



NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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FDIC APPROVES DEPOSIT ASSUMPTION OF THE FARMERS & MERCHANTS STATE BANK, BALLINGER, TEXAS

The Board of Directors of the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation has approved the assumption of the deposits and fully secured liabilities of The Farmers & Merchants State Bank, Ballinger, Texas, by The First National Bank of Rotan, Rotan, Texas.

The failed bank's sole office will reopen on Friday, March 17, 1989, as a branch of The First National Bank of Rotan and its depositors automatically will become depositors of the assuming bank, subject to approval by the appropriate court.

The Farmers & Merchants State Bank, with total assets of about \$22.8 million, was closed on Thursday, March 16, 1989, by Kenneth W. Littlefield, Texas Banking Commissioner, and the FDIC was named receiver.

The First National Bank of Rotan will assume about \$22.1 million in 3,000 deposit accounts and will purchase approximately \$22.4 million of the failed bank's assets at a discount of \$2.1 million.

The Board of Directors approved the deposit assumption under its authority to do so whenever it determines that such a transaction will reduce the potential loss to the FDIC. The transaction will result in a lower cost to the FDIC than if the assets were held and liquidated in receivership. Additionally, because the assets and deposits will be administered by The First National Bank of Rotan, the failed bank's customers will have the benefit of continuous, uninterrupted service.

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