was $8.25 \%$ compared to $7.44 \%$ during the same quarter of 2006. The weighted average cost of interest-bearing liabilities also increased at a faster pace to $4.91 \%$ for the first quarter of 2007 from $3.95 \%$ for the same quarter of 2006, a 96 basis point increase, primarily due to the increase in market interest rates and competition for deposits.

The resulting net interest margin was $4.62 \%$ for the first quarter of 2007 compared with $5.17 \%$ for the same quarter of 2006. Despite a 81 basis point increase in the prime rate between the two periods, the net interest margin decreased by 55 basis points primarily due to an increase in fixed rate loans at lower rates than existing variable rate loans and the increase in the cost of interest-bearing liabilities led by the heavier reliance on the higher-cost deposits such as time deposits. The weighted average cost of total deposits, including non-interest bearing deposits, for the first quarter of 2007 was $3.80 \%$ compared to $2.94 \%$ for the same quarter of 2006, an 86 basis point increase. Average gross loans to average earning assets increased to $89.3 \%$ during the first quarter of 2007 compared to $86.0 \%$ during the same period of 2006 .

Included in interest income were fees received on early loan pay-offs. Such fees amounted to $\$ 142$ thousand and $\$ 204$ thousand for the three months ended March 31, 2007 and 2006, respectively. These amounts cause some fluctuations in our margins from period to period.

## Table of Contents

The following table presents our condensed consolidated average balance sheet information, together with interest rates earned and paid on the various sources and uses of funds for the periods indicated:

|  | Three months ended |  |  | Three months ended <br> March 31, 2006 |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | March 31, 2007 |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | Average Balance | Interest Income/ Expense | Average Yield/ <br> Rate * (Dollars in | Average <br> Balance housands) | Interest <br> Income/ <br> Expense | Average Yield/ Rate * |
| INTEREST EARNINGS ASSETS: |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Loans ${ }^{(1)(2)}$ | \$ 1,755,760 | \$ 38,244 | 8.71\% | \$ 1,500,177 | \$ 32,604 | 8.69\% |
| Other investments | 9,812 | 136 | 5.54\% | 8,355 | 105 | 5.03\% |
| Securities ${ }^{(3)}$ | 173,936 | 2,053 | 4.72\% | 174,893 | 1,884 | 4.31\% |
| Federal funds sold | 27,634 | 359 | 5.20\% | 61,499 | 687 | 4.47\% |
| Total interest earning assets | \$ 1,967,142 | \$ 40,792 | 8.29\% | \$ 1,744,924 | \$ 35,280 | 8.09\% |
| INTEREST BEARING LIABILITIES: |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Demand, interest-bearing | \$ 200,686 | \$ 1,929 | 3.84\% | \$ 202,471 | \$ 1,370 | 2.71\% |
| Savings | 138,915 | 1,204 | 3.47\% | 133,889 | 910 | 2.72\% |
| Time certificates of deposit | 1,008,485 | 13,166 | 5.22\% | 881,964 | 9,309 | 4.22\% |
| FHLB borrowings | 85,913 | 904 | 4.21\% | 31,122 | 337 | 4.33\% |
| Subordinated debentures | 37,578 | 854 | 9.09\% | 37,175 | 785 | 8.45\% |
| Total interest bearing liabilities | \$ 1,471,577 | \$ 18,057 | 4.91\% | \$ 1,286,621 | \$ 12,711 | 3.95\% |
| NON-INTEREST BEARING DEPOSITS: | \$ 368,043 |  |  | \$ 360,460 |  |  |
| Net interest income |  | \$ 22,735 |  |  | \$ 22,569 |  |
| Net interest margin |  |  | 4.62\% |  |  | 5.17\% |
| Net interest margin, excluding loan prepayment fee income ${ }^{(4)}$ |  |  | 4.59\% |  |  | 5.13\% |
| Net interest spread (including effect of non-interest bearing deposits) |  |  | 4.37\% |  |  | 5.00\% |
| Average interest-earning assets to average interest-bearing liabilities |  |  | 133.68\% |  |  | 135.62\% |

* Annualized
(1) Interest income on loans includes loan fees and net interest settlement from interest rate swaps.
(2) Average balances of loans are net of deferred loan fees and costs and include nonaccrual loans and loan held for sale.
(3) Interest income and yields are not presented on a tax-equivalent basis.


## Edgar Filing: NARA BANCORP INC - Form 10-Q

(4) Loan prepayment fee income excluded was $\$ 142$ thousand and $\$ 204$ thousand for the three months ended March 31, 2007 and 2006, respectively.

## Table of Contents

The following table illustrates the changes in our interest income, interest expenses, and amounts attributable to variations in interest rates, and volumes for the periods indicated. The variances attributable to simultaneous volume and rate changes have been allocated to the changes due to volume and the changes due to rate categories in proportion to the relationship of the absolute dollar amount attributable solely to the change in volume and to the change in rate.

|  | Three months ended |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | March 31, 2007 over March 31, 2006NetIncreaseChange due to(Decrease) $\quad$ Rate Volume(Dollars in thousands) |  |  |  |
| INTEREST INCOME : |  |  |  |  |
| Interest and fees on loans | \$ 5,640 | \$ | 73 | \$ 5,567 |
| Interest on other investments | 31 |  | 12 | 19 |
| Interest on securities | 169 |  | 179 | (10) |
| Interest on federal funds sold | (328) |  | 98 | (426) |
| Total interest income | \$ 5,512 | \$ | 362 | \$ 5,150 |
| INTEREST EXPENSE : |  |  |  |  |
| Interest on demand deposits | \$ 559 | \$ | 571 | \$ (12) |
| Interest on savings | 294 |  | 259 | 35 |
| Interest on time certificates of deposit | 3,857 |  | 2,402 | 1,455 |
| Interest on FHLB borrowings | 567 |  | (10) | 577 |
| Interest on subordinated debentures | 69 |  | 60 | 9 |
| Total interest expense | \$ 5,346 | \$ | 3,282 | \$ 2,064 |
| Net Interest Income | \$ 166 |  | $(2,920)$ | \$ 3,086 |

## Provision for Loan Losses

The provision for loan losses reflects our judgment of the current period cost associated with credit risk inherent in our loan portfolio. The loan loss provision for each period is dependent upon many factors, including loan growth, net charge-offs, changes in the composition of the loan portfolio, delinquencies, assessments by management, third parties and regulators examination of the quality of the loan portfolio, the value of the underlying collateral on problem loans and the general economic conditions in our market areas. Specifically, the provision for loan losses represents the amount charged against current period earnings to achieve an allowance for loan losses that, in our judgment, is adequate to absorb probable incurred losses inherent in our loan portfolio. Periodic fluctuations in the provision for loan losses result from management s assessment of the adequacy of the allowance for loan losses; however, actual loan losses may vary from current estimates. If the allowance for loan losses was inadequate, it could have a material adverse effect on our financial condition.

We recorded $\$ 980$ thousand in provision for loan losses during the first quarter of 2007 compared to $\$ 1.1$ million in the same quarter of 2006. This change reflects the results of our review and analysis of the loan portfolio and the adequacy of our existing allowance for loan losses in light of the growth experienced in our loan portfolio, the level of our net charge-offs, the quality of the loans, and the level of non-performing, classified and special mention loans. We believe that the allowance is sufficient to absorb probable incurred losses in our loan portfolio at March 31, 2007. See Allowance for Loan Losses below for further discussion.

## Non-interest Income

Non-interest income includes revenues earned from sources other than interest income. It is primarily comprised of service fees on deposits accounts, fees received from letter of credit operations, and net gains on sales of SBA loans and securities available for sale.

## Table of Contents

Non-interest income for the first quarter of 2007 was $\$ 4.6$ million compared to $\$ 5.0$ million for the same quarter of 2006 primarily due to a decrease in net gains on sales of SBA loans, offset in part by an increase in service charges on deposit accounts. The net gains on sales of SBA loans decreased $\$ 497$ thousand, or $29 \%$, to $\$ 1.2$ million for the first quarter of 2007 , compared to $\$ 1.7$ million for the same quarter of 2006. During the first quarter of 2007, we originated $\$ 28.1$ million SBA loans compared to $\$ 35.4$ million during the same quarter of 2006 , of which a substantial portion of the loans were either sold or held for sale. During the first quarter of 2007, we sold $\$ 25.0$ million compared to $\$ 24.5$ million during the same quarter of 2006. The decrease in the net gain on sales of SBA loans despite the increase in amount of sales was primarily due to a 101 basis points decrease in average premium yield and an increase in the cost related to loan origination. The average premium decreased to $7.56 \%$ for the first quarter of 2007 compared to $8.57 \%$ for the same quarter of 2006 . The net realized gain on SBA loan sales for the first quarter of 2007 was $4.9 \%$ of the gross loans sold compared to $7.0 \%$ during the first quarter of 2006.

The breakdown of changes in our non-interest income by category is illustrated below:

|  | $\begin{array}{c}\text { Three Months Ended } \\ \text { March 31, 2006 } \\ \text { (Dollars in thousands) }\end{array}$ |  |  |  | $\begin{array}{c}\text { Increase (Decrease) } \\ \text { Percent (\%) }\end{array}$ |
| :--- | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: |
| March 31, 2007 |  |  |  |  |  |$)$

## Non-interest Expense

Non-interest expense for the first quarter of 2007 was $\$ 13.9$ million compared to $\$ 13.2$ million for the same quarter of 2006, an increase of $\$ 764$ thousand or $5.8 \%$. Salaries and employee benefits decreased $1 \%$ to $\$ 6.7$ million during the first quarter of 2007, compared to $\$ 6.8$ million for the same quarter last year. However, included in expense during the first quarter of 2007 was the reversal of a $\$ 600$ thousand contingent liability accrual established during 2002 related to a past compensation matter for which we have now determined that no liability exists. Excluding this item, salary and benefits expense would have increased $7 \%$ over the same quarter last year due to an increase in the full-time equivalent employee count from 378 to 407 , and a $\$ 129$ thousand increase in stock compensation expense.

Occupancy expense for the first quarter of 2007 increased to $\$ 2.1$ million compared to $\$ 1.8$ million for the same period of 2006, an increase of $\$ 259$ thousand or $14.3 \%$. The increase is primarily due to lease renewals at higher lease rates for four branches and a new lease related to the relocation of our corporate headquarters during the fourth quarter of 2006. Furniture and equipment expense increased $20 \%$ to $\$ 625$ thousand for the first quarter of 2007 compared to $\$ 520$ thousand for the same quarter last year. This increase was due to our new Garden Grove branch set-up, the new corporate headquarters and IT related equipment purchased to support and enhance our technology to better service our customers and for better efficiency.

Advertising and marketing expense increased $20 \%$, primarily due to the costs related to the new CEO inauguration events held in three regions during the quarter. Data processing and communications expense increased $\$ 1$ thousand or $0.1 \%$ as the number of accounts and transactions increased. Professional fees increased $\$ 168$ thousand or $24.8 \%$ to $\$ 846$ thousand for the first quarter of 2007, compared to $\$ 678$ thousand for the same quarter of 2006. This increase is primarily due to legal expenses related to a litigation matter which cost approximately $\$ 400$ thousand during the quarter. Other expenses increased $\$ 217$ thousand, or $11.7 \%$, to $\$ 2.1$ million for the first quarter of 2007, primarily due to increases in FDIC insurance premiums due to a change in the insurance assessment formula and rate. FDIC insurance premiums increased $\$ 136$ thousand or $82.9 \%$ to $\$ 300$ thousand for the first quarter of 2007 compared

## Table of Contents

to $\$ 164$ thousand for the same quarter of 2006. This increase was a result of an increased insurance assessment change effective in 2007 from three cents to ten cents per $\$ 100$ in domestic deposits.

The change in non-interest expense is illustrated below:

|  | Three Months Ended <br> March 31, 2006 <br> $($ Dollars in thousands) |  |  |  | Increase (Decrease) <br> Amount <br> Percent <br> (\%) |
| :--- | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: |
| March 31, 2007 |  |  |  |  |  |

## Provision for Income Taxes

Income taxes were $\$ 5.1$ million and $\$ 5.5$ million for the three months ended March 31, 2007 and 2006, respectively. The effective tax rate for the quarters ended March 31, 2007 and 2006 was $41.1 \%$ and $41.0 \%$, respectively.

## Financial Condition

At March 31, 2007, our total assets were $\$ 2.1$ billion, an increase of $\$ 76.2$ million or $3.7 \%$ from $\$ 2.0$ billion at December 31, 2006. The growth was primarily due to increases in our loan portfolio funded by growth in our deposits and other borrowings.

## Loan Portfolio

As of March 31, 2007, our gross loans (net of deferred loan fees and costs) increased by $\$ 34.4$ million or $2.0 \%$ to $\$ 1.75$ billion from $\$ 1.71$ billion at December 31, 2006. Commercial loans, which include domestic commercial, international trade finance and SBA loans, at March 31, 2007 decreased by $\$ 3.4$ million or $0.6 \%$, to $\$ 562.4$ million from $\$ 565.8$ million at December 31, 2006. Real estate loans increased by $\$ 43.1$ million, or $4.0 \%$, to $\$ 1.15$ billion at March 31, 2007 from $\$ 1.10$ billion at December 31, 2006.

## Table of Contents

The following table summarizes our loan portfolio by amount and percentage of gross loans in each major loan category at the dates indicated:

|  | March 31, 2007 |  | December 31, 2006 |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Amount | Percent (Dollars in | Amount ousands) | Percent |
| Loan Portfolio Composition: |  |  |  |  |
| Commercial loans | \$ 562,406 | 32\% | \$ 565,759 | 33\% |
| Real estate loans | 1,145,196 | 65\% | 1,102,072 | 64\% |
| Consumer and other loans | 43,945 | 3\% | 49,201 | 3\% |
| Gross loans outstanding | 1,751,547 | 100\% | 1,717,032 | 100\% |
| Unamortized deferred loan fees, net of costs | $(2,305)$ |  | $(2,167)$ |  |
| Allowance for loan losses | $(18,752)$ |  | $(19,112)$ |  |
| Loans receivable, net | \$ 1,730,490 |  | \$ 1,695,753 |  |

We normally do not extend lines of credit and make loan commitments to business customers for periods in excess of one year. We use the same credit policies in making commitments and conditional obligations as we do for extending loan facilities to our customers. We perform annual reviews of such commitments prior to the renewal.

The following table shows our loan commitments and letters of credit outstanding at the dates indicated:

|  | March 31, 2007 |
| :--- | ---: | ---: | ---: |
| (Dollars in thousands) |  | December 31, 2006

At March 31, 2007, our nonperforming assets (non-accrual loans, loans past due 90 days or more and still accruing interest, restructured loans, and other real estate owned) were $\$ 8.9$ million, an increase of $\$ 5.3$ million or $150.0 \%$ from $\$ 3.6$ million at December 31, 2006. The increase was primarily due to an increase in non-accrual loans. Nonperforming assets to total assets was $0.42 \%$ and $0.17 \%$ at March 31,2007 and December 31, 2006, respectively. At March 31, 2007, nonperforming loans were $\$ 8.7$ million, an increase of $\$ 5.5$ million, from $\$ 3.3$ million at December 31, 2006. The increase in non-accrual loans was primarily due to three borrowing relationships aggregating $\$ 6.4$ million, collateralized by a hotel property, a gas station and a commercial retail rental property. All of those loans have been placed on non-accrual, resulting in a reversal of accrued interest income this quarter amounting to $\$ 350$ thousand. We believe that all of those loans are fully secured by the underlying collateral, and no loss is anticipated. At March 31, 2007, nonperforming loans to total gross loans was $0.50 \%$ compared to $0.19 \%$ at December 31, 2006.

The following table summarizes the composition of our nonperforming assets as of the dates indicated.

|  | March 31, 2007 <br> (Dollars in thousands) |  |
| :--- | :---: | :---: |
| Non accrual loans | $\$ 8,722$ | 3,271 |
| Loan past due 90 days or more, still accruing |  |  |
|  |  |  |
| Total Nonperforming Loans | $\mathbf{8 , 7 2 2}$ | $\mathbf{3 , 2 7 1}$ |
| Other real estate owned |  |  |


| Restructured loans | 192 | 298 |  |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Total Nonperforming Assets | $\mathbf{\$ 8 , 9 1 4}$ | $\mathbf{\$}$ | $\mathbf{3 , 5 6 9}$ |
|  |  | $0.50 \%$ | $0.19 \%$ |
| Nonperforming loans to total gross loans | $0.42 \%$ | $0.17 \%$ |  |

## Table of Contents

## Allowance for Loan Losses

The allowance for loan losses was $\$ 18.8$ million at March 31, 2007, compared to $\$ 19.1$ million at December 31, 2006 and $\$ 18.4$ million at March 31, 2006. We recorded a provision for loan losses of $\$ 980$ thousand during the three months ended March 31, 2007 compared to $\$ 1.1$ million for the same period of 2006. The allowance for loan losses was $1.07 \%$ of gross loans at March 31, 2007 and $1.11 \%$ at December 31, 2006 and $1.21 \%$ at March 31, 2006. The reduction in the allowance for loan losses ratio reflects only a nominal specific reserve being required for the three new non-performing borrower relationships due to the Bank s collateral, coupled with the moderate loan growth and a decrease in special mention and classified loans net of impaired loans, quarter to quarter. Total special mention and classified loans at March 31, 2007 were $\$ 14.1$ million, compared to $\$ 9.7$ million at December 31, 2006 and $\$ 19.8$ million at March 31, 2006.

We believe the allowance for loan losses as of March 31, 2007 is adequate to absorb probable incurred losses in the loan portfolio. However, no assurance can be given that actual losses will not exceed the estimated amounts.

The following table provides a breakdown of the allowance for loan losses by category of loans at March 31, 2007 and December 31, 2006:

| (Dollars in thousands)Loan Type | Allocation of Allowance for Loan Losses |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | March 31, 2007 |  | December 31, 2006 |  |
|  |  | \% of Loans in |  | \% of Loans in |
|  |  | Each Category |  | Each Category |
|  | Amount | to Total Loans | Amount | to Total Loans |
| Real estate | \$ 13,034 | 65\% | \$ 12,740 | 64\% |
| Commercial | 5,104 | 32\% | 5,579 | 33\% |
| Consumer | 609 | 3\% | 759 | 3\% |
| Unallocated | 5 | N/A | 34 | N/A |
| Total allowance | \$ 18,752 | 100\% | \$ 19,112 | 100\% |

## Table of Contents

The following table shows the provisions made for loan losses, the amount of loans charged off, the recoveries on loans previously charged off together with the balance in the allowance for loan losses at the beginning and end of each period, the amount of average and total loans outstanding, and other pertinent ratios as of the dates and for the periods indicated:

|  | Three months ended March 31, 2007 2006 <br> (Dollars in thousands) |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| LOANS: |  |  |  |  |
| Average gross loans, including loans held for sale | \$ 1,755,760 |  | \$ 1,500,177 |  |
| Gross loans, excluding loans held for sale and net of deferred loan fees and costs, at end of period |  | 749,242 |  | 524,377 |
| ALLOWANCE: |  |  |  |  |
| Balance-beginning of period | \$ | 19,112 | \$ | 17,618 |
| Less: Loan charge-offs: |  |  |  |  |
| Commercial |  | 1,244 |  | 371 |
| Real estate |  |  |  |  |
| Consumer |  | 287 |  | 280 |
| Total loan charge-offs |  | 1,531 |  | 651 |
| Plus: Loan Recoveries |  |  |  |  |
| Commercial |  | 153 |  | 172 |
| Real estate |  |  |  |  |
| Consumer |  | 38 |  | 179 |
| Total loan recoveries |  | 191 |  | 351 |
| Net loan charge-offs |  | 1,340 |  | 300 |
| Provision for loan losses |  | 980 |  | 1,080 |
| Balance-end of period | \$ | 18,752 | \$ | 18,398 |
| Net loan charge-offs to average gross loans * |  | 0.31\% |  | 0.08\% |
| Allowance for loan losses to total loans at end of period |  | 1.07\% |  | 1.21\% |
| Net loan charge-offs to beginning allowance * |  | 28.05\% |  | 6.81\% |
| Net loan charge-offs to provision for loan losses |  | 136.73\% |  | 27.78\% |

## * Annualized

Total loans are net of deferred loan fees and costs of $\$ 2,305,000$ and $\$ 2,820,000$ at March 31, 2007 and 2006, respectively.
Net loan charge-offs during the first quarter of 2007 were $\$ 1.3$ million, or $0.31 \%$ of average gross loans on an annualized basis, compared to $\$ 1.2$ million during the fourth quarter of 2006 , or $0.27 \%$ of average loans on an annualized basis, and also compared to $\$ 300$ thousand, or $0.08 \%$ of average loans on an annualized basis for the first quarter of 2006. First quarter 2007 charge-offs primarily consisted of loans to retail businesses averaging approximately $\$ 100,000$. The net loan charge-offs of $\$ 1.3$ million during the first quarter of 2007 were substantially reserved at December 31, 2006.

## Table of Contents

## Investment Securities Portfolio

We classify our securities as held-to-maturity or available-for-sale under SFAS No.115. Those securities that we have the ability and intent to hold to maturity are classified as held-to-maturity securities. All other securities are classified as available-for-sale . We did not own any trading securities at March 31, 2007 or December 31, 2006. Securities that are held to maturity are stated at cost, adjusted for amortization of premiums and accretion of discounts. Securities that are available for sale are stated at fair value. The securities we currently hold are government-sponsored agency bonds, asset-backed securities, collateralized mortgage obligations, mortgage backed securities and mutual funds.

As of March 31, 2007, we had $\$ 0$ in held-to-maturity securities and $\$ 176.1$ million in available-for-sale securities compared to $\$ 1.0$ million and $\$ 162.9$ million, respectively at December 31, 2006. The total net unrealized loss on the available-for sale securities at March 31, 2007 was $\$ 2.4$ million compared to net unrealized loss of $\$ 3.0$ million at December 31, 2006. During the first three months of 2007, a total of $\$ 19.4$ million in securities available-for-sale were purchased. There were no sales of securities during the quarter.

Securities with a carrying value of $\$ 4.4$ million were pledged to secure public deposits and for other purposes as required or permitted by law as of March 31, 2007. Securities with a carrying value of $\$ 140.4$ million were pledged to the State of California Treasurer s Office, as of March 31, 2007.

The following table summarizes the amortized cost, estimated fair value and distribution of our investment securities portfolio as of the dates indicated:

## Investment Portfolio

|  | Amortized Cost | At Mar Gross Unrealized Gains (In th | ch 31, 2007 <br> Gross <br> Unrealized <br> Losses <br> ousands) | $\begin{gathered} \text { Estimated } \\ \text { Fair } \\ \text { Value } \end{gathered}$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Available for Sale |  |  |  |  |
| Debt securities: |  |  |  |  |
| U.S. Government agency | \$ 79,401 | \$ | \$ (1,109) | \$ 78,292 |
| Collateralized mortgage obligations | 48,220 | 127 | (680) | 47,667 |
| Mortgage-backed securities | 43,479 | 65 | (703) | 42,841 |
| Asset- backed securities | 1,901 |  |  | 1,901 |
| Total debt securities | 173,001 | 192 | $(2,492)$ | 170,701 |
| Mutual funds | 5,462 |  | (92) | 5,370 |
|  | \$ 178,463 | \$ 192 | \$ $(2,584)$ | \$ 176,071 |

## Table of Contents

|  | At December 31, 2006 |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Amortized Cost | Gross Unrealized Gains (In th | Gross <br> Unrealized <br> Losses sands) |  | Estimated <br> Fair <br> Value |
| Available for Sale |  |  |  |  |  |
| Debt securities: |  |  |  |  |  |
| U.S. Government agency | \$ 82,389 | \$ | \$ | $(1,347)$ | \$ 81,042 |
| Collateralized mortgage obligations | 39,564 | 68 |  | (884) | 38,748 |
| Mortgage-backed securities | 37,956 | 13 |  | (728) | 37,241 |
| Asset- backed securities | 1,928 |  |  |  | 1,928 |
| Total debt securities | 161,837 | 81 |  | $(2,959)$ | 158,959 |
| Mutual funds | 4,000 |  |  | (108) | 3,892 |
|  | \$ 165,837 | \$ 81 | \$ | $(3,067)$ | \$ 162,851 |
| Held to Maturity |  |  |  |  |  |
| Corporate debt securities | \$ 1,000 | \$ 2 | \$ |  | \$ 1,002 |

The following table shows our investments gross unrealized losses and estimated fair value, aggregated by investment category and length of time that individual securities have been in a continuous unrealized loss positions at March 31, 2007.

|  | Less than 12 months Gross Unrealized |  |  |  |  | Total |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Description of Securities |  |  | Fair <br> Value (In tho | Un | Gross realized Losses <br> ads) |  | Fair <br> Value |  | Gross realized osses |
| U.S. Government agency | \$ \$ | \$ | \$ 78,292 | \$ | $(1,109)$ | \$ | 78,292 | \$ | $(1,109)$ |
| Collaterized mortgage obligations | 9,928 | (31) | 21,489 |  | (649) |  | 31,417 |  | (680) |
| Mortgage-backed securities |  |  | 27,773 |  | (703) |  | 27,773 |  | (703) |
| Mutual funds |  |  | 5,370 |  | (92) |  | 5,370 |  | (92) |
|  | \$ 9,928 | \$ (31) | \$ 132,924 | \$ | $(2,553)$ |  | 42,852 | \$ | $(2,584)$ |

We evaluate securities for other-than-temporary impairment on at least a quarterly basis, and more frequently when economic or market concerns warrant such evaluation. Consideration is given to the length of time and the extent to which the fair value has been less than cost; the financial condition and near-term prospects of the issuer, and our intent and ability to retain our investment in the issuer for a period of time sufficient to allow for any anticipated recovery in fair value. In analyzing an issuer s financial condition, we may consider whether the securities are issued by the federal government or its agencies, whether downgrades by bond rating agencies have occurred, and the results of reviews of the issuer s financial condition.

During the three month ended March 31, 2007, we did not have any sales of investment securities resulting in any losses. For those investments in an unrealized loss position at March 31, 2007, we have the intent and ability to hold them until maturity or full recovery of their amortized cost.

## Deposits and Other Borrowings

Deposits. Deposits are our primary source of funds used in our lending and investment activities. At March 31, 2007, our deposits increased by $\$ 38.7$ million or $2.3 \%$ to $\$ 1.75$ billion from $\$ 1.71$ billion at December 31, 2006. Non-jumbo time deposits totaled $\$ 200.8$ million, a decrease of $\$ 9.3$ million or $4.4 \%$ from $\$ 210.2$ million at December 31, 2006. Interest-bearing demand deposits, including money market and super now accounts, totaled $\$ 215.7$ million, an increase of $\$ 31.5$ million or $17.1 \%$ from $\$ 184.2$ million at December 31, 2006. The increase in money market accounts was primarily due to a new product developed in fourth quarter of 2006 with the rate of $5.0 \%$, which was very competitive in the market in an effort to attract core deposits.

## Table of Contents

At March 31, 2007, $21.9 \%$ of total deposits were non-interest bearing demand deposits, $57.7 \%$ were time deposits, and $20.4 \%$ were interest bearing demand and saving deposits. By comparison, at December 31, 2006, $23.8 \%$ of the total deposits were non-interest bearing demand deposits, $57.2 \%$ were time deposits, and $19.0 \%$ were interest bearing demand and saving deposits. Time deposits continued to dominate the deposit composition primarily due to the current rate sensitive market environment.

At March 31, 2007, we had a total of $\$ 54.2$ million in brokered deposits and $\$ 120.0$ million in State Treasurer deposits compared to $\$ 54.3$ million and $\$ 120.0$ million at December 31, 2006, respectively. During the three months ended March 31, 2007, we paid off $\$ 33$ million in brokered deposits. The weighted average life of the brokered deposits is 1.6 years with a weighted average rate of $4.59 \%$. The State Treasurer deposits were six months maturities with a weighted average interest rate of $5.17 \%$ and were collateralized with securities with a carrying value of $\$ 140.4$ million at March 31, 2007. The State deposits are subject to withdrawal based on the State s periodic evaluations.

Other Borrowings. Advances may be obtained from the Federal Home Loan Bank of San Francisco ( FHLB ) as an alternative source of funds. Advances from the FHLB are typically secured by a pledge of mortgage loans and/or securities with a market value at least equal to the outstanding advances plus our investment in FHLB stock.

At March 31, 2007 and December 31, 2006, respectively, we had $\$ 100.0$ million of fixed rate FHLB advances with average remaining maturities of 4.8 years and $\$ 76.0$ million with remaining maturities of 4.7 years. The weighted average rate was $4.21 \%$ at March 31,2007 and December 31, 2006. During the first three months of 2007, we obtained $\$ 24$ million in FHLB advances to fund our fixed rate loans at a weighted average cost of $4.24 \%$ with average remaining maturities of 6.0 years. Although the Bank has no restrictions on borrowings as a result of the recent regulatory actions, the Company may not increase its borrowings, incur any debt or renew existing debt without the consent of the Federal Reserve Bank.

At March 31, 2007 and December 31, 2006, five wholly-owned subsidiary grantor trusts established by Nara Bancorp had issued $\$ 38$ million of pooled trust preferred securities ( Trust Preferred Securities ). Trust Preferred Securities accrue and pay distributions periodically at specified annual rates as provided in the related indentures. The trusts used the net proceeds from the offering to purchase a like amount of subordinated debentures (the Debentures ) of Nara Bancorp. The Debentures are the sole assets of the trusts. Nara Bancorp s obligations under the subordinated debentures and related documents, taken together, constitute a full and unconditional guarantee by Nara Bancorp of the obligations of the trusts. The Trust Preferred Securities are mandatorily redeemable upon the maturity of the Debentures, or upon earlier redemption as provided in the indentures. Nara Bancorp has the right to redeem the Debentures in whole (but not in part) on or after specific dates, at a redemption price specified in the indentures plus any accrued but unpaid interest to the redemption date.

In March 2007, the Company completed an offering of $\$ 8.0$ million of Trust Preferred Securities through its new, wholly-owned subsidiary named Nara Statutory Trust VI ( Trust VI ). The Company used the $\$ 8.0$ million in proceeds from the sale of Trust Preferred Securities by Trust VI to redeem its existing $\$ 8.0$ million of floating rate trust preferred securities issued by Nara Statutory Trust II ( Trust II ) in March 2002. The floating rate Trust Preferred Securities of Trust II were redeemed at par, plus payment of any accrued and unpaid distributions at the redemption date. Floating rate trust preferred securities of Trust VI and Trust II were subject to interest payments at a floating rate equal to the three-month LIBOR rate plus $1.65 \%$ and $3.60 \%$, respectively. Therefore the refinancing reduces the Company s ongoing interest expense.

The weighted average cost of the Trust Preferred Securities issued by Trust VI was $7.00 \%$ for the three months ended March 31, 2007. The dividend payments on trust preferred securities no longer require pre-approval from the Federal Reserve Bank.

## Table of Contents

## Off-Balance-Sheet Activities And Contractual Obligations

We routinely engage in activities that involve, to varying degrees, elements of risk that are not reflected, in whole or in part, in the consolidated financial statements. These activities are part of our normal course of business and include traditional off-balance-sheet credit-related financial instruments, interest rate swap contracts, operating leases and long-term debt.

Traditional off-balance-sheet credit-related financial instruments are primarily commitments to extend credit and standby letters of credit. These activities could require us to make cash payments to third parties in the event certain specified future events occur. The contractual amounts represent the extent of our exposure in these off-balance-sheet activities. However, since certain off-balance-sheet commitments, particularly standby letters of credit, are expected to expire or be only partially used, the total amount of commitments does not necessarily represent future cash requirements. These activities are necessary to meet the financing needs of our customers.

We enter into interest rate swap contracts under which we are required to either receive cash from or pay cash to counterparties depending on changes in interest rates. We also purchased interest rate caps at premium to protect against further rise in interest rates. We utilize interest rate swap contracts and interest rate caps to help manage the risk of changing interest rates. Our accounting for interest rate swap, caps and floor contracts is discussed below under Item 3.

We do not anticipate that our current off-balance-sheet activities will have a material impact on our future results of operations or our financial condition. Further information regarding our financial instruments with off-balance-sheet risk can be found in Item 3 Quantitative and Qualitative Disclosures about Market Risk .

We continue to lease our banking facilities and equipment under non-cancelable operating leases with terms providing monthly payments over periods up to 18 years.

## Stockholders Equity and Regulatory Capital

To ensure adequate levels of capital, we conduct an ongoing assessment of projected sources and uses of capital in conjunction with projected increases in assets and levels of risk. We consider on an ongoing basis, among other things, capital generated from operations, access to capital from financial markets or the issuance of additional securities, including common stock or notes, to meet our capital needs. Total stockholders equity was $\$ 194.7$ million at March 31, 2007. This represented an increase of $\$ 8.1$ million or $4.4 \%$ over total stockholders equity of $\$ 186.6$ million at December 31, 2006. The increase is primarily attributed to net income and proceeds from options exercised, offset by cash dividends paid for the three months ended March 31, 2007.

The federal banking agencies require a minimum ratio of qualifying total capital to risk-adjusted assets of $8 \%$ and a minimum ratio of Tier I capital to risk-weighted assets of $4 \%$. In addition to the risk-based guidelines, federal banking regulators require banking organizations to maintain a minimum amount of Tier I capital to total assets, referred to as the leverage ratio. For a banking organization rated in the highest of the five categories used by regulators to rate banking organizations, the minimum leverage ratio of Tier I capital to total assets must be $4 \%$. In addition to these uniform risk-based capital guidelines and leverage ratios that apply across the industry, the regulators have the discretion to set individual minimum capital requirements for specific institutions at rates significantly above the minimum guidelines and ratios.

At March 31, 2007, our Tier I capital, defined as stockholders equity less intangible assets, plus proceeds from the Trust Preferred Securities (subject to limitations), was $\$ 230.2$ million, compared to $\$ 222.6$ million at December 31, 2006, representing an increase of $\$ 7.6$ million or $3.4 \%$. This increase was primarily due to the net income and proceeds from options exercised, offset by the cash dividends paid. At March 31, 2007, we had a ratio of total capital to total risk-weighted assets of $13.3 \%$ and a ratio of Tier I capital to total risk-weighted assets of $12.3 \%$. The Tier I leverage ratio was $11.2 \%$ at March 31, 2007.

## Table of Contents

As of March 31, 2007 and December 31, 2006, the most recent regulatory notification categorized the Bank as well capitalized under the regulatory framework for prompt corrective action. To be categorized as well capitalized, the Bank must maintain minimum total risk-based, Tier I risk-based and Tier I leverage ratios as set forth in the table below. There are no conditions or events since the notification that management believes have changed the Bank s category.

The Company s and the Bank s actual capital amounts and ratios are presented in the table below:

|  | Required |  |  |  |  | Required |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | For Capital |  |  |  |  | To Be Well Capitalized under Prompt Corrective Action Provisions |  |
|  | Actual |  |  | Adequacy <br> Purposes |  |  |  |
|  | Amount | Ratio |  | Amount Dollars in th | atio <br> ands) | Amount | Ratio |
| As of March 31, 2007: |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Total capital (to risk-weighted assets): |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Company | \$ 249,082 | 13.3\% |  | \$ 149,682 | 8.0\% | N/A | N/A |
| Bank | \$ 237,601 | 12.7\% |  | \$ 149,514 | 8.0\% | \$ 186,892 | 10.0\% |
| Tier I capital (to risk-weighted assets): |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Company | \$ 230,176 | 12.3\% |  | \$ 74,841 | 4.0\% | N/A | N/A |
| Bank | \$ 218,695 | 11.7\% |  | \$ 74,757 | 4.0\% | \$ 112,135 | 6.0\% |
| Tier I capital (to average assets): |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Company | \$ 230,176 | 11.2\% |  | \$ 82,452 | 4.0\% | N/A | N/A |
| Bank | \$ 218,695 | 10.6\% |  | \$ 82,360 | 4.0\% | \$ 102,950 | 5.0\% |
|  |  |  | Required |  |  | Required |  |
|  | Actual |  | For Capital |  |  | To Be Well Capitalized under Prompt Corrective Action Provisions |  |
|  |  |  | Adequacy Purposes |  |  |  |  |
|  | Amount | Ratio |  | Amount Dollars in th | atio ands) |  |  |
| As of December 31, 2006: |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Total capital (to risk-weighted assets): |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Company | \$ 241,845 | 13.2\% |  | \$ 146,316 | 8.0\% | N/A | N/A |
| Bank | \$ 229,099 | 12.5\% |  | \$ 146,128 | 8.0\% | \$ 182,660 | 10.0\% |
| Tier I capital (to risk-weighted assets): |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Company | \$ 222,589 | 12.2\% |  | \$ 73,158 | 4.0\% | N/A | N/A |
| Bank | \$ 209,844 | 11.5\% |  | \$ 73,064 | 4.0\% | \$ 109,596 | 6.0\% |
| Tier I capital (to average assets): |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Company | \$ 222,589 | 11.2\% |  | \$ 79,598 | 4.0\% | N/A | N/A |
| Bank | \$ 209,844 | 10.6\% |  | \$ 79,528 | 4.0\% | \$ 99,410 | 5.0\% |

## Liquidity Management

Liquidity risk is the risk to earnings or capital resulting from our inability to meet our obligations when they come due without incurring unacceptable losses. Liquidity risk includes the ability to manage unplanned decreases or changes in funding sources and to recognize or address changes in market conditions that affect our ability to liquidate assets quickly and with a minimum loss of value or to access other sources of cash. Factors considered in liquidity risk management are stability of the deposit base, marketability, maturity, and pledging of investments, alternative sources of funds, and the demand for credit.

## Table of Contents

Our sources of liquidity are derived from financing activities, which include customer and broker deposits, federal funds facilities, borrowings from the State Treasurer and advances from the Federal Home Loan Bank of San Francisco. In addition, these funding sources are augmented by payments of principal and interest on loans and the routine liquidation of securities from our available-for-sale portfolio. Our uses of funds include withdrawal of and interest payments on deposits, originations of loans, purchases of investment securities, and payment of operating expenses.

We manage liquidity risk by managing interest-earning assets and interest-bearing liabilities, and by maintaining alternative sources of funds as described above. The sale of investment securities available-for-sale can also serve as a contingent source of funds.

We have established broker deposit relationships, lines with correspondent banks and borrowing lines with the Federal Home Loan Bank of San Francisco. At March 31, 2007, our borrowing capacity included $\$ 263.9$ million in brokered deposits (policy limitation), $\$ 62.9$ million in line facilities from correspondent banks and $\$ 415.5$ million in unused Federal Home Loan Bank of San Francisco advances. In addition to these lines, our liquid assets include cash and due from banks, federal funds sold and securities available for sale that are not pledged. The aggregate book value of these assets totaled $\$ 143.9$ million at March 31, 2007 compared to $\$ 92.4$ million at December 31, 2006. We believe our liquidity sources to be stable and adequate.

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

The objective of our asset and liability management activities is to improve our earnings by adjusting the type and mix of assets and liabilities to effectively address changing conditions and risks. Through overall management of our balance sheet and by controlling various risks, we seek to optimize our financial returns within safe and sound parameters. Our operating strategies for attaining this objective include managing net interest margin through appropriate risk/return pricing of asset and liabilities and emphasizing growth in retail deposits, as a percentage of interest-bearing liabilities, to reduce our cost of funds. We also seek to improve earnings by controlling non-interest expense, and enhancing non-interest income. We also use risk management instruments to modify interest rate characteristics of certain assets and liabilities to hedge against our exposure to interest rate fluctuations with the objective of, reducing the effects these fluctuations might have on associated cash flows or values. Finally, we perform internal analyses to measure, evaluate and monitor risk.

## Interest Rate Risk

Interest rate risk is the most significant market risk impacting us. Market risk is the risk of loss to future earnings, to fair values of our assets and liabilities, or to future cash flows that may result from changes in the price of a financial instrument. Interest rate risk occurs when interest rate sensitive assets and liabilities do not reprice simultaneously and in equal volume. A key objective of asset and liability management is to manage interest rate risk associated with changing asset and liability cash flows and values of our assets and liabilities and market interest rate movements. The management of interest rate risk is governed by policies reviewed and approved annually by the Board of Directors. Our Board delegates responsibility for interest rate risk management to the Asset and Liability Management Committee ( ALCO ), which is composed of Nara Bank s senior executives and other designated officers.

The fundamental objective of our ALCO is to manage our exposure to interest rate fluctuations while maintaining adequate levels of liquidity and capital. Our ALCO meets regularly to monitor interest rate risk, the sensitivity of our assets and liabilities to interest rate changes, the book and market values of assets and liabilities, investment activities and directs changes in the composition of the statement of financial condition. Our strategy has been to reduce the sensitivity of our earnings to interest rate fluctuations by more closely matching the effective maturities or repricing characteristics of our assets and liabilities. Certain assets and liabilities, however, may react in different degrees to changes in market interest rates. Furthermore, interest rates on certain types of assets and liabilities may fluctuate prior to changes in market interest rates, while interest rates on other types may lag behind. We consider the anticipated effects of these factors when implementing our interest rate risk management objectives.

## Table of Contents

## Swaps and Caps

As part of our asset and liability management strategy, we may enter into derivative financial instruments, such as interest rate swaps and caps, with the overall goal of minimizing the impact of interest rate fluctuations on our net interest margin. Interest rate swaps and caps involve the exchange of fixed-rate and variable-rate interest payment obligations without the exchange of the underlying notional amounts. During 2002, we entered into eight different interest rate swap agreements, six of which remain and are summarized in Note 10 to the consolidated financial statements included under Item 1. In August of 2006, we purchased an interest rate cap with a notional amount of $\$ 100$ million, tied to monthly resetting 3-month LIBOR, which matures on November 16, 2007. The premium cost was $\$ 185$ thousand. We receive payments from the counterparty if the 3-month LIBOR exceeds the strike level at $5.5 \%$. If the rate remains or falls below $5.5 \%$, our loss would be limited to the premium paid. The premium is being amortized over the life of the interest rate cap. The interest rate cap was purchased to protect against a rise in the cost of 3-month LIBOR to which one of our money market products is tied.

Under the interest rate swap agreements, we receive a fixed rate and pay a variable rate based on H. 15 Prime. The swaps qualify as cash flow hedges under SFAS No. 133, Accounting for Derivative Instruments and Hedging Activities, as amended, and are designated as hedges of the variability of cash flows we receive from certain of our Prime-indexed loans. In accordance with SFAS No. 133, these swap agreements are measured at fair value and reported as assets or liabilities on the consolidated statements of financial condition. The portion of the change in the fair value of the swaps that is deemed effective in hedging the cash flows of the designated assets are recorded in accumulated other comprehensive income (loss), net of tax effects ( OCI ) and reclassified into interest income when such cash flows occur in the future. Any ineffectiveness resulting from the hedges is recorded as a gain or loss in the consolidated statements of income as a part of non-interest income.

Since the second quarter of 2006, pay-offs of underlying loans (i.e. Nara Prime indexed loans) that were being hedged caused the balance of such loans to fall below the notional amount of the swaps, resulting in that portion of the swaps to no longer qualify as a Cash Flow Hedge. Accordingly, changes in the value of this portion of the swaps will directly flow through the income statement. We recognized losses due to such changes in 2006; however, the balance of those underlying loans continued to decrease during the first quarter of 2007 and an additional loss was recognized through the income statement. The Bank continues to focus on originating Nara Prime indexed loans to maintain hedge accounting for the remaining swaps. However, due to the variability of loan pay-offs, no assurance can be given that we will be able to maintain the aggregate Nara Prime indexed loan balance at an amount equal to or greater than the related notional swap balance. The realized loss on interest rate swaps due to hedge ineffectiveness and discontinued hedge positions were $\$ 107$ thousand and $\$ 0$ for the three ended March 31, 2007 and 2006, respectively.

In regards to the interest rate caps, as long as the interest rate caps are considered effective in hedging the cash flows of designated liabilities, the difference in the value between the amortized cost and the fair market of the interest rate caps is recorded in other comprehensive income (OCI), net of tax. However, if a portion of the interest rate caps becomes ineffective in hedging the cash flows of the designated liabilities, the difference in the value between the amortized cost and the fair market of a respective portion of such interest rate caps is recorded as a gain or loss in the consolidated statements of income as a part of non-interest income.

The amortized cost and the fair market value of interest rate caps were $\$ 96$ thousand and $\$ 19$ thousand, respectively, at March 31, 2007. The total balance of underlying money market deposits continued to decrease to $\$ 40.8$ million at March 31, 2007. As a result, $\$ 18$ thousand (net of tax benefit of $\$ 12$ thousand) was recorded as an OCI loss and $\$ 6$ thousand was recorded as a loss in the income statement for the first quarter of 2007 due to an increase in discontinued hedge positions.

## Interest Rate Sensitivity

We monitor interest rate risk through the use of a simulation model. The simulation model provides us with the ability to simulate our net interest income. In order to measure, at March 31, 2007, the sensitivity of our forecasted net interest income to changing interest rates, both rising and falling interest rate scenarios were projected and compared to base market interest rate forecasts. One application of our simulation model measures the impact of

## Table of Contents

market interest rate changes on the net present value of estimated cash flows from our assets and liabilities, defined as our market value of equity. This analysis assesses the changes in market values of interest rate sensitive financial instruments that would occur in response to immediate and parallel changes in market interest rates.

At March 31, 2007, our net interest income and market value of equity exposed to immediate and parallel hypothetical changes in market interest rates are illustrated in the following table.

## Estimated Net Interest

| Simulated Rate Changes | Income Sensitivity | Market Value of <br> Equity Volatility |
| :--- | :---: | :---: |
| +200 basis points | $2.59 \%$ | $(8.41) \%$ |
| +100 basis points | $1.35 \%$ | $(3.97) \%$ |
| -100 basis points | $(1.15) \%$ | $2.44 \%$ |
| -200 basis points | $(2.66) \%$ | $1.29 \%$ |

## Item 4. Controls and Procedures

## a. Evaluation of disclosure controls and procedures

We conducted an evaluation under the supervision and with the participation of our management, including our Chief Executive Officer and our Chief Financial Officer, of the effectiveness of the design and operation of our disclosure controls and procedures (as defined in Rules 13a-15(e) under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 ( Exchange Act )) as of March 31, 2007. Based upon that evaluation, our Chief Executive Officer and our Chief Financial Officer have determined that our disclosure controls and procedures have been designed and are being operated in a manner that provides reasonable assurance that the information required to be disclosed in our Exchange Act reports is recorded, processed, summarized and reported within the time periods specified in the Securities and Exchange Commission s rules and forms, and that such information is accumulated and communicated to our management, including our Chief Executive Officer and our Chief Financial Officer, as appropriate, to allow timely decisions regarding required disclosures. In designing and evaluating the disclosure controls and procedures, our management recognizes that any controls and procedures, no matter how well designed and operated, can provide only reasonable assurance of achieving the desired control objectives, and our management necessarily is required to apply its judgment in evaluating the cost-benefit relationship of possible controls and procedures.

## b. Management $s$ responsibility for financial statements

Our management is responsible for the integrity and objectivity of all information presented in this report. The consolidated financial statements were prepared in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America and include amounts based on management $s$ best estimates and judgments. Management believes the consolidated financial statements fairly reflect the form and substance of transactions and that the financial statements fairly represent the Company s condensed consolidated financial position and results of operations for the periods and as of the dates stated therein.

The Audit Committee of the Board of Directors, which is composed solely of independent directors, meets regularly with our independent registered public accounting firm, Crowe Chizek and Company LLP, and representatives of management to review accounting, financial reporting, internal control and audit matters, as well as the nature and extent of the audit effort. The Audit Committee is responsible for the engagement of the independent auditors. The independent auditors have free access to the Audit Committee.

## c. Changes in internal control over financial reporting

There have been no changes in our internal control over financial reporting during the quarter ended March 31, 2007 that have materially affected, or are reasonably likely to materially affect, our internal control over financial reporting.

## Table of Contents

## PART II

## OTHER INFORMATION

## Item 1. Legal Proceedings

We are a party to routine litigation incidental to our business, none of which is considered likely to have a material adverse effect on us.

## Item 1A. Risk Factors

There were no material changes from risk factors previously disclosed in our 2006 Annual Report on Form 10-K.

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

In March 2007, the Company completed a new offering of $\$ 8.0$ million of trust preferred securities through its new, wholly-owned subsidiary named Nara Statutory Trust VI. The sale of such securities was not registered under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended (the Act ), or any state securities laws pursuant to an exemption from registration under Section 4(2) of the Act and Regulation D promulgated thereunder.

## Item 3. Defaults Upon Senior Securities

None

## Item 4. Submission of Matters to a Vote of Security Holders

None

## Item 5. Other Information

None

Item 6. Exhibits
See Index to Exhibits .

## Table of Contents

## SIGNATURES

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

Date: May 9, 2007

Date: May 9, 2007

## NARA BANCORP, INC.

/s/ Min J. Kim
Min J. Kim
President and Chief Executive Officer
/s/ Alvin D. Kang
Alvin D. Kang
Chief Financial Officer
(Principal financial officer)

## Table of Contents

## INDEX TO EXHIBITS

## Number Description of Document

31.1 Certification of Chief Executive Officer pursuant to Section 302 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002
31.2 Certification of Chief Financial Officer pursuant to Section 302 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002
32.1 Certification of Chief Executive Officer pursuant to Section 906 of the Public Company Accounting Reform and Investor Protection Act of 2002
32.2 Certification of Chief Financial Officer pursuant to section 906 of the Public Company Accounting Reform and Investor Protection Act of 2002

