

UNCONVENTIONAL SOLUTIONS.  
ENTREPRENEURIAL GROWTH.



## PRESS RELEASE - FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**Media Contact:**

Emily Karpenske | Senior Communications Specialist  
emily.karpenske@bwbmn.com | 952.653.0624

**Investor Contact:**

Justin Horstman | Vice President, Investor Relations  
justin.horstman@bwbmn.com | 952.542.5169

June 16, 2025

### **Bridgewater Bank's Joe Chykowski Named a 2025 Notable Leader in Banking by *Twin Cities Business***



**St. Louis Park, MN** – Bridgewater Bank, a leading Twin Cities bank focused on meeting the unique needs of successful individuals and entrepreneurs, is pleased to announce that President and Chief Financial Officer Joe Chykowski has been recognized by *Twin Cities Business* as a 2025 Notable Leader in Banking.

Part of *Twin Cities Business's* ongoing *Notable* series, this annual feature highlights top-tier banking executives in Minnesota who are shaping the future of the financial industry. Honorees are selected based on their professional achievements, community involvement, and ability to drive meaningful change in their institutions and the markets they serve.

Joe's selection is a testament to his strategic leadership and deep impact at Bridgewater. Since joining the bank in 2013 as Controller, he has helped drive its transformation from a small de novo bank to one of the largest publicly traded banks in Minnesota, with assets growing from \$460 million to \$5.1 billion, largely through organic growth. As a young leader, Joe led Bridgewater's IPO, raising over \$58 million and making it the first Minnesota state bank to go public in more than 25 years.

Now, as President and CFO, Joe drives the bank's strategic direction, advancing key scalability initiatives and leading strategic goal setting, enterprise risk management, capital deployment, and M&A evaluation. In 2024, he led Bridgewater's acquisition of First Minnetonka City Bank, a strategic expansion marking the bank's first M&A transaction since 2016.

"Joe's leadership has been instrumental in Bridgewater's success," said Jerry Baack, Founder, Chairman, and Chief Executive Officer at Bridgewater Bank. "He's known for his humble, people-first approach, unwavering dedication, and extraordinary ability to turn strategy into action. We're proud to see him recognized for the integral impact he makes across our organization every day."

Beyond the boardroom, Joe is a dedicated mentor and active community member. From his tenure on the board of People Serving People to his robust history of volunteerism, Joe's people-first leadership and belief in giving back continue to make a meaningful impact, both at Bridgewater and throughout the broader community.

#### **About Bridgewater Bank**

*Bridgewater Bancshares, Inc. (Nasdaq: BWB) is a St. Louis Park, Minnesota-based financial holding company founded in 2005. Its banking subsidiary, Bridgewater Bank, is a premier, full-service bank dedicated to providing responsive support and simple solutions to businesses, entrepreneurs, and successful individuals across the Twin Cities. Bridgewater offers a comprehensive suite of products and services spanning deposits, lending, and treasury management solutions. Bridgewater has also received numerous awards for its banking services and esteemed corporate culture. With total assets of \$5.1 billion and nine strategically located branches as of March 31, 2025, Bridgewater is one of the largest locally-led banks in Minnesota and is committed to being the finest entrepreneurial bank. For more information, please visit [www.bridgewaterbankmn.com](http://www.bridgewaterbankmn.com).*

###