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**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, 2020

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| o | TRANSITION REPORT PURSUANT TO SECTION 13 OR 15(d) OF THE SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934 |

 For the transition period from \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Commission File No.: 001-37703

**IZEA WORLDWIDE, INC.**

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Nevada** |  | **37-1530765** |
| (State or other jurisdiction of  incorporation or organization) |  | (I.R.S. Employer  Identification No.) |

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **501 N. Orlando Avenue, Ste 313, PMB 247**  **Winter Park, FL** |  | **32789** |
| (Address of principal executive offices) |  | (Zip Code) |

Registrant’s telephone number, including area code:   **(407) 674-6911**

Former address, if changed since last report: **480 N. Orlando Avenue, Suite 200, Winter Park, FL 32789**

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

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Title of each class |  | Trading Symbol(s) |  | Name of each exchange on which registered |
| **Common Stock, par value $0.0001 per share** |  | **IZEA** |  | **The Nasdaq Capital Market** |

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  o

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant has submitted electronically every Interactive Data File required to be submitted pursuant to Rule 405 of Regulation S-T during the preceding 12 months (or for such shorter period that the registrant was required to submit and post such files).  Yes  x    No  o

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant is a large accelerated filer, an accelerated filer, a non-accelerated filer, a smaller reporting company, or an emerging growth company. See the definitions of “large accelerated filer,” “accelerated filer,” “smaller reporting company,” and “emerging growth company” in Rule 12b-2 of the Exchange Act.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Large accelerated filer  o |  | Accelerated filer  o |
| Non-accelerated filer  x |  | Smaller reporting company x |
|  |  | Emerging growth company o |

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. o

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant is a shell company (as defined in Rule 12b-2 of the Exchange Act).  Yes  o   No  x

As of May 12, 2020, there were 35,103,429 shares of our common stock outstanding.

Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q for the period ended March 31, 2020

Table of Contents

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  | Page |
| PART I. FINANCIAL INFORMATION |  |
| [Item 1. Financial Statements](#Item_1__Financial_Statements) |  |
| [Unaudited Consolidated Balance Sheets as of March 31, 2020 and December 31, 2019](#Consolidated_Balance_Sheets) | 1 |
| [Unaudited Consolidated Statements of Operations for the Three Months Ended March 31, 2020 and 2019](#Consolidated_Statements_of_Operations) | 2 |
| [Unaudited Consolidated Statements of Stockholders’ Equity for the Three Months Ended March 31, 2020 and 2019](#Consolidated_Statement_of_Stockholders__) | 3 |
| [Unaudited Consolidated Statements of Cash Flows for the Three Months Ended March 31, 2020 and 2019](#Consolidated_Statements_of_Cash_Flows) | 4 |
| [Notes to the Unaudited Consolidated Financial Statements](#Notes_to_the_Consolidated_Financial_Stat) | 5 |
| [Item 2. Management’s Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations](#Item_2__Management_s_Discussion_and_Anal) | 23 |
| [Item 3. Quantitative and Qualitative Disclosures About Market Risk](#Item_3__Quantitive_and_Qualitatve_Disclo) | 33 |
| [Item 4.  Controls and Procedures](#Item_4__Controls_and_Procedures) | 33 |
|  |  |
| PART II. OTHER INFORMATION |  |
| [Item 1. Legal Proceedings](#Item_1__Legal_Proceedings) | 35 |
| [Item 1A. Risk Factors](#Item_1A__Risk_Factors) | 36 |
| [Item 2. Unregistered Sales of Equity Securities and Use of Proceeds](#Item_2__Unregistered_Sales_of_Equity_Sec) | 38 |
| [Item 3. Defaults Upon Senior Securities](#Item_3__Defaults_Upon_Senior_Securities) | 38 |
| [Item 4. Mine Safety Disclosures](#Item_4__Mine_Safety_Disclosures) | 38 |
| [Item 5. Other Information](#Item_5___Other_Information) | 38 |
| [Item 6. Exhibits](#Item_6__Exhibits) | 39 |
|  |  |
| [Signatures](#Signatures) | 40 |

**PART I – FINANCIAL INFORMATION**

**ITEM 1 – FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

IZEA Worldwide, Inc.

Unaudited Consolidated Balance Sheets

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | March 31,  2020 | | |  | December 31,  2019 | | |
| **Assets** |  | | |  |  | | |
| Current assets: |  | | |  |  | | |
| Cash and cash equivalents | $ | 5,634,441 |  |  | $ | 5,884,629 |  |
| Accounts receivable, net | 3,977,571 | |  |  | 5,596,719 | |  |
| Prepaid expenses | 423,419 | |  |  | 400,181 | |  |
| Other current assets | 37,097 | |  |  | 153,031 | |  |
| Total current assets | 10,072,528 | |  |  | 12,034,560 | |  |
|  |  | | |  |  | | |
| Property and equipment, net | 317,154 | |  |  | 309,780 | |  |
| Goodwill | 4,016,722 | |  |  | 8,316,722 | |  |
| Intangible assets, net | 1,246,526 | |  |  | 1,611,516 | |  |
| Software development costs, net | 1,470,334 | |  |  | 1,519,980 | |  |
| Security deposits | 151,184 | |  |  | 151,803 | |  |
| Total assets | $ | 17,274,448 |  |  | $ | 23,944,361 |  |
|  |  | | |  |  | | |
| **Liabilities and Stockholders’ Equity** |  | | |  |  | | |
| Current liabilities: |  | | |  |  | | |
| Accounts payable | $ | 1,130,791 |  |  | $ | 2,252,536 |  |
| Accrued expenses | 1,604,588 | |  |  | 1,377,556 | |  |
| Contract liabilities | 5,597,479 | |  |  | 6,466,766 | |  |
| Line of credit | 1,162,924 | |  |  | — | |  |
| Right-of-use liability | — | |  |  | 83,807 | |  |
| Total current liabilities | 9,495,782 | |  |  | 10,180,665 | |  |
|  |  | | |  |  | | |
| Finance obligation, less current portion | 65,609 | |  |  | 45,673 | |  |
| Total liabilities | 9,561,391 | |  |  | 10,226,338 | |  |
|  |  | | |  |  | | |
| Commitments and Contingencies (Note 6) | — | |  |  | — | |  |
|  |  | | |  |  | | |
| Stockholders’ equity: |  | | |  |  | | |
| Preferred stock; $.0001 par value; 10,000,000 shares authorized; no shares issued and outstanding | — | |  |  | — | |  |
| Common stock; $.0001 par value; 200,000,000 shares authorized; 34,773,051 and 34,634,172, respectively, issued and outstanding | 3,477 | |  |  | 3,464 | |  |
| Additional paid-in capital | 74,257,810 | |  |  | 74,099,328 | |  |
| Accumulated deficit | (66,548,230 | | ) |  | (60,384,769 | | ) |
| Total stockholders’ equity | 7,713,057 | |  |  | 13,718,023 | |  |
| Total liabilities and stockholders’ equity | $ | 17,274,448 |  |  | $ | 23,944,361 |  |

*See accompanying notes to the unaudited consolidated financial statements.*

IZEA Worldwide, Inc.

Unaudited Consolidated Statements of Operations

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  |  | Three Months Ended March 31, | | | | | | |
|  |  | 2020 | | |  | 2019 | | |
| Revenue |  | $ | 4,763,668 |  |  | $ | 4,793,756 |  |
|  |  |  | | |  |  | | |
| Costs and expenses: |  |  | | |  |  | | |
| Cost of revenue (exclusive of amortization) |  | 2,140,517 | |  |  | 2,099,291 | |  |
| Sales and marketing |  | 1,523,143 | |  |  | 1,357,667 | |  |
| General and administrative |  | 2,417,838 | |  |  | 2,612,054 | |  |
| Impairment of goodwill |  | 4,300,000 | |  |  | — | |  |
| Depreciation and amortization |  | 501,269 | |  |  | 436,224 | |  |
| Total costs and expenses |  | 10,882,767 | |  |  | 6,505,236 | |  |
|  |  |  | | |  |  | | |
| Loss from operations |  | (6,119,099 | | ) |  | (1,711,480 | | ) |
|  |  |  | | |  |  | | |
| Other income (expense): |  |  | | |  |  | | |
| Interest expense |  | (6,618 | | ) |  | (128,464 | | ) |
| Other income (expense), net |  | (37,744 | | ) |  | 9,364 | |  |
| Total other expense, net |  | (44,362 | | ) |  | (119,100 | | ) |
|  |  |  | | |  |  | | |
| Net loss |  | $ | (6,163,461 | ) |  | $ | (1,830,580 | ) |
|  |  |  | | |  |  | | |
| Weighted average common shares outstanding – basic and diluted |  | 34,681,198 | |  |  | 12,575,458 | |  |
| Basic and diluted loss per common share |  | $ | (0.18 | ) |  | $ | (0.15 | ) |

*See accompanying notes to the unaudited consolidated financial statements.*

IZEA Worldwide, Inc.

Unaudited Consolidated Statements of Stockholders’ Equity

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  |  | Common Stock | | | | | |  | Additional  Paid-In | | |  | Accumulated | | |  | Total  Stockholders’ | | |
|  |  | Shares | |  | Amount | | |  | Capital | | |  | Deficit | | |  | Equity | | |
| Balance, December 31, 2018 |  | 12,075,708 |  |  | $ | 1,208 |  |  | $ | 60,311,756 |  |  | $ | (53,094,649 | ) |  | $ | 7,218,315 |  |
| Stock issued for payment of acquisition liability |  | 660,136 |  |  | 66 | |  |  | 1,075,956 | |  |  | — | |  |  | 1,076,022 | |  |
| Stock issued for payment of services |  | 22,188 |  |  | 2 | |  |  | 37,496 | |  |  | — | |  |  | 37,498 | |  |
| Stock issuance costs |  | — |  |  | — | |  |  | (2,190 | | ) |  | — | |  |  | (2,190 | | ) |
| Stock-based compensation |  | 54,076 |  |  | 5 | |  |  | 111,693 | |  |  | — | |  |  | 111,698 | |  |
| Net loss |  | — |  |  | — | |  |  | — | |  |  | (1,830,580 | | ) |  | (1,830,580 | | ) |
| **Balance, March 31, 2019** |  | 12,812,108 |  |  | $ | 1,281 |  |  | $ | 61,534,711 |  |  | $ | (54,925,229 | ) |  | $ | 6,610,763 |  |

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  |  | Common Stock | | | | | |  | Additional  Paid-In | | |  | Accumulated | | |  | Total  Stockholders’ | | |
|  |  | Shares | |  | Amount | | |  | Capital | | |  | Deficit | | |  | Equity | | |
| Balance, December 31, 2019 |  | 34,634,172 |  |  | $ | 3,464 |  |  | $ | 74,099,328 |  |  | $ | (60,384,769 | ) |  | $ | 13,718,023 |  |
| Stock issued for payment of services |  | 97,655 |  |  | 10 | |  |  | 31,240 | |  |  | — | |  |  | 31,250 | |  |
| Stock issuance costs |  | — |  |  | — | |  |  | (2,326 | | ) |  | — | |  |  | (2,326 | | ) |
| Stock-based compensation |  | 41,224 |  |  | 3 | |  |  | 129,568 | |  |  | — | |  |  | 129,571 | |  |
| Net loss |  | — |  |  | — | |  |  | — | |  |  | (6,163,461 | | ) |  | (6,163,461 | | ) |
| **Balance, March 31, 2020** |  | 34,773,051 |  |  | $ | 3,477 |  |  | $ | 74,257,810 |  |  | $ | (66,548,230 | ) |  | $ | 7,713,057 |  |

*See accompanying notes to the unaudited consolidated financial statements.*

IZEA Worldwide, Inc.

Unaudited Consolidated Statements of Cash Flows

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | Three Months Ended March 31, | | | | | | |
|  | 2020 | | |  | 2019 | | |
| Cash flows from operating activities: |  | | |  |  | | |
| Net loss | $ | (6,163,461 | ) |  | $ | (1,830,580 | ) |
| Adjustments to reconcile net loss to net cash (used for) provided by operating activities: |  | | |  |  | | |
| Depreciation and amortization | 35,629 | |  |  | 38,476 | |  |
| Amortization of software development costs and other intangible assets | 465,640 | |  |  | 397,748 | |  |
| Impairment of intangible assets | 4,300,000 | |  |  | — | |  |
| Loss on disposal of equipment | — | |  |  | (515 | | ) |
| Provision for (recovery of) losses on accounts receivable | 33,305 | |  |  | (29,940 | | ) |
| Stock-based compensation, net | 129,571 | |  |  | 151,214 | |  |
| Fair value of stock issued for payment of services | 31,250 | |  |  | 37,498 | |  |
| Gain on settlement of acquisition costs payable | — | |  |  | 191,439 | |  |
| Changes in operating assets and liabilities: |  | | |  |  | | |
| Accounts receivable | 1,585,843 | |  |  | 1,035,594 | |  |
| Prepaid expenses and other current assets | (15,135 | | ) |  | 133,594 | |  |
| Accounts payable | (1,121,745 | | ) |  | (369,100 | | ) |
| Accrued expenses | 215,375 | |  |  | 655,823 | |  |
| Contract liabilities | (869,287 | | ) |  | 506,974 | |  |
| Right-of-use asset | 24,024 | |  |  | (33,026 | | ) |
| Net cash (used for) provided by operating activities | (1,348,991 | | ) |  | 885,199 | |  |
| Cash flows from investing activities: |  | | |  |  | | |
| Purchase of equipment | — | |  |  | (2,383 | | ) |
| Software development costs | (51,004 | | ) |  | (346,789 | | ) |
| Security deposits | 619 | |  |  | 2,987 | |  |
| Net cash used for investing activities | (50,385 | | ) |  | (346,185 | | ) |
| Cash flows from financing activities: |  | | |  |  | | |
| Net proceeds from (repayments on) line of credit | 1,162,924 | |  |  | (190,041 | | ) |
| Payments on finance obligation | (11,410 | | ) |  | — | |  |
| Stock issuance costs | (2,326 | | ) |  | (2,190 | | ) |
| Net cash provided by (used for) financing activities | 1,149,188 | |  |  | (192,231 | | ) |
|  |  | | |  |  | | |
| Net (decrease) increase in cash and cash equivalents | (250,188 | | ) |  | 346,783 | |  |
| Cash and cash equivalents, beginning of year | 5,884,629 | |  |  | 1,968,403 | |  |
|  |  | | |  |  | | |
| Cash and cash equivalents, end of period | $ | 5,634,441 |  |  | $ | 2,315,186 |  |
|  |  | | |  |  | | |
| Supplemental cash flow information: |  | | |  |  | | |
| Interest paid | $ | 1,368 |  |  | $ | 125,194 |  |
|  |  | | |  |  | | |
| Non-cash financing and investing activities: |  | | |  |  | | |
| Equipment acquired with financing arrangement | $ | 43,003 |  |  | $ | — |  |
| Common stock issued for payment of acquisition liability | $ | — |  |  | $ | 1,076,022 |  |
| Fair value of common stock issued for future services, net | $ | 125,000 |  |  | $ | 192,550 |  |

*See accompanying notes to the unaudited consolidated financial statements.*

**NOTE 1. COMPANY AND SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES**

**Nature of Business**

IZEA Worldwide, Inc. (together with its wholly-owned subsidiaries, “we,” “us,” “our,” “IZEA” or the “Company”) is a public company incorporated in the state of Nevada. In January 2015, IZEA purchased all of the outstanding shares of capital stock of Ebyline, Inc. (“Ebyline”). In July 2016, IZEA purchased all the outstanding shares of capital stock of ZenContent, Inc. (“ZenContent”). The legal entity of ZenContent was dissolved in December 2017 and the legal entity of Ebyline was dissolved in December 2019 after all assets and transactions were transferred to IZEA. In March 2016, the Company formed IZEA Canada, Inc., a wholly-owned subsidiary, incorporated in Ontario, Canada, to operate as a sales and support office for IZEA’s Canadian customers. On July 26, 2018, the Company merged with TapInfluence, Inc. (“TapInfluence”) pursuant to the terms of an Agreement and Plan of Merger dated as of July 11, 2018, as amended.

The Company creates and operates online marketplaces that connect marketers with content creators. The creators are compensated by the Company for producing unique content such as long and short form text, videos, photos, status updates, and illustrations for marketers or distributing such content on behalf of marketers through their personal websites, blogs, and social media channels. Marketers receive influential consumer content and engaging, shareable stories that drive awareness.

The Company’s primary technology platform, The IZEA Exchange (“*IZEAx*”), enables transactions to be completed at scale through the management of custom content workflow, creator search and targeting, bidding, analytics, and payment processing. *IZEAx* is designed to provide a unified ecosystem that enables the creation and publication of multiple types of custom content through a creator’s personal websites, blogs, or social media channels including Twitter, Facebook, Instagram, and YouTube, among others. Until December 2019 when it was merged into *IZEAx*, the Company operated the *Ebyline* technology platform, which was originally designed as a self-service content marketplace to replace editorial newsrooms in news agencies with a “virtual newsroom” to handle their content workflow. In July 2016, the Company acquired the *ZenContent* technology platform to use as an in-house workflow tool that enables the Company to produce highly scalable, multi-part production of content for both e-commerce entities and brand customers. The *TapInfluence* technology platform, acquired in 2018, performed in a similar manner to *IZEAx* and was being utilized by the majority of the TapInfluence customers as a self-service platform via a licensing arrangement, allowing access to the platform and its creators for self-managed marketing campaigns. After the migration of the last customers to *IZEAx* from the *Ebyline* platform in December 2019 and from the *TapInfluence* platform in February 2020, all marketplace revenue is solely generated from the *IZEAx* platform.

**Impact of COVID-19**

On March 11, 2020, the World Health Organization declared the outbreak of the novel coronavirus (COVID-19) as a global pandemic and recommended containment and mitigation measures worldwide. As the spread continued throughout the United States, the Company directed all of its staff to work from home effective March 16, 2020. All of the Company’s business operations and ability to support its customers is fully functional while its employees are working from remote locations. However, the Company has begun to see impacts on its operations due to changes in advertising decisions, timing and spending priorities from customers, which will result in a negative impact to Company bookings and future revenue. While the disruption is currently expected to be temporary, there is uncertainty around the duration and the total economic impact. Therefore, while the Company expects this matter to negatively impact its business, such events are generally outside of the Company’s control and could have a material adverse impact on the Company’s business, results of operations, and financial position in future periods. As a result, the Company is leveraging its balance sheet and has drawn on its secured credit facility to increase the Company’s cash position and help preserve its financial flexibility.

In light of the adverse economic conditions caused by the COVID-19 pandemic, the Company implemented average temporary salary and wage reductions of 20%, including a 21% reduction in base salary agreed to by the Company’s Chief Executive Officer and Chief Operating Officer. These salary reductions were effective as of April 6, 2020 until the earlier of December 31, 2020 or the Company’s restoring normal payroll rates to the majority of its employees. Members of the Company’s Board of Directors also agreed to a similar temporary reduction to their fees. Additionally, the Company did not renew leases for its headquarters and temporary office spaces as additional means to reduce fixed costs during this time. The Company intends to have all employees to work from home for the foreseeable future to protect the health and safety of its workers. There can be no assurance that the Company will return to a typical office environment in the future, nor can the Company say what that office environment may look like.

In addition to salary reductions, the Company has also temporarily reduced certain employee benefits, implemented a new employee hiring freeze, reduced and shifted marketing expense, and eliminated travel expense for the near term future. These measures may not be sustainable and could prove detrimental long term. Therefore, management will be reviewing these initial actions and other options in conjunction with the changing internal and external economic conditions on an ongoing basis.

**Liquidity and Going Concern**

The Company’s consolidated financial statements are prepared using GAAP applicable to a going concern, which contemplates the realization of assets and liquidation of liabilities in the normal course of business. The Company has incurred significant net losses and negative cash flow from operations for most periods since its inception, which has resulted in a total accumulated deficit of $66,548,230 as of March 31, 2020. For the three months ended March 31, 2020, the Company had a net loss of $6,163,461. The Company's cash balance as of March 31, 2020 was $5,634,441 and the Company's operating activities used cash of $1,348,991 for the three months ended March 31, 2020.

Given the Company’s small market cap, extreme volatility and uncertainty in the financial markets, along with a line of credit that is only available on eligible accounts receivable invoices, coupled with expected reductions in future orders and receivables upon which to access funding, the Company applied for and on April 23, 2020 received a loan from Western Alliance Bank in the principal amount of $1,905,100 (the “SBA Loan”), under the Paycheck Protection Program, which was established under the recently enacted Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act (the “CARES Act”), in order to retain its employees during this time of uncertainty.

With the cash on hand as of March 31, 2020, in addition to the SBA Loan (see Note 10), along with expected future draws on our credit line with Western Alliance Bank using future receivables, as available, we expect to have sufficient cash reserves and financing sources available to cover expenses at least one year from the issuance of this Quarterly Report based on our current estimates of revenue and expenses for 2020.

**Basis of Presentation**

The accompanying consolidated balance sheet as of March 31, 2020, the consolidated statements of operations for the three months ended March 31, 2020 and 2019, the consolidated statements of stockholders' equity for the three months ended March 31, 2020 and 2019, and the consolidated statements of cash flows for the three months ended March 31, 2020 and 2019 are unaudited but include all adjustments that are, in the opinion of management, necessary for a fair presentation of its financial position at such dates and its results of operations and cash flows for the periods then ended in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles in the United States ("GAAP"). The consolidated balance sheet as of December 31, 2019 has been derived from the audited consolidated financial statements at that date but, in accordance with the rules and regulations of the Securities and Exchange Commission ("SEC"), does not include all of the information and notes required by GAAP for complete financial statements. Operating results for the three months ended March 31, 2020 are not necessarily indicative of results that may be expected for the entire fiscal year. These unaudited consolidated financial statements should be read in conjunction with the consolidated financial statements and notes thereto for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2019 included in the Company's Annual Report on Form 10-K filed with the SEC on March 30, 2020.

**Principles of Consolidation**

The consolidated financial statements include the accounts of IZEA Worldwide, Inc. and its wholly-owned subsidiaries, subsequent to the subsidiaries’ individual acquisition, merger or formation dates, as applicable. All significant intercompany balances and transactions have been eliminated in consolidation.

The consolidated financial statements were prepared using the acquisition method of accounting with IZEA considered the accounting acquirer of Ebyline, ZenContent and TapInfluence. Under the acquisition method of accounting, the purchase price is allocated to the underlying tangible and intangible assets acquired and liabilities assumed based on their respective fair market values with any excess purchase price allocated to goodwill.

**Use of Estimates**

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with GAAP requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities and disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities at the date of the financial statements and the reported amounts of revenues and expenses during the reporting period. Actual results could differ from those estimates. The Company has considered the effect of COVID-19 on the assumptions and estimates used in the preparation of the March 31, 2020 financial statements and determined that there were no other material adverse effects on the Company’s results of operations and financial position as of March 31, 2020 other than the goodwill impairment disclosed in Note 3.

**Cash and Cash Equivalents**

The Company considers all highly liquid investments purchased with an original maturity of three months or less from the date of purchase to be cash equivalents.

**Accounts Receivable and Concentration of Credit Risk**

The Company’s accounts receivable balance consists of net trade receivables and unbilled receivables. Trade receivables are customer obligations due under normal trade terms. Unbilled receivables represent amounts owed for work that has been performed, but not yet billed. The Company had trade receivables of $3,706,756 and unbilled receivables of $270,815 at March 31, 2020. The Company had trade receivables of $5,106,314 and unbilled receivables of $490,405 at December 31, 2019. Management considers an account to be delinquent when the customer has not paid an amount due by its associated due date. Uncollectibility of accounts receivable is not significant since most customers are bound by contract and are required to fund the Company for all the costs of an “opportunity,” defined as an order created by a marketer for a creator to develop or share content on behalf of a marketer. If a portion of the account balance is deemed uncollectible, the Company will either write-off the amount owed or provide a reserve based on its best estimate of the uncollectible portion of the account. Management determines the collectibility of accounts by regularly evaluating individual customer receivables and considering a customer’s financial condition, credit history and current economic conditions. The Company had a reserve of $175,000 and $145,000, for doubtful accounts as of March 31, 2020 and December 31, 2019, respectively. Management believes that this estimate is reasonable, but there can be no assurance that the estimate will not change as a result of a change in economic conditions or business conditions within the industry, the individual customers or the Company. Any adjustments to this account are reflected in the consolidated statements of operations as a general and administrative expense. Bad debt expense was less than 1% of revenue for the three months ended March 31, 2020 and 2019.

Concentrations of credit risk with respect to accounts receivable have been typically limited because a large number of geographically diverse customers make up the Company’s customer base, thus spreading the trade credit risk. However, with the Company’s acquisition of TapInfluence, it has increased credit exposure on certain customers who carry significant credit balances related to their marketplace spend. The Company controls credit risk through credit approvals, credit limits and monitoring procedures. The Company performs credit evaluations of its customers, but generally does not require collateral to support accounts receivable. The Company had one customer that accounted for more than 12% of total accounts receivable at March 31, 2020 and no customers that accounted for an aggregate of more than 10% of total accounts receivable at December 31, 2019. The Company had no customers that accounted for more than 10% of its revenue during the three months ended March 31, 2020 or 2019.

**Property and Equipment**

Property and equipment are recorded at cost, or if acquired in a business combination, at the acquisition date fair value. Depreciation and amortization are computed using the straight-line method over the estimated useful lives of the assets as follows:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Computer Equipment | 3 years |
| Office Equipment | 3 - 10 years |
| Furniture and Fixtures | 5 - 10 years |

Leasehold improvements are amortized over the shorter of the term of the lease or the estimated useful lives of the improvements. Expenditures for repairs and maintenance are charged to expense as incurred. Expenditures for betterments and major improvements are capitalized and depreciated over the remaining useful lives of the assets. The carrying amounts of assets sold or retired and the related accumulated depreciation are eliminated in the year of disposal, with resulting gains or losses included in general and administrative expense in the consolidated statements of operations. There were no material impairment charges associated with the Company’s long-lived tangible assets during the three months ended March 31, 2020 and 2019.

**Goodwill**

Goodwill represents the excess of the purchase consideration of an acquired business over the fair value of the underlying net tangible and intangible assets. The Company has goodwill in connection with its acquisitions of Ebyline, ZenContent and TapInfluence. Goodwill is not amortized but instead it is tested for impairment at least annually. In the event that management determines that the value of goodwill has become impaired, the Company will record a charge for the amount of impairment during the fiscal quarter in which the determination is made.

The Company performs its annual impairment tests of goodwill as of October 1 of each year, or more frequently, if certain indicators are present. For instance, in March 2020, the Company identified triggering events, including the reduction in its projected revenue related to COVID-19 and the continuation of a market capitalization below the Company’s carrying value and uncertainty for recovery given the volatility of the capital markets surrounding COVID-19, and performed an interim assessment of goodwill, as described in Note 3. Goodwill is required to be tested for impairment at the reporting unit level. A reporting unit is an operating segment or one level below the operating segment level, which is referred to as a component. Management identifies its reporting units by assessing whether components (i) have discrete financial information available; (ii) engage in business activities; and (iii) whether a segment manager regularly reviews the component’s operating results. Net assets and goodwill of acquired businesses are allocated to the reporting unit associated with the acquired business based on the anticipated organizational structure of the combined entities. If two or more components are deemed economically similar, those components are aggregated into one reporting unit when performing the annual goodwill impairment review. The Company has one reporting unit as of March 31, 2020.

In January 2017, the FASB issued ASU No. 2017-04, *Intangibles—Goodwill and Other (Topic 350): Simplifying the Test for Goodwill Impairment* (“ASU 2017-04”)*.* To address concerns over the cost and complexity of the two-step goodwill impairment test, the new standard removes the requirement for the second step of the goodwill impairment test for certain entities. An entity may apply a one-step quantitative test and record the amount of goodwill impairment as the excess of a reporting unit's carrying amount over its fair value, not to exceed the total amount of goodwill allocated to the reporting unit. The Company adopted this method in the third quarter of 2019 and there were no changes to its financial statements as a result of the adoption.

**Intangible Assets**

The Company acquired the majority of its intangible assets through its acquisitions of Ebyline, ZenContent and TapInfluence. The Company is amortizing the identifiable intangible assets over periods of 12 to 60 months. See Note 3 for further details.

Management reviews long-lived assets, including property and equipment, software development costs and other intangible assets, for impairment whenever events or changes in circumstances indicate that their carrying amounts may not be recoverable. If an evaluation is required, the estimated future undiscounted cash flows associated with the asset are compared with the asset's carrying amount to determine if there has been an impairment, which is calculated as the difference between the fair value of the asset and the carrying value. Estimates of future undiscounted cash flows are based on expected growth rates for the business, anticipated future economic conditions and estimates of residual values. Fair values take into consideration management estimates of risk-adjusted discount rates, which are believed to be consistent with assumptions that marketplace participants would use in their estimates of fair value.

**Software Development Costs**

In accordance with Accounting Standards Codification (“ASC”) 350-40, *Internal Use Software,* the Company capitalizes certain internal use software development costs associated with creating and enhancing internally developed software related to its platforms. Software development activities generally consist of three stages (i) the research and planning stage, (ii) the application and development stage, and (iii) the post-implementation stage. Costs incurred in the research and planning stage and in the post-implementation stage of software development, or other maintenance and development expenses that do not meet the qualification for capitalization, are expensed as incurred. Costs incurred in the application and infrastructure development stage, including significant enhancements and upgrades, are capitalized. These costs include personnel and related employee benefits expenses for employees or consultants who are directly associated with and who devote time to software projects, and external direct costs of materials obtained in developing the software. These software development and acquired technology costs are amortized on a straight-line basis over the estimated useful life of five years upon initial release of the software or additional features. See Note 4 for further details.

**Leases**

Effective January 1, 2019, the Company adopted Accounting Standards Update (“ASU”) No. 2016-02, *Leases (Topic 842)*. As permitted under the standard, the Company elected the package of practical expedients which permit the Company to carryforward its prior conclusions about lease identification, lease classification and initial direct costs. Additionally, the Company adopted the practical expedient that allows comparative periods to be reported under the lease accounting guidance in effect at the time prior period financial statements were previously issued. Effectively, the Company elected to apply the guidance as of the adoption date whereas financial information for prior periods has not been updated, and the disclosures required under the new standard herein have not been provided for dates and periods before January 1, 2019.

This ASU establishes a right-of-use model that requires a lessee to record a right-of-use asset and a right-of-use liability on the balance sheet for all leases with terms longer than 12 months. Leases will be classified as either finance or operating, with classification affecting the pattern of expense recognition in the income statement. The Company has not recorded leases on the balance sheet that at the commencement date have a lease term of 12 months or less.

Upon the January 1, 2019 adoption of this standard, the Company had one material lease greater than 12 months in duration which is associated with its Corporate headquarters in Winter Park, Florida. The adoption of this standard resulted in the Company recording a right-of-use asset of $410,852 and an associated right-of-use liability of $399,892. The right-of-use asset is being amortized to rent expense over the remaining term of the lease. The right-of-use liability was determined by discounting the Company’s remaining obligations under the lease using its average incremental borrowing rate and will be increased through the recording of rent expense and reduced by payments made under the lease.

**Revenue Recognition**

The Company historically generated revenue from five primary sources: (1) revenue from its managed services when a marketer (typically a brand, agency or partner) pays the Company to provide custom content, influencer marketing, amplification or other campaign management services (“Managed Services”); (2) revenue from fees charged to software customers on their marketplace spend within the Company's *IZEAx* and *TapInfluence* platforms (“Marketplace Spend Fees”); (3) revenue from fees charged to access the *IZEAx, Ebyline,* and *TapInfluence* platforms (“License Fees”) (4) revenue from transactions generated by the self-service use of the Company's *Ebyline* platform for professional custom content workflow (“Legacy Workflow Fees”); and (5) revenue derived from other fees such as inactivity fees, early cash-out fees, and plan fees charged to users of the Company's platforms (“Other”). After the migration of the last customers from the *Ebyline* platform to *IZEAx* in December 2019, there is no longer any revenue generated from Legacy Workflow Fees and all such revenue is reported as Marketplace Spend Fees under the *IZEAx* platform.

The Company recognizes revenue in accordance with Accounting Standards Codification Topic 606, *Revenue from Contracts with Customers* (“ASC 606”). Under ASC 606, revenue is recognized based on a five-step model which are as follows: (i) identify the contract with the customer; (ii) identify the performance obligations in the contract; (iii) determine the transaction price; (iv) allocate the transaction price to the performance obligations in the contract; and (v) recognize revenue when (or as) performance obligations are satisfied. The core principle of ASC 606 is that revenue is recognized when the transfer of promised goods or services to customers is made in an amount that reflects the consideration to which the entity expects to be entitled in exchange for those goods or services. The Company applies the five-step model to contracts when it is probable that it will collect the consideration it is entitled to in exchange for the goods or services it transfers to the customer. At contract inception, once the contract is determined to be within the scope of ASC 606, the Company assesses the goods or services promised within each contract and determines those that are distinct performance obligations. The Company also determines whether it acts as an agent or a principal for each identified performance obligation. The determination of whether the Company acts as the principal or the agent is highly subjective and requires the Company to evaluate a number of indicators individually and as a whole in order to make its determination. For transactions in which the Company acts as a principal, revenue is reported on a gross basis as the amount paid by the marketer for the purchase of content or sponsorship, promotion and other related services and the Company records the amounts it pays to third-party creators as cost of revenue. For transactions in which the Company acts as an agent, revenue is reported on a net basis as the amount the Company charged to the self-service marketer using the Company’s platforms, less the amounts paid to the third-party creators providing the service.

The Company maintains separate arrangements with each marketer and content creator either in the form of a master agreement or terms of service, which specify the terms of the relationship and access to its platforms, or by statement of work, which specifies the price and the services to be performed, along with other terms. The transaction price is determined based on the fixed fee stated in the statement of work and does not contain variable consideration. Marketers who contract with the Company to manage their advertising campaigns or custom content requests may prepay for services or request credit terms. Payment terms are typically 30 days from the invoice date. The agreement typically provides for either a non-refundable deposit, or a cancellation fee if the agreement is canceled by the customer prior to completion of services. Billings in advance of completed services are recorded as a contract liability until earned. The Company assesses collectibility based on a number of factors, including the creditworthiness of the customer and payment and transaction history. The allocation of the transaction price to the performance obligations in the contract is based on a cost-plus methodology.

***Managed Services Revenue***

For Managed Services Revenue, the Company enters into an agreement to provide services that may include multiple distinct performance obligations in the form of: (i) an integrated marketing campaign to provide influencer marketing services, which may include the provision of blogs, tweets, photos or videos shared through social network offerings and content promotion, such as click-through advertisements appearing in websites and social media channels; and (ii) custom content items, such as a research or news article, informational material or videos. Marketers typically purchase influencer marketing services for the purpose of providing public awareness or advertising buzz regarding the marketer’s brand and they purchase custom content for internal and external use. The Company may provide one type or a combination of all types of these performance obligations on a statement of work for a lump sum fee. The Company allocates revenue to each performance obligation in the contract at inception based on its relative standalone selling price. These performance obligations are to be provided over a stated period that generally ranges from one day to one year. Revenue is accounted for when the performance obligation has been satisfied depending on the type of service provided. The Company views its obligation to deliver influencer marketing services, including management services, as a single performance obligation that is satisfied over time as the customer receives the benefits from the services. Revenue is recognized using an input method of costs incurred compared to total expected costs to measure the progress towards satisfying the overall performance obligation of the marketing campaign. The delivery of custom content represents a distinct performance obligation that is satisfied over time as the Company has no alternative for the custom content and the Company has an enforceable right to payment for performance completed to date under the contracts. The Company considers custom content to be a series of distinct services that are substantially the same and that have the same pattern of transfer to the customer, and revenue is recognized over time using an output method based on when each individual piece of content is delivered to the customer. Based on the Company’s evaluations, revenue from Managed Services is reported on a gross basis because the Company has the primary obligation to fulfill the performance obligations and it creates, reviews and controls the services. The Company takes on the risk of payment to any third-party creators and it establishes the contract price directly with its customers based on the services requested in the statement of work.

***Marketplace Spend Fees and Legacy Workflow Fees Revenue***

For Marketplace Spend Fees and Legacy Workflow Fees Revenue, the self-service customer instructs creators found through the Company’s platforms to provide and/or distribute custom content for an agreed upon transaction price. The Company’s platforms control the contracting, description of services, acceptance of and payment for the requested content. This service is used primarily by news agencies or marketers to control the outsourcing of their content and advertising needs. The Company charges the self-service customer the transaction price plus a fee based on the contract. Revenue is recognized when the transaction is completed by the creator and accepted by the marketer or verified as posted by the system. Based on the Company’s evaluations, this revenue is reported on a net basis since the Company is acting as an agent solely arranging for the third-party creator or influencer to provide the services directly to the self-service customer through the platform or by posting the requested content.

***License Fees Revenue***

License Fees Revenue is generated through the granting of limited, non-exclusive, non-transferable licenses to customers for the use of the *IZEAx* and *TapInfluence* technology platforms for an agreed-upon subscription period. Customers license the platforms to manage their own influencer marketing campaigns. Fees for subscription or licensing services are recognized straight-line over the term of the service.

***Other Revenue***

Other Revenue is generated when fees are charged to customers primarily related to monthly plan fees, inactivity fees, and early cash-out fees. Plan fees are recognized within the month they relate to, inactivity fees are recognized at a point in time when the account is deemed inactive, and early cash-out fees are recognized when a cash-out either below certain minimum thresholds or with accelerated timing is requested.

The Company does not typically engage in contracts that are longer than one year. Therefore, the Company does not capitalize costs to obtain its customer contracts as these amounts generally would be recognized over a period of less than one year and are not material.

**Advertising Costs**

Advertising costs are charged to expense as they are incurred, including payments to content creators to promote the Company. Advertising costs charged to operations for the three months ended March 31, 2020 and 2019 were approximately $168,000 and $78,000, respectively. Advertising costs are included in sales and marketing expense in the accompanying consolidated statements of operations.

**Income Taxes**

The Company has not recorded federal income tax expense due to the generation of net operating losses. Deferred income taxes are accounted for using the balance sheet approach, which requires recognition of deferred tax assets and liabilities for the expected future consequences of temporary differences between the financial reporting basis and the tax basis of assets and liabilities. A valuation allowance is provided when it is more likely than not that a deferred tax asset will not be realized. The Company incurs minimal state franchise tax in four states, which is included in general and administrative expense in the consolidated statements of operations.

The Company identifies and evaluates uncertain tax positions, if any, and recognizes the impact of uncertain tax positions for which there is a less than more-likely-than-not probability of the position being upheld when reviewed by the relevant taxing authority. Such positions are deemed to be unrecognized tax benefits and a corresponding liability is established on the balance sheet. The Company has not recognized a liability for uncertain tax positions. If there were an unrecognized tax benefit, the Company would recognize interest accrued related to unrecognized tax benefits in interest expense and penalties in operating expenses. The Company’s tax years subject to examination by the Internal Revenue Service are 2016 through 2019.

On March 27, 2020, President Trump signed into law the CARES Act. The CARES Act, among other things, includes provisions relating to refundable payroll tax credits, deferment of employer side social security payments, net operating loss carryback periods, alternative minimum tax credit refunds, modifications to the net interest deduction limitations, increased limitations on qualified charitable contributions, and technical corrections to tax depreciation methods for qualified improvement property. It also appropriated funds for the SBA loans that are forgivable in certain situations to promote continued employment, as well as Economic Injury Disaster Loans to provide liquidity to small businesses harmed by COVID-19. We are currently examining the impact that the CARES Act may have on our business and tax positions.

**Fair Value of Financial Instruments**

The Company’s financial instruments are recorded at fair value. Fair value is defined as the exchange price that would be received for an asset or paid to transfer a liability (an exit price) in the principal or most advantageous market for the asset or liability in an orderly transaction between market participants on the measurement date. The valuation techniques are based on observable and unobservable inputs. Observable inputs reflect readily obtainable data from independent sources, while unobservable inputs reflect certain market assumptions. There are three levels of inputs that may be used to measure fair value:

* Level 1 *–* Valuation based on quoted market prices in active markets for identical assets and liabilities.
* Level 2 *–* Valuation based on quoted market prices for similar assets and liabilities in active markets.
* Level 3 *–* Valuation based on unobservable inputs that are supported by little or no market activity, therefore requiring management’s best estimate of what market participants would use as fair value.

Fair value estimates discussed herein are based upon certain market assumptions and pertinent information available to management. The Company does not have any Level 1 or 2 financial assets or liabilities. The Company’s Level 3 financial liabilities measured at fair value included its right-of-use liability as of December 31, 2019. The respective carrying values of certain on-balance-sheet financial instruments approximated their fair values due to the short-term nature of these instruments. These financial instruments include cash and cash equivalents, accounts receivable, accounts payable, contract liabilities, and accrued expenses. Unless otherwise disclosed, the fair values of the Company’s long-term debt obligations approximate their carrying value based upon current rates available to the Company.

**Stock-Based Compensation**

Stock-based compensation cost related to stock options granted under the 2011 Equity Incentive Plan and the 2011 B Equity Incentive Plan (together, the “2011 Equity Incentive Plans”) (see Note 7) is measured at the grant date, based on the fair value of the award, and is recognized as expense over the employee’s requisite service period on a straight-line basis. The Company estimates the fair value of each option award on the date of grant using a Black-Scholes option-pricing model that uses the assumptions noted in the table below. The Company uses the closing stock price of its common stock on the date of the grant as the associated fair value of its common stock.  The Company estimates the volatility of its common stock at the date of grant based on the volatility of comparable peer companies that are publicly traded and have had a longer trading history than itself. The Company determines the expected life based on historical experience with similar awards, giving consideration to the contractual terms, vesting schedules and post-vesting forfeitures. The Company uses the risk-free interest rate on the implied yield currently available on U.S. Treasury issues with an equivalent remaining term approximately equal to the expected life of the award. The Company has never paid any cash dividends on its common stock and does not anticipate paying any cash dividends in the foreseeable future.

The Company used the following assumptions for stock options granted under the 2011 Equity Incentive Plans during the three months ended March 31, 2020 and 2019:

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | Three Months Ended | | |
| ***2011 Equity Incentive Plans Assumptions*** | March 31,  2020 |  | March 31,  2019 |
| Expected term | 6 years |  | 6 years |
| Weighted average volatility | 101.92% |  | 63.37% |
| Weighted average risk-free interest rate | 1.71% |  | 2.52% |
| Expected dividends | — |  | — |
| Weighted average expected forfeiture rate | 15.32% |  | 7.82% |

The Company estimates forfeitures when recognizing compensation expense and this estimate of forfeitures is adjusted over the requisite service period based on the extent to which actual forfeitures differ, or are expected to differ, from such estimates. Changes in estimated forfeitures are recognized through a cumulative catch-up adjustment, which is recognized in the period of change, and a revised amount of unamortized compensation expense to be recognized in future periods.

The Company may issue shares of restricted stock or restricted stock units which vest over future periods. The value of shares is recorded as the fair value of the stock or units upon the issuance date and is expensed on a straight-line basis over the vesting period. See Note 7 for additional information related to these shares.

**Recently Issued Accounting Pronouncements**

***Recently Adopted Accounting Pronouncements***

*Fair Value Measurements:* In August 2018, the Financial Accounting Standards Board (“FASB”) issued ASU No. 2018-13, *Fair Value Measurement (Topic 820): Disclosure Framework—Changes to the Disclosure Requirements for Fair Value Measurement* (“ASU 2018-13”)*.* The new guidance amends the disclosure requirements for recurring and nonrecurring fair value measurements by removing, modifying, and adding certain disclosures on fair value measurements in ASC 820. The amendments on changes to the range and weighted average of significant unobservable inputs used to develop Level 3 fair value measurements and the narrative description of measurement uncertainty should be applied prospectively for only the most recent interim or annual period presented in the initial fiscal year of adoption. All other amendments should be applied retrospectively to all periods presented upon their effective date. The Company fair valued its right-of-use liability outstanding at December 31, 2019 as a Level 3. The adoption of ASU 2018-13 on January 1, 2020 was not material to the Company’s consolidated financial statements.

*Collaborative Arrangements:* In November 2018, the FASB issued ASU No. 2018-18, *Collaborative Arrangements (Topic 808): Clarifying the interaction between Topic 808 and Topic 606* (“ASU 2018-18”). The guidance makes targeted improvements to GAAP for collaborative arrangements including: (i) clarifying that certain transactions between collaborative arrangement participants should be accounted for as revenue under ASC 606 when the collaborative arrangement participant is a customer in the context of a unit of account, (ii) adding unit-of-account guidance in ASC 808 to align with the guidance in ASC 606 (that is, a distinct good or service) when an entity is assessing whether the collaborative arrangement or a part of the arrangement is within the scope of ASC 606, and (iii) requiring that in a transaction with a collaborative arrangement participant that is not directly related to sales to third parties, presenting the transaction together with revenue recognized under ASC 606 is precluded if the collaborative arrangement participant is not a customer. The amendments in this update are effective for public entities for fiscal years beginning after December 15, 2019, and interim periods within those fiscal years. The amendments should be applied retrospectively to the date of initial application of ASC 606. An entity may elect to apply the practical expedient for contract modifications that is permitted for entities using the modified retrospective transition method in ASC 606. The Company adopted ASU 2018-18 on January 1, 2020 and applied the amendments only to contracts that were not completed as of such date. The adoption of ASU 2018-18 was not material to the Company’s consolidated financial statements.

***Recently Issued Accounting Pronouncements Not Yet Adopted***

*Credit Losses:* In June 2016, the FASB issued ASU No. 2016-13, *Financial Instruments - Credit Losses (Topic 326): Measurement of Credit Losses on Financial Instruments* (“ASU 2016-13”). ASU 2016-13 replaced the incurred loss impairment methodology under current GAAP with a methodology that reflects expected credit losses and requires a consideration of a broader range of reasonable and supportable information to inform credit loss estimates. ASU 2016-13 requires use of a forward-looking expected credit loss model for accounts receivables, loans, and other financial instruments. In May 2019, the FASB issued ASU 2019-05, which provides transition relief for entities adopting ASU 2016-13. For entities that have adopted ASU 2016-13, the amendments in ASU 2019-05 are effective for fiscal years beginning after December 15, 2019, including interim periods therein. An entity may early adopt the ASU in any interim period after its issuance if the entity has adopted ASU 2016-13. For all other entities, the effective date will be the same as the effective date of ASU 2016-13. ASU 2016-13 is effective for fiscal years beginning after December 15, 2022, including interim periods within those fiscal years. The Company is currently evaluating the expected impact of adopting ASU 2016-13 on its consolidated financial statements and disclosures.

*Income Taxes:* In December 2019, the FASB issued ASU No. 2019-12, *“Income Taxes (Topic 740): Simplifying the Accounting for Income Taxes”* (“ASU 2019-12”), which is intended to simplify various aspects related to accounting for income taxes. ASU 2019-12 removes certain exceptions to the general principles in Topic 740 and also clarifies and amends existing guidance to improve consistent application. This guidance is effective for fiscal years, and interim periods within those fiscal years, beginning after December 15, 2020, with early adoption permitted. The Company is currently evaluating the impact on its consolidated financial statements and related disclosures.

*Reference Rate Reform:* In March 2020, the FASB issued ASU 2020-04, “*Reference Rate Reform (Topic 848): Facilitation of the Effects of Reference Rate Reform on Financial Reporting.*” The amendments provide optional guidance for a limited time to ease the potential burden in accounting for reference rate reform. The new guidance provides optional expedients and exceptions for applying U.S. GAAP to contracts, hedging relationships and other transactions affected by reference rate reform if certain criteria are met. The amendments apply only to contracts and hedging relationships that reference LIBOR or another reference rate expected to be discontinued due to reference rate reform. These amendments are effective immediately and may be applied prospectively to contract modifications made and hedging relationships entered into or evaluated on or before December 31, 2022. The Company believes this guidance will not have a material impact on its financial statements.

**NOTE 2. PROPERTY AND EQUIPMENT**

Property and equipment consist of the following:

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | March 31, 2020 | | |  | December 31, 2019 | | |
| Furniture and fixtures | $ | 298,205 |  |  | $ | 298,205 |  |
| Office equipment | 86,884 | |  |  | 86,884 | |  |
| Computer equipment | 498,011 | |  |  | 455,008 | |  |
| Leasehold improvements | 338,018 | |  |  | 338,018 | |  |
| Total | 1,221,118 | |  |  | 1,178,115 | |  |
| Less accumulated depreciation and amortization | (903,964 | | ) |  | (868,335 | | ) |
| Property and equipment, net | $ | 317,154 |  |  | $ | 309,780 |  |

Depreciation and amortization expense on property and equipment recorded in depreciation and amortization expense in the consolidated statements of operations was $35,629 and $38,476 for the three months ended March 31, 2020 and 2019, respectively.

**NOTE 3. INTANGIBLE ASSETS**

The identifiable intangible assets, other than Goodwill, consists of the following assets:

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | March 31, 2020 | | | | | | |  | December 31, 2019 | | | | | | |  | Useful Life (in years) |
|  | Balance | | |  | Accumulated Amortization | | |  | Balance | | |  | Accumulated Amortization | | |  |
| Content provider networks | $ | 160,000 |  |  | $ | 160,000 |  |  | $ | 160,000 |  |  | $ | 160,000 |  |  | 2 |
| Trade names | 87,000 | |  |  | 87,000 | |  |  | 87,000 | |  |  | 87,000 | |  |  | 1 |
| Developed technology | 820,000 | |  |  | 758,667 | |  |  | 820,000 | |  |  | 622,167 | |  |  | 5 |
| Self-service content customers | 2,810,000 | |  |  | 1,654,444 | |  |  | 2,810,000 | |  |  | 1,437,778 | |  |  | 3 |
| Managed content customers | 2,140,000 | |  |  | 2,140,000 | |  |  | 2,140,000 | |  |  | 2,140,000 | |  |  | 3 |
| Domains | 166,469 | |  |  | 141,499 | |  |  | 166,469 | |  |  | 133,175 | |  |  | 5 |
| Embedded non-compete provision | 28,000 | |  |  | 23,333 | |  |  | 28,000 | |  |  | 19,833 | |  |  | 2 |
| Total | $ | 6,211,469 |  |  | $ | 4,964,943 |  |  | $ | 6,211,469 |  |  | $ | 4,599,953 |  |  |  |

Total identifiable intangible assets from the Company’s acquisitions and other acquired assets net of accumulated amortization thereon consists of the following:

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | March 31, 2020 | | |  | December 31, 2019 | | |
| Ebyline Intangible Assets | $ | 2,370,000 |  |  | $ | 2,370,000 |  |
| ZenContent Intangible Assets | 722,000 | |  |  | 722,000 | |  |
| Domains | 166,469 | |  |  | 166,469 | |  |
| TapInfluence Intangible Assets | 2,953,000 | |  |  | 2,953,000 | |  |
| Total | $ | 6,211,469 |  |  | $ | 6,211,469 |  |
| Less accumulated amortization | (4,964,943 | | ) |  | (4,599,953 | | ) |
| Intangible assets, net | $ | 1,246,526 |  |  | $ | 1,611,516 |  |

The Company is amortizing the identifiable intangible assets over a remaining weighted-average period of one year, four months. For the three months ended March 31, 2020 and 2019, there were no impairment charges associated with the Company's identifiable intangible assets.

Amortization expense recorded in depreciation and amortization in the accompanying consolidated statements of operations was $364,990 and $322,907 for the three months ended March 31, 2020 and 2019, respectively.

The portion of this amortization expense specifically related to the costs of acquired technology for its platforms that is presented separately from cost of revenue was $136,500 and $56,500 for the three months ended March 31, 2020 and 2019, respectively.

As of March 31, 2020, future estimated amortization expense related to identifiable intangible assets is set forth in the following schedule:

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  |  | Intangible Asset  Amortization Expense | | |
| Remainder of 2020 |  | $ | 714,137 |  |
| 2021 |  | 532,389 | |  |
| Total |  | $ | 1,246,526 |  |

The Company’s goodwill balance changed as follows:

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  |  | Amount | | |
| Balance on December 31, 2019 |  | 8,316,722 | |  |
| Acquisitions, impairments or other changes during 2020 |  | (4,300,000 | | ) |
| Balance on March 31, 2020 |  | $ | 4,016,722 |  |

In March 2020, the Company identified triggering events due to the reduction in its projected revenue related to COVID-19 and the continuation of a market capitalization below the Company’s carrying value and uncertainty for recovery given the volatility of the capital markets surrounding COVID-19. The Company performed an interim assessment of goodwill using the income approach of the discounted cash flow method and the market approach of the guideline transaction method and determined that the carrying value of the Company as of March 31, 2020 exceeded the fair value. As a result of the valuation, the Company recorded a $4.3 million impairment of goodwill in the three months ended March 31, 2020.

**NOTE 4. SOFTWARE DEVELOPMENT COSTS**

Software development costs consists of the following:

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | March 31, 2020 | | |  | December 31, 2019 | | |
| Software development costs | $ | 2,724,021 |  |  | $ | 2,673,017 |  |
| Less accumulated amortization | (1,253,687 | | ) |  | (1,153,037 | | ) |
| Software development costs, net | $ | 1,470,334 |  |  | $ | 1,519,980 |  |

The Company developed its web-based advertising and content exchange platform, *IZEAx,* to enable native advertising campaigns on a greater scale. The Company continues to add new features and additional functionality to *IZEAx* to facilitate the contracting, workflow, and delivery of direct content as well as provide for invoicing, collaborating, and direct payments for the Company’s self-service customers. The Company capitalized software development costs of $51,004 and $346,789 during the three months ended March 31, 2020 and 2019, respectively. As a result, the Company has capitalized a total of $2,724,021 in direct materials, consulting, payroll and benefit costs to its internal use software development costs in the consolidated balance sheet as of March 31, 2020.

The Company amortizes its software development costs, commencing upon initial release of the software or additional features, on a straight-line basis over the estimated useful life of five years, which is consistent with the amount of time its legacy platforms were in service. Amortization expense on software development costs that is presented separately from cost of revenue and recorded in depreciation and amortization expense in the accompanying consolidated statements of operations was $100,650 and $74,842 for the three months ended March 31, 2020 and 2019, respectively.

As of March 31, 2020, future estimated amortization expense related to software development costs is set forth in the following schedule:

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | Software Development Amortization Expense | | |
| Remainder of 2020 | $ | 304,039 |  |
| 2021 | 393,283 | |  |
| 2022 | 337,916 | |  |
| 2023 | 297,127 | |  |
| 2024 | 115,206 | |  |
| Thereafter | 22,763 | |  |
| Total | $ | 1,470,334 |  |

**NOTE 5. ACCRUED EXPENSES**

Accrued expenses consist of the following:

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | March 31, 2020 | | |  | December 31, 2019 | | |
| Accrued payroll liabilities | $ | 1,395,847 |  |  | $ | 1,202,765 |  |
| Accrued taxes | 112,675 | |  |  | 117,698 | |  |
| Current portion of finance obligation | 28,603 | |  |  | 26,837 | |  |
| Accrued other | 67,463 | |  |  | 30,256 | |  |
| Total accrued liabilities | $ | 1,604,588 |  |  | $ | 1,377,556 |  |

**NOTE 6. COMMITMENTS AND CONTINGENCIES**

**Secured Credit Facility**

The Company has a secured credit facility agreement (also referred to herein as “line of credit”) with Western Alliance Bank, the parent company of Bridge Bank, N.A. of San Jose, California, which it obtained on March 1, 2013 and expanded on April 13, 2015. Pursuant to the secured credit facility agreement, as amended, the Company may submit requests for funding up to 80% of its eligible accounts receivable up to a maximum credit limit of $5 million. This agreement is secured by the Company’s accounts receivable and substantially all of the Company’s other assets. The Modification Agreement automatically renews in April of each year and requires the Company to pay an annual facility fee of $20,000 (0.4% of the credit limit) and an annual due diligence fee of $1,000. Interest accrues on the advances at the rate of prime plus 1.5% per annum and the default rate of interest is prime plus 7%.

The Company had $1,162,924 outstanding under this secured credit facility as of March 31, 2020 and $0 outstanding as of December 31, 2019. This outstanding balance was secured by trade accounts receivable balances of $1,453,655 as of March 31, 2020.

As of March 31, 2020, the Company had a net trade accounts receivable balance of $3,706,756 of which $1,453,655 was used to secure the outstanding balance under the credit facility as of March 31, 2020. Assuming that all of the Company’s remaining trade accounts receivable balance was eligible for funding, the Company would have approximately $1.8 million in available credit under the agreement as of March 31, 2020.

The annual fees are capitalized in the Company’s consolidated balance sheet within other current assets and are amortized to interest expense over one year. During the three months ended March 31, 2020 and 2019, the Company amortized $5,250 and $8,411 of the secured credit facility costs through interest expense. The remaining value of the capitalized loan costs related to the secured credit facility as of March 31, 2020 is $1,750; this amount will be amortized to interest expense over the next month.

**Lease Commitments**

The Company’s corporate headquarters were located at 480 N. Orlando Avenue, Suite 200 in Winter Park, Florida until its lease expired on April 30, 2020. The Company has not yet entered into any new lease agreement for its headquarters due to its current work from home policy enacted on March 16, 2020 as a result of the outbreak of the novel coronavirus (COVID-19). The Company also occupied flexible office space under monthly, quarterly or semi-annual membership contracts in Los Angeles, San Francisco, Denver, Chicago, and Toronto during the three months ended March 31, 2020, but the contracts for Los Angeles, San Francisco and Toronto were not renewed upon expiration of their terms on April 30, 2020.

Upon the January 1, 2019 adoption of ASU No. 2016-02, *Leases*, the Company had one material lease greater than 12 months in duration which is associated with its corporate headquarters in Winter Park, Florida. The adoption of this standard resulted in the Company recording a right-of-use asset of $410,852 and an associated right-of-use liability of $399,892. The operating right-of-use liability was determined based on the present value of the remaining minimum rental payments using the Company’s average incremental borrowing rate 9.5% and the operating lease right-of-use asset was determined based on the value of the lease liabilities, adjusted for a deferred rent balance, which was previously included in current liabilities.

The right-of-use asset and liability was fully amortized as of March 31, 2020. During the three months ended March 31, 2020, the Company recorded $24,024 of accretion on this right-of-use liability through rent expense in general and administrative expenses.

The Company has no obligations under finance leases as of March 31, 2020. Total operating lease expense and other short-term lease expense recorded in general and administrative expense in the accompanying consolidated statements of operations was $147,983 and $154,697 for the three months ended March 31, 2020 and 2019, respectively. Cash paid for the one operating lease was approximately $85,000 during each of the three months ended March 31, 2020 and 2019, respectively.

**Litigation**

From time to time, the Company may become involved in various other lawsuits and legal proceedings that arise in the ordinary course of its business. Litigation is, however, subject to inherent uncertainties, and an adverse result in these or other matters may arise from time to time that may harm the Company’s business. The Company is currently not aware of any other legal proceedings or claims that it believes would or could have, individually or in the aggregate, a material adverse effect on the Company. Regardless of final outcomes, however, any such proceedings or claims may nonetheless impose a significant burden on management and employees and may come with costly defense costs or unfavorable preliminary interim rulings.

**NOTE 7. STOCKHOLDERS’ EQUITY**

**Authorized Shares**

The Company has 200,000,000 authorized shares of common stock and 10,000,000 authorized shares of preferred stock, each with a par value of $0.0001 per share.

**Stock Issued for Acquisitions**

On January 26, 2019, pursuant to a Merger Agreement with TapInfluence, the Company issued 660,136 shares of its common stock valued at $884,583, or $1.34 per share, using the 30-day VWAP as reported by the Nasdaq Capital Market prior to the issuance date. The Company recorded a $191,439 loss on the settlement of this acquisition cost payable as a result of the difference between the actual closing market price of the common stock of $1.63 on the settlement date and the 30-day VWAP of $1.34 required by the Merger Agreement.

**Equity Incentive Plans**

In May 2011, the Company’s Board of Directors (the “Board”) adopted the 2011 Equity Incentive Plan of IZEA Worldwide, Inc. (the “May 2011 Plan”). At the Company’s 2019 Annual Meeting of Stockholders held on December 12, 2019, the stockholders approved an amendment and restatement of the May 2011 Plan which increased the number of shares of common stock available for issuance under the May 2011 Plan. The amended and restated May 2011 Plan allows the Company to award restricted stock, restricted stock units and stock options covering up to 4,500,000 shares of common stock as incentive compensation for its employees and consultants. As of March 31, 2020, the Company had 1,275,732 shares of common stock available for issuance pursuant to future grants under the May 2011 Plan.

In August 2011, the Company adopted the 2011 B Equity Incentive Plan (the “August 2011 Plan”) reserving 4,375 shares of common stock for issuance under the August 2011 Plan. As of March 31, 2020, the Company had 4,375 shares of common stock available for future grants under the August 2011 Plan.

***Restricted Stock***

Under both the May 2011 Plan and the August 2011 Plan (together, the “2011 Equity Incentive Plans”), the Board determines the terms and conditions of each restricted stock issuance, including any future vesting restrictions.

The Company issued 27,184 shares of restricted stock on March 28, 2019 to Mr. Edward Murphy, its Chief Executive Officer, for amounts owed on his fourth quarter 2018 performance bonus. The stock was initially valued at $36,427 and vests in equal monthly installments over 12 months from issuance. The Company issued 4,570 shares of restricted stock on March 28, 2019 to Mr. Ryan Schram, its Chief Operating Officer, for amounts owed on his fourth quarter 2018 performance bonus. The stock was initially valued at $6,124 and vests in equal monthly installments over 48 months from issuance.

On January 31, 2019, the Company issued its six independent directors a total of 88,758 shares of restricted common stock initially valued at $150,000 for their annual service as directors of the Company. The stock vested in equal monthly installments from January through December 2019. Ms. Golder forfeited 4,932 of these shares valued at $8,335 upon her resignation from the board of directors in September 2019.

On January 31, 2020, the Company issued its five independent directors a total of 390,625 shares of restricted common stock initially valued at $125,000 for their annual service as directors of the Company. The stock vests in equal monthly installments from January through December 2020.

The following table contains summarized information about restricted stock issued during the year ended December 31, 2019 and the three months ended March 31, 2020:

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| ***Restricted Stock*** | Common Shares | | Weighted Average Grant Date  Fair Value | | | Weighted Average Remaining Years  to Vest |
| Nonvested at December 31, 2018 | 57,984 |  | $ | 3.70 |  | 1.4 |
| Granted | 120,512 |  | 1.60 | |  |  |
| Vested | (139,157 | ) | 2.24 | |  |  |
| Forfeited | (8,057 | ) | 3.18 | |  |  |
| Nonvested at December 31, 2019 | 31,282 |  | $ | 2.15 |  | 1.9 |
| Granted | 390,625 |  | 0.32 | |  |  |
| Vested | (104,833 | ) | 0.42 | |  |  |
| Forfeited | — |  |  | | |  |
| Nonvested at March 31, 2020 | 317,074 |  | $ | 0.47 |  | 0.8 |

Although restricted stock is issued upon the grant of an award, the Company excludes restricted stock from the computations within the financial statements of total shares outstanding and earnings per share until such time as the restricted stock vests.

Expense recognized on restricted stock issued to non-employees for services during the three months ended March 31, 2020 and 2019 was $31,250 and $37,498, respectively. Expense recognized on restricted stock issued to employees during the three months ended March 31, 2020 and 2019 was $13,535 and $38,412, respectively.

The fair value of the Company’s common stock on March 31, 2020 was $0.20 per share and the intrinsic value on the non-vested restricted stock as of March 31, 2020 was $63,415. Future compensation expense related to issued, but nonvested restricted stock awards as of March 31, 2020 is $148,282. This value is estimated to be recognized over the weighted-average vesting period of approximately 10 months.

***Restricted Stock Units***

The Board determines the terms and conditions of each restricted stock unit award issued under the May 2011 Plan.

The Company issued 84,994 restricted stock units on January 3, 2020 to Mr. Ryan Schram, its Chief Operating Officer, under the terms of his employment agreement. The restricted stock units were initially valued at $23,739 and vest in equal monthly installments over 48 months from issuance. The Company also issued 100,000 restricted stock units on January 3, 2020 to Mr. Schram as additional incentive compensation. The restricted stock units were initially valued at $27,930 and vest in a lump sum 12 months from issuance.

On January 3, 2020, the Company issued a total of 500,000 shares of restricted common stock initially valued at $139,650 to twenty employees as additional incentive compensation. The restricted stock units vest in a lump sum 12 months from issuance.

The following table contains summarized information about restricted stock units during the year ended December 31, 2019 and the three months ended March 31, 2020:

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| ***Restricted Stock Units*** | Common Shares | | Weighted Average Grant Date  Fair Value | | | Weighted Average Remaining Years  to Vest |
| Nonvested at December 31, 2018 | 160,000 |  | $ | 1.04 |  | 1.0 |
| Granted | 410,437 |  | 0.40 | |  |  |
| Vested | (149,290 | ) | 0.79 | |  |  |
| Forfeited | (54,335 | ) | 1.04 | |  |  |
| Nonvested at December 31, 2019 | 366,812 |  | $ | 0.42 |  | 3.2 |
| Granted | 684,994 |  | 0.28 | |  |  |
| Vested | (34,046 | ) | 0.31 | |  |  |
| Forfeited | (5,000 | ) | 0.28 | |  |  |
| Nonvested at March 31, 2020 | 1,012,760 |  | $ | 0.32 |  | 1.8 |

The fair value of the Company’s common stock on March 31, 2020 was $0.20 per share and the intrinsic value on the non-vested restricted units as of March 31, 2020 was $202,552. Expense recognized on restricted stock units issued to employees during the three months ended March 31, 2020 and 2019 was $56,607 and $32,465, respectively. As of March 31, 2020, future compensation related to restricted stock units expected to vest of $327,493 is estimated to be recognized over the weighted-average vesting period of approximately 1.8 years.

***Stock Options***

Under the 2011 Equity Incentive Plans, the Board determines the exercise price to be paid for the stock option shares, the period within which each stock option may be exercised, and the terms and conditions of each stock option. The exercise price of incentive and non-qualified stock options may not be less than 100% of the fair market value per share of the Company’s common stock on the grant date. If an individual owns stock representing more than 10% of the outstanding shares, the exercise price of each share of an incentive stock option must be equal to or exceed 110% of fair market value. Unless otherwise determined by the Board at the time of grant, the exercise price is set at the fair market value of the Company’s common stock on the grant date (or the last trading day prior to the grant date, if it is awarded on a non-trading day). Additionally, the term is set at ten years and the option typically vests on a straight-line basis over the requisite service period as follows: 25% one year from the date of grant with the remaining vesting monthly in equal increments over the following three years. The Company issues new shares for any stock awards or options exercised under its 2011 Equity Incentive Plans.

A summary of option activity under the 2011 Equity Incentive Plans during the year ended December 31, 2019 and the three months ended March 31, 2020, is presented below:

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| ***Options Outstanding*** | Common Shares | |  | Weighted Average  Exercise Price | | |  | Weighted Average  Remaining Life  (Years) |
| Outstanding at December 31, 2018 | 1,040,477 |  |  | $ | 5.23 |  |  | 6.5 |
| Granted | 586,552 |  |  | 0.67 | |  |  |  |
| Expired | (147,313 | ) |  | 7.59 | |  |  |  |
| Forfeited | (121,879 | ) |  | 2.70 | |  |  |  |
| Outstanding at December 31, 2019 | 1,357,837 |  |  | $ | 3.24 |  |  | 7.2 |
| Granted | 8,917 |  |  | 0.25 | |  |  |  |
| Expired | — |  |  | — | |  |  |  |
| Forfeited | (20,399 | ) |  | 5.36 | |  |  |  |
| Outstanding at March 31, 2020 | 1,346,355 |  |  | $ | 3.18 |  |  | 7.0 |
|  |  | |  |  | | |  |  |
| Exercisable at March 31, 2020 | 795,928 |  |  | $ | 4.64 |  |  | 5.7 |

During the three months ended March 31, 2020 and 2019, no options were exercised. The fair value of the Company's common stock on March 31, 2020 was $0.20 per share and the intrinsic value on outstanding options as of March 31, 2020 was $0. The intrinsic value on exercisable options as of March 31, 2020 was $0.

A summary of the nonvested stock option activity under the 2011 Equity Incentive Plans during the year ended December 31, 2019 and the three months ended March 31, 2020, is presented below:

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| ***Nonvested Options*** | Common Shares | |  | Weighted Average  Grant Date  Fair Value | | |  | Weighted Average  Remaining Years  to Vest |
| Nonvested at December 31, 2018 | 300,510 |  |  | $ | 0.80 |  |  | 2.4 |
| Granted | 586,552 |  |  | 0.40 | |  |  |  |
| Vested | (197,202 | ) |  | 1.44 | |  |  |  |
| Forfeited | (89,081 | ) |  | 0.80 | |  |  |  |
| Nonvested at December 31, 2019 | 600,779 |  |  | $ | 0.64 |  |  | 3.0 |
| Granted | 8,917 |  |  | 0.16 | |  |  |  |
| Vested | (56,128 | ) |  | 1.20 | |  |  |  |
| Forfeited | (3,141 | ) |  | 0.88 | |  |  |  |
| Nonvested at March 31, 2020 | 550,427 |  |  | $ | 0.56 |  |  | 2.8 |

Expense recognized on stock options issued to employees during the three months ended March 31, 2020 and 2019 was $59,051 and $90,000, respectively. Future compensation related to nonvested awards as of March 31, 2020 expected to vest of $285,236 is estimated to be recognized over the weighted-average vesting period of approximately 3.0 years.

The following table shows the number of stock options granted under the Company’s 2011 Equity Incentive Plans and the assumptions used to determine the fair value of those options during the three months ended March 31, 2020 and 2019:

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Period Ended |  | Total Stock Options Granted |  | Weighted-Average Exercise Price |  | Weighted-Average Expected Term |  | Weighted-Average Volatility |  | Weighted-Average Risk-Free Interest Rate |  | Weighted-Average Grant Date  Fair Value |
| March 31, 2019 |  | 30,542 |  | $1.46 |  | 6 years |  | 63.37% |  | 2.52% |  | $0.91 |
| March 31, 2020 |  | 8,917 |  | $0.25 |  | 6 years |  | 101.92% |  | 1.71% |  | $0.16 |

There were outstanding options to purchase 1,346,355 shares with a weighted average exercise price of $3.18 per share, of which options to purchase 795,928 shares were exercisable with a weighted average exercise price of $4.64 per share as of March 31, 2020.

**Employee Stock Purchase Plan**

At the Company’s 2018 Annual Meeting of Stockholders held on December 18, 2018, stockholders holding a majority of the Company’s outstanding shares of common stock, upon previous recommendation and approval of the Board, adopted the amended and restated IZEA Worldwide, Inc. 2014 Employee Stock Purchase Plan (the “ESPP”), which provides for the issuance of up to 500,000 shares of the Company’s common stock thereunder. Any employee regularly employed by the Company for 90 days or more on a full-time or part-time basis (20 hours or more per week on a regular schedule) is eligible to participate in the ESPP. The ESPP operates in successive six months offering periods commencing at the beginning of each fiscal year half. Each eligible employee who elects to participate may purchase up to 10% of their annual compensation in common stock not to exceed $21,250 annually or 2,000 shares per offering period. The purchase price will be the lower of (i) 85% of the fair market value of a share of common stock on the first day of the offering period or (ii) 85% of the fair market value of a share of common stock on the last day of the offering period. The ESPP will continue until January 1, 2024, unless otherwise terminated by the Board.

As of March 31, 2020, the Company had 410,817 remaining shares of common stock available for future grants under the ESPP.

**Summary Stock-Based Compensation**

Stock-based compensation cost related to all awards granted to employees is measured at the grant date, based on the fair value of the award, and is recognized as an expense over the employee’s requisite service period. The Company estimates the fair value of each option award on the date of grant using a Black-Scholes option-pricing model that uses the assumptions stated in Note 1.

Total stock-based compensation expense recognized on restricted stock, restricted stock units, stock options and the employee stock purchase plan issuances during the three months ended March 31, 2020 and 2019 was recorded in the Company’s consolidated statements of operations as follows:

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  |  | Three Months Ended March 31, | | | | | | |
|  |  | 2020 | | |  | 2019 | | |
| Cost of revenue |  | $ | 7,004 |  |  | $ | 2,886 |  |
| Sales and marketing |  | $ | 22,056 |  |  | $ | 6,336 |  |
| General and administrative |  | $ | 100,511 |  |  | $ | 151,655 |  |
| Total stock-based compensation |  | $ | 129,571 |  |  | $ | 160,877 |  |

**Share Repurchase Program**

On July 1, 2019, the Board authorized and approved a share repurchase program under which the Company may repurchase up to $3,500,000 of its common stock from time to time through December 31, 2020, subject to market conditions. As of March 31, 2020, the Company had not repurchased any shares of common stock under the share repurchase program.

**NOTE 8. LOSS PER COMMON SHARE**

Basic earnings (loss) per common share is computed by dividing the net income or loss by the basic weighted-average number of shares of common stock outstanding during each period presented. Although restricted stock is issued upon the grant of an award, the Company excludes restricted stock from the computations of weighted-average number of shares of common stock outstanding until such time as the stock vests. Diluted loss per share is computed by dividing the net income or loss by the sum of the total of the basic weighted-average number of shares of common stock outstanding plus the additional dilutive securities that could be exercised or converted into common shares during each period presented less the amount of shares that could be repurchased using the proceeds from the exercises.

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  |  | Three Months Ended | | | | | | |
|  |  | March 31,  2020 | | |  | March 31,  2019 | | |
| Net loss |  | $ | (6,163,461 | ) |  | $ | (1,830,580 | ) |
| Weighted average shares outstanding - basic and diluted |  | 34,681,198 | |  |  | 12,575,458 | |  |
| Basic and diluted loss per common share |  | $ | (0.18 | ) |  | $ | (0.15 | ) |

The Company excluded the following weighted average items from the above computation of diluted loss per common share, as their effect would be anti-dilutive:

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  |  | Three Months Ended | | | | |
|  |  | March 31,  2020 | |  | March 31,  2019 | |
| Stock options |  | 1,358,501 |  |  | 1,032,095 |  |
| Restricted stock units |  | 812,687 |  |  | 142,385 |  |
| Restricted stock |  | 386,209 |  |  | 106,891 |  |
| Warrants |  | 13,709 |  |  | 17,500 |  |
| Total excluded shares |  | 2,571,106 |  |  | 1,298,871 |  |

**NOTE 9. REVENUE**

The Company has consistently applied its accounting policies with respect to revenue to all periods presented in the consolidated financial statements contained herein. The following table illustrates the Company’s revenue by product service type:

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  |  | Three Months Ended March 31, | | | | | | |
|  |  | 2020 | | |  | 2019 | | |
| Managed Services Revenue |  | $ | 4,125,061 |  |  | $ | 3,867,232 |  |
|  |  |  | | |  |  | | |
| Legacy Workflow Fees |  | — | |  |  | 47,330 | |  |
| Marketplace Spend Fees |  | 166,293 | |  |  | 374,653 | |  |
| License Fees |  | 416,816 | |  |  | 491,094 | |  |
| **SaaS Services Revenue** |  | 583,109 | |  |  | 913,077 | |  |
|  |  |  | | |  |  | | |
| Other Revenue |  | 55,498 | |  |  | 13,447 | |  |
| **Total Revenue** |  | $ | 4,763,668 |  |  | $ | 4,793,756 |  |

The following table provides the Company’s revenues as determined by the country of domicile:

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  |  | Three Months Ended March 31, | | | | | | |
|  |  | 2020 | | |  | 2019 | | |
| United States |  | $ | 4,578,008 |  |  | $ | 4,275,419 |  |
| Canada |  | 185,660 | |  |  | 518,337 | |  |
| Total |  | $ | 4,763,668 |  |  | $ | 4,793,756 |  |

**Contract Balances**

The following table provides information about receivables, contract assets and contract liabilities from contracts with customers.

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | March 31,  2020 | | |  | December 31, 2019 | | |
| Accounts receivable, net | $ | 3,977,571 |  |  | $ | 5,596,719 |  |
| Contract liabilities (unearned revenue) | $ | 5,597,479 |  |  | $ | 6,466,766 |  |

The Company does not typically engage in contracts that are longer than one year. Therefore, the Company did not recognize any contract assets as of March 31, 2020 or December 31, 2019. The Company does not capitalize costs to obtain its customer contracts given their general duration of less than one year and the amounts are not material.

Contract receivables are recognized when the receipt of consideration is unconditional. Contract liabilities relate to advance consideration received from customers under the terms of the Company’s contracts, which will be earned in future periods.

As a practical expedient, the Company expenses the costs of sales commissions that are paid to its sales force associated with obtaining contracts less than one year in length in the period incurred.

**Remaining Performance Obligations**

The Company typically enters into contracts that are one year or less in length. As such, the remaining performance obligations at March 31, 2020 and December 31, 2019 are equal to the contract liabilities disclosed above. The Company expects to recognize the full balance of the unearned revenue at March 31, 2020 within the next year.

**NOTE 10.  SUBSEQUENT EVENTS**

On April 22, 2020, the Company received a Canadian dollar loan in the principal amount of 40,000 CAD (approximately $28,000 USD), from TD Canada Trust Bank pursuant to the Canada Emergency Business Account term loan agreement (the “CEBA Loan”). The CEBA Loan has an initial term from inception through December 31, 2022 (the “Initial Term”) and an extended term from January 1, 2023 through December 31, 2025 (the “Extended Term”). No interest is accrued and no payments are due on the loan during the Initial Term. If the Company repays 75% of the CEBA Loan (30,000 CAD) on or prior to December 31, 2022, the remaining 10,000 CAD balance will be forgiven. Otherwise, interest will begin to accrue on the unpaid balance on January 1, 2023 with monthly interest payments commencing on January 31, 2023 until the CEBA Loan is paid in full on or before the end of the Extended Term.

The Company applied for and on April 23, 2020, received a loan from Western Alliance Bank (the “Lender”) in the principal amount of $1,905,100 (the “SBA Loan”), under the Paycheck Protection Program (“PPP”), which was established under the recently enacted CARES Act administered by the U.S. Small Business Administration (the “SBA”). The SBA Loan is evidenced by a promissory note issued by the Company (the “Note”) to the Lender.

The term of the Note is two years, though it may be payable sooner in connection with an event of default under the Note. The SBA Loan carries a fixed interest rate of one percent per year, with the first payment due seven months from the date of initial cash receipt. Under the CARES Act and the PPP, certain amounts of loans made under the PPP may be forgiven if the recipients use the loan proceeds for eligible purposes, including payroll costs and certain rent or utility costs, and meet other requirements regarding, among other things, the maintenance of employment and compensation levels. The application for these funds requires the Company to, in good faith, certify that the current economic uncertainty made the loan request necessary to support the ongoing operations of the Company. This certification further requires the Company to take into account its current business activity and its ability to access other sources of liquidity sufficient to support ongoing operations in a manner that is not significantly detrimental to the business. The receipt of these funds, and the forgiveness of the loan, is dependent on the Company having initially qualified for the loan and qualifying for the forgiveness of such loan based on its future adherence to the forgiveness criteria.

**ITEM 2 – MANAGEMENT’S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS OF FINANCIAL CONDITION AND RESULTS OF OPERATIONS**

**Cautionary Note Regarding Forward-Looking Information**

This Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q (this “Quarterly Report”) contains “forward-looking statements” intended to qualify for the safe harbor from liability established by the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995. The statements, which are not historical facts contained in this report, including those contained in Management’s Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations, and the notes to our consolidated financial statements, particularly those that utilize terminology such as “may,” “will,” “would,” “could,” “should,” “expects,” “anticipates,” “anticipates,” “estimates,” “believes,” “thinks,” “intends,” “likely,” “projects,” “plans,” “pursue,” “strategy” or “future,” or the negative of these words or other words or expressions of similar meaning, are forward-looking statements. Such statements are based on currently available operating, financial and competitive information, and are subject to inherent risks, uncertainties and changes in circumstances that are difficult to predict and many of which are outside of our control. Future events and our actual results and financial condition may differ materially from those reflected in these forward-looking statements. Therefore, you should not rely on any of these forward-looking statements. Important factors that could cause these differences include, but are not limited to, the following:

* our ability to raise additional funding needed to fund our business operation in the future;
* the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on our operations, financial condition and the worldwide economy;
* our ability to maintain effective disclosure controls and procedures and internal control over financial reporting;
* our ability to regain compliance with the requirements for continued listing of our common stock on the Nasdaq Capital Market;
* our ability to protect our intellectual property;
* customer cancellations;
* our ability to maintain and grow our business;
* results of any present or future arbitration or litigation;
* competition in the industry;
* variability of operating results;
* our ability to satisfy the requirements for continued listing of our common stock on the Nasdaq Capital Market;
* our ability to maintain and enhance our brand;
* accuracy of tracking the number of user accounts;
* our development and introduction of new products and services;
* the successful integration of acquired companies, technologies and assets into our portfolio of software and services;
* marketing and other business development initiatives;
* general government regulation;
* economic conditions, including as a result of health and safety concerns;
* dependence on key personnel;
* the ability to attract, hire and retain personnel who possess the technical skills and experience necessary to meet the service requirements of our customers;
* the potential liability with respect to actions taken by our existing and past employees;
* risks associated with international sales;
* and the other risks and uncertainties described in the Risk Factors section of this Quarterly Report and our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2019.

All forward-looking statements in this document are based on our current expectations, intentions and beliefs using information currently available to us as of the date of this Annual Report, and we assume no obligation to update any forward-looking statements, except as required by law.  Forward-looking statements involve known and unknown risks, uncertainties and other factors that may cause the actual results to differ materially from any future results, performance or achievements expressed or implied by such forward-looking statements.

**Company Overview**

IZEA creates and operates online marketplaces that connect marketers, including brands, agencies, and publishers, with content creators such as bloggers and tweeters (“creators”). Our technology brings the marketers and creators together, enabling their transactions to be completed at scale through the management of custom content workflow, creator search and targeting, bidding, analytics and payment processing.

We help power the creator economy, allowing everyone from college students and stay-at-home individuals to celebrities and accredited journalists the opportunity to monetize their content, creativity and influence through our marketers. These creators are compensated by IZEA for producing unique content such as long and short form text, videos, photos, status updates, and illustrations for marketers or distributing such content on behalf of marketers through their personal websites, blogs, and social media channels.

Marketers engage us to gain access to our industry expertise, technology, data, analytics, and network of creators. The majority of the marketers engage us to perform these services on their behalf, but they also have the ability to use our marketplaces on a self-service basis by licensing our technology. Our technology is used for two primary purposes: the engagement of creators for influencer marketing campaigns, or the engagement of creators to create stand-alone custom content for the marketers’ own use and distribution. Marketers receive influential consumer content and engaging, shareable stories that drive awareness.

Our primary technology platform, *The IZEA Exchange* (“*IZEAx*”) enables transactions to be completed at scale through the management of custom content workflow, creator search and targeting, bidding, analytics, and payment processing. *IZEAx* is designed to provide a unified ecosystem that enables the creation and publication of multiple types of custom content through a creator’s personal websites, blogs, or social media channels including Twitter, Facebook, Instagram, and YouTube, among others. Until December 2019 when it was merged into *IZEAx*, we operated the *Ebyline* technology platform, which we acquired in January 2015. The *Ebyline* platform was originally designed as a self-service content marketplace to replace editorial newsrooms located in news agencies with a “virtual newsroom” of creators to produce their content needs and to handle their content workflow. After the acquisition, we began to utilize the creators in the *Ebyline* platform to produce professional custom content for brands, in addition to the self-service functionality used by newspapers. In July 2016, we acquired the *ZenContent* technology platform to use as an in-house workflow tool that enables us to produce highly scalable, multi-part production of content for both e-commerce entities and brand customers. The *TapInfluence* technology platform, acquired in 2018, performed in a similar manner to *IZEAx* and was being utilized by the majority of the TapInfluence customers as a self-service platform via a licensing arrangement, allowing access to the platform and its creators for self-managed marketing campaigns. After the migration of the last customers to *IZEAx* from the *Ebyline* platform in December 2019 and from the *TapInfluence* platform in February 2020, all marketplace revenue is solely generated from the *IZEAx* platform.

**Impact of COVID-19 on our Business**

Although the ultimate impact of COVID-19 on our business is unknown, our operations, sales and finances have been impacted by the pandemic. In an effort to protect the health and safety of our employees, we took precautionary action and directed all staff to work from home effective March 16, 2020. During this work-from-home period, we have not renewed leases for our headquarters and temporary office spaces and will need to do so in order to return to a normal working environment once circumstances allow.

The economic conditions caused by COVID-19 have negatively impacted the business activity of our customers. We have observed declining demand and changes in advertising decisions, timing and spending priorities from brand and agency customers, which will result in a negative impact to our bookings and future revenue. When COVID-19 is demonstrably contained, we anticipate a rebound in economic activity, depending on the rate, pace, and effectiveness of the containment efforts deployed by various national, state, and local governments; however, the timing and extent of any such rebound is uncertain.

In light of the adverse economic conditions caused by the COVID-19 pandemic, we have implemented certain cost-saving measures, including a temporary reduction in the salaries and certain benefits of our employees, including our Chief Executive Officer and Chief Operating Officer, as well as the fees of our directors. We have reduced and shifted our marketing expense and eliminated travel expense for the near term future. We have also incurred debt by drawing on our secured credit facility and receiving a loan under the U.S. Small Business Association’s Paycheck Protection Program.

In an effort to contain COVID-19 or slow its spread, governments around the world have also enacted various measures, including orders to close all businesses not deemed “essential,” isolate residents to their homes or places of residence, and practice social distancing when engaging in essential activities. These measures have impacted the method and timing of certain business meetings and our attendance at industry events.

We will continue to actively monitor the situation and may take further actions altering our business operations that we determine are in the best interests of our employees, customers, partners, suppliers, and stakeholders, or as required by federal, state, or local authorities. It is not clear what the potential effects any such alterations or modifications may have on our business, including the effects on our customers, employees, and prospects, or on our financial results for the remainder of fiscal year 2020 or beyond.

**Key Components of Results of Operations**

Overall consolidated results of operations are evaluated based on Revenue, Cost of Revenue, Sales and Marketing expenses, General and Administrative expenses, Depreciation and Amortization, and Other Income (Expense), net.

***Revenue***

We historically generated revenue from five primary sources: (1) revenue from our managed services when a marketer (typically a brand, agency or partner) pays us to provide custom content, influencer marketing, amplification or other campaign management services (“Managed Services”); (2) revenue from fees charged to software customers on their marketplace spend within our *IZEAx* and *TapInfluence* platforms (“Marketplace Spend Fees”); (3) revenue from fees charged to access the *IZEAx, Ebyline,* and *TapInfluence* platforms (“License Fees”); (4) revenue from transactions generated by the self-service use of our *Ebyline* platform for professional custom content workflow (“Legacy Workflow Fees”); and (5) revenue derived from other fees such as inactivity fees, early cash-out fees, and plan fees charged to users of our platforms (“Other”). After the migration of the last customers from the *Ebyline* platform to *IZEAx* in December 2019, there is no longer any revenue generated from Legacy Workflow Fees and all such revenue is reported as Marketplace Spend Fees under the *IZEAx* platform.

As discussed in more detail within “Critical Accounting Policies and Use of Estimates” under “Note 1. Company and Summary of Significant Accounting Policies,” under Part I, Item 1 herein, revenue from Marketplace Spend Fees and Legacy Workflow Fees is reported on a net basis and revenue from all other sources, including Managed Services, License Fees and Other are reported on a gross basis. We further categorize these sources into three primary groups: (1) Managed Services (2) SaaS Services, which includes revenue from Marketplace Spend Fees, License Fees and Legacy Workflow Fees, and (3) Other.

***Cost of Revenue***

Our cost of revenue consists of direct costs paid to our third-party creators who provide the custom content, influencer marketing or amplification services for our Managed Service customers where we report revenue on a gross basis. It also includes internal costs related to our campaign fulfillment and SaaS support departments. These costs include salaries, bonuses, commissions, stock­-based compensation, employee benefit costs, and miscellaneous departmental costs related to the personnel who are primarily responsible for providing support to our customers and ultimately fulfillment of our obligations under our contracts with customers. Where appropriate, we capitalize costs that were incurred with software that is developed or acquired for our revenue supporting platforms and amortize these costs over the estimated useful lives of those platforms. This amortization is separately stated under depreciation and amortization in our consolidated statements of operations.

***Sales and Marketing***

Our sales and marketing expenses consist primarily of salaries, bonuses, commissions, stock­-based compensation, employee benefit costs, travel and miscellaneous departmental costs for our sales and sales support personnel, as well as marketing expenses such as brand marketing, public relation events, trade shows and marketing materials, and travel expenses.

***General and Administrative***

Our general and administrative expense consists primarily of salaries, bonuses, commissions, stock­-based compensation, employee benefit costs, and miscellaneous departmental costs related to our executive, finance, legal, human resources, and other administrative personnel. It also includes travel, public company and investor relations expenses, as well as accounting and legal professional services fees, leasehold facilities­ related costs, and other corporate­ related expenses. General and administrative expense also includes our technology and development costs consisting primarily of our payroll costs for our internal engineers and contractors responsible for developing, maintaining and improving our technology, as well as hosting and software subscription costs. These costs are expensed as incurred, except to the extent that they are associated with internal use software that qualifies for capitalization, which are then recorded as software development costs in the consolidated balance sheet. We also capitalize costs that are related to our acquired intangible assets. Depreciation and amortization related to these costs are separately stated under depreciation and amortization in our consolidated statements of operations. General and administrative expense also includes current period gains and losses on costs previously accrued related to our acquisitions, as well as gains and losses from the sale of fixed assets. Impairments on fixed assets, intangible assets and goodwill, are included as part of general and administrative expense when they are not material and broken out separately in our consolidated statements of operations.

***Depreciation and Amortization***

Depreciation and amortization expense consists primarily of amortization of our internal use software and acquired intangible assets from our business acquisitions. To a lesser extent, we also have depreciation and amortization on equipment and leasehold improvements used by our personnel. Costs are amortized or depreciated over the estimated useful lives of the associated assets.

***Other Income (Expense)***

*Interest Expense.* Interest expense is mainly related to the imputed interest on our acquisition costs payable and interest when we use our secured credit facility.

*Other Income (Expense).* Other income consists primarily of interest income for interest earned or changes in value on our cash and cash equivalent balances and foreign currency exchange gains and losses on foreign currency transactions, primarily related to the Canadian Dollar.

**Results of Operations for the Three Months Ended March 31, 2020 and 2019**

The following table sets forth a summary of our consolidated statements of operations and the change between the periods:

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | Three Months Ended March 31, | Three Months Ended March 31, |  |  |  |  |  | | | | | | | | |  |  |  |  |  |  | | | | | |
|  | 2020 | 2020 |  | | | | | | |  | 2019 | 2019 |  | | |  | $ Change | $ Change |  | | | | | % Change |  | |
| Revenue | $ | | | | | | | 4,763,668 |  |  | $ | | | 4,793,756 |  |  | $ | | | | | (30,088 | ) | (1 | | )% |
|  |  |  |  | | | | | | |  |  |  |  | | |  |  |  |  | | | | |  |  | |
| Costs and expenses: |  |  |  | | | | | | |  |  |  |  | | |  |  |  |  | | | | |  |  | |
| Cost of revenue (exclusive of amortization) | 2,140,517 | 2,140,517 | | | | | | |  |  | 2,099,291 | 2,099,291 | | |  |  | 41,226 | 41,226 | | | | |  | 2 | | % |
| Sales and marketing | 1,523,143 | 1,523,143 | | | | | | |  |  | 1,357,667 | 1,357,667 | | |  |  | 165,476 | 165,476 | | | | |  | 12 | | % |
| General and administrative | 2,417,838 | 2,417,838 | | | | | | |  |  | 2,612,054 | 2,612,054 | | |  |  | (194,216 | (194,216 | | | | | ) | (7 | | )% |
| Impairment of goodwill | 4,300,000 | 4,300,000 | | | | | | |  |  | — | — | | |  |  | 4,300,000 | 4,300,000 | | | | |  | 100 | | % |
| Depreciation and amortization | 501,269 | 501,269 | | | | | | |  |  | 436,224 | 436,224 | | |  |  | 65,045 | 65,045 | | | | |  | 15 | | % |
| Total costs and expenses | 10,882,767 | 10,882,767 | | | | | | |  |  | 6,505,236 | 6,505,236 | | |  |  | 4,377,531 | 4,377,531 | | | | |  | 67 | | % |
| Loss from operations | (6,119,099 | (6,119,099 | | | | | | | ) |  | (1,711,480 | (1,711,480 | | | ) |  | (4,407,619 | (4,407,619 | | | | | ) | 258 | | % |
| Other income (expense): |  |  |  | | | | | | |  |  |  |  | | |  |  |  |  | | | | |  |  | |
| Interest expense | (6,618 | (6,618 | | | | | | | ) |  | (128,464 | (128,464 | | | ) |  | 121,846 | 121,846 | | | | |  | (95 | | )% |
| Other income (expense), net | (37,744 | (37,744 | | | | | | | ) |  | 9,364 | 9,364 | | |  |  | (47,108 | (47,108 | | | | | ) | (503 | | )% |
| Total other expense, net | (44,362 | (44,362 | | | | | | | ) |  | (119,100 | (119,100 | | | ) |  | 74,738 | 74,738 | | | | |  | (63 | | )% |
| Net loss | $ | | | | | | | (6,163,461 | ) |  | $ | | | (1,830,580 | ) |  | $ | | | | | (4,332,881 | ) | 237 | | % |

***Revenue***

The following table illustrates our revenue by type, the percentage of total revenue by type, and the change between the periods:

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | Three Months Ended March 31, | Three Months Ended March 31, |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |  |  |  |  | | |  |  | |
|  | 2020 | 2020 |  |  |  | | | | | | | | | | | |  | 2019 | 2019 |  |  |  | | | | | |  | $ Change | $ Change |  | | | % Change |  | |
| **Managed Services Revenue** | $ | | | | | | | | | | | 4,125,061 |  | 87 | | % |  | $ | | | | | 3,867,232 |  | 81 | | % |  | $ | | | 257,829 |  | 7 | | % |
|  |  |  |  | | | | | | | | | | |  |  | |  |  |  |  | | | | |  |  | |  |  |  |  | | |  |  | |
| Legacy Workflow Fees | — | — | | | | | | | | | | |  | — | | % |  | 47,330 | 47,330 | | | | |  | 1 | | % |  | (47,330 | (47,330 | | | ) | (100 | | )% |
| Marketplace Spend Fees | 166,293 | 166,293 | | | | | | | | | | |  | 3 | | % |  | 374,653 | 374,653 | | | | |  | 8 | | % |  | (208,360 | (208,360 | | | ) | (56 | | )% |
| License Fees | 416,816 | 416,816 | | | | | | | | | | |  | 9 | | % |  | 491,094 | 491,094 | | | | |  | 10 | | % |  | (74,278 | (74,278 | | | ) | (15 | | )% |
| **SaaS Services Revenue** | 583,109 | 583,109 | | | | | | | | | | |  | 12 | | % |  | 913,077 | 913,077 | | | | |  | 19 | | % |  | (329,968 | (329,968 | | | ) | (36 | | )% |
|  |  |  |  | | | | | | | | | | |  |  | |  |  |  |  | | | | |  |  | |  |  |  |  | | |  |  | |
| **Other Revenue** | 55,498 | 55,498 | | | | | | | | | | |  | 1 | | % |  | 13,447 | 13,447 | | | | |  | — | | % |  | 42,051 | 42,051 | | |  | 313 | | % |
| **Total Revenue** | $ | | | | | | | | | | | 4,763,668 |  | 100 | | % |  | $ | | | | | 4,793,756 |  | 100 | | % |  | $ | | | (30,088 | ) | (1 | | )% |

Historically, we have invested the majority of our time and resources in our Managed Services business, which provides the majority of our revenue. Our acquisitions of Ebyline and ZenContent allowed us to expand our product offerings to provide custom content in addition to and in combination with our influencer marketing campaigns to expand our Managed Services. Our July 2018 merger with TapInfluence expanded our SaaS Services and provided the ability to increase revenue derived from Marketplace Spend Fees and License Fees.

*Managed Services* is generated when a marketer (typically a brand, agency or partner) pays us to provide custom content, influencer marketing, amplification or other campaign management services. Managed Services revenue during the three months ended March 31, 2020, increased 7% from the same period in 2019, as a result of increased bookings (“sales orders”) of $9.3 million in the second half of 2019 as compared to $8 million in the second half of 2018. Managed Service bookings typically convert to future revenue over the next three to twelve months.

*SaaS Services* revenue is generated by the self-service use of our technology platforms by marketers to manage their own content workflow and influencer marketing campaigns. It consists of fees earned on the marketer’s spend within the *IZEAx,* *TapInfluence* and *Ebyline* platforms, along with the license and support fees to access the platform services.

* *Legacy Workflow Fees* revenue represents self-service transactions through the *Ebyline* platform for professional custom content workflow. After the migration of the last customers from the *Ebyline* platform to *IZEAx* in December 2019, there is no longer any revenue generated from Legacy Workflow Fees as all such revenue is reported as Marketplace Spend Fees under the *IZEAx* platform.
* *Marketplace Spend Fees* revenue primarily results from marketers and partners using the *IZEAx*, and from July 2018 - February 2020, the *TapInfluence,* platforms on a SaaS basis to distribute content for marketing and influencer marketing campaigns. Our revenue from Marketplace Spend Fees decreased by $208,360 for the three months ended March 31, 2020 when compared with the same period of 2019, primarily as a result of lower spend levels from our marketers and as a result of competitive pricing efforts which reduced our margins on those spends. Revenue from Marketplace Spend Fees represents our net margins received on this business. After the migration of the last customers from the *TapInfluence* platform to *IZEAx* in February 2020, all revenue is solely generated from the *IZEAx* platform.
* *License Fees* revenue is generated primarily through the granting of limited, non-exclusive, non-transferable licenses to customers for the use of the *IZEAx* and *TapInfluence* technology platforms for an agreed-upon subscription period. Customers license the platforms to manage their own influencer marketing campaigns. Fees for subscription or licensing services are recognized straight-line over the term of the service. License Fees revenue decreased during the three months ended March 31, 2020 to $416,816 compared to $491,094 in the same period of the prior year. The decrease was partly due to former TapInfluence customers who churned during 2019 who are not producing revenue in 2020, but also, we implemented a competitive standardized pricing system for all *IZEAx* customers that was at a lower price point than the former TapInfluence licensing contracts.

*Other* revenue consists of other fees, such as inactivity fees, early cash-out fees, and plan fees charged to users of our platforms. These fees did not have a significant effect on our revenue for the three months ended March 31, 2020 or 2019.

***Cost of Revenue***

Cost of revenue for the three months ended March 31, 2020 increased by $41,226, or approximately 2%, compared to the same period in 2019. Cost of revenue as a percentage of revenue remained fairly consistent at 44% in 2019 and 45% in 2020.

***Sales and Marketing***

Sales and marketing expense for the three months ended March 31, 2020 increased by $165,476, or approximately 12%, compared to the same period in 2019. Our average number of sales and marketing personnel increased by 26% for the three months ended March 31, 2020 compared to the same period in 2019 which, along with the increase in variable compensation linked with sales performance and stock compensation, contributed to a $97,000 increase in sales and marketing payroll and personnel related expenses. We also increased our marketing expenses by $73,000 to generate awareness and future revenue. These increases were offset by a reduction in travel related expenses of $11,000 due to the impact of COVID-19 restricting travel in March.

***General and Administrative***

General and administrative expense for the three months ended March 31, 2020 decreased by $194,216, or approximately 7%, compared to the same period in 2019. General and administrative expense for the three months ended March 31, 2020 decreased primarily due to a $191,439 expense related to the settlement of its acquisition liabilities in 2019 that did not recur in 2020.

On January 26, 2019, pursuant to a Merger Agreement with TapInfluence, Inc., we issued 660,136 shares of our common stock valued at $884,583, or $1.34 per share, using the 30-day VWAP as reported by the Nasdaq Capital Market prior to the issuance date to pay for our purchase obligation. Upon the issuance, we recorded a non-cash loss on the settlement of this acquisition cost payable of $191,439 as a result of the difference between the actual closing market price of the common stock of $1.63 on the settlement date and the 30-day VWAP of $1.34 required by the Merger Agreement. This non-cash expense was not recurring in the current year, thus resulting in a reduction of general and administrative expense in the three months ended March 31, 2020 as compared to the same period in 2019.

***Impairment of Goodwill***

In March 2020, we identified a triggering event due to the reduction in our projected revenue related to COVID-19 and the continuation of a market capitalization below our carrying value and uncertainty for recovery given the volatility of the capital markets surrounding COVID-19. We performed an interim assessment of goodwill using the income approach of the discounted cash flow method and the market approach of the guideline transaction method and determined that the carrying value of our Company as of March 31, 2020 exceeded the fair value. As a result of the valuation, we recorded a $4.3 million impairment of goodwill in the three months ended March 31, 2020.

***Depreciation and Amortization***

Depreciation and amortization expense for the three months ended March 31, 2020 increased by $65,045, or approximately 15%, compared to the same period in 2019.

Depreciation and amortization expense on property and equipment was $35,629 and $38,476 for the three months ended March 31, 2020 and 2019, respectively. Depreciation expense has declined primarily due to certain assets becoming fully depreciated.

Amortization expense was $465,640 and $397,748 for the three months ended March 31, 2020 and 2019, respectively. Amortization expense related to intangible assets acquired in the Ebyline, ZenContent, and TapInfluence acquisitions was $364,990 and $322,907 for the three months ended March 31, 2020 and 2019, respectively, while amortization expense related to internal use software development costs was $100,650 and $74,841 for the three months ended March 31, 2020 and 2019, respectively. Amortization on our intangible acquisition assets increased in 2020 due to higher amortization of the TapInfluence intangible assets acquired in July 2018. However, this expense will decrease in the future periods as these assets are fully amortized. Amortization on our internal use software is expected to increase in future periods due to the release of *IZEAx 3.0* in April 2019.

***Other Income (Expense)***

Interest expense decreased by $121,846 to $6,618 during the three months ended March 31, 2020 compared to the same period in 2019 due primarily to the elimination of borrowings on our secured credit facility after May 2019 and the reduction in amounts owed on our acquisition costs payable in 2019.

The $47,108 decrease in other income during the three months ended March 31, 2020 when compared to the same period in 2019 resulted primarily from net currency exchange losses related to our Canadian transactions after the sharp decline in rates in March 2020 compared to net currency exchange gains on our Canadian transactions in 2019.

***Net Loss***

  Net loss for the three months ended March 31, 2020 was $6,163,461, a $4,332,881 increase in the net loss of $1,830,580 for the same period in 2019. The increase in net loss was primarily the result of the goodwill impairment discussed above.

**Non-GAAP Financial Measures**

Below are financial measures of our gross billings and Adjusted EBITDA. These are “non-GAAP financial measures” as defined under the rules of the Securities and Exchange Commission (the “SEC”). We use these non-GAAP financial measures to assess the progress of our business and make decisions on where to allocate our resources. As our business evolves, we may make changes in future periods to the key financial metrics that we consider to measure our business.

***Gross Billings by Revenue Stream***

Company management evaluates its operations and makes strategic decisions based, in part, on gross billings from its two primary types of revenue, Managed Services and SaaS Services. We define gross billings as the total dollar value of the amounts earned from our customers for the services we performed, or the amounts billed to our customers for their self-service purchase of goods and services on our platforms. Gross billings are the amounts of our reported revenue plus the cost of payments we made to third-party creators providing the content or sponsorship services, which are netted against revenue for generally accepted accounting principles in the United States (“GAAP”) reporting purposes.

Gross billings for Managed Services is the same as revenue reported in our consolidated statements of operations on a GAAP basis, as there is no requirement to net the costs of revenue against the revenue. Gross billings for Marketplace Spend and Legacy Workflow Fees (which are included in SaaS Services) differ from revenue reported for these services in our consolidated statements of operations on a GAAP basis. These services are presented net of the amounts we pay to the third-party creators providing the content or sponsorship services. Gross billings for all other revenue types equals the revenue reported in our consolidated statements of operations.

We consider gross billings to be an important indicator of our potential performance as it measures the total dollar volume of transactions generated through our marketplaces. Tracking gross billings allows us to monitor the percentage of gross billings that we are able to retain after payments to our creators. Additionally, tracking gross billings is critical as it pertains to our credit risk and cash flow. We invoice our customers based on our services performed or based on their self-service transactions plus our fee. Then we remit the agreed-upon transaction price to the creators. If we do not collect the money from our customers prior to the time of payment to our creators, we could experience large swings in our cash flows. Finally, gross billings allows us to evaluate our transaction totals on an equal basis in order for us to see our contribution margins by revenue stream so that we can better understand where we should be allocating our resources.

The following table sets forth our gross billings by revenue type, the percentage of total gross billings by type, and the change between the periods:

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | Three Months Ended March 31, | Three Months Ended March 31, |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |  |  |  |  | | |  |  |
|  | 2020 | 2020 |  |  |  | | | | | | | | | | |  | 2019 | 2019 |  |  |  | | | | |  | $ Change | $ Change |  | | |  | % Change |
| **Managed Services Gross Billings** | $ | | | | | | | | | | | 4,125,061 |  |  | 68% |  | $ | | | | | 3,867,232 |  |  | 50% |  | $ | | | 257,829 |  |  | 7% |
|  |  |  |  | | | | | | | | | | |  |  |  |  |  |  | | | | |  |  |  |  |  |  | | |  |  |
| Legacy Workflow Fees | — | — | | | | | | | | | | |  |  | —% |  | 654,925 | 654,925 | | | | |  |  | 8% |  | (654,925 | (654,925 | | | ) |  | (100)% |
| Marketplace Spend Fees | 1,499,774 | 1,499,774 | | | | | | | | | | |  |  | 24% |  | 2,802,521 | 2,802,521 | | | | |  |  | 36% |  | (1,302,747 | (1,302,747 | | | ) |  | (46)% |
| License Fees | 416,816 | 416,816 | | | | | | | | | | |  |  | 7% |  | 491,094 | 491,094 | | | | |  |  | 6% |  | (74,278 | (74,278 | | | ) |  | (15)% |
| **SaaS Services Gross Billings** | 1,916,590 | 1,916,590 | | | | | | | | | | |  |  | 31% |  | 3,948,540 | 3,948,540 | | | | |  |  | 50% |  | (2,031,950 | (2,031,950 | | | ) |  | (51)% |
|  |  |  |  | | | | | | | | | | |  |  |  |  |  |  | | | | |  |  |  |  |  |  | | |  |  |
| **Other Revenue** | 55,498 | 55,498 | | | | | | | | | | |  |  | 1% |  | 13,447 | 13,447 | | | | |  |  | —% |  | 42,051 | 42,051 | | |  |  | 313% |
| **Total Gross Billings** | $ | | | | | | | | | | | 6,097,149 |  |  | 100% |  | $ | | | | | 7,829,219 |  |  | 100% |  | $ | | | (1,732,070 | ) |  | (22)% |

Gross billings for Managed Services revenue were $4,125,061 for the three months ended March 31, 2020, a decrease of $257,829 compared to the same period in 2019.

The following table sets forth a reconciliation from the GAAP measurement of revenue to our non-GAAP financial measure of gross billings stated above and the percentage change between the periods:

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  |  | Three Months Ended March 31, | Three Months Ended March 31, |  |  |  |  |  | | | | | | | | |  |  |  |  | | |  |  |
|  |  | 2020 | 2020 |  | | | | | | |  | 2019 | 2019 |  | | |  | $ Change | $ Change |  | | |  | % Change |
| Revenue |  | $ | | | | | | | 4,763,668 |  |  | $ | | | 4,793,756 |  |  | $ | | | (30,088 | ) |  | (1)% |
| Plus payments made to third-party creators (1) |  | 1,333,481 | 1,333,481 | | | | | | |  |  | 3,035,463 | 3,035,463 | | |  |  | (1,701,982 | (1,701,982 | | | ) |  | (56)% |
| Gross billings |  | $ | | | | | | | 6,097,149 |  |  | $ | | | 7,829,219 |  |  | $ | | | (1,732,070 | ) |  | (22)% |

(1) Payments made to third-party creators for the Legacy Workflow and Marketplace Spend components of our revenue reported on a net basis for GAAP.

***Adjusted EBITDA***

We define Adjusted EBITDA as earnings or loss before interest, taxes, depreciation and amortization, non-cash stock-based compensation, gain or loss on asset disposals or impairment, changes in acquisition cost estimates, and all other unusual or non-cash income and expense items such as gains or losses on settlement of liabilities and exchanges, and changes in the fair value of derivatives, if applicable.

We use Adjusted EBITDA as a measure of operating performance, for planning purposes, to allocate resources to enhance the financial performance of our business, and in communications with our Board of Directors regarding our financial performance. We believe that Adjusted EBITDA also provides useful information to investors as it excludes transactions not related to our core cash-generating operating business activities, and it provides consistency and facilitates period-to-period comparisons. We believe that excluding these transactions allows investors to meaningfully trend and analyze the performance of our core cash-generating operations.

All companies do not calculate Adjusted EBITDA in the same manner, and Adjusted EBITDA as presented by us may not be comparable to Adjusted EBITDA presented by other companies, which limits its usefulness as a comparative measure. Moreover, Adjusted EBITDA has limitations as an analytical tool, and you should not consider it in isolation or as a substitute for an analysis of our results of operations as under GAAP. These limitations are that Adjusted EBITDA:

* does not include stock-based compensation expense, which is a non-cash expense, but has been, and will continue to be for the foreseeable future, a significant recurring expense for our business and an important part of our compensation strategy;
* does not include stock issued for payment of services, which is a non-cash expense, but has been, and is expected to be for the foreseeable future, an important means for us to compensate our directors, vendors and other parties who provide us with services;
* does not include changes in acquisition cost estimates as a result of the allocation of acquisition costs payable to compensation expense which may be a significant recurring expense for our business if we continue to make business acquisitions;
* does not include gains or losses on the settlement of acquisition costs payable or liabilities when the stock value, as agreed upon in the agreement, varies from the market price of our stock on the settlement date. This is a non-cash expense, but was a recurring expense for our business on certain business contracts where the amounts could vary;
* does not include depreciation and intangible assets amortization expense, impairment charges and gains or losses on disposal of equipment, which is not always a current period cash expense, but the assets being depreciated and amortized may have to be replaced in the future; and
* does not include interest expense and other gains, losses, and expenses that we believe are not indicative of our ongoing core operating results, but these items may represent a reduction or increase in cash available to us.

Because of these limitations, Adjusted EBITDA should not be considered as a measure of discretionary cash available to us to invest in the operation and growth of our business or as a measure of cash that will be available to us to meet our obligations. You should compensate for these limitations by relying primarily on our GAAP results and using these non-GAAP financial measures as supplements. In evaluating these non-GAAP financial measures, you should be aware that in the future, we may incur expenses similar to those for which adjustments are made in calculating Adjusted EBITDA. Our presentation of these non-GAAP financial measures should also not be construed to infer that our future results will be unaffected by unusual or non-recurring items.

The following table sets forth a reconciliation from the GAAP measurement of net loss to our non-GAAP financial measure of Adjusted EBITDA for the three months ended March 31, 2020 and 2019:

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | Three Months Ended March 31, | Three Months Ended March 31, |  |  |  |  |  | | | | | | | | |
|  | 2020 | 2020 |  | | | | | | |  | 2019 | 2019 |  | | |
| Net loss | $ | | | | | | | (6,163,461 | ) |  | $ | | | (1,830,580 | ) |
| Non-cash stock-based compensation | 129,571 | 129,571 | | | | | | |  |  | 160,877 | 160,877 | | |  |
| Non-cash stock issued for payment of services | 31,250 | 31,250 | | | | | | |  |  | 37,498 | 37,498 | | |  |
| Gain on settlement of acquisition costs payable | — | — | | | | | | |  |  | 191,439 | 191,439 | | |  |
| Increase in value of acquisition costs payable | — | — | | | | | | |  |  | 2,664 | 2,664 | | |  |
| Interest expense | 6,618 | 6,618 | | | | | | |  |  | 128,464 | 128,464 | | |  |
| Depreciation and amortization | 501,269 | 501,269 | | | | | | |  |  | 436,224 | 436,224 | | |  |
| Impairment on intangible assets | 4,300,000 | 4,300,000 | | | | | | |  |  | — | — | | |  |
| Other non-cash items | — | — | | | | | | |  |  | (515 | (515 | | | ) |
| Adjusted EBITDA | $ | | | | | | | (1,194,753 | ) |  | $ | | | (873,929 | ) |
|  |  |  |  | | | | | | |  |  |  |  | | |
| Revenue | $ | | | | | | | 4,763,668 |  |  | $ | | | 4,793,856 |  |
| Adjusted EBITDA as a % of Revenue | (25 | (25 | | | | | | | )% |  | (18 | (18 | | | )% |

**Liquidity and Capital Resources**

 We had cash and cash equivalents of $5,634,441 as of March 31, 2020 as compared to $5,884,629 as of December 31, 2019, a decrease of $250,188 primarily due to net proceeds received from our credit facility offset by operating losses. We have incurred significant net losses and negative cash flow from operations for most periods since our inception, which has resulted in a total accumulated deficit of $66,548,230 as of March 31, 2020. To date, we have financed our operations through internally generated revenue from operations, the sale of our equity securities and borrowings under our secured credit facility.

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | Three Months Ended March 31, | Three Months Ended March 31, |  |  |  |  |  | | | | | | | | |
|  | 2020 | 2020 |  | | | | | | |  | 2019 | 2019 |  | | |
| Net cash (used for)/provided by: |  |  |  | | | | | | |  |  |  |  | | |
| Operating activities | $ | | | | | | | (1,348,991 | ) |  | $ | | | 885,199 |  |
| Investing activities | (50,385 | (50,385 | | | | | | | ) |  | (346,185 | (346,185 | | | ) |
| Financing activities | 1,149,188 | 1,149,188 | | | | | | |  |  | (192,231 | (192,231 | | | ) |
| Net increase/(decrease) in cash and cash equivalents | $ | | | | | | | (250,188 | ) |  | $ | | | 346,783 |  |

Cash used for operating activities was $1,348,991 during the three months ended March 31, 2020 and is the result of our net loss not being fully offset by the net conversion of working capital into cash. Net cash used for investing activities was $50,385 during the three months ended March 31, 2020 primarily due to the payment of $51,004 related to the development of our proprietary software. Net cash provided by financing activities during the three months ended March 31, 2020 was $1,149,188 which consisted primarily of net proceeds from our secured credit facility of approximately $1.2 million.

***Secured Credit Facility***

We have a secured credit facility agreement with Western Alliance Bank, the parent company of Bridge Bank, National Association. Pursuant to this agreement, we may submit requests for funding up to 80% of our eligible accounts receivable up to a maximum credit limit of $5 million. Effective August 30, 2018, as a result of IZEA’s merger with TapInfluence, we entered into a Business Financing Modification Agreement and Consent with Western Alliance Bank to add TapInfluence as an additional borrower on the credit facility. As of March 31, 2020, we had $1,162,924 outstanding under this agreement. Assuming that our unfunded remaining trade accounts receivable balance was eligible for funding, we had remaining available credit of approximately $1.8 million under the agreement as of March 31, 2020.

***SBA Loan***

On April 23, 2020, we received a loan from Western Alliance Bank (the “Lender”) in the principal amount of $1,905,100 under the Paycheck Protection Program (“PPP”), which was established under the recently enacted Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act (the “CARES Act”) administered by the U.S. Small Business Administration (the “SBA”). The term of the promissory note issued in respect of the loan (the “SBA Loan”) is two years, though it may be payable sooner in connection with an event of default under the Note. The SBA Loan carries a fixed interest rate of one percent per year, with the first payment due seven months from the date of initial cash receipt. Under the CARES Act and the PPP, certain amounts of loans made under the PPP may be forgiven if the recipients use the loan proceeds for eligible purposes, including payroll costs and certain rent or utility costs, and meet other requirements regarding, among other things, the maintenance of employment and compensation levels. We intend to use the SBA Loan for qualifying expenses and to apply for forgiveness of the SBA Loan in accordance with the terms of the CARES Act. However, no assurance is provided that we will obtain forgiveness of the PPP Loan in whole or in part.

***Financial Condition***

We have begun to see some impact on our operations due to changes in advertising decisions, timing and spending priorities from our customers as a result of the novel coronavirus (COVID-19), which will result in a negative impact to our expected future sales. With the cash on hand as of March 31, 2020, in addition to the SBA Loan, along with future draws on our credit line with Western Alliance Bank using future receivables, we expect to have sufficient cash reserves and financing sources available to cover expenses at least one year from the issuance of this Quarterly Report based on our current estimates of revenue and expenses for 2020. While the disruption is currently expected to be temporary, there is uncertainty around the duration and the total economic impact. Therefore, while we expect this matter to negatively impact our business, such events are generally outside of our control and could have a material adverse impact on our business, results of operations, and financial position.

**Off-Balance Sheet Arrangements**

As of March 31, 2020, we did not engage in any activities involving variable interest entities or off-balance sheet arrangements.

**Critical Accounting Policies and Use of Estimates**

There have been no material changes to our critical accounting policies as set forth in Item 7, “Management’s Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations,” included in our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2019. For a summary of our significant accounting policies, please refer to Note 1 — Company and Summary of Significant Accounting Policies included in Item 1 of this Quarterly Report.

**Recent Accounting Pronouncements**

  See “Note 1. Company and Summary of Significant Accounting Policies,” under Part I, Item 1 of this Quarterly Report for information on additional recent pronouncements.

**ITEM 3 – QUANTITATIVE AND QUALITATIVE DISCLOSURES ABOUT MARKET RISK**

Not applicable to smaller reporting companies.

**ITEM 4 – CONTROLS AND PROCEDURES**

Disclosure controls and procedures are controls and other procedures that are designed to ensure that information required to be disclosed by us in the reports that we file or submit under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended (the “Exchange Act”), is recorded, processed, summarized and reported within the time periods specified in the SEC’s rules and forms.  Disclosure controls and procedures include, without limitation, controls and procedures designed to ensure that information required to be disclosed by us in the reports that we file under the Exchange Act is accumulated and communicated to our management, including our principal executive and principal financial officers, 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 was required to apply its judgment in evaluating the cost-benefit relationship of possible controls and procedures. Furthermore, controls and procedures could be circumvented by the individual acts of some persons, by collusion or two or more people or by management override of the control. Misstatements due to error or fraud may occur and not be detected on a timely basis.

**Evaluation of Disclosure Controls and Procedures**

In connection with the preparation of this Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q for the period ended March 31, 2020, an evaluation was performed under the supervision and with the participation of our management including our principal executive officer and principal financial officer to determine the effectiveness of the design and operation of our disclosure controls and procedures (as defined in Rules 13a-15(e) and 15d-15(e) under the Exchange Act) as of March 31, 2020. Based on this evaluation, our management concluded that our disclosure controls and procedures were effective as designed to ensure that information required to be disclosed in the reports we file or submit under the Exchange Act is recorded, processed, summarized, and reported within the time periods specified in the rules and forms of the SEC, and that such information is accumulated and communicated to our management, including our principal executive officer and principal financial officer, to allow timely decisions regarding required disclosures.

**Changes in Internal Control over Financial Reporting**

Our management is responsible for establishing and maintaining effective internal control over financial reporting (as defined in Rules 13a-15(f) and 15d-15(f) under the Exchange Act). Internal control over financial reporting is a process designed by, or under the supervision of, our principal executive officer and principal financial officer and effected by our Board of Directors, management and other personnel, to provide reasonable assurance regarding the reliability of our financial reporting and the preparation of financial statements for external purposes in accordance with GAAP. Internal control over financial reporting includes policies and procedures that:

(i) pertain to the maintenance of records that, in reasonable detail, accurately and fairly reflect the Company’s transactions;

(ii) provide reasonable assurance that transactions are recorded as necessary for the preparation of our financial statements in accordance with GAAP, and that receipts and expenditures are made only in accordance with authorizations of our management and directors; and

(iii) provide reasonable assurance regarding prevention or timely detection of any unauthorized acquisition, use or disposition of our assets that could have a material effect on the financial statements.

Because of its inherent limitations, internal control over financial reporting may not prevent or detect financial statement misstatements. Also, projections of any evaluation of internal control effectiveness to future periods are subject to the risk that controls may become inadequate because of changes in conditions, or that the degree of compliance with the policies or procedures may deteriorate.

There were no changes in our internal control over financial reporting (as defined in Exchange Act Rules 13a-15(f) and 15d-15(f)) during the fiscal quarter ended March 31, 2020 that have materially affected, or are reasonably likely to materially affect, our internal control over financial reporting.

**PART II – OTHER INFORMATION**

**ITEM 1 – LEGAL PROCEEDINGS**

On July 3, 2018, a shareholder derivative lawsuit, *Korene Stuart v. Edward H. Murphy et al.*, case number A-18-777135-C was instituted in the Eighth Judicial District Court of the State of Nevada, Clark County against certain executive officers and members of the Board of Directors for the Company. The Company was named as a nominal defendant. The plaintiff sought to recover damages on behalf of the Company for purported breaches of the individual defendants’ fiduciary duties as directors and/or officers of the Company, unjust enrichment, abuse of control, gross mismanagement, and waste of corporate assets in violation of state common law.

Additionally, on October 19, 2018, a shareholder derivative lawsuit, *Dennis E. Emond v. Edward H. Murphy et al.*, case number 2:18-cv-9040, was instituted in the U.S. District Court for the Central District of California against certain executive officers and members of the Board of Directors for the Company.  The Company was named as a nominal defendant.  An amended complaint was filed on October 31, 2018. The plaintiff sought to recover damages on behalf of the Company for purported breaches of the individual defendants’ fiduciary duties as directors and/or officers of the Company, and gross mismanagement, and under federal securities laws.

On March 6, 2019, a stipulation of settlement was filed in the United States District Court for the Central District of California that contained settlement terms as agreed upon by the parties to the *Stuart* and *Emond* shareholder derivative lawsuits described above (the “Settlement”). The Settlement terms agreed upon by the parties included that the Company would direct its insurers to make a payment of $300,000 as a fee and service award to the plaintiffs and their counsel in the *Stuart* and *Emond* lawsuits and further that the Company would enact certain corporate governance reforms. The motion for preliminary approval of the Settlement was granted on August 28, 2019 by the United States District Court for the Central District of California. The U.S. District Court for the Central District of California issued an order on January 13, 2020, which required that the *Emond*lawsuit be dismissed with prejudice.  According to the terms of the Settlement, as agreed upon by the parties, following the approval of the Settlement by the U. S. District Court for the Central District of California and on or before February 26, 2020, the parties were required to seek an order from the Eighth Judicial District Court of the State of Nevada dismissing the *Stuart* lawsuit with prejudice. On or about March 6, 2020, the Eighth Judicial District Court of the State of Nevada issued an order dismissing the *Stuart* lawsuit with prejudice.

From time to time, we may become involved in various other lawsuits and legal proceedings that arise in the ordinary course of our business. Litigation is, however, subject to inherent uncertainties, and an adverse result in these or other matters may arise from time to time that may harm our business. As of May 12, 2020, we are not aware of any other legal proceedings or claims that we believe would or could have, individually or in the aggregate, a material adverse effect on us. Regardless of final outcomes, however, any such proceedings or claims may nonetheless impose a significant burden on management and employees and may come with costly defense costs or unfavorable preliminary interim rulings.

**ITEM 1A – RISK FACTORS**

In addition to the information set forth in this report, you should carefully consider the factors discussed under Item 1A of Part I to our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2019 regarding the numerous and varied risks, known and unknown, that may prevent us from achieving our goals. If any of these risks actually occur, our business, financial condition or results of operation may be materially and adversely affected. In such case, the trading price of our common stock could decline, and investors could lose all or part of their investment. These risk factors may not identify all risks that we face, and our operations could also be affected by factors that are not presently known to us or that we currently consider to be immaterial to our operations.

**Risks Related to our Business and Industry**

***We have a history of annual net losses, expect future losses and cannot assure you that we will achieve profitability. We will need to raise additional capital if we are going to continue as a going concern.***

We have incurred significant net losses and negative cash flow from operations for most periods since our inception, which has resulted in a total accumulated deficit of $66,548,230 as of March 31, 2020. For the three months ended March 31, 2020, we had a net loss of $6,163,461, including a $6,119,099 loss from operations.  We have not achieved profitability and cannot be certain that we will be able to realize sufficient revenue to achieve profitability. If we achieve profitability, we may not be able to sustain it.

We believe that cash on hand at March 31, 2020 and other potential sources of cash, including revenues we may generate and additional borrowings on our secured credit facility, will be sufficient to fund our current operations for the next twelve months. However, if we do not increase our borrowing levels or otherwise raise additional capital in the next several months, we will need to significantly slow or pause our development activities until we raise additional funds.

***Unfavorable global economic conditions, including as a result of health and safety concerns, could adversely affect our business, financial condition or results of operations.***

On March 11, 2020, the World Health Organization declared the outbreak of the novel coronavirus (COVID-19) as a global pandemic and recommended containment and mitigation measures worldwide. As the spread continues throughout the United States, we have directed all of our staff to work from home effective March 16, 2020. We believe our business operations and ability to support our customers are fully functional while our employees are working from remote locations; however, their productivity and efficiency may be negatively affected, and we may face increased risk of interruptions. While the disruption is currently expected to be temporary, there is uncertainty around the duration and the total economic impact.

Our business relies heavily on people, and adverse events such as health-related concerns experienced by our employees, the inability to travel and other matters affecting the general work environment will impact our business near term. We may lose the services of a number of our employees or experience system interruptions, which could lead to diminishment of our regular business operations, inefficiencies and reputational harm. Additionally, the economic conditions caused by COVID-19 have negatively impacted the business activity of our customers, and we have observed declining demand and changes in their advertising decisions, timing and spending priorities, which will result in a negative impact to our sales. We cannot fully quantify the impact to our business operations as a result of COVID-19 at this time. Any of the foregoing could harm our business and we cannot anticipate all the ways in which the current global health crisis and financial market conditions could adversely impact our business.

The outbreak and attempts to slow the spread of COVID-19 have resulted in extreme volatility and disruptions in the capital and credit markets. A severe or prolonged economic downturn could result in a variety of additional risks to our business, including weakened demand from our customers and delays in client payments. Given the current conditions, we may not have the ability to raise additional capital from the financial markets if additional capital is needed to sustain us for extended periods of lost revenue. If we are unable to obtain such additional financing on a timely basis or generate sufficient revenues from operations, we may have to curtail our activities, reduce expenses, and/or sell assets, perhaps on unfavorable terms, which would have a material adverse effect on our business, financial condition and results of operations, and ultimately we could be forced to discontinue our operations and liquidate.

***Impairment of our intangible assets has resulted in significant charges that adversely impact our operating results.***

We assess the potential impairment of goodwill and our finite-lived intangible assets on an annual basis, as well as whenever events or changes in circumstances indicate that the carrying value may not be recoverable. In March 2020, we identified a triggering event due to the reduction in projected revenue related to COVID-19 and the continuation of a market capitalization below our carrying value and uncertainty for recovery given the volatility of the capital markets surrounding COVID-19. We performed an interim assessment of goodwill and determined that the carrying value of the Company as of March 31, 2020 exceeded the fair value. Therefore, we recorded a $4.3 million impairment of goodwill in the three months ended March 31, 2020. Future adverse changes in these or other unforeseeable factors could result in further impairment charges that would impact our results of operations and financial position in the reporting period identified.

***We have not extended our monthly arrangements for flexible office space in our remote offices, nor signed a new lease for our headquarters, which could negatively impact our business.***

In light of the uncertain and rapidly evolving situation relating to the spread of the COVID-19 - specifically stay-at-home orders imposed by certain states and localities - we did not enter into a new lease for our corporate headquarters in Winter Park, Florida and our Canadian headquarters in Toronto, Canada, for which both leases expired on April 30, 2020. Additionally, we plan to vacate and cancel the various co-working facilities our team members use around the country as their terms expire in the next three months. As a result, our management team and all of our employees will temporarily work remotely. While our employees are accustomed to working remotely or working with other remote employees and customers, and on March 16, 2020, we proactively instituted a work-from-home policy in response to COVID-19 concerns, our workforce has not previously been fully remote. Although we continue to monitor the situation and may adjust our current plans as more information and guidance become available, not doing business in-person could negatively impact our marketing efforts, challenge our ability to enter into customer contracts in a timely manner, slow down our recruiting efforts, or create operational or other challenges as we adjust to a fully-remote workforce, any of which could harm our business. Additionally, when we determine it prudent to end our work-from-home policy, we will need to enter into a new lease for office space and/or arrangements for the use of co-working facilities. Although we believe suitable office space will be readily available when this time comes, we may encounter difficulties or delays in finalizing the terms of such lease arrangements or in obtaining rent prices at acceptable rates.

***If we fail to regain compliance with the minimum closing bid requirements of the Nasdaq Capital Market or to satisfy other requirements for continued listing, our common stock may be delisted and the price of our common stock and our ability to access the capital markets could be negatively impacted.***

Our common stock is listed for trading on the Nasdaq Capital Market (“Nasdaq”). To maintain this listing, we must satisfy Nasdaq’s continued listing requirements, including, among other things, a minimum closing bid price requirement of $1.00 per share for continued inclusion on the Nasdaq Capital Market under Nasdaq Listing Rule 5550(a)(2) (the "Bid Price Rule").

On June 13, 2019, we received a notification letter from Nasdaq informing us that for the prior 30 consecutive business days, the bid price of our common stock had closed below $1.00 per share. This notice had no immediate effect on our Nasdaq listing, and we had 180 calendar days, or until December 10, 2019, to regain compliance. Our common stock had not regained compliance with Bid Price Rule as of such date. Therefore, by letter dated December 10, 2019, we requested an additional 180 days in which to regain compliance, including by effecting a reverse stock split, if necessary.

On December 11, 2019, we received a notification letter from the Listing Qualifications Department of Nasdaq stating that we had been granted an additional 180-day period, or until June 8, 2020, to regain compliance with the Bid Price Rule. Then on April 17, 2020, we received a notification letter from Nasdaq stating that, in response to the COVID-19 pandemic and related market conditions, Nasdaq had filed a rule change with the Securities and Exchange Commission to suspend the compliance period for the Bid Price Rule through June 30, 2020. As a result, we have until August 24, 2020 to regain compliance to the Bid Price Rule.

If at any time during the suspension period through June 30, 2020 or during the remaining compliance period from July 1, 2020 through August 24, 2020, the closing bid price of the Company’s common stock is at least $1.00 per share for a minimum of 10 consecutive business days, Nasdaq staff have stated it will provide written confirmation of compliance. If compliance cannot be demonstrated by August 24, 2020, Nasdaq staff will provide written notification that the Company’s securities will be delisted. At that time, the Company may appeal the staff’s determination to a hearings panel. We can give no assurance that the Company will regain or demonstrate compliance by August 24, 2020 or that Nasdaq would grant any request for an appeal to a hearings panel.

If we are unable to regain compliance with the Bid Price Rule by June 8, 2020 or if we fail to meet any of the other continued listing requirements, our common stock may be delisted from Nasdaq, which could reduce the liquidity of our common stock materially and result in a corresponding material reduction in the price of our common stock. In addition, delisting could harm our ability to raise capital through alternative financing sources on terms acceptable to us, or at all, and may result in the potential loss of confidence by investors, employees and business development opportunities. Such a delisting likely would impair your ability to sell or purchase our common stock when you wish to do so. Further, if we were to be delisted from Nasdaq, our common stock may no longer be recognized as a “covered security” and we would be subject to regulation in each state in which we offer our securities. Thus, delisting from Nasdaq could adversely affect our ability to raise additional financing through the public or private sale of equity securities, would significantly impact the ability of investors to trade our securities and would negatively impact the value and liquidity of our common stock.

**ITEM 2 – UNREGISTERED SALES OF EQUITY SECURITIES AND USE OF PROCEEDS**

Other than as previously reported in any Current Reports on Form 8-K, the Company did not sell any unregistered securities during the period covered by this report.

**ITEM 3 – DEFAULTS UPON SENIOR SECURITIES**

None.

**ITEM 4 – MINE SAFETY DISCLOSURES**

Not applicable.

**ITEM 5 - OTHER INFORMATION**

None.

**ITEM 6 – EXHIBITS**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Exhibit No. |  | | Description |
| 3.1 | |  | [Amended and Restated Articles of Incorporation of IZEA, Inc., filed with the Nevada Secretary of State on November 28, 2011 (Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 3.1 to the Company's Current Report on Form 8-K filed with the SEC on November 23, 2011).](http://www.sec.gov/Archives/edgar/data/1495231/000152153611000468/q1100271_ex3-1.htm) |
| 3.2 | |  | [Certificate of Change of IZEA, Inc., filed with the Nevada Secretary of State on July 30, 2012 (Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 3.1 to the Company’s Current Report on Form 8-K filed with the SEC on August 1, 2012).](http://www.sec.gov/Archives/edgar/data/1495231/000149523112000019/exhibit31certificateofchan.htm) |
| 3.3 | |  | [Certificate of Amendment to Articles of Incorporation filed with the Secretary of State of the State of Nevada on April 17, 2014 (Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 3.1 to the Company’s Current Report on Form 8-K filed with the SEC on April 18, 2014).](http://www.sec.gov/Archives/edgar/data/1495231/000149523114000020/ex3-1articlesamendment2014.htm) |
| 3.4 | |  | [Certificate of Withdrawal of Certificate of Designation filed with the Secretary of State of the State of Nevada effective January 23, 2015 (Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 3.1 to the Company’s Current Report on Form 8-K filed with the SEC on January 29, 2015).](http://www.sec.gov/Archives/edgar/data/1495231/000149523115000003/ex3-120150123nvcertificate.htm) |
| 3.5 | |  | [Certificate of Amendment filed with the Secretary of State of the State of Nevada effective January 11, 2016 (Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 3.1 to the Company’s Current Report on Form 8-K filed with the SEC on January 12, 2016).](http://www.sec.gov/Archives/edgar/data/1495231/000149523116000071/ex31certificateofamendment.htm) |
| 3.6 | |  | [Amended and Restated Bylaws of IZEA, Inc. (Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 3.2 to the Current Report on Form 8-K filed with the SEC on November 23, 2011).](http://www.sec.gov/Archives/edgar/data/1495231/000152153611000468/q1100271_ex3-2.htm) |
| 3.7 | |  | [Certificate of Designation (Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 3.1 to the Company’s Current Report on Form 8-K filed with the SEC on May 27, 2011).](http://www.sec.gov/Archives/edgar/data/1495231/000146929911000365/izeaex31.htm) |
| 3.8 | |  | [Articles of Merger of IZEA Innovations, Inc. filed with the Secretary of State of the State of Nevada effective April 5, 2016 (Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 3.11 to the Company's Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q filed with the SEC on May 11, 2016).](http://www.sec.gov/Archives/edgar/data/1495231/000149523116000083/exhibit311nvmerger20160405.htm) |
| 3.9 | |  | [Articles of Merger of IZEA Worldwide, Inc. filed with the Secretary of State of the State of Nevada effective August 20, 2018 (Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 3.1 to the Company's Current Report on Form 8-K filed with the SEC on August 23, 2018).](http://www.sec.gov/Archives/edgar/data/1495231/000149523118000091/exhibit31izeaworldwidein.htm) |
| 3.10 | |  | [Articles of Merger of IZEA Worldwide, Inc. filed with the Secretary of State of the State of Nevada effective December 17, 2019 (Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 3.10 to the Company’s Annual Report on Form 10-K filed with the SEC on March 30, 2020).](http://www.sec.gov/Archives/edgar/data/1495231/000149523120000028/exhibit310izeanevadaarti.htm) |
| 10.1 | | (a) | [Letter agreement, dated as of April 20, 2020, between IZEA Worldwide, Inc. and Edward H. Murphy (Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.1 to the Company’s Current Report on Form 8-K filed with the SEC on April 23, 2020).](http://www.sec.gov/Archives/edgar/data/1495231/000149523120000044/a101compensationamendment-01.htm) |
| 10.2 | | (a) | [Letter agreement, dated as of April 20, 2020, between IZEA Worldwide, Inc. and Ryan Schram (Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.2 to the Company’s Current Report on Form 8-K filed with the SEC on April 23, 2020).](http://www.sec.gov/Archives/edgar/data/1495231/000149523120000044/a101compensationamendment-02.htm) |
| 10.3 | |  | [Promissory Note, dated as of April 23, 2020, issued by IZEA Worldwide, Inc. to Western Alliance Bank (Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.2 to the Company’s Current Report on Form 8-K filed with the SEC on April 24, 2020).](http://www.sec.gov/Archives/edgar/data/1495231/000149523120000046/exhibit101note20200423.htm) |
| 31.1 | | \* | [Certification of Principal Executive Officer pursuant to Section 302 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002.](file:///Users/leannhitchcock/Downloads/izea200331ex311.htm) |
| 31.2 | | \* | [Certification of Principal Financial and Accounting Officer pursuant to Section 302 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002.](file:///Users/leannhitchcock/Downloads/izea200331ex312.htm) |
| 32.1 | | \* (b) | [Certification of Principal Executive Officer pursuant to 18 U.S.C. Section 1350, as adopted pursuant to Section 906 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002.](file:///Users/leannhitchcock/Downloads/izea200331ex321.htm) |
| 32.2 | | \* (b) | [Certification of Principal Financial and Accounting Officer pursuant to 18 U.S.C. Section 1350, as adopted pursuant to Section 906 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002.](file:///Users/leannhitchcock/Downloads/izea200331ex322.htm) |
| 101 | | \* (c) | The following materials from IZEA Worldwide, Inc.'s Quarterly Report for the quarter ended March 31, 2020 are formatted in XBRL (eXtensible Business Reporting Language): (i) the Unaudited Consolidated Balance Sheets, (ii) the Unaudited Consolidated Statements of Operations, (iii) the Unaudited Consolidated Statement of Stockholders' Equity, (iv) the Unaudited Consolidated Statements of Cash Flow, and (iv) the Unaudited Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements. |

\* Filed or furnished herewith.

(a) Denotes management contract or compensatory plan or arrangement.

(b) In accordance with Item 601of Regulation S-K, this Exhibit is hereby furnished to the SEC as an accompanying document and is not deemed “filed” for purposes of Section 18 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended (the “Exchange Act”) or otherwise subject to the liabilities of that Section, nor shall it be deemed incorporated by reference into any filing under the Securities Act of 1933.

(c) In accordance with Rule 406T of Regulation S-T, the XBRL related information in Exhibit 101 to this Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q shall not be deemed to be “filed” for purposes of Section 18 of the Exchange Act, or otherwise subject to the liability of that section, and shall not be incorporated by reference into any registration statement or other document filed under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, or the Exchange Act, except as shall be expressly set forth by specific reference in such filing.

**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.

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|  | **IZEA Worldwide, Inc. a Nevada corporation** |  | |
|  |  | |  |
| May 14, 2020 | By: | | /s/ Edward H. Murphy |
|  |  | | Edward H. Murphy  Chairman, President and Chief Executive Officer  (Principal Executive Officer) |
|  |  | |  |
| May 14, 2020 | By: | | /s/ LeAnn C. Hitchcock |
|  |  | | LeAnn C. Hitchcock  Interim Chief Financial Officer  (Principal Financial and Accounting Officer) |