

U.S. BANKRUPTCY COURT NORTHERN DISTRICT OF TEXAS

ENTERED

TAWANA C. MARSHALL, CLERK THE DATE OF ENTRY IS ON THE COURT'S DOCKET

The following constitutes the ruling of the court and has the force and effect therein described.

Signed July 30, 2013

United States Bankruptcy Judge

IN THE UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT IN THE NORTHERN DISTRICT OF TEXAS AMARILLO DIVISION

IN RE:

FRIENDSHIP DAIRIES, a general partnershp

Debtor

§ § 8

BANKRUPTCY NO. 12-20405-11

Chapter 11

§

INTERIM ORDER AUTHORIZING USE OF CASH COLLATERAL

On July 25, 2013, the First Amended Emergency Motion For Use of Cash Collateral (the "Motion") filed by Friendship Dairies, the debtor and debtor-in-possession (the "Debtor") came on for consideration by the Court.

The Court previously approved Debtor's use of cash collateral on an interim basis on August 9, 2012 [Docket No. 31], August 24, 2012 [Docket Nos. 140, 141], on October 31, 2012, on November 14, 2012 [Docket No. 161], and on April 25, 2013 [Docket No. 385]. At the hearing on July 25, 2013, J. Bennett White appeared on behalf of the Debtor, John O'Brien and Scott Sandberg appeared on behalf of AgStar Financial Services, FLCA, loan servicer for

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McFinney Agri Finance, LLC ("AgStar"), R. Byrn "Byrnie" Bass, Jr. appeared on behalf of

Frontier Capital Group, Ltd. ("Frontier") and Steven Jakubowski appeared on behalf of the

Official Creditors Committee ("Committee") (collectively the "Parties").

The Court has considered the pleadings filed in this Chapter 11 case, the proceedings

held before this Court, and the evidence and arguments of counsel presented. After due

deliberation and consideration and pursuant to the stipulations stated on the record, the Court

finds that good and sufficient cause exists to GRANT the Debtor's use of post-petition cash on

an interim basis pursuant to 11 U.S.C. § 363 as stated below:

A. The Debtor's Chapter 11 case was commenced by the filing of its voluntary

petition on August 6, 2012 (the "Petition Date") under the Bankruptcy Code. The Debtor is

operating its business and managing its property as debtor-in-possession pursuant to Sections

1107(a) and 1108 of the Bankruptcy Code.

B. This Court has jurisdiction over this matter pursuant to 28 U.S.C. §§ 157 and

1334. This is a core proceeding pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 157(b)(2). The statutory predicates for

the relief sought herein are Sections 105, 361, 362, and 363 of the Bankruptcy Code and

Bankruptcy Rule 4001(d). Venue of this Chapter 11 proceeding and this Motion in this district

is proper pursuant to 28 U.S.C. §§ 1408 and 1409.

C. Proper notice of the hearing was provided pursuant to Bankruptcy Rule 4001(d)

and applicable local rules. No other notice is necessary under the circumstances.

D. The Court finds that, for the purpose of determining adequate protection for the

use of cash collateral:

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a. AgStar asserts a Petition Date claim in the approximate amount of \$18,400,000 (of which approximately \$1,900,000 is contingent) plus continuing interest and reimbursable charges;

b. Frontier asserts a claim in the amount of \$27,041,479.91;

c. Gavilon Ingredients, LLC asserts a claim in the amount of \$270,457.32; and

d. Dimmitt Flaking, LP asserts a claim in the amount of \$514,240.80.

E. The Court assumes that, for the purpose of determining adequate protection for the use of cash collateral, as of the Petition Date:

a. AgStar had a senior lien on substantially all of Debtor's real estate and a senior security interest in Debtor's irrigation equipment, milking equipment, and certain other assets;

b. Gavilon Ingredients, LLC had a senior lien on Debtor's livestock¹;

c. Dimmitt Flaking, LP had a lien on Debtor's livestock that is junior to the lien of Gavilon Ingredients, LLC, but is senior to the security interest of Frontier²;

d. Frontier had a security interest in Debtor's livestock that is junior to the statutory liens of Gavilon Ingredients, LLC and Dimmitt Flaking, LP. Frontier had a senior security interest in Debtor's growing crops and in Debtor's feed inventory; and

¹ Debtor's counsel announced at the hearing that an agreement had been reached with Gavilon Ingredients, LLC for its claim to be unsecured; however, at present the claim is filed as a secured claim and will be treated as such in this Order.

² Debtor's counsel announced at the hearing that an agreement had been reached with Dimmitt Flaking, LP for its claim to be unsecured; however, at present the claim is filed as a secured claim and will be treated as such in this Order.

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e. As to the milk that had been sold prior to the Petition Date, but for which

payment had not been received, and as to the milk on hand as of the Petition

Date, AgStar had a security interest in the proceeds of such milk, so too did

Gavilon Ingredients, LLC, Dimmitt Flaking, LP, and Frontier.

F. The Court finds that, as of the Petition Date, Debtor's assets may be assigned the

following values:

a. Debtor's livestock had a value of approximately \$12,551,350;

b. Debtor's growing crops had a value between \$1,750,000 and \$3,428,400;

c. Debtor's real estate, milking equipment, and dairy equipment had a fair

market value of approximately \$24,810,000 if a seller is not under a

compulsion to sell and based upon certain marketing period assumptions.

There is evidence that a distressed sale domino effect and adjustment for the

prepayment fee may lead to AgStar being less secured, but the Parties agree

AgStar is oversecured; and

d. Debtor's milk had a value of \$1,088,947.57.

G. The cash collateral generated by the sale of the milk that existed on the Petition

Date has been spent by Debtor as previously authorized by this Court. Pursuant to 11 U.S.C. §

552, but for the replacement liens granted in conjunction with the interim authorization to use

cash collateral previously approved by the Court, no party has a lien or security interest on

Debtor's post-petition milk.

H. Assuming the validity of AgStar's claim and liens, AgStar's claim is fully

secured by its liens and security interests in Debtor's real estate, milking equipment, dairy

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equipment, and other assets. The Court makes no finding on the amount of any equity cushion

at this time and notes that AgStar's secured position can change with the passage of time.

I. The Parties agree that Gavilon Ingredients' claim is fully secured by its statutory

lien against Debtor's livestock. The value of the livestock provides Gavilon Ingredients with an

equity cushion of approximately 4,600 percent (4,600%), even without taking into consideration

the value of any other assets against which Gavilon Ingredients' statutory lien would have

attached.

J. The Parties agree that Dimmitt Flaking's claim is fully secured by its statutory

lien against Debtor's livestock. After reducing the livestock value by the amount of Gavilon

Ingredient's claim, the remaining value of the livestock provides Dimmitt Flaking with an equity

cushion of approximately 2,400 percent (2,400%), even without taking into consideration the

value of any other assets against which Dimmitt Flaking's statutory lien would have attached.

K. Frontier is not fully secured. The value of Frontier's secured claim is limited to

the value of its collateral. The Court was not presented with a complete analysis of all Frontier's

collateral; therefore, there is no basis for the Court to make a determination of the exact amount

of Frontier's secured claim. However, for the purpose of determining adequate protection for

the use of cash collateral, the parties have agreed to use a stipulated amount of \$15,979,750.

L. The issues before the Court relate to (a) the Debtor's use of revenue from the sale

of milk; (b) the Debtor's use of revenue from the sale of mature milk cows; and (c) the Debtor's

consumption of its grown and harvested crop in the feeding of its livestock. Frontier asserts a

claim to the cash collateral generated by the sale of mature milk cows. Frontier also asserts a

claim that the consumption of grown crops represents a use of cash collateral for which it should

be adequately protected. AgStar asserts a claim to the milk revenue and seeks a replacement

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lien as adequate protection for the Debtor's use of the cash collateral derived from the milk that

existed on the Petition Date.

M. AgStar asserts a lien in the \$1,088,947.57 of milk proceeds existing on the

Petition Date. The Court finds that the cash collateral to which that lien attached has been spent

as previously authorized by the Court. (The Court notes further, however, that the Debtor has,

in accordance with the Court's prior interim order authorizing the use of cash collateral [Docket

No.141], made three adequate protection payments to AgStar in the amount of \$85,938 each.)

The Court finds that if AgStar is not granted a replacement lien on post-petition milk proceeds,

the effect would be the same as stripping AgStar of its lien on pre-petition milk proceeds. The

Court is of the opinion that the use of cash collateral must protect a secured creditor's pre-

petition lien. The Court is also of the opinion that approval of the use of cash collateral pursuant

to 11 U.S.C. § 363 does not authorize the Court to strip a secured creditor of a lien existing on

the petition date. Therefore, regardless of whether AgStar's secured claim is adequately

protected by its liens and security interests in its other collateral, the Court finds that it is entitled

to a replacement lien.

N. The Debtor currently holds \$506,323 in casualty insurance proceeds in which

AgStar asserts a security interest (the "Insurance Proceeds Cash Collateral"). Thus, these

Insurance Proceeds Cash Collateral constitute cash collateral in which AgStar has an interest.

O. The Court finds that Gavilon Ingredient's secured claim is adequately protected

by its statutory lien against Debtor's livestock. The Court finds that the Debtor's use of cash

collateral from the sale of livestock is not likely to cause any decrease in the amount of Gavilon

Ingredient's secured claim; therefore, the Court finds that Gavilon Ingredients is not entitled to

any adequate protection for the Debtor's use of livestock proceeds.

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P. The Court finds that Dimmitt Flaking's secured claim is adequately protected by

its statutory lien against Debtor's livestock. The Court finds that the Debtor's use of cash

collateral from the sale of livestock is not likely to cause any decrease in the amount of Dimmitt

Flaking's secured claim; therefore, the Court finds that Dimmitt Flaking is not entitled to any

adequate protection for the Debtor's use of livestock proceeds.

Q. The Court finds that Frontier has agreed to cash out AgStar's interest in milk and

milk products as described below and that the Debtor and Frontier have agreed to the Debtor's

use of milk and milk proceeds after Frontier cashes out AgStar's lien on the milk and milk

proceeds. The Debtor and AgStar have also stipulated to the use of the Insurance Proceeds Cash

Collateral as described below. Accordingly, the Court hereby approves the stipulation, as

incorporated below, made between the Debtor, AgStar, and Frontier.

R. The Court finds that Frontier and the Debtor have agreed and stipulated to

conditions in exchange for which Frontier will consent to the use of its cash collateral, including

cash collateral from the sale of milk, cash collateral from the sale of livestock, and cash

collateral from the consumption of silage. The Court finds that the terms of that agreement are

fair and equitable. Accordingly, the Court hereby approves the stipulation, as incorporated

below, made between Debtor and Frontier.

THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY ORDERED, ADJUDGED, AND DECREED AS

FOLLOWS:

1. Identification Of Cash Collateral. As used herein, "Cash Collateral" shall consist

of (a) cash proceeds from the sale of milk after August 6, 2012; (b) cash proceeds received by

the Debtor from the sale of mature milking cows after August 6, 2012; and (c) silage harvested

by Debtor from its growing crops after August 6, 2012, including silage harvested by Debtor

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from any crops planted after August 6, 2012, along with any sales proceeds received by Debtor

from the sale of any silage. Silage generally consists of corn, sorghum, and wheat silage.

Authority to Use Cash Collateral. The Debtor is authorized to use Cash

Collateral to pay the Debtor's bona fide business expenses in accordance with the Budget

attached hereto as Exhibit 1 for the period through September 30, 2013 (See ECF Doc. No. 538)

(the "Budget"). The Budget includes two \$25,000 adequate protection payments to AgStar due

on August 1 and September 1, 2013. The Debtor shall not use Cash Collateral other than as set

forth in the Budget or following written consent of Frontier.

3. From the proceeds of the sale of mature milking cows, Debtor shall be permitted

to use \$1,300.00 for each young cow that the Debtor adds as a milking cow. Debtor shall also

be permitted to use the proceeds of the sale of mature milking cows to purchase milk cows.

4. Debtor shall be permitted to retain \$135,000 of the Insurance Proceeds Cash

Collateral to purchase and install pumping equipment on previously drilled, but currently

non-operating, water well on its property and such pumping equipment shall become a part of

AgStar's real property collateral. The balance of the Insurance Proceeds Cash Collateral in the

amount of \$371,323 shall be paid to AgStar within two (2) business days after the entry of this

Order (the "Insurance Proceeds Cash Collateral Payment").

5. Frontier shall pay to AgStar the sum of \$700,000 within two (2) business days

after entry of this Order (the "Cash Out Payment"). Upon AgStar's receipt of the Cash Out

Payment Frontier shall have a senior lien on the Debtor's milk and milk proceeds, and AgStar

shall no longer have a lien on the Debtor's milk and milk proceeds. Upon AgStar's receipt of

the Cash Out Payment AgStar shall file amendments to its financing statements to release its lien

on milk and milk proceeds, both prepetition and post-petition, and Frontier is authorized to file

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financing statements to evidence its senior lien on milk and milk proceeds. Upon receipt of the

\$700,000 cash out payment AgStar will have no further interest in cash collateral currently in

the Debtor's possession except for the Insurance Proceeds Cash Collateral.

The \$700,000 Cash Out Payment and the \$371,323 Insurance Proceeds Cash

Collateral Payment paid to AgStar pursuant to this agreement, stipulation, and Order (the

"AgStar Payments") shall be credited against the principal portion of the debt owed AgStar by

the Debtor. The AgStar Payments shall first be applied to the principal payments that would

have been made post-petition as specified in the loan amortization schedule that would have

existed as of the petition date if the loan had not been accelerated. If the amounts paid in

accordance with this Order exceed the unpaid amount of the payments described in the

preceding sentence, this excess amount shall be held in escrow by AgStar until September, 2013,

at which time the excess amount shall be applied to the principal portion of the indebtedness.

The Parties have selected this payment schedule in order to avoid any possibility that any

portion of the payments made in accordance with this Order be subjected to any prepayment or

SWAP fee contained in the promissory note evidencing Debtor's indebtedness to AgStar. To

protect AgStar and Frontier the AgStar Payments shall be unavoidable and irreversible such that

it will not be necessary or allowable for the Debtor of any successor to the Debtor, including any

Chapter 7 Trustee, Chapter 11 Trustee, or examiner to assert claims in the future for any reversal

of the AgStar Payments which shall be credited to the principal of the Debtor's loan to AgStar as

stated herein, including, but not limited to claims under 11 U.S.C. § 544, 547, 548, 549, 550,

553 or under the Texas fraudulent conveyance laws, and Frontier's replacement lien on the

Debtor's post-petition milk and milk proceeds granted in exchange for the \$700,000 Cash Out

Payment shall be similarly unavoidable and irreversible.

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6.

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7. Each week, Debtor shall provide Frontier and AgStar with a report setting out its

use of silage during the previous week. For each ton of silage used by the Debtor, Debtor shall

earmark a portion of its revenue to be used only for farming expenses. Farming expenses shall

include all costs incurred in conjunction with a future crop, i.e. planting, growing, and

harvesting, and includes (without limitation) seed, fertilizer, chemicals, irrigation, labor, and

utilities. The amount that shall be earmarked for future farming expenses shall be \$70 per ton

for corn silage used, \$45 per ton for sorghum used, and \$50 per ton for wheat silage used.

Frontier shall continue to inspect Debtor's growing crops in the same manner as it has done in

the past. The Debtor will receive a credit against its use of silage for the value of its growing

crop. Lone Star Milk Producers shall continue to supply to interested parties the periodic reports

concerning milk purchases as stated in the Court's Interim Order Authorizing Use of Cash

Collateral dated November 2, 2012 [Docket No. 141].

8. <u>Actual To Budget Reports.</u> By the 20th day of each month (which is also the date

that the Debtor's monthly operating reports need to be filed with the office of the U.S. Trustee),

the Debtor will provide Frontier and AgStar with a report comparing actual disbursements to the

Budget for the prior month for each line item stated in the Budget.

9. Permitted Deviations From Budget. Debtor may not deviate from its Budget by

more than 10% without Frontier's consent or an order of the Court. The permitted 10%

deviation shall apply on a cumulative basis over the two (2) month period approved by this

Order; however, the cumulative variance will not result in a reduction to the net cash flow in

excess of \$225,000. For example, the total disbursements over the two (2) month period could

exceed the projections by \$189,550 without violating this provision regardless of which

individual month or months produced the overspending.

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10. Adequate Protection Payments. As provided in the Budget, the Debtor shall pay

monthly adequate protection to Frontier in the amount of \$83,000.00 payable on the last day of

each calendar month through and including September 30, 2013.

11. Replacement Adequate Protection Post-Petition Milk Lien. Frontier is hereby

granted a post-petition replacement senior lien on the milk and milk proceeds.

12. Replacement Adequate Protection Post-Petition Livestock Lien. Frontier is

hereby granted a post-petition replacement lien on the livestock acquired by Debtor post-petition

and the products and proceeds therefrom in the same nature, extent, and validity as its claims

and security interests existed pre-petition, but subject to the limitation in Section 552 and to any

avoidance actions and lien contests should such actions be brought, for any diminution in the

value of the Cash Collateral caused by the Debtor's use of the Cash Collateral or the effect of the

automatic stay in the Debtor's case. In accordance with Section 361, the extent to which any

replacement lien in livestock is granted by this Order shall be limited to the amount necessary to

protect such holder against a decrease in the value of such holder's interest in Cash Collateral

resulting from the Debtor's use thereof.

13. Replacement Adequate Protection Post-Petition Crop Lien. Frontier is hereby

granted a post-petition replacement lien on crops planted by Debtor post-petition, crop insurance

proceeds, and proceeds from the sale of any crops in the same nature, extent, and validity as its

claim and security interest existed pre-petition in Cash Collateral, but subject to the limitation in

Section 552 and to any avoidance actions and lien contests should such actions be brought, for

any diminution in the value of the Cash Collateral caused by the Debtor's use of the Cash

Collateral or the effect of the automatic stay in the Debtor's case. In accordance with Section

361, the extent to which any replacement lien on future crops (including proceeds and crop

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insurance proceeds) is granted by this Order to Frontier shall be limited to the amount necessary to protect Frontier against a decrease in the value of its interest in Cash Collateral resulting from the Debtor's use thereof.

14. <u>Default; Termination of Consent.</u> In the event Debtor defaults under any of the foregoing provisions of this Order concerning Cash Collateral usage, Frontier may withdraw its consent to the Debtor's use of Cash Collateral and the Debtor will not be authorized to use Cash Collateral without an order the Court. If Frontier and Debtor fail to timely make the AgStar Payment to AgStar as required by this Order Debtor's right to use Cash Collateral shall terminate.

15. No Waiver. The Court finds that none of the affected Parties have waived any claim that was brought or could have been brought at the time of the filing of this case or the Emergency Motion for Use of Cash Collateral (as amended), and all Parties have reserved the right to assert such claims or defenses as they may have had then or that may have arisen since this case was filed. Nothing herein shall prejudice the rights of any party to subsequently argue that any secured creditor should be required to marshal its collateral.

16.	Nex	t Interim	Hearing.	This	Court	hereby	sets	a	hearing	for		a.m.,
		_, 2013, t	o be held in	n Lubb	ock, T	exas to	consid	der	whether	the	provisio	ons for
the use of	Cash Co	llateral sh	ould be ext	ended	after S	eptembe	r 30, 2	201	13.			

By:

SNELL WILMER L.L.P

J. BENNETT WHITE, P.C.

By:

Jolin O'Brien

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insurance proceeds) is granted by this Order to Frontier shall be limited to the amount necessary to protect Frontier against a decrease in the value of its interest in Cash Collateral resulting from the Debtor's use thereof.

- 14. <u>Default; Termination of Consent.</u> In the event Debtor defaults under any of the foregoing provisions of this Order concerning Cash Collateral usage, Frontier may withdraw its consent to the Debtor's use of Cash Collateral and the Debtor will not be authorized to use Cash Collateral without an order the Court. If Frontier and Debtor fail to timely make the AgStar Payment to AgStar as required by this Order Debtor's right to use Cash Collateral shall terminate.
- 15. No Waiver. The Court finds that none of the affected Parties have waived any claim that was brought or could have been brought at the time of the filing of this case or the Emergency Motion for Use of Cash Collateral (as amended), and all Parties have reserved the right to assert such claims or defenses as they may have had then or that may have arisen since this case was filed. Nothing herein shall prejudice the rights of any party to subsequently argue that any secured creditor should be required to marshal its collateral.

16. Next Interim Hearing. This Court hereby sets a hearing for 1:30 a.m., Room 3/4, 1205 Texas Ave, Lubbock, Texas to consider whether the provisions for the use of Cash Collateral should be extended after September 30, 2013.

SNELL & WILMER L.L.P

By:

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####END OF ORDER###

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####END OF ORDER###

Friendship Dairies Proposed Budgets August - September, 2013

			August	September
Sources	Projected Volume	-	100,000	108,500
5041114	Projected Milk Price		17.80	18,25
	Milk Revenue		1,745,000	1,880,063
	Cull cows		80,000	80,000
	Bull calves	_	20,000	20,000
Total Sour	tes		1,845,000	1,980,063
Disbursem	ents			
Dal	•			
	Accountant		15,000	10,000
	Breeding Cow removal		1,000	1,000
	Draws (Partners)		25,000	25,000
	Electric		15,000	15,000
	Environmental cost		1,500	1,500
	Equipment		9,000	9,000
	Equity Purchase - Black R	idge Dalry		
	Feed	,	975,000	1,000,000
	Fuel & Gas		25,000	25,000
	Insurance		8,300	8,300
	Labor		120,000	120,000
	Medicine & Veterinary		25,000	25,000
	Miscellaneous		3,000	3,000
	Nutritionist			
	Rent - Feedlot		1,000	
	Repairs		30,000	30,000
	Supplies		45,000	45,000
	Taxes		38,000	38,000
	Telephone		3,000	3,000
	Testing & Trimming		15,000	15,000
	Trash removal		1,000	1,000
	Water treatment		4 055 900	1,374,800
	al Dairy ming		1,355,800	1,314,600
rai	Farming: Crop Insurance			
	Farming: Electric		90,000	95,000
	Farming: Equipment		11,613	11,613
	Farming: Euel and Gas		7,500	15,000
	Farming: Harvesting		50,000	100,000
	Farming: Labor		6,000	6,000
	Farming: Manure Haulin	g	21,000	21,000
	Farming: Miscellaneous		3,000	3,000
	Farming: Repairs		25,000	25,000
	Farming: Seeding			
	Farming: Spraying/Fertil	zing	40,000	60,000
	Farming: Supplies		10,000	10,000
	tal Farming		264,113	346,613
Total Op	erating Disbursements		1,619,913	1,721,413
Re	organization		05.000	25,000
	Legal fees - Debtor's Co.	insel	25,000	25,000
	Legal Fees - Other	h. e	47 E00	17,500
	Legal Fees - Creditors' Co		17,500	17,300
	Professional Fees - Dalry	Consultant		
	Trustee's fees			
To	tal Reorganization		42,500	42,500
A	lequate Protection Paymen	ts		
• •	AgStar		25,000	25,000
	Frontier		83,000	83,000
	Dimmitt Flaking			
	Gavilon Ingredients			
To	otal Adequate Protection Pa	yments	108,000	108,000
Total Dis	bursements		1,770,413	1,871,913
et Cash Flow			74,587	108,150
			400 40	004.045
umulative Cas		Operating Cash	183,197	291,347
		Irance Proceeds	506,323	506,323
	Tot	al Cash on Hand	689,520	797,670

