
UNITED STATES
SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, DC 20549

FORM 8-K

CURRENT REPORT
Pursuant to Section 13 or 15(d) of the
Securities Exchange Act of 1934

Date of report (Date of earliest event reported) **May 15, 2023**

NATIONAL WESTERN LIFE GROUP, INC.

(Exact Name of Registrant as Specified in Charter)

Delaware
(State or Other Jurisdiction
of Incorporation)

000-55522
(Commission
File Number)

47-3339380
(IRS Employer
Identification No.)

10801 N. Mopac Expy Bldg 3
Austin, Texas
(Address of Principal Executive Offices)

78759
(Zip Code)

Registrant's telephone number, including area code **(512) 836-1010**

Not Applicable

(Former Name or Former Address, if Changed Since Last Report)

Check the appropriate box below if the Form 8-K filing is intended to simultaneously satisfy the filing obligation of the registrant under any of the following provisions (*see* General Instruction A.2. below):

- Written communications pursuant to Rule 425 under the Securities Act (17 CFR 230.425)
- Soliciting material pursuant to Rule 14a-12 under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.14a-12)
- Pre-commencement communications pursuant to Rule 14d-2(b) under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.14d-2(b))
- Pre-commencement communications pursuant to Rule 13e-4(c) under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.13e-4(c))

Securities registered pursuant to Section 12(b) of the Act:

<u>Title of each class to be registered:</u>	<u>Trading Symbol</u>	<u>Name of each exchange on which each class is to be registered:</u>
Class A Common Stock, \$0.01 par value	NWL1	The NASDAQ Stock Market LLC

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant is an emerging growth company as defined in Rule 405 of the Securities Act of 1933 (§230.405 of the chapter) or Rule 12-b2 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (§240.12b-2 of the chapter).

Emerging growth company

If an emerging growth company, indicate by check mark if the registrant has elected not to use the extended transition period for complying with any new or revised financial accounting standards provided pursuant to Section 13(a) of the Exchange Act.

Item 2.02 Results of Operations and Financial Condition

On May 15, 2023, National Western Life Group, Inc. ("Company") announced via press release the Company's financial results for the quarter ended March 31, 2023. A copy of the Company's press release is attached hereto as Exhibit 99.1. This Form 8-K and the attached exhibit are provided under Item 9.01 of Form 8-K and are furnished to, but not filed with, the Securities and Exchange Commission.

The press release is available at the Company's website, www.nwlg.com.

Item 9.01 Financial Statements and Exhibits

(d) Exhibits

<u>Exhibit No.</u>	<u>Description</u>
99.1	Press Release dated May 15, 2023

SIGNATURE

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

NATIONAL WESTERN LIFE GROUP, INC.

Date: May 15, 2023

/S/Brian M. Pribyl

Brian M. Pribyl
Senior Vice President,
Chief Financial Officer
and Treasurer

EXHIBIT INDEX

<u>Exhibit</u>	<u>Description</u>
99.1	Press Release of National Western Life Group, Inc. issued May 15, 2023 reporting financial results for the quarter ended March 31, 2023.



National Western Life Group, Inc.

NEWS RELEASE

EXHIBIT 99.1

National Western Life Group, Inc. Announces 2023 First Quarter Earnings

Austin, Texas, May 15, 2023 - Ross R. Moody, Chairman of the Board, President, and Chief Executive Officer of National Western Life Group, Inc. (Nasdaq: NWLI), announced today first quarter 2023 consolidated net earnings of \$12.3 million, or \$3.48 per diluted share of Class A Common Stock, compared with restated consolidated net earnings of \$97.6 million, or \$27.59 per diluted share of Class A Common Stock, for the quarter ended March 31, 2022. The Company's book value per share as of March 31, 2023 increased to \$634.27.

Publicly traded life insurance companies were required to adopt a new accounting standard effective January 1, 2023, requiring retroactive restatement of previously reported financial statement results. The transition date for the adoption of the new accounting guidance, "Targeted Improvements to the Accounting for Long-Duration Contracts" (LDTI), was January 1, 2021.

LDTI requires a separate liability to be established for Market Risk Benefits and to report changes in the liability balance through net earnings. Market risk benefits include certain contract features on the Company's annuity products that provide minimum guarantees to policyholders, such as guaranteed minimum withdrawal benefits. For the quarters ended March 31, 2023 and 2022, pretax earnings expense/(benefit) pertaining to Market Risk Benefits was \$37.0 million and \$(61.0) million, respectively. Commenting on the effect of this accounting treatment, Mr. Moody noted, "The Market Risk Benefits reporting requirement introduces a new degree of volatility to Company earnings caused by this liability being reported on a fair value basis. As fair value is predominantly dictated by interest rate levels in effect at each reporting date, an increase in interest rates creates a benefit as was the case for the first quarter of 2022, while a decrease in interest rate levels causes a charge against earnings as was the situation in the first quarter of 2023."

The Company reported a 10% increase in total revenues in the first quarter of 2023 over the prior year first quarter. Excluding market value fluctuations associated with the Company's derivative instruments, index options and funds withheld reinsurance, net investment income increased from \$90.0 million in the quarter ended March 31, 2022 to \$91.5 million in the first quarter of 2023. Mr. Moody stated, "Despite a slightly lower investment asset base, we saw increased returns both in new bond purchase yields and in our continued diversification into alternative investment vehicles, without any slippage in credit quality."

Improvements in policy benefit and other operating expenses positively contributed to the first quarter 2023 results. "We had a very good quarter in terms of mortality experience, and we achieved expense savings in several areas compared to the first quarter of 2022," Mr. Moody indicated.

National Western Life Group, Inc. is the parent organization of National Western Life Insurance Company, which is the parent organization of Ozark National Life Insurance Company, both stock life insurance companies in aggregate offering a broad portfolio of individual universal life, whole life and term insurance plans, as well as annuity products. At March 31, 2023, the Company maintained consolidated total assets of \$12.8 billion, consolidated stockholders' equity of \$2.3 billion, and combined life insurance in force of \$19.3 billion.

Caution Regarding Forward-Looking Statements:

This press release contains statements which are or may be viewed as forward-looking within the meaning of The Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 2005. Forward-looking statements relate to future operations, strategies, financial results or other developments, and are subject to assumptions, risks, and uncertainties. Factors that may cause actual results to differ materially from those contemplated in these forward-looking statements can be found in the Company's Form 10-K filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission. Forward-looking statements speak only as of the date the statement was made and the Company undertakes no obligation to update such forward-looking statements. There can be no assurance that other factors not currently anticipated by the Company will not materially and adversely affect our results of operations. Investors are cautioned not to place undue reliance on any forward-looking statements made by us or on our behalf.

Summary of Consolidated Financial Results (Unaudited)

(In thousands except per share data)

	Three Months Ended	
	March 31,	
	2023	2022
Revenues:		
Revenues, excluding investment and index option gains (losses)	\$ 149,614	172,657
Realized and unrealized gains (losses) on index options	2,933	(38,198)
Realized gains on investments	67	3,794
Total revenues	152,614	138,253
Benefits and expenses:		
Life and other policy benefits	24,190	33,512
Market risk benefit expense	36,960	(61,006)
Amortization of deferred transaction costs	21,274	23,436
Universal life and annuity contract interest	30,212	(13,571)
Other operating expenses	24,683	32,581
Total benefits and expenses	137,319	14,952
Earnings before income taxes	15,295	123,301
Income tax expense	2,991	25,739
Net earnings	\$ 12,304	97,562
Net earnings attributable to Class A shares	\$ 11,956	94,803
Diluted Earnings Per Class A Share	\$ 3.48	27.59
<i>Diluted Weighted Average Class A Shares</i>	3,436	3,436
	March 31,	December 31,
	2023	2022
Book value per share	634.27	602.56
Less: Per share impact of accumulated other comprehensive income (loss)	(103.19)	(131.52)
Book value per share, excluding accumulated other comprehensive income (loss) *	737.46	734.08

* Book value per share excluding accumulated other comprehensive income (loss) is a non-GAAP financial measure. Accumulated other comprehensive income (loss) totaled \$(375.2) million at March 31, 2023 and \$(478.2) million at December 31, 2022. Since accumulated other comprehensive income (loss) fluctuates from quarter to quarter due to unrealized changes in the fair value of investments caused primarily by changes in market interest rates, National Western Life Group, Inc. believes this financial measure provides useful supplemental information.

Investor Relations Contact:

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www.nwlic.com