PEOPLES BANCORP OF NORTH CAROLINA INC Form DEF 14A

March 25, 2014

UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Washington, D.C. 20549

SCHEDULE 14A

(Rule 14a-101)

Proxy Statement Pursuant to Section 14(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934

Filed by the Registrant			[X]			
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PEOPLES BANCORP OF NORTH CAROLINA, INC.

Notice of 2014 Annual Meeting, Proxy Statement and Annual Report

PEOPLES BANCORP OF NORTH CAROLINA, INC.

PROXY STATEMENT

Table of Contents

	Page
NOTICE OF 2014 ANNUAL MEETING OF SHAREHOLDERS	ii
PROXY STATEMENT	1
	-
Security Ownership of Certain Beneficial Owners and Management	5
Section 16(a) Beneficial Ownership Reporting Compliance	7
Proposal 1 Election of Directors	7
Proposal 1 - Election of Directors Director Nominees	8
Director Nonlinees	O
Our Board of Directors and Its Committees	9
Executive Committee	10
Governance Committee	10
	10
Audit and Enterprise Risk Committee	10
Report of Audit and Enterprise Risk Committee	11
Compensation Committee	11
	1.4
Compensation Committee Interlocks and Insider Participation	14
Board Leadership Structure and Risk Oversight	14
Board Leadership Structure and Risk Oversight	14
Director and Executive Compensation and Benefits	15
Director Compensation	15
Executive Officers	17
Management Compensation	18
Employment Agreements	20
Omnibus Stock Option and Long Term Incentive Pl	an 21
Incentive Compensation Plans	23
Deferred Compensation Plan	25
Supplemental Retirement Plan	25
Discretionary Bonuses and Service Awards	25
Profit Sharing Plan and 401(k) Plan	25
Indebtedness of and Transactions with Management and Directors	25
HUCHCON OF AND TRANSACTIONS WITH WIGHASCHICHT AND LANCEUMS	۷.1

	Proposal 2 - Ratification of Selection of Registered Independent Public Accounting Firm	26
	Audit Fees	26
	Audit Related Fees	26
	Tax Fees	27
	All Other Fees	27
	Date for Receipt of Shareholder Proposals	27
	Other Matters	27
	Miscellaneous	28
APPENDIX A		29
i		

PEOPLES BANCORP OF NORTH CAROLINA, INC. Post Office Box 467 518 West C Street Newton, North Carolina 28658-0467 (828) 464-5620

NOTICE OF 2014 ANNUAL MEETING OF SHAREHOLDERS To Be Held On May 1, 2014

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the 2014 Annual Meeting of Shareholders of Peoples Bancorp of North Carolina, Inc. (the "Company") will be held as follows:

Place: Catawba Country Club

1154 Country Club Road Newton, North Carolina

Date: May 1, 2014

Time: 11:00 a.m., Eastern Time

The purposes of the Annual Meeting are to consider and vote upon the following matters:

- To elect ten persons who will serve as members of the Board of Directors until the 2015 Annual Meeting of Shareholders or until their successors are duly elected and qualified;
- To ratify the appointment of Porter Keadle Moore, LLC ("PKM") as the Company's independent registered public accounting firm for the fiscal year ending December 31, 2014; and
- To consider and act on any other matters that may properly come before the Annual Meeting or any adjournment.

The Board of Directors has established March 18, 2014, as the record date for the determination of shareholders entitled to notice of and to vote at the Annual Meeting. If an insufficient number of shares is present in person or by proxy to constitute a quorum at the time of the Annual Meeting, the Annual Meeting may be adjourned in order to permit further solicitation of proxies by the Company.

Your vote is important. We urge you to vote as soon as possible so that your shares may be voted in accordance with your wishes. You may vote by executing and returning your proxy card in the accompanying envelope, or by voting electronically over the Internet or by telephone. Please refer to the proxy card enclosed for information on voting electronically. If you attend the Annual Meeting, you may vote in person and the proxy will not be used.

By Order of the Board of Directors,

/s/ Lance A. Sellers
Lance A. Sellers
President and Chief Executive Officer

Newton, North Carolina March 25, 2014

ii

PEOPLES BANCORP OF NORTH CAROLINA, INC. PROXY STATEMENT Annual Meeting of Shareholders To Be Held On May 1, 2014

This Proxy Statement is being mailed to our shareholders on or about March 25, 2014, for solicitation of proxies by the Board of Directors of Peoples Bancorp of North Carolina, Inc. Our principal executive offices are located at 518 West C Street, Newton, North Carolina 28658. Our telephone number is (828) 464-5620.

In this Proxy Statement, the terms "we," "us," "our" and the "Company" refer to Peoples Bancorp of North Carolina, Inc. The term "Bank" means Peoples Bank, our wholly-owned, North Carolina-chartered bank subsidiary. The terms "you" and "your" refer to the shareholders of the Company.

Important Notice Regarding the Availability of Proxy Materials for the Shareholder Meeting to Be Held on May 1, 2014. The Notice, Proxy Statement and the Annual Report to Shareholders for the year ended December 31, 2013 are also available at https://www.snl.com/IRWebLinkX/GenPage.aspx?IID=4050385&GKP=202713

You may also access the above off-site website by going to www.peoplesbanknc.com and click on the link.

INFORMATION ABOUT THE ANNUAL MEETING

Your vote is very important. For this reason, our Board of Directors is requesting that you allow your common stock to be represented at the 2014 Annual Meeting of Shareholders by the proxies named on the enclosed proxy card.

When is the Annual Meeting?	May 1, 2014, at 11 a.m.,	Eastern Time.		
Where will the Annual Meeting be held?	At the Catawba Country Club, 1154 Country Club Road,			
weeting be neid:	Newton, North Carolina.			
What items will be voted on at the				
Annual Meeting?	1.	ELECTION OF DIRECTORS. To elect ten directors to serve until the 2015 Annual Meeting of Shareholders;		
	2.	RATIFICATION OF SELECTION OF INDEPENDENT AUDITOR. To ratify the appointment of Porter Keadle Moore, LLC ("PKM") as the Company's independent registered public accounting firm for fiscal year 2014.		

3.

OTHER BUSINESS. To consider any other business as may properly come before the Annual Meeting or any adjournment.

Who can vote?

Only holders of record of our common stock at the close of business on March 18, 2014 (the "Record Date") will be entitled to notice of and to vote at the Annual Meeting and any adjournment of the Annual Meeting. On the Record Date, there were 5,613,495 shares of our common stock outstanding and entitled to vote and 714 shareholders of record.

How do I vote by proxy?

You may vote your shares by marking, signing and dating the enclosed proxy card and returning it in the enclosed postage-paid envelope or by voting electronically over the Internet or by telephone using the information on the proxy card. If you return your signed proxy card before the Annual Meeting, the proxies will vote your shares as you direct. The Board of Directors has appointed proxies to represent shareholders who cannot attend the Annual Meeting in person.

For the election of directors, you may vote for (1) all of the nominees, (2) none of the nominees, or (3) all of the nominees except those you designate. If a nominee for election as a director becomes unavailable for election at any time at or before the Annual Meeting, the proxies will vote your shares for a substitute nominee. For each other item of business, you may vote "FOR" or "AGAINST" or you may "ABSTAIN" from voting.

If you return your signed proxy card but do not specify how you want to vote your shares, the proxies will vote them "FOR" the election of all of our nominees for directors and "FOR" all other proposals presented in this Proxy Statement in accordance with recommendations from the Board of Directors.

If your shares are held in the name of a broker or other nominee (i.e., held in "street name"), you will need to obtain a proxy instruction card from the broker holding your shares and return the card as directed by your broker. Your broker is not permitted to vote on your behalf on the election of directors unless you provide specific instructions by following the instructions from your broker about voting your shares by telephone or Internet or completing and returning the voting instruction card provided by your broker. For your vote to be counted in the election of directors you now will need to communicate your voting decision to your bank, broker or othe holder of record before the date of the Annual Meeting.

We are not aware of any other matters to be brought before the Annual Meeting. If matters other than those discussed above are properly brought before the Annual Meeting, the proxies may vote your shares in accordance with their best judgment.

How do I change or revoke my proxy?

You can change or revoke your proxy at any time before it is voted at the Annual Meeting in any of three ways: (1) by delivering a written notice of revocation to the Secretary of the Company; (2) by delivering another properly signed proxy card to the Secretary of the Company with a more recent date than your first proxy card or by changing your vote by telephone or the Internet; or (3) by attending the Annual Meeting and voting in person. You should deliver your written notice or superseding proxy to the Secretary of the Company

at our principal executive offices listed above.

How many votes can I cast?

You are entitled to one vote for each share held as of the Record Date on each nominee for election and each other matter presented for a vote at the Annual Meeting. You may not vote your shares cumulatively in the election of directors.

How many votes are required to approve the proposals?

If a quorum is present at the Annual Meeting, each director nominee will be elected by a plurality of the votes cast in person or by proxy. If you withhold your vote on a nominee, your shares will not be counted as having voted for that nominee.

The proposal to ratify the appointment of the Company's independent registered public accounting firm for 2014 will be approved if the votes cast in favor exceed the votes cast in opposition.

Any other matters properly coming before the Annual Meeting for a vote will require the affirmative vote of the holders of a majority of the shares represented in person or by proxy at the Annual Meeting and entitled to vote on that matter.

Abstentions and broker non-votes are not treated as votes cast on any proposal. As a result, neither will have an effect on the vote for the election of any director or the ratification of our independent registered public accounting firm.

A broker non-vote occurs when a broker does not vote on a particular matter because the broker does not have discretionary authority on that matter and has not received instructions from the owner of the shares.

In the event there are insufficient votes present at the Annual Meeting for a quorum or to approve or ratify any proposal, the Annual Meeting may be adjourned in order to permit the further solicitation of proxies.

What constitutes a "quorum" for the Annual Meeting?

A majority of the outstanding shares of our common stock entitled to vote at the Annual Meeting, present in person or represented by proxy, constitutes a quorum (a quorum is necessary to conduct business at the Annual Meeting). Your shares will be considered part of the quorum if you have voted your shares by proxy or by telephone or Internet. Abstentions, broker non-votes and votes withheld from any director nominee count as shares present at the Annual Meeting for purposes of determining a quorum.

Who pays for the solicitation of proxies?

We will pay the cost of preparing, printing and mailing materials in connection with this solicitation of proxies. In addition to solicitation by mail, our officers, directors and regular employees, as well as those of the Bank, may make solicitations personally, by telephone or otherwise without additional compensation for doing so. We reserve

the right to engage a proxy solicitation firm to assist in the solicitation of proxies for the Annual Meeting. We will, upon request, reimburse

brokerage firms, banks and others for their reasonable out-of-pocket expenses in forwarding proxy materials to beneficial owners of stock or otherwise in connection with this solicitation of proxies.

When are proposals for the 2015 Annual Meeting due?

To be considered either for inclusion in the proxy materials solicited by the Board of Directors for the 2015 Annual Meeting, proposals must be received by the Secretary of the Company at our principal executive offices at 518 West C Street, Newton, North Carolina 28658 (or at P.O. Box 467, Newton, North Carolina 28658-0467) no later than December 26, 2014. To be included in the proxy materials, a proposal must comply with our Bylaws, Rule 14a-8 and all other applicable provisions of Regulation 14A under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended (the "Exchange Act").

Any proposal not intended to be included in the Company's proxy statement for the 2015 Annual Meeting, but intended to be presented at the 2015 Annual Meeting, must be received by us at our principal executive offices listed above no later than February 9, 2015.

SECURITY OWNERSHIP OF CERTAIN BENEFICIAL OWNERS AND MANAGEMENT

The Exchange Act requires that any person who acquires the beneficial ownership of more than five percent (5%) of the Company's common stock notify the Securities and Exchange Commission (the "SEC") and the Company. Following is certain information, as of the Record Date, regarding those persons or groups who held of record, or who are known to the Company to own beneficially, more than five percent (5%) of the Company's outstanding common stock.

Name and Address of Beneficial Owner	Amount and Nature of Beneficial Ownership1	Percent of Class2
Christine S. Abernethy P.O. Box 386 Newton, NC 28658	660,4953	11.77%
Tontine Financial Partners, LP 55 Railroad Avenue, 3rd Floor Greenwich, CT 06830-6378	371,6044	6.62%
Tontine Management, LLC 55 Railroad Avenue Greenwich, CT 06830	371,6044	6.62%
Tontine Asset Associates, LLC 55 Railroad Avenue Greenwich, CT 06830	141,3614	2.52%
Jeffrey L. Gendell 55 Railroad Avenue Greenwich, CT 06830	512,9654	9.14%

¹ Unless otherwise noted, all shares are owned directly of record by the named individuals, by their spouses and minor children, or by other entities controlled by the named individuals. Voting and investment power is not shared unless otherwise indicated.

² Based upon a total of 5,613,495 shares of common stock outstanding as of the Record Date.

³ Carolina Glove Company, Inc. owns 107,604 shares of common stock. These shares are included in the calculation of Ms. Abernethy's total beneficial ownership interest. Ms. Abernethy owns approximately 50% of the stock of Carolina Glove Company, Inc. The business is operated by a family committee. Ms. Abernethy has no active day-to-day participation in the business affairs of Carolina Glove Company, Inc.

⁴Based on a Schedule 13G/A (Amendment No. 5) filed by Tontine Financial Partners, LP, Tontine Management, LLC, Tontine Overseas Associates, LLC, Tontine Asset Associates, LLC and Jeffrey L. Gendell with the SEC on February 14, 2014 and represents the total number of shares controlled by Jeffrey Gendell and the related Tontine

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entities.		

Set forth below is certain information, as of the Record Date (unless otherwise indicated), regarding those shares of common stock owned beneficially by each of the persons who currently serves as a member of the Board of Directors, is a nominee for election to the Board of Directors at the Annual Meeting, or is a named executive officer ("NEO") of the Company. Also shown is the number of shares of common stock owned by the directors and executive officers of the Company as a group.

	Amount and Nature	Percentage
	of Beneficial	of
Name and Address	Ownership1	Class2
James S. Abernethy	171,6043	3.06%
Post Office Box 327		
Newton, NC 28658		
Robert C. Abernethy	156,4264	2.79%
Post Office Box 366		
Newton, NC 28658		
Joseph F. Beaman, Jr.	8,241	*
Post Office Box 467		
Newton, NC 28658		
William D. Cable, Sr.	19,094	*
Post Office Box 467	,	
Newton, NC 28658		
Douglas S. Howard	12,5375	*
Post Office Box 587		
Denver, NC 28037		
A. Joseph Lampron, Jr.	6,752	*
Post Office Box 467		
Newton, NC 28658		
John W. Lineberger, Jr.	2,299	*
Post Office Box 481		
Lincolnton, NC 28092		
Gary E. Matthews	21,586	*
210 First Avenue South		
Conover, NC 28613		
Billy L. Price, Jr., M.D.	5,853	*
540 11th Ave. Place NW		
Hickory, NC 28601		
Larry E. Robinson	49,9016	*
Post Office Box 723		

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Newton, NC 28658		
Lance A. Sellers	10,516	*
Post Office Box 467		
Newton, NC 28658		
William Gregory Terry	16,592	*
Post Office Box 395		
Conover, NC 28613		
Dan Ray Timmerman, Sr.	87,1477	1.55%
Post Office Box 1148		
Conover, NC 28613		
Benjamin I. Zachary	88,1758	1.57%
Post Office Box 277		
Taylorsville, NC 28681		

All current directors and nominees	592,6859	10.56%
and		
executive officers as a group (14		
people)		
*Does not exceed one percent of the co	mmon stock outstanding.	
·	· ·	

^{*}Does not exceed one percent of the common stock outstanding.

- 2 Based upon a total of 5,613,495 shares of common stock outstanding as of the Record Date.
- 3Includes 64,038 shares of common stock owned by Alexander Railroad Company. Mr. J. Abernethy is Vice President, Secretary and Chairman of the Board of Directors of Alexander Railroad Company.
- 4 Includes 5,868 shares of common stock owned by Mr. R. Abernethy's spouse, for which Mr. R. Abernethy disclaims beneficial ownership.
- 5 Includes 450 shares of common stock owned by Mr. Howard's spouse, for which Mr. Howard disclaims beneficial ownership.
- 6Includes 8,835 shares of common stock owned by Mr. Robinson's spouse, for which Mr. Robinson disclaims beneficial ownership.
- 7Includes 2,722 shares of common stock owned by Timmerman Manufacturing, Inc. Mr. Timmerman is a shareholder, director, Chairman of the Board and the Chief Executive Officer of Timmerman Manufacturing, Inc.
- 8Includes 64,038 shares of common stock owned by Alexander Railroad Company. Mr. Zachary is President, Treasurer, General Manager and a Director of Alexander Railroad Company.
- 9The 64,038 shares owned by Alexander Railroad Company and attributed to Mr. J. Abernethy and Mr. Zachary are only included once in calculating this total.

Directors James S. Abernethy and Robert C. Abernethy are brothers and are sons of Christine S. Abernethy, who owns in excess of ten percent (10%) of the common stock.

SECTION 16(a) BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP REPORTING COMPLIANCE

Section 16(a) of the Exchange Act requires the Company's executive officers and directors, and persons who own more than ten percent (10%) of the common stock, to file reports of ownership and changes in ownership with the SEC. Executive officers, directors and greater than ten percent (10%) beneficial owners are required by SEC regulations to furnish the Company with copies of all Section 16(a) forms they file.

¹ Unless otherwise noted, all shares are owned directly of record by the named individuals, by their spouses and minor children, or by other entities controlled by the named individuals. Voting and investment power is not shared unless otherwise indicated.

Based solely on a review of the copies of such forms furnished to the Company and written representations from the Company's executive officers and directors, the Company believes that during the fiscal year ended December 31, 2013, its executive officers and directors and greater than ten percent (10%) beneficial owners complied with all applicable Section 16(a) filing requirements.

PROPOSAL 1

ELECTION OF DIRECTORS

Our Board of Directors has set its number at ten members. Our current Bylaws provide that in order to be eligible for consideration at the Annual Meeting of Shareholders, all nominations of directors, other than those made by the Governance Committee or the Board of Directors, must be in writing and must be delivered to the Secretary of the Company not less than 50 days nor more than 90 days prior to the meeting at which such nominations will be made; provided, however, that if less than 60 days' notice of the meeting is given to the shareholders, such nominations must be delivered to the Secretary of the Company not later than the close of business on the tenth day following the day on which the notice of meeting was mailed.

Information about the nominees for election to the Board of Directors for a one-year term until the 2015 Annual Meeting of Shareholders appears below. All of the nominees are currently serving on the Board of Directors.

Director Nominees

James S. Abernethy, age 59 (as of March 1, 2014), is employed by Carolina Glove Company, Inc., a glove manufacturing company as its Vice President. Mr. Abernethy continues to serve as President and Assistant Secretary of Midstate Contractors, Inc., a paving company and also as Vice President, Secretary and Chairman of the Board of Directors of Alexander Railroad Company. Mr. Abernethy is also a director of Burke Mills, a public company. He has served as a director of the Company since 1992. Mr. Abernethy has a total of 21 years of banking experience and is a graduate of the North Carolina Bank Directors' College and attended the initial Advanced Directors' Training session offered by the North Carolina Bank Directors' College in association with the College of Management at North Carolina State University. Mr. Abernethy earned a business administration degree from Gardner Webb University in North Carolina. Over his 21 years of service on the Board of Directors, Mr. Abernethy has served on all the Bank's and the Company's committees.

Robert C. Abernethy, age 63 (as of March 1, 2014), is employed by Carolina Glove Company, Inc., a glove manufacturing company, as its President, Secretary and Treasurer. Mr. Abernethy continues to serve as Secretary and Assistant Treasurer of Midstate Contractors, Inc., a paving company. He has served as a director of the Company since 1976 and as Chairman since 1991. Mr. Abernethy has a total of 37 years of banking experience and is a graduate of the North Carolina Bank Directors' College and attended the initial Advanced Directors' Training session offered by the North Carolina Bank Directors' College in association with the College of Management at North Carolina State University. Mr. Abernethy earned a B.S. degree from Gardner Webb University in North Carolina. He serves on the Finance Committee and Investment Committee of Grace United Church of Christ. Mr. Abernethy also serves on the board of directors of Carolina Glove Company, Inc. and Midstate Contractors, Inc. both privately held companies.

Douglas S. Howard, age 55 (as of March 1, 2014), is employed by Denver Equipment of Charlotte, Inc. as Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer. Mr. Howard is currently serving as the Chairman of the Endowment Committee of Eastern Catawba Cooperative Christian Ministry. He has served as a director of the Company since 2004. Mr. Howard has a total of 15 years of banking experience and is a graduate of the North Carolina Bank Directors' College and attended the initial Advanced Directors' Training session offered by the NC Bank Directors' College in association with the College of Management at North Carolina State University. He also serves on the Western NC Methodist Church Board of Finance. Mr. Howard also serves on the boards of Catawba Valley Medical Center and other privately-held companies.

John W. Lineberger, Jr., age 63 (as of March 1, 2014), is employed by Lincoln Bonded Warehouse Company, a commercial warehousing facility, as President. He has served as a director of the Company since 2004. Mr. Lineberger has a total of nine years of banking experience and is a graduate of the North Carolina Bank Directors' College and attended the initial Advanced Directors' Training session offered by the NC Bank Directors' College in association with the College of Management at North Carolina State University. Mr. Lineberger earned a B.S. degree in business administration from Western Carolina University.

Gary E. Matthews, age 58 (as of March 1, 2014), is employed by Matthews Construction Company, Inc. as its President and a Director. He has served as a director of the Company since 2001. Mr. Matthews has a total of 12 years of banking experience, is a graduate of the North Carolina Bank Directors' College, and attended the initial Advanced Directors' Training session offered by the NC Bank Directors' College in association with the College of Management at North Carolina State University. Mr. Matthews is also a director of Conover Metal Products, a privately held company. Mr. Matthews earned a B.S. degree in civil engineering/construction from North Carolina

State University.

Billy L. Price, Jr., M.D., age 57 (as of March 1, 2014), is the Managing Partner and Practitioner of Internal Medicine at Catawba Valley Internal Medicine, PA. Dr. Price also serves on the Board of Trustees of Catawba Valley Medical Center. He has served as a director of the Company since 2004. Dr. Price has a total of nine years of banking experience and is a graduate of the North Carolina Bank Directors' College and attended the initial Advanced Directors' Training session offered by the NC Bank Directors' College in association with the College of Management at North Carolina State University. Dr. Price was previously the owner/pharmacist of Conover Drug Company. He is also a

director of Primary Physician Care, a private company. Dr. Price earned a B.S. degree in pharmacy from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill and his MD from East Carolina University School of Medicine.

Larry E. Robinson, age 68 (as of March 1, 2014), is employed by The Blue Ridge Distributing Company, Inc., a beer and wine distributor, as the President and Chief Executive Officer. He is a partner and Chief Operating Officer of United Beverages of North Carolina, LLC, a beer distributor. He has served as a director of the Company since 1993. Mr. Robinson has a total of 20 years of banking experience and is a graduate of the North Carolina Bank Directors' College. Mr. Robinson attended Western Carolina University and received an Associate Degree in Business and Accounting from Catawba Valley Community College in North Carolina.

William Gregory Terry, age 46 (as of March 1, 2014), is employed by Drum & Willis-Reynolds Funeral Homes and Crematory as General Manager. He has served as a director of the Company since 2004. Mr. Terry has a total of nine years of banking experience and is a graduate of the North Carolina Bank Directors' College and attended the initial Advanced Directors' Training session offered by the NC Bank Directors' College in association with the College of Management at North Carolina State University. Mr. Terry graduated with a B.S. degree in business management from Clemson University in South Carolina. Mr. Terry serves on numerous civic and community boards.

Dan Ray Timmerman, Sr., age 66 (as of March 1, 2014), is a shareholder, director, Chairman of the Board and the Chief Executive Officer of Timmerman Manufacturing, Inc., a wrought iron furniture, railings and gates manufacturer. He has served as a director of the Company since 1995. Mr. Timmerman has a total of 18 years of banking experience and is a graduate of the North Carolina Bank Directors' College and attended the initial Advanced Directors' Training session offered by the NC Bank Directors' College in association with the College of Management at North Carolina State University. Mr. Timmerman earned a B.S. degree in business administration with a concentration in accounting from Lenoir-Rhyne University in North Carolina.

Benjamin I. Zachary, age 58 (as of March 1, 2014), is employed by Alexander Railroad Company as its President, Treasurer, General Manager and Director. He has served as a director of the Company since 1995. Mr. Zachary has a total of 18 years of banking experience and is a graduate of the North Carolina Bank Directors' College. Mr. Zachary earned a B.S. degree in business administration with a concentration in accounting from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. He worked as a CPA for a national accounting firm for eight years following graduation where his assignments included financial statement audits of several banks. He formerly served as Treasurer and a member of the Finance Committee of First United Methodist Church of Taylorsville for many years. Mr. Zachary is a member of the Taylorsville Rotary Club and also serves as Treasurer.

We have no reason to believe that any of the nominees for election will be unable or will decline to serve if elected. In the event of death or disqualification of any nominee or the refusal or inability of any nominee to serve as a director, however, the proxies will vote for the election of another person as they determine in their discretion or may allow the vacancy to remain open until filled by the Board of Directors. In no circumstance will any proxy be voted for more than two nominees who are not named in this proxy statement. Properly executed and returned proxies, unless revoked, will be voted as directed by you or, in the absence of direction, will be voted in favor of the election of the recommended nominees. An affirmative vote of a plurality of votes cast at the Annual Meeting is necessary to elect a nominee as a director.

THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS RECOMMENDS YOU VOTE "FOR" ALL OF THE NOMINEES NAMED ABOVE AS DIRECTORS

OUR BOARD OF DIRECTORS AND ITS COMMITTEES

How often did our Board of Directors meet during 2013?

Our Board of Directors held 14 meetings during 2013. All incumbent directors attended more than 75% of the total number of meetings of the Board of Directors and its committees on which they served during the year.

What committees does our Board of Directors have?

During 2013, our Board of Directors had five standing committees, the Audit and Enterprise Risk Committee, the Governance Committee, the Compensation Committee, the Loan Sub-Committee and the Executive Committee. The voting members of these Committees are appointed by the Board of Directors annually from among its members. Certain of our executive officers also serve as non-voting, advisory members of these committees.

Executive Committee. The Executive Committee performs duties as assigned by the full Board of Directors. Actions taken by the Executive Committee must be approved by the full Board of Directors. The Executive Committee consists of Directors R. Abernethy, J. Abernethy, Lineberger, Matthews and Howard, as well as the President and Chief Executive Officer of the Company. It meets on an "as needed" basis and did not meet during 2013.

Governance Committee. The Governance Committee is comprised entirely of independent directors, as defined in the applicable NASDAQ listing standards. The Board of Directors determines on an annual basis each director's independence. During 2013 the following persons served on the Committee: Directors R. Abernethy, J. Abernethy, Lineberger, Robinson, Terry, and Timmerman. The Governance Committee is responsible for developing and maintaining the corporate governance policy, as well as acting as the nominating committee for the Board of Directors.

The Governance Committee, serving as the nominating committee of the Board of Directors, interviews candidates for membership to the Board of Directors, recommends candidates to the full Board of Directors, slates candidates for shareholder votes, and fills any vacancies on the Board of Directors which occur between shareholder meetings. The Governance Committee's identification of candidates for director typically results from the business interactions of the members of the Governance Committee or from recommendations received from other directors or from the Company's management.

If a shareholder recommends a director candidate to the Governance Committee in accordance with the Company's Bylaws, the Governance Committee will consider the candidate and apply the same considerations that it would to its own candidates. The recommendation of a candidate by a shareholder should be made in writing, addressed to the attention of the Governance Committee at the Company's corporate headquarters. The recommendation should include a description of the candidate's background, his or her contact information, and any other information the shareholder considers useful and appropriate for the Governance Committee's consideration of the candidate. The criteria which have been established by the Governance Committee as bearing on the consideration of a candidate's qualification to serve as a director include the following: the candidate's ethics, integrity, involvement in the community, success in business, relationship with the Bank, investment in the Company, place of residence (i.e., proximity to the Bank's market area), and financial expertise.

The Governance Committee has no written diversity policy; however, the Governance Committee defines diversity broadly to include, in addition to race, gender, ethnicity and age, differences in professional experience, educational background, geographic mix within the Company's market area, skills and other individual qualities and attributes that foster board heterogeneity in order to encourage and maintain board effectiveness. While there are currently no women or minorities serving on the Board of Directors, any qualified candidate receives consideration regardless of race, gender or national origin.

The Governance Committee met once during the year ended December 31, 2013.

The Governance Committee has a written charter which is reviewed annually, and amended as needed, by the Governance Committee. A copy of the Governance Committee Charter is available on the Bank's website (www.peoplesbanknc.com) under Investor Relations.

Audit and Enterprise Risk Committee. The Company has a separately designated standing Audit and Risk Enterprise Committee (the "Audit Committee") which was established in accordance with Section 3(a)(58)(A) of the Exchange Act. The Audit Committee's responsibilities include oversight of enterprise risk. The Audit Committee has a written charter which is reviewed annually, and amended as needed, by the Audit Committee. A copy of the Audit Committee Charter is available on the Bank's website (www.peoplesbanknc.com) under Investor Relations. The Audit

Committee consists of Directors R. Abernethy, Howard, Matthews, Price, Timmerman and Zachary. The Board of Directors has determined that these members are independent as that term is defined in the applicable NASDAQ listing standards and the SEC's regulations. The Board of Directors determines on an annual basis each director's independence.

The Board of Directors has determined that each member of the Audit Committee qualifies as an "audit committee financial expert" based on each of the member's educational background and business experience.

The Audit Committee meets at least quarterly and, among other responsibilities, oversees (i) the independent auditing of the Company; (ii) the system of internal controls that management has established; and (iii) the quarterly and annual financial information to be provided to shareholders and the SEC. The Audit Committee met eight times during the year ended December 31, 2013.

REPORT OF AUDIT AND ENTERPRISE RISK COMMITTEE

The Audit Committee has reviewed and discussed the audited financial statements with management of the Company and has discussed with the independent auditors the matters required to be discussed by Auditing Standards No. 16 as amended, as adopted by the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board in Rule 3200T. In addition, the Audit Committee has received the written disclosures and the letter from the independent accountants required by the applicable requirements of the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board regarding the independent accountant's communications with the Audit Committee concerning independence, and has discussed with the independent accountant the independent accountant's independence. Based upon these reviews and discussions, the Audit Committee recommended to the Board of Directors that the audited financial statements be included in the Company's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2013.

Robert C. Abernethy Gary E. Matthews
Benjamin I. Zachary Dan R. Timmerman, Sr.
Billy L Price, Jr. MD

Compensation Committee. The Company's Compensation Committee is responsible for developing, reviewing, implementing and maintaining the Bank's salary, bonus, and incentive award programs and for making recommendations to the Company's and the Bank's Board of Directors regarding compensation of the executive officers. Upon recommendation from the Compensation Committee, the Company's Board of Directors ultimately determines such compensation.

Other than Director Lineberger, all of the members of the Compensation Committee are independent as defined in the applicable NASDAQ's listing standards. The Board of Directors determines on an annual basis each director's independence. The members of the Compensation Committee during 2013 were Directors R. Abernethy, J. Abernethy, Lineberger, Robinson, Terry and Timmerman. The Compensation Committee met three times during the year ended December 31, 2013.

The Compensation Committee has a written charter which is reviewed annually, and amended as needed, by the Compensation Committee. A copy of the Compensation Committee's Charter is available on the Bank's website (www.peoplesbanknc.com) under Investor Relations.

What follows below is a discussion of the Company's and the Bank's compensation policies and practices and the review process used by the Compensation Committee.

The Compensation Committee did not engage a compensation consultant for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2013. The President and Chief Executive Officer of the Company and the Bank makes recommendations to the Committee regarding the compensation of the executive officers other than his own. The President and Chief Executive Officer participates in the deliberations, but not in the decisions, of the Compensation Committee regarding compensation of executive officers. He does not participate in the Compensation Committee's discussion or decisions regarding his own compensation. The Compensation Committee also considers the results of the shareholders' non-binding vote on executive compensation. Last year the Company's executive compensation as described in the 2013

Proxy Statement received a 63% approval rating from the shareholders. In addition, last year 52% of the shareholders who voted at the 2013 Annual Meeting of Shareholders elected to review the executive compensation of the Company's named executive officers once every three years. As a result, the Company will submit a vote to the shareholders on the compensation of its named executive officers at the 2016 Annual Meeting of Shareholders.

The overall objective of our compensation program is to align total compensation so that the individual executive believes it is fair and equitable and provides the highest perceived value to our shareholders and to that individual. In order to accomplish this overall objective, our compensation program is designed to: (i) attract the qualified executives necessary to meet our needs as defined by the Company's strategic plans, and (ii) retain and motivate executives whose performance supports the achievement of our long-term plans and short-term goals.

The Compensation Committee considers a number of factors specific to each executive's role when determining the amount and mix of compensation to be paid. These factors are:

- compensation of the comparable executives at comparable financial institutions;
- financial performance of the Company (especially on a "net operating" basis, which excludes the effect of one-time gains and expenses) over the most recent fiscal year and the prior three years;
 - composition of earnings;
 - asset quality relative to the banking industry;
 - responsiveness to the economic environment;
- the Company's achievement compared to its corporate, financial, strategic and operational objectives and business plans; and
 - cumulative shareholder return.

The Company's and the Bank's compensation program consists of the following elements:

- (i)Base Salary. The salaries of our NEOs are designed to provide a reasonable level of compensation that is affordable to the Company and fair to the executive. Salaries are reviewed annually, and adjustments, if any, are made based on the review of competitive salaries in our peer group, as well as an evaluation of the individual officer's responsibilities, job scope, and individual performance. For example, we assess each officer's success in achieving budgeted earnings and return ratios, business conduct and integrity, and leadership and team building skills.
- (ii)Annual Cash Incentive Awards. We believe that annual cash incentive awards encourage our NEOs to achieve short–term targets that are critical to achievement of our long-term strategic plan. The following officers were eligible during the fiscal year ended December 31, 2013 to receive annual cash incentive awards under our Management Incentive Plan, which provides for cash awards to the following NEOs upon achievement of certain financial objectives:
 - Lance A. Sellers, President and Chief Executive Officer
 - A. Joseph Lampron, Jr., Executive Vice President and Chief Financial Officer
 - William D. Cable, Sr., Executive Vice President and Chief Operating Officer
- Joseph F. Beaman, Jr., Executive Vice President, Chief Administrative Officer and Corporate Secretary

We seek to ensure that a significant portion of each executive officer's total annual cash compensation is linked to the attainment of the annual performance objectives determined by the executive officer and the Compensation Committee under the Management Incentive Plan. No NEO earned or was paid a

cash incentive under the Management Incentive Plan during the fiscal year ended December 31, 2013.

- Discretionary Bonus and Service Awards. From time to time the Compensation Committee may recommend to the Board of Directors that additional bonuses be paid based on accomplishments that significantly exceed expectations during the fiscal year. These bonuses are totally discretionary as to who will receive a bonus and the amount of any such bonus. In 2013, the Compensation Committee recommended, and the Board of Directors approved, discretionary bonuses as follows: \$20,000 for Mr. Sellers; \$20,000 for Mr. Lampron; \$15,000 for Mr. Beaman; and \$20,000 for Mr. Cable. These discretionary bonuses were paid in January of 2014. Under the Service Recognition Program, the Bank gives service awards to each employee and director for every five years of service with the Bank to promote longevity of service for both directors and employees. Service awards are made in the form of shares of the Company's common stock plus cash in the amount necessary to pay taxes on the award. The number of shares awarded increases with the number of years of service to the Bank.
- Long-Term Equity Incentive Awards. The Company maintains the 2009 Omnibus Stock Ownership and Long (iv) Term Incentive Plan ("Omnibus Plan"), under which it is permitted to grant incentive stock options, restricted stock, restricted stock units, stock appreciation rights, book value shares, and performance units. The purpose of the Omnibus Plan is to promote the interests of the Company by attracting and retaining directors and employees of outstanding ability and to provide executives of the Company greater incentive to make material contributions to the success of the Company by providing them with stock-based compensation which will increase in value based upon the market performance of the common stock and/or the corporate achievement of financial and other performance objectives. In 2013, the NEOs were granted the following restricted stock units, each comprised of the right to receive one share of the Company's common stock:

NEO	Grant Date	No. of Restricted Stock Units
Lance A. Sellers	May 23, 2013	4,875
A. Joseph Lampron, Jr.	May 23, 2013	3,410
William D. Cable, Sr.	May 23, 2013	3,410

- Retirement Benefits. The Company maintains supplemental executive retirement agreements (SERPs) for the benefit of Messrs. Sellers, Lampron, Cable and Beaman. The Committee's goal is to provide competitive retirement benefits given the restrictions on executives within tax-qualified plans. In prior years, the Compensation Committee worked with a compensation consultant in analyzing the possible benefits of using SERPs to address the issues of internal and external equity in terms of retirement benefits offered to all employees at the Company as a percentage of final average pay and executives in our peer group. The Compensation Committee approved supplemental retirement benefits targeting 40% of the final average pay for all NEOs. The Compensation Committee selected a target of 40% to match such benefits offered to other employees fully participating in qualified retirement plans offered by the Company. For more information on the SERPs, see page 25 of this Proxy Statement.
- Employment Agreements. The Company has employment agreements with our NEOs which we believe (vi) serve a number of functions, including (i) retention of our

executive team; (ii) mitigation of any uncertainty about future employment and continuity of management in the event of a change in control; and (iii) protection of the Company and customers through non-compete and non-solicitation covenants. Additional information regarding the employment agreements, including a description of key terms may be found on page 20 of this Proxy Statement.

Compensation Committee Interlocks and Insider Participation

No member of the Compensation Committee is now, or formerly was, an officer or employee of the Company or the Bank. None of the NEOs serve as a member of the board of directors of another entity whose executive officers or directors serve on the Company's Board of Directors.

Board Leadership Structure and Risk Oversight

Our Company and the Bank have traditionally operated with separate Chief Executive Officer and Chairman of the Board of Directors positions. We believe it is our Chief Executive Officer's responsibility to manage the Company and the Chairman's responsibility to lead the Board of Directors. Robert Abernethy is currently serving as Chairman of the Board of Directors. All of the members of the Board of Directors are independent under applicable NASDAQ listing requirements. The Company has four standing committees: Executive, Governance, Audit and Compensation. The Chief Executive Officer serves on the Executive Committee. The Bank in addition to the above-named committees has a Loan Committee and a Loan Sub-Committee. The duties of the Company's committees and the qualifications of the independent directors have been described above. Each of the Company's and the Bank's committees considers risk within its area of responsibility. The Audit Committee and the full Board of Directors focus on the Company's most significant risks in the areas of liquidity, credit, interest rate and general risk management strategy. The Board of Directors sets policy guidelines in the areas of loans and asset/liability management which are reviewed on an on-going basis. While the Board of Directors oversees the Company's risk management, the Company's and the Bank's management are responsible for day-to-day risk management following the dictates of the policy decisions set by the Board of Directors.

The Governance Committee, as part of its annual review, evaluates the Board of Directors leadership structure and performance and reports its findings to the whole Board of Directors. The Board of Directors believes that having separate persons serving as Chief Executive Officer and Chairman and all independent directors provides the optimal board leadership structure for the Company and its shareholders.

Does the Company have a Code of Ethics?

The Company and the Bank have a Code of Business Conduct and Ethics for its directors, officers and employees. The Code of Business Conduct and Ethics requires that individuals avoid conflicts of interest, comply with all laws and other legal requirements, conduct business in an honest and ethical manner and otherwise act with integrity and in the best interests of the Company and the Bank. The Code of Business Conduct and Ethics is a guide to help ensure that all employees live up to the highest ethical standards of behavior.

A copy of the Code of Business Conduct and Ethics is available on the Bank's website (www.peoplesbanknc.com) under Investor Relations.

As is permitted by SEC rules, the Company intends to post on its website any amendment to or waiver from any provision in the Code of Business Conduct and Ethics that applies to the Chief Executive Officer, the Chief Financial Officer, the Controller, or persons performing similar functions, and that relates to any element of the standards enumerated in the rules of the SEC.

How can you communicate with the Board or its members?

We do not have formal procedures for shareholder communication with our Board of Directors. In general, our directors and officers are easily accessible by telephone, postal mail or e-mail. Any matter intended for your Board of Directors, or any individual director, can be directed to Lance Sellers, our President and Chief Executive Officer, or Joe

Lampron, our Chief Financial Officer, at our principal executive offices at 518 West C Street, Newton, North Carolina 28658. You also may direct correspondence to our Board of Directors, or any of its members, in care of the Company at the foregoing address. Your communication will be forwarded to the intended recipient unopened.

What is our policy for director attendance at Annual Meetings?

Although it is customary for all of our directors to attend Annual Meetings of Shareholders, we have no formal policy in place requiring attendance. All members of the Board of Directors attended our 2013 Annual Meeting of Shareholders held on May 2, 2013.

How can a shareholder nominate someone for election to the Board of Directors?

Our Bylaws provide that in order to be eligible for consideration at the Annual Meeting of Shareholders, all nominations of directors, other than those made by the Governance Committee or the Board of Directors, must be in writing and must be delivered to the Secretary of the Company not less than 50 days nor more than 90 days prior to the meeting at which such nominations will be made. However, if less than 60 days' notice of the meeting is given to the shareholders, such nominations must be delivered to the Secretary of the Company not later than the close of business on the tenth day following the day on which the notice of meeting was mailed.

The Board of Directors may disregard any nominations that do not comply with these requirements. Upon the instruction of the Board of Directors, the inspector of voting for the Annual Meeting may disregard all votes cast for a nominee if the nomination does not comply with these requirements. Written notice of nominations should be directed to the Secretary of the Company.

Who serves on the Board of Directors of the Bank?

The Bank has ten directors currently serving on its Board of Directors, who are the same people who are currently directors of the Company.

DIRECTOR AND EXECUTIVE COMPENSATION AND BENEFITS

Director Compensation

Directors' Fees. Members of the Company's Board of Directors receive no fees or compensation for their service. However, all members of the Board of Directors are also directors of the Bank and are compensated for that service. Each director receives a fee of \$750 for each Bank Board of Directors meeting attended. An additional fee of \$500 is paid to committee members for each committee meeting attended. In addition to these meeting fees, each director also receives an annual retainer of \$9,000. The Chairman of the Bank's Board of Directors receives an additional \$250 per meeting attended and the chairpersons of each committee receive an additional \$150 per meeting attended. Directors who are members of the Board of Directors of Real Estate Advisory Services, Inc., and Peoples Investment Services, Inc., subsidiaries of the Bank, and Community Bank Real Estate Solutions, LLC, a subsidiary of the Company, received \$500 per meeting. Directors receive \$375 for special meetings via conference call rather than the normal committee or Board of Director meeting fees.

The Bank maintains a Service Recognition Program, under which directors, officers and employees are eligible for awards. Under the Service Recognition Program, directors, officers and employees are awarded a combination of common stock of the Company and cash in the amount necessary to pay taxes on the award, with the amount of the award based upon the length of service to the Bank. Any common stock awarded under the Service Recognition

Program is purchased by the Bank on the open market, and no new shares are issued by the Company under the Service Recognition Program.

Directors' Stock Benefits Plan. Members of the Board of Directors are eligible to participate in the Company's Omnibus Plan. On March 22, 2012, the Company granted 810 restricted stock units, each unit being comprised of the right to receive one share of the Company's common stock, to each director. The restricted stock units awarded to directors on March 22, 2012 will vest in full on March 22, 2017. On May 23, 2013, the Company granted 810 restricted

stock units, each unit being comprised of the right to receive one share of the Company's common stock, to each director. The restricted stock units awarded to directors on May 23, 2013 will vest in full on May 23, 2017.

Directors' Deferred Compensation Plan. The Bank maintains a non-qualified deferred compensation plan for all of its directors. The Bank's directors are also directors of the Company. Under the deferred compensation plan, each director may defer all or a portion of his fees to the plan each year. The director may elect to invest the deferred compensation in a restricted list of investment funds. The Bank may make matching contributions to the plan for the benefit of the director from time to time at the discretion of the Bank. Directors are fully vested in all amounts they contribute to the plan and in any amounts contributed by the Bank. The Bank has established a Rabbi Trust to hold the directors' accrued benefits under the plan. There are no "above-market" returns provided for in the deferred compensation plan. The Bank made no contributions to this plan in 2013.

Benefits under the plan are payable in the event of the director's death, resignation, removal, failure to be re-elected, retirement or in cases of hardship. Directors may elect to receive deferred compensation payments in one lump sum or in installments.

Directors' Supplemental Retirement Plan. The Bank maintains a non-qualified supplemental retirement benefits plan for all its directors. The supplemental retirement benefits plan is designed to provide a retirement benefit to the directors while at the same time minimizing the financial impact on the Bank's earnings. Under the supplemental retirement benefits plan, the Company purchased life insurance contracts on the lives of each director. The increase in cash surrender value of the contracts constitutes the Company's contribution to the supplemental retirement benefits plan each year. The Bank will pay annual benefits to each director for 15 years beginning upon retirement from the Board of Directors. The Bank is the sole owner of all of the insurance contracts.

The following table reports all forms of compensation paid to or accrued for the benefit of each director during the 2013 fiscal year.

DIRECTOR COMPENSATION

Name	Fees Earned or Paid in Cash (\$)	Stock Awards1 (\$)	Option Awards (\$)	Non-Equity Incentive Plan Compensation (\$)	Change in Pension Value and Nonqualified Deferred Compensation Earnings2 (\$)	All Other Compensation3 (\$)	Total (\$)
James S. Abernethy	21,900	4,980	-	0	5,321	0	32,201
Robert C. Abernethy	31,250	4,980	-	0	8,056	0	44,286
Douglas S. Howard	24,500	4,980	-	0	3,303	0	32,783
John W. Lineberger, Jr.	21,900	4,980	-	0	7,846	0	34,727
Gary E. Matthews	24,000	4,980	-	0	4,824	0	33,804
Billy L. Price, Jr., M.D.	26,200	4,980	-	0	4,363	0	35,543
Larry E. Robinson	22,900	4,980	-	0	14,579	2,500	44,959
William Gregory Terry	21,900	4,980	-	0	1,617	0	28,497
Dan Ray Timmerman, Sr.	27,650	4,980	-	0	11,052	0	43,682
Benjamin I. Zachary	24,000	4,980	-	0	4,382	0	33,362

¹ The amounts reported represent the aggregate fair value of the restricted stock units granted to the respective recipient on the date of grant under Financial Accounting Standards Board ASC Topic 718 ("Topic 718"). The fair market value of each restricted stock unit granted to each director was \$11.90 on May 23, 2013.

Change in Pension Value and Nonqualified Deferred Compensation Earnings represents the expense accrued by the Bank for each director under the Directors' Supplemental Retirement Plan as described above.

3 In 2013, Mr. Robinson received 152 shares and \$500 in cash for his 20 years of service as a director under the Bank's Service Recognition Program.

Executive Officers

Lance A. Sellers, age 51 (as of March 1, 2014), serves as the President and Chief Executive Officer of the Company and the Bank. Prior to becoming the President and Chief Executive Officer of the Company and the Bank, Mr. Sellers served as Executive Vice President and Assistant Corporate Secretary of the Company and Executive Vice President and Chief Credit Officer of the Bank. He has been employed by the Company and the Bank since 1998. Mr. Sellers has a total of 29 years of banking experience. He is a graduate of the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill and upon graduation served as a senior credit officer at a regional bank headquartered in North Carolina.

Joseph F. Beaman, Jr., age 64 (as of March 1, 2014), serves as Executive Vice President and Corporate Secretary of the Company and Executive Vice President, Chief Administrative Officer and Secretary of the Bank. He has been employed by the Company and the Bank since 1977, where he has served as Vice President-Operations and Senior Vice President. Mr. Beaman has a total of 41 years of banking experience. He is a graduate of Pfeiffer University, the North Carolina School of Banking, and the Graduate School of Financial Management at the University of Texas in Austin.

William D. Cable, Sr., age 45 (as of March 1, 2014), serves as Executive Vice President, Assistant Corporate Treasurer and Assistant Corporate Secretary of the Company and Executive Vice President and Chief Operating Officer of the Bank. He has been employed by the Company and the Bank since 1995, where he has served as Senior Vice President-Information Services. Mr. Cable has a total of 22 years of banking experience. Prior to joining the Company,

Mr. Cable was a regulatory examiner with the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation. He is a graduate of Western Carolina University and the School of Banking of the South at Louisiana State University.

A. Joseph Lampron, Jr., age 59 (as of March 1, 2014), serves as Executive Vice President, Chief Financial Officer and Corporate Treasurer of the Company and Executive Vice President and Chief Financial Officer of the Bank. He has been employed by the Company and the Bank since 2001. Mr. Lampron is a graduate of the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill and upon graduation worked as a certified public accountant with a national accounting firm. His work with the firm included audits of banks and thrift institutions. Mr. Lampron has also served as Chief Financial Officer of a thrift institution and as a senior change manager in the finance group of a large North Carolina bank. Mr. Lampron has a total of 34 years of banking experience.

Management Compensation

The executive officers of the Company are not paid any cash compensation by the Company. However, the executive officers of the Company also are executive officers of the Bank and receive compensation from the Bank.

The table on the following page shows, for the fiscal years ended December 31, 2013 and 2012, the cash compensation received by, as well as certain other compensation paid or accrued for those years, the NEOs whose total annual salary and bonus exceeded \$100,000.